DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION
1400 WALNUT STREET
VICKSBURG MS 39180-3262

CEMVD-PDP 31 May 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Attn: Mr. Troy Constance, CEMVN-PD)

SUBJECT: Regional Use Approval of the Pine Warbler Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) Model Application Spreadsheet

1. References:
   a. Engineer Circular 1105-2-412: Assuring Quality of Planning Models, 31 March 2011.

   b. US Army Corps of Engineers. Assuring Quality of Planning Models - Model Certification/Approval Process: Standard Operating Procedures. Feb 2012.

   c. Memorandum to Directors of National Planning Centers of Expertise – Subject: Modification of the Model Certification Process and Delegation of Model Approval for Use, 04 December 2017.

   d. Memorandum from the Director of Civil Works to MSC Commanders – Subject: Delegation of Model Certification, 11 May 2018.

   e. Memorandum to Director of the Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise - Subject: Recommend Regional Use Approval of the Pine Warbler Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) Model Application Spreadsheet, 15 May 2023.

2. An independent review team managed by the Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise evaluated the subject model. The application spreadsheet was found to be computationally correct, incorporates best spreadsheet practices, and is usable for Civil Works planning.

3. The Pine Warbler HSI Model application spreadsheet is approved for regional use within the breeding range of the pine warbler in the eastern United States. Independent technical review is complete and the model meets the criteria contained in References 1.a. and 1.b. There are no unresolved issues stemming from the review.

4. Appropriate Use and Quality Control. The appropriateness of the model and its variables must be checked by experienced modeler(s) and biologist(s) before each application of the model. The application of the model will also be described in the Review Plan for studies or similar decision-making efforts. The Review Plan will identify District Quality Control and technical review requirements for the model and its application, per current review guidance. Regarding the individuals who apply the

model, Districts are entrusted to confirm that the modeler(s) and biologist(s) who are using the model have the experience needed to apply the model correctly and interpret the model outputs. In addition, if the modeler(s) have any uncertainties with the application and/or interpretation of the model then he/she should engage the ECO-PCX.

5. The Pine Warbler HSI is approved for regional use with no expiration date; therefore, the application spreadsheet does not expire. Users are entrusted to elevate any model or spreadsheet revisions that are needed to the ECO-PCX.

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Signing For:
Kelly J. Keefe, PhD
Chief, MVD Planning and Policy and
Director, Ecosystem Restoration
Planning Center of Expertise

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CEMVD-PDP (Lawton, Mallard, Mickal)
CEMVP-PD-P (Hill, Runyon)
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