



United States Department of the Interior



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In Reply Refer To:
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2023-008741

November 13, 2023

Ms. Stacy Zee
Office of Commercial Space Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Ms. Zee:

This transmits the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Draft Biological and Conference Opinion (BCO) Addendum for your review and comment. The Federal Aviation Administration requested reinitiation of Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation on September 1, 2023. The 2023 BCO Addendum evaluates the effects of operating a deluge and detonation suppression system at the SpaceX Vertical Launch Area. The BCO Addendum also addresses an updated environmental baseline within the action area and the launch and subsequent mishap of the Starship Super Heavy launch vehicle on April 20, 2023.

If you have questions or need to discuss the Draft BCO please contact Mary Orms at mary_orms@fws.gov or 281-271-2162 or Dawn Gardiner at dawn_gardiner@fws.gov or 361-533-6765.

Sincerely,

Charles Ardizzone
Field Supervisor