DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

October 13, 2020

Environmental Analysis Branch

Ms. Karen Greene
Mid-Atlantic Field Office Supervisor/EFH Coordinator
National Marine Fisheries Service
James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory
74 Magruder Road
Highlands, NJ 07732

Dear Ms. Greene,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) received your comment letter dated October 2, 2020, regarding Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Recommendations (EFH CR) for the Hudson River Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study – Schodack State Park. The District has reviewed the CRs and is providing responses to the CRs below.

NOAA –Fisheries HCD Conservation Recommendations:

1. Avoid sediment generating activities such as excavation and placement of shoreline stabilization materials between March 1 and June 30 to minimize adverse effects to anadromous fish migration.
2. Provide us a copy of the planting plan, which incorporates restoration and grading and planting materials.
3. Develop a monitoring and maintenance plan to document success, identify if corrective actions are needed, and to maintain the integrity and health of the wetland restoration project.

District Response:

1. The District agrees with the CR. The District will avoid sediment generating activities such as excavation and placement of shoreline stabilization materials between March 1 and June 30.
2. The District agrees with the CR. The District will provide NOAA a copy of the planting plan when the District develops the plan during the design phase of the project.
3. The District agrees with the CR. The District has a Monitoring and Adaptive Management plan and is providing that plan with this letter.

Sincerely,

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Peter Weppler
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch