Mr. Gib Owen  
Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch  
Planning, Programs, and Management Division  
New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Post Office Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Owen:

NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the draft Individual Environmental Report (IER) #22 titled “Government Furnished Borrow Material #2; Jefferson and Plaquemines Parishes, Louisiana.” The draft IER evaluates and quantifies the impacts associated with the use of five government-furnished borrow sites to restore levees in the New Orleans area vicinity to the 100-year level of hurricane protection.

NMFS has reviewed the draft IER and agrees that none of the borrow sites are located in areas classified as essential fish habitat or supportive of marine fishery resources. As such, we have no comments to provide on the draft IER.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the draft IER.

Sincerely,

Miles M. Croom  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
Habitat Conservation Division

c:  
FWS, Lafayette  
EPA, Dallas  
LA DNR, Consistency  
FSER46, Swafford  
Files