



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT,
415 RICHARD JACKSON BOULEVARD, SUITE 411
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA 32407

September 21, 2020

Regulatory Division
North Permit Branch
Panama City Permits Section
SAJ-2020-02663(GP-LSL)

Mr. Michael Foster
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Mr. Foster:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) assigned your application for a Department of the Army permit, which the Corps received on July 9, 2020, the file number SAJ-2020-02663. A review of the information and drawings provided indicates that the proposed work will result in the construction of a 500 square foot floating gangway and floating dock, i.e. kayak launch. The dock will be compliant with the American Disabilities Act and is funding through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). Signs will be installed both upstream and downstream to identify the dock is present and reflectors or similar will be placed on the surface of the dock. The activities subject to this permit are authorized pursuant to authorities under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. § 403). The project is in Chaires Creek on Range Road in Section 29, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida.

Your project, as depicted on the enclosed drawings, is authorized by Regional General Permit (GP) SAJ-33. This authorization is valid until **July 24, 2023**. Please access the Corps' Jacksonville District Regulatory Division Internet page to view the special and general conditions for SAJ-33, which apply specifically to this authorization. The Internet URL address is:

<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>

Please be aware this Internet address is case sensitive; and, you will need to enter it exactly as it appears above. Once there you will need to click on "Source Book"; and, then click on "General Permits." Then you will need to click on the specific SAJ permit noted above. You must comply with all of the special and general conditions of the permit; and, any project-specific conditions noted below, or you may be subject to enforcement action. The following project-specific conditions are included with this authorization:

1. Reporting Address: The Permittee shall submit all reports, notifications, documentation and correspondence required by the general and special conditions of this permit to either (not both) of the following addresses:

a. For electronic mail (preferred): SAJ-RD-Enforcement@usace.army.mil (not to exceed 15 MB).

b. For standard mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019.

The Permittee shall reference this permit number, SAJ-2020-02663 (NW - LSL), on all submittals.

2. Commencement Notification: Within 10 days from the date of initiating the work authorized by this permit the Permittee shall submit a completed "Commencement Notification" Form (Attachment A).

3. As-Built Certification: Within 60 days of completion of the work authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall submit as-built drawings of the authorized work and a completed "As-Built Certification By Professional Engineer" form (Attachment B) to the Corps. The as-built drawings shall be signed and sealed by a registered professional engineer and include the following:

a. A plan view drawing of the location of the authorized work footprint, as shown on the permit drawings, with transparent overlay of the work as constructed in the same scale as the permit drawings on 8½-inch by 11-inch sheets. The plan view drawing should show all "earth disturbance," including wetland impacts and water management structures.

b. A list of any deviations between the work authorized by this permit and the work as constructed. In the event that the completed work deviates, in any manner, from the authorized work, describe on the attached "As-Built Certification By Professional Engineer" form the deviations between the work authorized by this permit and the work as constructed. Clearly indicate on the as-built drawings any deviations that have been listed. Please note that the depiction and/or description of any deviations on the drawings and/or "As-Built Certification By Professional Engineer" form does not constitute approval of any deviations by the Corps.

c. Include the Department of the Army permit number on all sheets submitted.

4. Agency Changes/Approvals: Should any other agency require and/or approve changes to the work authorized or obligated by this permit, the Permittee is advised a modification to this permit instrument is required prior to initiation of those changes. It is the Permittee's responsibility to request a modification of this permit from the Panama City Permits Section. The Corps reserves the right to fully evaluate, amend, and approve or deny the request for modification of this permit.

5. Cultural Resources/Historic Properties:

a. No structure or work shall adversely affect impact or disturb properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or those eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

b. If during the ground disturbing activities and construction work within the permit area, there are archaeological/cultural materials encountered which were not the subject of a previous cultural resources assessment survey (and which shall include, but not be limited to: pottery, modified shell, flora, fauna, human remains, ceramics, stone tools or metal implements, dugout canoes, evidence of structures or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American cultures or early colonial or American settlement), the Permittee shall immediately stop all work and ground-disturbing activities within a 100-meter diameter of the discovery and notify the Corps within the same business day (8 hours). The Corps shall then notify the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) (THPO(s)) to assess the significance of the discovery and devise appropriate actions.

