



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P. O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, Alabama 36526

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 5, 2004

Mr. R.M. Akridge
General Manager, Hydro
Southern Company Generation
and Energy Marketing
600 North 18th Street
P.O. Box 2641
Birmingham, AL 35291

Dear Mr. Akridge:

On February 18, 2004, Alabama Power Company (APC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) met in Daphne, Alabama to begin section 7 consultation according to the steps outlined in the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The first step in the process is to determine whether any federally listed species or designated or proposed Critical Habitats are present in the action area. The action area includes those lands surrounding the seven hydroelectric developments in the Coosa River Basin and include; Weiss, Neely Henry, Logan Martin, Lay, and Bouldin, which are collectively licensed as the Coosa Project (FERC no. 2146); the Mitchell Project (FERC no. 82); and the Jordan Project (FERC no. 618).

As you know, there are extant populations, as well as proposed Critical Habitat for several federally listed species within the action area. We have reviewed the list you provided (Attachment B) and edited it according to our records (Table 1). We welcome the opportunity to initiate informal ESA section 7 consultation with you.

As always, we appreciate APC's desire and willingness to protect and enhance the unique ecological characteristics of the Coosa River Basin. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jeff Powell at (251) 441-5858 or by e-mail at jeff_powell@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

Attachment

**cc: Ron McKittrick, FERC
Jon Hornsby, ADCNR**

Table 1. Federally listed species occurring within the project boundary of the Coosa River ¹, Mitchell, and Jordan Hydroelectric Projects.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Counties	Population Status ²	Federal Status ³
<i>Birds</i>				
bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Floyd, Cherokee, Coosa, Chilton	E	T
red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Coosa	E	E
<i>Fish</i>				
blue shiner	<i>Cyprinella caerulea</i>	Cherokee, Coosa	E	T
<i>Mussels</i>				
southern acornshell	<i>Epioblasma othcaloogensis</i>	Cherokee, Elmore	N	EPCH
upland combshell	<i>Epioblasma metastrata</i>	Cherokee, Elmore	N	EPCH
fine-lined pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis altilis</i>	Cherokee, Etowah, Shelby, Elmore	E	TPCH
Alabama moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus acutissimus</i>	Shelby, Elmore	N	
Coosa moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus parvulus</i>	Cherokee, Shelby, Elmore	N	EPCH
southern clubshell	<i>Pleurobema decisum</i>	Cherokee, Etowah, St. Clair, Talladega, Elmore	E	EPCH
southern pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema georgianum</i>	Etowah, Cherokee, Shelby, Elmore	E	
ovate clubshell	<i>Pleurobema perovatum</i>	Cherokee, Elmore	N	EPCH
triangular kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranthus greeni</i>	Etowah, St. Clair, Talladega, Cherokee, Shelby, Elmore	E	EPCH
<i>Plants</i>				
Alabama leather-flower	<i>Clematis socialis</i>	Etowah	E	E
Mohr's Barbara's buttons	<i>Marshallia mohrii</i>	Etowah	E	T
harperella	<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>	Cherokee	E	E

Kral's waterplantain	<i>Sagittaria secundifolia</i>	Cherokee	E	
Green pitcher plant	<i>Sarracenia oreophila</i>	Cherokee, Etowah	E	E
<i>Snails</i>				
Painted rocksnail	<i>Leptoxis taeniata</i>	Chilton, Calhoun	E	T
Interrupted rocksnail	<i>Leptoxis formani</i>	Elmore	E	C
Tulotoma snail	<i>Tulotoma magnifica</i>	Talladega, Shelby, Elmore, Coosa, Calhoun, St. Clair	E	EPCF

Coosa River¹ -includes the Weiss, Lay, Henry, Logan Martin, and Bouldin developments.
Population Status² – N (possibly extirpated within project boundary); E (extant)
Federal Status³ – E (listed as Endangered); T (listed as Threatened); EPCH (listed as Endangered and has Proposed Critical Habitat); TPCH (listed as Threatened and has Proposed Critical Habitat); C (Candidate).