

**US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District**

March 9, 2009

Mr. Jim Boggs
US Fish & Wildlife Services
646 Cajundome Boulevard, Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506

RE Individual Environmental Report (IER) – 13
United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Hero Canal Levees and Floodwalls
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Boggs:

Please accept this communication as our official request to reinitiate Threatened and Endangered Species coordination with your agency. We previously coordinated with you beginning in July of 2007 and received correspondence stating US Fish and Wildlife Service records indicated no threatened or endangered species existed in the proposed project area.

We would like to receive updated correspondence confirming the status of the IER 13 project area as described in our July 2007 letter. The following questions cover our main concerns:

- 1) Is the site located in an officially designated wilderness area?
- 2) Is the site located in an officially designated wildlife preserve?
- 3) Will rehabilitation of the site affect listed, threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitats?
- 4) Will development of the site jeopardize the continued existence of any proposed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitats?

The proposed action consists of earthen levees, gate structures, and floodwalls. The majority of the proposed levee footprint (along Walker Road) will include a right of way of straddling the centerline of the existing levee. The western and northern reach of the project area appears to be pasture or young forested wetland. The entire area appears to have been extensively disturbed through grazing and timber harvest. The eastern reach of the project area includes light industrial and a landfill.

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages = 2

To <i>Gigi Coulson</i>	From <i>A. Trahan</i>
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NSN 7540-01-317-7358

5099-101

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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For your reference, we have enclosed a shapefile with the location of the site in question and some site maps.

Please make your response in written form for inclusion in the IER.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at 504-862-1095.

Sincerely,

s//Getrisc Coulson

Environmental Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed,
 Will have no effect on those resources
 Is not likely to adversely affect those resources.
This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Debra A. Fuller *March 10, 2009*
Acting Supervisor Date
Louisiana Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Should the project not be constructed with 1 year, please reinitiate coordination.

