



DATE: October 13, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: NOAA Damage Assessment, Remediation and Restoration Program (DARRP)
Trustee Management Team (TMT)

FROM: Patricia A. Montanio
Director, Office of Habitat Conservation
National Marine Fisheries Service

David G. Westerholm
Director, Office of Response and Restoration
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SUBJECT: Delegation of DARRP Approvals in Accordance with the DARRP Framework

The DARRP Framework adopted on April 22, 2015, establishes that

“the consensus position of the TMT requires the written approval of two people taking into account the advice of the NOAA Deputy General Counsel, that is the Director of NOS’ Office of Response & Restoration and the Director of NMFS’ Office of Habitat Conservation: designating the NOAA Trustee representative for each matter and keeping a central and current file of those designees; approving plans for preparation of case damage assessments; approving all final Damage Assessment and Restoration Plans (DARP); recommending case settlements to the NOAA General Counsel who will in turn, if approved, recommend settlement to the Department of Justice; assuring that each DARP includes an adequate and informative process under NEPA, and approving all relevant NEPA reviews.”

The DARRP Framework goes on to indicate that, “Each Office Director may delegate this approval case-by-case to the TMT member.”

In accordance with this provision of the DARRP Framework and to carry out more efficient day-to-day DARRP business, we hereby delegate to our respective TMT member approvals for the following decisions on NRD cases:

- Approving acceptance of new NRD cases to the DARRP docket
- Designating a NOAA Trustee representative for each matter
- Approving plans for the preparation of case damage assessments
- Approving all Damage Assessment and Restoration Plans (DARPs) and NEPA Actions/Documents
- Recommending case settlements to the NOAA General Counsel
- Assuring that each DARP includes an adequate and informative NEPA process and approving all relevant NEPA reviews

This delegation is valid until further notice and is contingent upon the TMT providing regular updates, including an annual briefing, to the DARRP Leadership Group on the state of the docket, recent accomplishments, upcoming actions and milestones, and other significant issues. This delegation is subject to and does not supersede other relevant Line Office procedures.