

# EMERGENCY CONSULTATION FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES AND ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

This form is intended for documentation of emergency consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for:

- species listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA),
- critical habitat designated under the ESA, and
- fishery habitat designated as essential fish habitat (EFH) under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA).

This form is intended to initiate contact and streamline consultation when emergency spill response activities may adversely affect ESA listed species or designated critical habitat or habitats designated as EFH.

**Emergency Contact:** [nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov)

- NMFS ESA and EFH biologists may be contacted by telephone:  
For ESA concerns: Protected Resources Division at (727) 824-5312  
For EFH concerns: Habitat Conservation Division at (727) 824-5317

**NOTE: These numbers are not staffed 24 hours a day.**

- NMFS should be contacted as soon as possible.
- Consultation may be completed by email or telephone however this document details the necessary guidance and information to initiate consultation and receive a written response.
- NMFS will be available for further coordination and consultation as requested.
- The responding agency should implement any conditions of pre-approved response methods until NMFS provides further recommendations.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Pages 1-2: The Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC), or their designee for ESA and EFH consultation, should complete pages 1-2 to include all response actions including any pre-approved practices to avoid or minimize impacts to listed species, critical habitats, and EFH. Email the form to [nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov)

Page 3: NMFS will assist, as necessary, in determining the presence of protected resources and habitats in the response area.

Pages 4-5: NMFS will complete the form and provide recommendations to avoid and minimize any potentially adverse effects from the response actions. NMFS will return the completed form to the FOSC contact provided (on page 1) within 24 hours of receipt.

**Awaiting a response from NMFS should not delay emergency response activities.**

Post Emergency: Once the emergency response actions are over, NMFS will be notified of the measures that were implemented, how they were implemented, and any reports of incidental take or adverse modification or destruction of critical habitat provided. If no adverse impacts occurred, ESA consultation is complete. If any adverse impacts resulted from the emergency response activities, formal consultation will be required with NMFS.

# Emergency Consultation for Endangered Species and Essential Fish Habitat

Email completed form to: [nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.ser.emergency.consult@noaa.gov)

Name of Incident

Date of Incident

Name and Title (FOSC Designee for ESA/EFH Consultation)

Today's Date

E-mail

Telephone

## Incident Location

Waterbody

(Check All That Apply)

Riverine

City (or County/Parish), State

Inshore/Estuarine

Latitude

Coastal/State

Longitude

Offshore/Federal

Port/Harbor

Industrial

Description of the Spill (be as descriptive as possible)

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## Response Action Checklist

(Provide any needed details in spill description)

### Chemical Countermeasures

- Solidifiers
- Surface dispersants
- Subsea dispersants
- Emulsion treating agents
- Chemical Herding
- Surface washing agents
- Bioremediation
- In-situ burning

### Response Actions

- Skimmers
- Manual oil removal
- Debris removal
- Vegetation removal/cutting
- Sediment removal
- Sediment reworking/tilling
- Barriers/berms
- Vacuuming
- Surface net tows
- Bottom/mid-water trawls
- Physical Herding
- Sorbents
- Booming
- Flooding/Flushing
- Aerial surveys
- Vessel surveys
- Shoreline surveys
- Vessel/Ship sinking

### Wildlife Response Actions

- Aerial surveys
- Vessel surveys
- Capture and rehabilitation
- Capture and relocation
- Deterrence/Hazing
- Nest protection
- Temporary holding location

Use this space for any additional response details relevant to the consultation.

## Habitat Checklist

Seagrass	Saltmarsh	Riverine
Hard Bottom	Oyster/Shell	Estuarine Open Water
Coral Reef	Sand/Mud Bottom	Marine Open Water
Mangroves	Beach/Sand Shoreline	Other

## Endangered and Threatened Species

## Critical Habitat in Response Area

Loggerhead sea turtle	
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	NA
Green sea turtle	
Leatherback sea turtle	
Hawksbill sea turtle	
Olive ridley sea turtle	NA
Gulf sturgeon	
Shortnose sturgeon	NA
Atlantic sturgeon	NA
Scalloped hammerhead	NA
Smalltooth sawfish	
Johnson's seagrass	
Whales (any species)	
(type in whales present)	
Corals (any species)	
(type in corals present)	

Critical habitat maps can be accessed at:  
[sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/maps\\_gis\\_protected\\_resources/critical\\_habitat/index.html](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/maps_gis_protected_resources/critical_habitat/index.html)

# Emergency Consultation for Endangered Species and Essential Fish Habitat

## NMFS Recommendations - Endangered Species Act

(Any pre-approved response conditions should be included.)

Name and Title

Date

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## NMFS Recommendations - Essential Fish Habitat

(Any pre-approved response conditions should be included.)

Name and Title

Date