c. Additional cultural resources assessments may be required of the permit area in the case of unanticipated discoveries as referenced in accordance with the above Special Condition ; and if deemed necessary by the SHPO, THPO(s), or Corps, in accordance with 36 CFR 800 or 33 CFR 325, Appendix C (5). Based, on the circumstances of the discovery, equity to all parties, and considerations of the public interest, the Corps may modify, suspend or revoke the permit in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325.7. Such activity shall not resume on non-federal lands without written authorization from the SHPO for finds under his or her jurisdiction, and from the Corps.

d. In the unlikely event that unmarked human remains are identified on non-federal lands, they will be treated in accordance with Section 872.05 Florida Statutes. All work and ground disturbing activities within a 100-meter diameter of the unmarked human remains shall immediately cease and the Permittee shall immediately notify the medical examiner, Corps, and State Archeologist within the same business day (8-hours). The Corps shall then notify the appropriate SHPO and THPO(s). Based, on the circumstances of the discovery, equity to all parties, and considerations of the public

interest, the Corps may modify, suspend or revoke the permit in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325.7. Such activity shall not resume without written authorization from the State Archeologist and from the Corps.

6. Turbidity Barriers: Prior to the initiation of any of the work authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall install floating turbidity barriers with weighted skirts that extend to the bottom around all work areas that are in, or adjacent to, surface waters. The turbidity barriers shall remain in place and be maintained until the authorized work has been completed and all suspended and erodible materials have been stabilized. Turbidity barriers shall be removed upon stabilization of the work area.

7. Posting of Permit: The Permittee shall have available and maintain for review a copy of this permit and approved plans at the construction site.

8. Assurance of Navigation and Maintenance: The Permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structures or work herein authorized, or if in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the Permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.

9. Manatee Conditions: The Permittee shall comply with the "Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Work – 2011" (Attachment C).

10. Jacksonville District Programmatic Biological Opinion (JAXBO), November 2017, Project Design Criteria (PDCs): Structures authorized under this permit must comply with all applicable PDCs, based on the permitted activity, as required by JAXBO. Please note that failure to comply with the applicable PDCs, where a take of listed species occurs, would constitute an unauthorized take, and noncompliance with this permit. The NMFS is the appropriate authority to enforce the terms and conditions of JAXBO. The most current version of JAXBO can be accessed at the Jacksonville District Regulatory Division internet webpage in the Endangered Species section of the Sourcebook located at:

<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/SourceBook.aspx>

Note - JAXBO may be subject to revision at any time. The most recent version of these conditions must be utilized during the design and construction of the permitted work. In

accordance with the Endangered Species Act, and for those projects which do not comply with JAXBO, the Corps will seek individual consultation with the NMFS.

Note - some authorized activities may deviate from the PDCs. In cases, where the activity (i.e., structure dimensions, length, etc.) deviates from the PDCs, the permit drawings shall supersede the PDCs.

For each of the following authorized activities subject of this permit, the permittee shall adhere to the following PDCs, which are attached to, and made part of, this authorization/verification letter:

Activity 2 - Pile-supported Structures and Anchored Buoys: (AP.1-14; A2.1-16; S.1; S.2; S.4) (Attachment D)

11. Eastern Indigo Snake Protection Measures and Inspection: Permittee shall comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's "Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake" dated August 12, 2013, as provided in Attachment E of this permit. All gopher tortoise burrows, active or inactive, shall be evacuated prior to site manipulation in the vicinity of the burrow. If excavating potentially occupied burrows, active or inactive, individuals must first obtain state authorization via a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent permit. The excavation method selected shall minimize the potential for injury of an indigo snake. The Permittee shall follow the excavation guidance provided in the most current FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines found at <http://myfwc.com/gophertortoise>. If an indigo snake is encountered, the snake must be allowed to vacate the area prior to additional site manipulation in the vicinity. Holes, cavities, and snake refugia other than gopher tortoise burrows shall be inspected each morning before planned site manipulation of a particular area, and if occupied by an indigo snake, no work shall commence until the snake has vacated the vicinity of the proposed work.

