

Weaver, Cameron

From: Weaver, Cameron
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 12:11 PM
To: Wilson_Laney@fws.gov
Cc: Wilson, Debra; Snider, Holley; Huggett, Doug
Subject: RE: Ocean Isle Beach Terminal Groin Scoping
Attachments: Ocean Isle Beach Terminal Groin.pdf

Mr. Laney:

Thank you, sir, for your input. With this reply, I have forwarded your comments to the DCM District Manager, the DCM Field Representative and to Doug Huggett so that they are aware of your concurrence with USFWS' position on this issue. And I have added you to the distribution list for information on this project should I receive/distribute anything further. If you did not receive the entire email string and attachment that I originally sent to John Ellis, they are attached here.

Let me know if I may be of assistance.

Cameron

Cameron Weaver
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E-mail correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

From: Wilson_Laney@fws.gov [mailto:Wilson_Laney@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 1:43 PM
To: Weaver, Cameron
Cc: Pete_Benjamin@fws.gov; John_Ellis@fws.gov; Tom_Augspurger@fws.gov
Subject: Ocean Isle Beach Terminal Groin Scoping

Cameron:

Reference Pete Benjamin's e-mail message to you dated/time-stamped December 16, 2011, 10:49 am [text pasted below in bold for your information].

I see Fish and Wildlife Service participation in this discussion as a very low priority. The issues are clear. A project of this nature will destroy the ecological functioning of this inlet and the surrounding areas. The science is unequivocal. I see no unique issues or areas of significant uncertainty in need of further evaluation. We oppose this project. There is nothing more to discuss. FYI, the Holden Beach side of the inlet (including the unnamed sandbars and islands in the inlet) is piping plover critical habitat. The project would destroy critical habitat and as such would require formal consultation. It would also adversely affect sea turtles under our jurisdiction and sea beach amaranth, so we will need to consult regarding them as well when and if the time comes. I know the regulatory agencies are fully familiar with

the Section 7 process and the information that will be needed to initiate consultation. I also understand that as regulatory agencies NCDENR and the Corps must go through the steps of reviewing this request and preparing the necessary assessments to document the effects of the proposed action. I have full confidence in your ability to do so. Feel free to keep us apprised via email as you move through the review process, and feel free to contact me or John Ellis if you have any specific questions, but we are operating on a very limited budget and are short staffed, so we must focus our limited resources where there are substantial natural resource issues to be resolved. The implications of this project on the area's natural resources are clear. As such, at this time our resources are needed elsewhere.

I concur with Pete's assessment of the impacts of the proposed Ocean Isle Beach Terminal Groin. I serve to provide technical support to him and his staff, with regard to fisheries-related issues which fall under the jurisdiction of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. I serve as the FWS Regional Director's (for ASMFC) or Assistant Regional Director-Fisheries (for the SAMFC) representative on these two institutions.

Construction of the proposed groin would likely have a significant impact on the transport of larval fish, shrimp, crabs and other estuarine-dependent species which are under the jurisdiction of either the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and/or the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. One or both of these management institutions may wish to comment on the proposed project, therefore I am requesting that you add me to your distribution list for the proposed project.

Should you have questions regarding the jurisdiction of either of these institutions with regard to fishery resources which would be impacted by the proposed project, please feel free to contact me.

/s/ Wilson

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----- Forwarded by John Ellis/R4/FWS/DOI on 12/13/2011 09:40 AM -----

"Weaver, Cameron"
<cameron.weaver@ncdenr.gov>

12/08/2011 02:34 PM

To "Baker, Jessi E" <jessi.baker@ncdenr.gov>, Ron Sechler <ron.sechler@noaa.gov>, "Snider, Holley" <holley.snider@ncdenr.gov>, "Wilson, Debra" <debra.wilson@ncdenr.gov>, "Simpson, Shaun" <shaun.simpson@ncdenr.gov>, "Huggett, Doug" <doug.huggett@ncdenr.gov>, "Timpy, David L SAW" <David.L.Timpy@usace.army.mil>, "Ellwood, Molly M." <molly.ellwood@ncwildlife.org>, "Hall, Rhonda" <rhonda.hall@ncdenr.gov>, "Humphrey, Jeremy" <jeremy.humphrey@ncdenr.gov>, "Coburn, Chad" <chad.coburn@ncdenr.gov>

cc Daisy Ivey <daisy@oibgov.com>, "James Jarrett@shawgrp.com" <james.jarrett@shawgrp.com>, "john_ellis@fws.gov" <john_ellis@fws.gov>, "Willis, Linda" <linda.willis@ncdenr.gov>, Brigit Flora <bflora@brunsko.net>

Subject Ocean Isle Beach Terminal Groin Scoping meeting