From: <u>Leslie Mirise</u>
To: <u>Sandra Williams</u>

Cc: <u>Dan Perge</u>; <u>Christine Polito</u>

**Subject:** 2979-01-011 FM 2931 Widening - Bio Clearance

**Date:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:47:48 PM

Sandra,

The FM 2931 Species Analysis and FPPA activities are complete in ECOS as of 3/25/2022. Coordination with TPWD is not required as the project is a CE. The Federal candidate species, monarch butterfly, does have a may-affect determination. However, consultation with USFWS is not required at this time as incidental take coverage would be included for the species in the CCA/A should it gain full listing status.

The following is applicable to the project's EPIC sheet:

Section IV: Vegetation Resources – No action required.

Section V: Listed Species and SGCN – Action required.

- 1. The following species could occur in the project area: Louisiana pigtoe, sandbank pocketbook, Texas heelsplitter, Texas horned lizard, Strecker's chorus frog, Woodhouse's toad, Western Burrowing Owl, eastern spotted skunk, long-tailed weasel, swamp rabbit, western hog-nosed skunk, eastern box turtle, prairie skink, slender glass lizard, smooth softshell, Texas garter snake, timber (canebrake) rattlesnake, western box turtle, western chicken turtle, Glen Rose yucca, and Sutherland hawthorn. Follow the BMPs and Special Notes listed below to protect these species.
- 2. Survey is required for Louisiana pigtoe, sandbank pocketbook, and Texas heelsplitter at Running Branch (STA 1407+50) and Unnamed Tributary to Pecan Creek (STA 1196+00). TxDOT to complete the survey at both locations prior to disturbance.
- 3. Habitat assessment is required for Glen Rose yucca and Sutherland hawthorn in two areas: 1) East side of STA 1269+20 to 1283+70 and 2) west side of STA 1191+00 to 1201.80. TxDOT to complete the habitat assessment at both locations prior disturbance.
- 4. Contractor to implement the following BMPs from "Beneficial Management Practices: Avoiding, Minimizing, and Mitigating Impacts of Transportation Projects on State Natural Resources" available at <a href="https://ftp.txdot.gov/pub/txdot-info/env/toolkit/300-01-bmp.pdf">https://ftp.txdot.gov/pub/txdot-info/env/toolkit/300-01-bmp.pdf</a>.
  - a. Avoid harvester ant mounds in the selection of Project Specific Locations
  - b. Section 2.6.2 Terrestrial Amphibian and Reptile BMP
  - c. Section 2.6.1 Amphibian and Aquatic Reptile BMP (barrier fencing not required)
  - d. Section 2.4.3 Freshwater Mussel BMP
  - e. Section 2.2.1 Bird BMP
  - f. Section 1.4 Water Quality BMP
  - g. Section 1.5 Stream Crossing BMP
  - h. Section 1.2 Vegetation BMP

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

## Leslie Mirise

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