

**PHASE IV DEBRIS REMOVAL SURVEY
Preliminary Environmental Unit Review**

Waterway: 7010 Tangipahoa Parish nearshore waters (GOMMDP)

NOAA reviewer: Jordan Stout

Date: 11APR2008

Checklist of Environmental Factors – Assess the potential for impacts to the following resources/areas and coordinate as necessary:

Habitat/environmental sensitivity

Restrict survey to waterway. Do not cause physical damage to wetland shorelines.

Threatened/endangered species

Gulf Sturgeon occur within the Tangipahoa River. Removal activities within the River that impact water quality or the physical aquatic substrate requires emergency consultation with USFWS.

Cultural/historical resources

Oyster habitat

State/federal/tribal lands

Scenic waterway

The Tangipahoa River is a Scenic waterway. Any survey and removal operations that occur at the mouth of the Tangipahoa River may require coordination with LDWF (Keith Cascio 318/343-4045).

Summary and Conclusions of Environmental Review:

Habitat/environmental sensitivity: ESI index indicates a mixture of forested wetlands and scrub-shrub wetland habitats dominate the shoreline from the John the Baptist/Tangipahoa Parish line to the Tangipahoa/St. Tammany Parish line.

Threatened/endangered species: ESI index does not indicate Federally-listed species in open waters of Lake Pontchartrain; though Gulf Sturgeon (a Threatened species) are known to occur within the Tangipahoa River. Removal actions within the Tangipahoa River, particularly those

activities causing disturbance to sediment and fauna, require consultation with USFWS. Contact Karen Soileau (337/291-3132) for endangered species emergency consultation beyond what has already been provided in the USFWS' March 18, 2008 memorandum.

Cultural/historical resources: No arc available.

Oyster habitat: No oyster lease areas occur in this waterway.

State/federal/tribal lands: ESI index does not indicate State, Federal or Tribally-managed lands along the Tangipahoa Parish lakeshore.

Scenic waterway: ESI index indicates that the Tangipahoa River is a Scenic waterway. Though the Act does not prohibit the use of motorized boats in the waterways, there is a potential that constraints may be applied to other operations in accordance with the waterway-specific management plan. Any survey and removal operations that occur at the mouth of the Tangipahoa River may require coordination with LDWF (Keith Cascio 318/343-4045).