



# GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



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DRAFT

TAB K, No. 2

May 4, 2007

Mote Marine Laboratory  
ATTN: Mr. Brett Blackburn  
1600 Ken Thompson Parkway  
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Dear Mr. Blackburn:

Marine Habitats, Inc.(MHI) has requested that the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) review the response of the Mote Marine Laboratory to a request for additional information from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding MHI's application for a permit to establish the William R. Mote Memorial Artificial Reef. Council staff has reviewed the application and the Mote Marine Laboratory comments. The Council concurs with the conclusion of the Mote Marine Laboratory that no conflicts exist between the proposed artificial reef permitted site and existing Gulf of Mexico Fishery management Council fishery management plans.

A note on page 1 of the additional information states that an updated version of the National Artificial Reef Program (NARP) has been drafted but not officially adopted as of the date of the application. That statement is no longer correct. The revised NARP was approved on March 7, 2007. The most significant changes occur in the section of the plan dealing with materials for artificial reef development. Therefore, although the application refers to the artificial reef materials as "time-proven materials", applicants should review the revised NARP to determine if the materials are still in compliance with federal guidelines. The revised NARP is available online at the URL below:

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/PartnershipsCommunications/recfish/NARPREVISION\\_3\\_07\\_07\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/PartnershipsCommunications/recfish/NARPREVISION_3_07_07_FINAL.pdf)

Thank you for providing the opportunity for the Council to review this proposed reauthorization and submit comments. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me or Steven Atran of my staff.

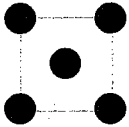
Sincerely,

Wayne Swingle  
Executive Director

SMA  
c: Council and technical staff  
Thomas Maher, MHI

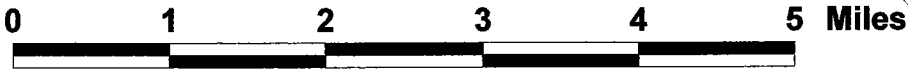
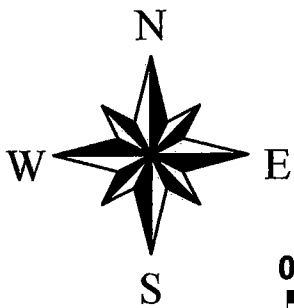
H:\A\Artificial Reefs\letter - MHI Mote Marine Lab application - MML.doc

Proposed Location  
for the  
William R. Mote  
Memorial Reef



New Pass

Big Pass



U.S. Department of the Army,  
Corps of Engineers and the  
Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Joint Environmental Resource  
Permit Application