

# **Appendix C**

## **Programmatic EFH Verification**

**Programmatic Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for United States Army Corps of Engineers Activities and Projects Regularly Undertaken in South Carolina - Verification Form**

This form will be filled out by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District (Charleston District) for activities and projects regularly undertaken in the tidally-influenced waters of South Carolina using the Programmatic Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Consultation with NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, Habitat Conservation Division (SERO HCD). Upon obtaining sufficient information, the Charleston District will submit the form to SERO HCD for their review and response. After receiving a response from SERO HCD, the Charleston District will keep the completed form(s) for reporting purposes.

In addition to the information required below, the Charleston District must also provide a list of all recommended management practices that will not be adhered to (with justification provided). This list may use the same numbers as the recommended management practices listed in Section 5.

**PART I.**

**Project Activity Type**

- 1. Dredging
- 2. Placement of Dredged Material
- 3. Transportation of Dredged Material
- 4. Beneficial Use - Beach and Nearshore Placement

**USACE Charleston District Project Information**

Waterway Name:	Town Creek/Five Fathom Creek	
Latitude (e.g., 42.6258):	33.0000	
Longitude (e.g., -70.6461):	-79.4761	
Work Description:	A total of 190,000 cubic yards of sandy material is expected to be dredged from the Town Creek channel. Maintenance dredging will be by means of a modified hopper dredge that will transport the sand to a designated nearshore placement area along Lighthouse Island within Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. This iteration of dredging is currently scheduled to occur in February/March 2024.	
Total area of impact to EFH (in acres), broken down by individual types of EFH:	351 acres - subtidal soft bottom 6 acres - coastal inlets/water column	
Programmatic EFH Consultation Appendix A Project Reference Number:	Project 3 (Town Creek)	



**Part III.**

**SERO HCD Determination (To be filled out by NMFS SERO HCD)**

After receiving the Verification Form, SERO HCD will contact the Charleston District with any concerns.

- SERO HCD concurs with the Charleston District's determination that the proposed project is consistent with the Programmatic EFH Consultation (without the need for justification).
- SERO HCD concurs with the Charleston District's determination that the proposed project is consistent with the Programmatic EFH Consultation, with justification described above.
- SERO HCD does not concur with the Charleston District's determination that the project is consistent with the Programmatic EFH Consultation. The Charleston District must conduct additional coordination with SERO HCD and a separate individual EFH consultation may be required.

SERO HCD reviewer:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date