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United States Department of the Interior



FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Boqueron Field Office

Carr. 301, KM 5.1, Bo. Corozo

P.O. Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622

JAN 30 2006

Mr. Christopher T. Penny
Eastern Vieques Remedial Project Manager
Department of the Navy
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic
Environmental Division
6506 Hampton Blvd
Norfolk VA 23508-1278

Re: Preliminary Assessment/Site
Inspection (PA/SI) Activities
at Five PI/PAOC sites,
Former Vieques Naval
Training Range (VNTR),
Vieques, PR

Dear Mr. Penny:

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2006, requesting our concurrence with your determination that the above mentioned action will not affect threatened and endangered species. Our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.).

Based on the description of the project, the habitat characteristics, and the results from your surveys, we concur with your determination that the proposed activities will not affect federally-listed species in eastern Vieques. Should additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered.

If you have any questions, please call Marelisa Rivera at 787-851-7297 extension 231.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Muñoz
Field Supervisor
Caribbean Field Office

mtr