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# **CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM**

Mr. Edwin Muñiz  
Field Supervisor, Caribbean Field Office  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
P.O. Box 491  
Boqueron, PR 00622

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Caribbean Regional Response Team (CRRT) has reviewed the previously completed Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Biological Assessments pertaining to limited pre-authorization for the use of dispersants, solidifiers, and in-situ burning (ISB) during oil spills. The following previously submitted and received documents are referenced:

1. "Biological Assessment of the Effects on Listed Species for Limited Use of Dispersants in the Caribbean." Submitted: March 3, 1997. USFWS Letter of Concurrence dated April 25, 1997.
2. "Biological Assessment for the Pre-Authorized Use of In Situ Burning in the Caribbean." Submitted: March 31, 1995. USFWS Letter of Concurrence received April 19, 1995.
3. "Biological Evaluation on Limited Pre-Authorization and Use Policy for Chemical Countermeasures: (Solidifiers) of Federally Endangered, Threatened, and Candidate Species within Regional Response Team 4 and the Caribbean Regional Response Team." Submitted: April 26, 2006. Letter of Concurrence dated May 24, 2006.

In review of our documents, and in previous discussions with the USFWS Region IV Southeast Office, we have determined there have not been any significant changes to the listed species, previous findings of impact, and planned response actions. As a separate process, we are developing a list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the aforementioned response actions that will be used to supplement the previously provided information as technology and information progresses.

The U.S. Coast Guard and Environmental Protection Agency Co-Chairs to the CRRT respectfully request a letter from USFWS reaffirming the previous determinations and on-going validity of the reference consultations. It is our intent to review and validate these determinations on a five-year cycle unless new legislation, hazards or listing of new species necessitates an earlier review or change of existing determinations.

Sincerely,

Forest A. Willis  
CRRT Co-Chair, U.S. Coast Guard

  
Eric J. Mosher  
CRRT Co-Chair, U.S. EPA

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