

## NEPA Extraordinary Circumstances Checklist

**A. Project Information**

**Project Name:** Alabama Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Monitoring Program (Implementation)

**Project Title:** Measuring and monitoring of SAV, mapping SAV, and the collection and subsequent sowing of SAV seeds.

**Project Tracking #:** RESTORE Council (AL RESTORE 005 003 Cat2)

**Project Sponsor:** State of Alabama

**Project Location:** Mobile and Baldwin Counties, Alabama  
(County & State)

- B. This proposal X is; \_\_\_ is not completely covered by categorical exclusion(s) in 43 C.F.R. 46.210(e) and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1 (B)(6).  
(check one)(Review proposed activities. An appropriate categorical exclusion [CE] must be identified before completing the remainder of the Checklist. If a CE cannot be identified, or the proposal cannot meet the qualifying criteria in the CE, or any extraordinary circumstances applies [see below], an Environmental Assessment must be prepared.)**

**C. Extraordinary Circumstances:**

**Will This Proposal (check one for each item below):**

Yes    No

- |     |          |    |   |
|-----|----------|----|---|
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 1. | Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.  |
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 2. | Have significant adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO 13186), and other ecologically significant or critical areas under Federal ownership or jurisdiction. |
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 3. | Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].  |
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 4. | Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.   |
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 5. | Have a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.  |
| ___ | <u>X</u> | 6. | Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.   |

- 7. Have significant adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, or a consulting party under 36 CFR 800.
- 8. Have significant adverse on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened species, or have significant adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.
- 9. Have the possibility of violating a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environmental.
- 10. Have the possibility for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).
- 11. Have the possibility to limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian Religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007).
- 12. Have the possibility to significantly contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112).

[If included, attach any additional information or documentation supporting the Checklist.]

*(If any of the above extraordinary circumstances receive a "Yes" check, an Environmental Assessment must be prepared.)*

D. Within the spirit and intent of the Council of Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other statutes, orders, and policies that protect fish and wildlife resources, I have established the following administrative record and have determined that the proposal:

qualifies as a categorical exclusion as provided by 43 C.F.R. 46.210(e) and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1 (B)(6). No further NEPA documentation will therefore be made.

is not completely covered by the categorical exclusion as provided by 516 DM 6, Appendix 1 and/or 516 DM 2, Appendix 1. An Environmental Assessment must be prepared.

**US Fish and Wildlife signature approval:**

        Aaron L. Vint        

Date: 7-9-15

**Staff Preparer:**

        Shannon Helbock        

Date: 7/7/15