



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
1208-B Main Street  
Daphne, Alabama 36526

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2011-F-0519

DEC 09 2013

Ref: 2011-CPA-0121  
ACOE File No. 2011-00100

Mr. Bradley N. Bishop, Chief  
Western Regulatory Section  
Operations Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Nashville District  
3701 Bell Road  
Nashville, TN 37214

Dear Mr. Bishop:

This letter acknowledges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) November 18, 2013, receipt of your November 14, 2013, request for reinitiating formal consultation under the Endangered Species Act. The consultation concerns the possible effects on listed freshwater snails (endangered armored snail and slender campeloma) from work involving the City of Huntsville's request to discharge fill material into Limestone Creek. This work concerns the modification of a municipal sewer line crossing on piers at Limestone Creek mile 16.9 in Limestone County, Alabama. We understand that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will continue to serve as the lead federal action agency and the Tennessee Valley Authority will act as the cooperating federal agency.

Our offices previously consulted on this project, resulting in a Biological Opinion dated December 13, 2011, and an Individual Permit issued by your agency, on March 29, 2012. We understand that in April 2013, the City of Huntsville notified the Corps that the newly constructed piers had shifted, and that repair would require removing these piers and replacing them with a modified design that would better withstand the anticipated forces during high flow events. The construction method would require installing 10' x 10' coffer dams for the removal and construction of concrete piers. Underwater concrete would be used to seal the coffer dams.

All information required of you to reinitiate consultation on the possible effects of the proposed actions on the endangered armored snail and slender campeloma was either included with your letter, incorporated in the previous biological opinion, or is otherwise accessible for our consideration and reference. This reinitiated consultation will continue to use the assigned log number 2011-F-0519. Please continue to refer to that number in future correspondence on this consultation.

RECEIVED  
12-12-13

PHONE: 251-441-5181



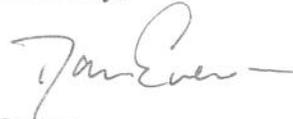
FAX: 251-441-6222

Section 7 allows the Service up to 90 days to conclude formal consultation with your agency and an additional 45 days to prepare our biological opinion (unless we mutually agree to an extension). Therefore, we anticipate completing the consultation by March 9, 2014, and the biological opinion by April 24, 2014.

As a reminder, the Endangered Species Act requires that after initiation or reinitiation of formal consultation, the Federal action agency make no irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources that limits future options. This practice insures agency actions do not preclude the formulation or implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives that avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or destroying or modifying their critical habitats.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Anthony Ford of my staff at (251) 441-5838. Please use the reference number located at the top of this letter in future phone calls or written correspondence.

Sincerely,



Dan Everson  
Deputy Field Supervisor  
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office

cc: Mr. Gary Davis, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District  
2042 Beltline Road SW, Building C, Suite 415, Decatur, AL 35601  
Ms. Samantha Strickland, Tennessee Valley Authority  
1010 Reservation Road, Muscle Shoals, AL 35662  
Ms. Kathy Martin, City of Huntsville  
P.O. Box 308, Huntsville, AL 35804