

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000



January 10, 2005

QE 218-1

Reply to Attn of:

Mr. James Browning
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

Dear Mr. Browning:

The Department of the Navy proposes the remediation of Site 27 at the former Naval Air Station Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The remedial action as described in the Draft Record of Decision may affect federally listed species (see attached). As the current land managers, NASA Ames Research Center (NASA Ames) is requesting informal section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act.

We have obtained a list of Federal Endangered and Threatened Species for Santa Clara County. After reviewing this list and previous survey results, we have determined that the western snowy plover, California clapper rail, California least tern, and the salt marsh harvest mouse may be affected by the proposed action. We have further determined that the action "is not likely to adversely affect" the western snowy plover due to lack of habitat constituents and the California least tern as an occasional fall migrant.

We are planning to conduct a spring survey for the presence of California clapper rail and would like your assistance in providing an acceptable survey methodology. It is our understanding that habitat evaluations rather than surveys are used for salt marsh harvest mouse determinations. We can be available at any time to assist you in completion of the habitat evaluation.

We, hereby, request your concurrence with the above determinations for western snowy plover and California least tern. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (650) 604-3873.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric Watkins".

Eric Watkins
Natural Resources Manager

Attachment: Draft ROD Site 27
cc: Mr. Scott Gromko, Department of the Navy

N00296.003419
MOFFETT FIELD
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A.

ATTACHMENT

DRAFT RECORD OF DECISION
SITE 27

DATED 14 OCTOBER 2004

IS FILED AS ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD NO.
N00296.003358