

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

JAN - 4 2024

The Honorable Cliff Bentz Chairman, Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bentz:

Enclosed is a response prepared by the Department of the Interior to the question for the record submitted to Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Matthew J. Strickler following his appearance at the September 28, 2023, legislative hearing before your subcommittee.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to you on this matter.

Sincerely

Christopher P. Salotti Legislative Counsel

Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Jared Huffman Ranking Member Question for the Record House Natural Resources Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries Subcommittee Legislative Hearing September 28, 2023

Question from Representative Murphy

<u>Question 1:</u> Would Mr. Strickler be willing to meet with Alderman Tom Leonard at North Topsail Beach to survey the 590 acres of land that H.R. 2437 would take out of CBRS zone known as Unit L06?

Response: The Department of the Interior (Department) appreciated the opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee during this hearing, including on H.R. 2437. We thank you for your interest in the Coastal Barrier Resources Act and appreciate the invitation to meet with Alderman Leonard in North Topsail Beach. We would be glad to follow up with your office regarding scheduling a possible visit with a representative of the Department.