



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Field Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay>

June 7, 2012

Minas M. Arabatzis
Chief, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

Attn: Steve Allen

RE: Little Mill Creek Flood Management Project

Dear Mr. Minas:

This responds to your letter of February 14, 2012, requesting updated information on the presence of Federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species in the impact area of the Little Mill Creek Flood Risk Management Project, New Castle County, Delaware. Our information indicates that the bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*), which is Federally listed as threatened, could potentially occur in non-tidal wetlands in this region. However, since we understand that the wetlands within project area are tidally influenced, the project would have no effect on this species.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no other federally proposed or listed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist within the project area. Therefore, no Biological Assessment or further Section 7 Consultation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 is required with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

I apologize for the delay in responding to your request. If you have any further questions on this project, please contact George Ruddy of my staff at 410-573-4528.

Sincerely,

Genevieve LaRouche
Supervisor

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