

Attachment 10H(1)

Explanatory Note for the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Report November 2, 2011

This transmits the FWS's final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance report for projects and activities funded under Section 1609 (c) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The Excel reporting template provides the most current information on the NEPA compliance status for all FWS ARRA projects and activities identified or selected through September 30, 2011.

The total number of FWS ARRA NEPA projects remains at 713. There were no new projects added this quarter. NEPA compliance has been completed for all 713 FWS ARRA funded projects (1,055 total NEPA actions). As explained in previous reports, some ARRA projects are defined broadly and therefore they can be broken down into sub-projects that have independent utility and are individually analyzed under NEPA. This can result in a higher number of NEPA actions per ARRA project.

Status of FWS ARRA Funding Obligations

- As of September 30, 2011 the Service obligated 100% of the \$280 million awarded in Recovery Act funding. The Service's obligations have fluctuated slightly due to various reasons, mainly surrounding the completion of projects (e.g., projects completed under budget). Note that increases in obligations are consistent with the Department's Recovery Act guidance for use of expired appropriations for upward obligation adjustments. The appropriation totals have not changed.

- As of September 30, 2011 the Service outlayed \$250,172,046, or 89.6% of Recovery Act project funding.

- Please note that project R4UC was cancelled (withdrawn) in July, 2011.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact David Stout, Chief, Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation, at (703) 358-2161 or Pat Carter, National Environmental Coordinator, at (703) 358-1764.

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