

APPENDIX D

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SECTION 7
CONSULTATION WITH NMFS AND USFWS/
CONCURRENCE LETTERS**



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

*National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668*

*Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668
July 12, 2001*

John Matthew Harrington
US EPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

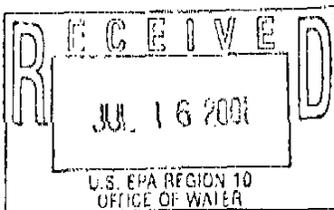
Dear Mr. Harrington:

Thank you for your letter concerning determinations under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act relative (ESA) to the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for the Forest Oil Redoubt Shoals production facility (Osprey Platform) in Cook Inlet, Alaska. We have reviewed the material presented, including the Biological Assessment for this work, and concur with the finding that the discharges to be authorized should not adversely affect any threatened or endangered species for which the National Marine Fisheries Service bears responsibility. This concludes consultation as required by the ESA. Consultation must be re-initiated if monitoring or other new information reveals impacts from the proposed activities that were not previously considered, if the activities are modified in a manner that may affect listed species, or if a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the proposed activities.

Please direct continued correspondence or questions to Brad Smith in our Anchorage office, telephone (907) 271-5006.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Berg
Deputy Regional Administrator



in reply refer to
WAES

February 22, 2001

Matthew Harrington
NEPA Compliance Coordinator
EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: Wastewater discharge associated with the Osprey Platform in Cook Inlet, Alaska

Dear Mr. Harrington:

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq: 87 stat 884, as amended) (Act), *this letter is in response to your request for concurrence and/or comments regarding your determination that threatened or endangered species will not be adversely affected by wastewater discharge associated with the Osprey Platform in the Redoubt Shoal Unit Development Project in Cook Inlet, Alaska. These discharges include deck drainage (stormwater), sanitary wastewater, and domestic wastewater (gray water).*

Project Description

Forest Oil (formerly Forcenergy Inc.) has proposed the development of a new oil and gas project in the waters of Cook Inlet, Alaska to access reserves in the Redoubt Shoal Unit. As a result of the development, Forest Oil is proposing to convert the offshore Osprey Platform from a manned exploratory platform to a production platform. The project area is considered to be Cook Inlet waters located between the West and East Forelands area of Cook Inlet in southcentral Alaska.

Once production commences, deck drainage, domestic wastewater, and sanitary wastes will be discharged into Cook Inlet. All discharges will meet State and Federal water quality standards. *In addition to meeting water quality standards or anticipated NPDES effluent limits, the sanitary wastewater from the Osprey Platform will be discharged to a portion of Cook Inlet which has been demonstrated to be a non-depositional, high-energy environment characterized by a cobble and sand bottom. Fast tidal currents and tremendous mixing produce rapid dispersion of the minimal concentrations of soluble and particulate pollutants.*

USFWS Decision

Although no large concentrations of this species has been seen in the project area, Steller's eiders may occur on the western side of Cook Inlet during the winter months. However, based on the project description provided in the *draft* Biological Assessment, the Service concurs with your

agency's assessment that this project is not likely to adversely affect listed species. Further consultation under section 7 of the Act regarding this project is not necessary at this time.

If any changes are made to the "Description of the Proposed Action" or to the "Impacts of the Proposed Action" in the final Biological Assessment, further consultation under section 7 of the Act regarding this project is necessary. If project plans change, additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, or new species are listed that may be affected by the project, consultation should be reinitiated.

This letter relates only to federally listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat under our jurisdiction. It does not address species under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service, or other legislation or responsibilities under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, or Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Thank you for your cooperation in meeting our joint responsibilities under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. If you have any questions or concerns about this consultation or the consultation process in general, please feel free to contact me at:

Phone: 907/271-1467
Fax: 907/271-2786
E-mail: Terry_Antrobus@fws.gov

Sincerely,

Terry Antrobus
Endangered Species Biologist

From: <Harrington.Matthew@epamail.epa.gov>
To: <Koch.Kristine@epamail.epa.gov>; "Iris Winstanley" <iwinstanley@winstan.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2001 2:15 PM
Subject: EFH Assesment; Osprey Platform

John Matthew Harrington
NEPA Compliance Coordinator
OW-130
206-553-0246

----- Forwarded by Matthew Harrington/R10/USEPA/US on 03/01/2001 01:14 PM

Matthew Eagleton
<Matthew.Eagleton@noaa.gov> To: Matthew Harrington/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
cc:
Subject: EFH Assesment; Osprey Platform
03/01/2001 12:24
PM

Matt,

I have review the draft EFH assessment and feel it is satisfactory; no comment needed. I must offer positive comments that the Assessment was well prepared, outlined the necessary EFH components, included good tables, and was easy to follow.

If you need more than this to continue, such as official letter head, please let me know.

matt