



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE




Post Office Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/R2/ES-ER/070814

AUG 12 2019

Memorandum

To: Regional Director

From: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services 

Subject: Motor Tanker Skaubay and Merchant Vessel Berge Banker Oil Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment

Under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, 33 U.S.C. § 2706, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 et seq., and other applicable Federal and state laws, natural resource trustee agencies, which in this case include the National Park System and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (on behalf of the Department of the Interior), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the Texas General Land Office (collectively the Trustees) in 2003 prepared a Final Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment (RP/EA) and a RP/EA amendment to address natural resource injuries associated with the Motor Tanker (M/T) Skaubay and Merchant Vessel (M/V) Berge Banker Oil Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in Galveston, Texas.

The amended RP/EA for the M/T Skaubay and M/V Berge Banker Oil Spill NRDA identified 16 new restoration alternatives that state and Federal natural resource Trustees selected for implementation. These alternatives are necessary because: 1) the 2003 RP/EA did not allocate recovered restoration funds to specific projects; 2) some selected projects were implemented under budget, and; 3) the Mustang Island State Park Master Plan (a project the 2003 RP/EA approved) changed some restoration priorities. The amended RP/EA was presented to the public for a 30-day comment period, from August 24, 2018, through September 24, 2018. Notice of its availability was published in the Texas Register and in the Corpus Christi Caller Times. The Trustees invited the public to review the document and submit comments. They received no comments. The Trustees now propose finalizing the amended RP/EA. We request that the Regional Director concur with finalizing the amended RP/EA.

APPROVE  DISAPPROVE _____

Date 8/14/19 Date _____