



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office

263 13th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

January 16, 2015

F/SER47:FR/pw

(Sent via Electronic Mail)

Colonel Kevin P. Landers, Sr., Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District
69 Darlington Avenue
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1398

Attention: Tyler Crumbley

Dear Colonel Landers:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed the public notice for Action ID No. SAW-2014-00887 dated December 18, 2014. Ttereve Enterprises Marina proposes to construct 924 linear feet of vinyl bulkhead along an existing peninsula. The applicant also proposes to construct a new boat ramp, reconfigure a docking system, and perform maintenance dredging within the existing marina basin adjacent to the New River in Sneads Ferry, Onslow County. The project area is not designated as a Primary Nursery Area. Submerged aquatic vegetation is not present in the project area. The Wilmington District's initial determination is the proposed project may adversely affect essential fish habitat (EFH) or associated fisheries managed by South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, or NMFS. As the nation's federal trustee for the conservation and management of marine, estuarine, and diadromous fishery resources, the following comments and recommendations are provided pursuant to the authorities of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

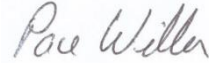
The applicant proposes to maintenance dredge the existing marina basin. As proposed, five areas would be targeted. Approximately 29,050 cubic yards of material would be removed from the existing marina. Water depths in the targeted areas range from -1.5 feet at NLW to -4.6 feet NLW. The applicant intends to excavate to -5 feet NLW to conform to existing entrance channel depths. The proposed new vinyl bulkhead would disturb approximately 16,632 square feet of high ground.

NMFS has no objection to the proposed project as long as no dredging is allowed between April 1 and September 30. This window is designed to protect juvenile shrimp and fish from the deleterious effects of dredging operations.



Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Related questions or comments should be directed to the attention of Mr. Fritz Rohde at our Beaufort Field Office, 101 Pivers Island Road, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516-9722, or at (252) 838-0828

Sincerely,



/ for

Virginia M. Fay
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:

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