

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

Waterway: Amite River, 7100

NOAA reviewer: Jessica White *JW*

Date: 5/5/2008

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

- Habitat/environmental sensitivity
- Threatened/endangered species *Rare raptor and mussel may be present - avoid impacts to shoreline and water bottom (sediment).*
- Cultural/historical resources
- Oyster habitat
- State/federal/tribal lands
- Scenic waterway

Summary and Conclusions of Environmental Review:

Habitat/environmental sensitivity: River is surrounded by forested wetland/bottom land hardwood. Limit travel to open water.

Threatened/endangered species: A rare raptor may be present in the forest near the river mouth at Lake Maurepas. Nesting season is October to May. Avoid impacts by limiting activities to open water. The federally listed threatened Alabama heelsplitter mussel is present, and is most highly concentrated upstream of LA Hwy 16/42 (above Port Vincent). Avoid impacts to this mussel by preventing disturbance of water bottom (which would affect water quality). Federally listed endangered West Indian manatee also is regularly reported in the Amite. Avoid impacts to manatees by limiting speed and careful observation to prevent collisions.

Cultural/historical resources: No known resources at this time.

Oyster habitat: None present in waterway.

State/federal/tribal lands: None appear in the survey area.

Scenic waterway: Not a scenic waterway.