This authorization does not obviate the necessity to obtain any other Federal, State, or local permits, which may be required. Prior to the initiation of any construction, projects qualifying for this NWP/RGP permit must qualify for an exemption under section 403.813(1), F.S. or 373.406, F.S., or otherwise be authorized by the applicable permit required under Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S., by the Department of Environmental Protection, a water management district under section 373.069, F.S., or a local government with delegated authority under section 373.441, F.S., and receive Water Quality Certification (WQC) and applicable Coastal Zone Consistency Concurrence (CZCC) or waiver thereto, as well as any authorizations required for the use of state-owned submerged lands under Chapter 253, F.S., and, as applicable, Chapter 258, F.S.

You should check State-permitting requirements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the appropriate water management district.

This authorization does not include conditions that would prevent the 'take' of a state-listed fish or wildlife species. These species are protected under sec. 379.411, Florida Statutes, and listed under Rule 68A-27, Florida Administrative Code. With regard to fish and wildlife species designated as species of special concern or threatened by the State of Florida, you are responsible for coordinating directly with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). You can visit the FWC license and permitting webpage (<http://www.myfwc.com/license/wildlife/>) for more information, including a list of those fish and wildlife species designated as species of special concern or threatened. The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (<http://www.fnai.org/>) also maintains updated lists, by county, of documented occurrences of those species.

This authorization does not give absolute Federal authority to perform the work as specified on your application. The proposed work may be subject to local building restrictions mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program. You should contact your local office that issues building permits to determine if your site is located in a flood-prone area, and if you must comply with the local building requirements mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program.

If you are unable to access the internet or require a hardcopy of any of the conditions, limitations, or expiration date for the above RGP(s), please contact Mrs. Lisa S. Lovvorn by telephone at 850-285-9533.

Thank you for your cooperation with our permit program. The Corps' Jacksonville District Regulatory Division is committed to improving service to our customers. We strive to perform our duty in a friendly and timely manner while working to preserve our environment. We invite you to complete our automated Customer Service Survey at http://corpsmapu.usace.army.mil/cm_apex/f?p=regulatory_survey. Please be aware this Internet address is case sensitive; and, you will need to enter it exactly as it appears above. Your input is appreciated – favorable or otherwise.

Sincerely,

Lisa S. Lovvorn
Project Manager

Enclosures

cc:
Mr. Mike Drauer, Stantec

GENERAL CONDITIONS
33 CFR PART 320-330

1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends on the **dates identified in the letter.**
2. You must maintain the activity authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with General Condition 4 below. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activity or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this permit from this office, which may require restoration of the area.
3. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archeological remains while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify this office of what you have found. We will initiate the Federal and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
4. If you sell the property associated with this permit you must obtain the signature of the new owner in the space provided and forward a copy of the permit to this office to validate the transfer of this authorization.
5. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued for your project, you must comply with the conditions specified in the certification as special conditions to this permit. For your convenience, a copy of the certification is attached if it contains such conditions.
6. You must allow a representative from this office to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT TRANSFER REQUEST

PERMIT NUMBER: SAJ-2020-02663(GP-LSL)

When the structures or work authorized by this permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this permit will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. Although the construction period for works authorized by Department of the Army permits is finite, the permit itself, with its limitations, does not expire.

To validate the transfer of this permit and the associated responsibilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below and mail to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enforcement Section, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019 or by electronic mail at saj-rd-enforcement@usace.army.mil.

(TRANSFEREE-SIGNATURE)

(SUBDIVISION)

(DATE)

(LOT)

(BLOCK)

(NAME-PRINTED)

(STREET ADDRESS)

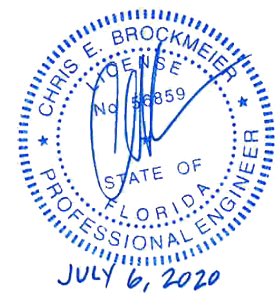
(MAILING ADDRESS)

(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)

V:\21561\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\locationmap.dwg
2020/07/09 8:04 AM By: Gerth, James



2316 Killiam Center Boulevard Suite 102
Tallahassee FL
www.stantec.com

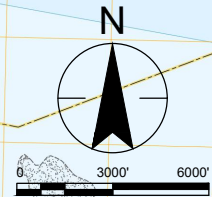
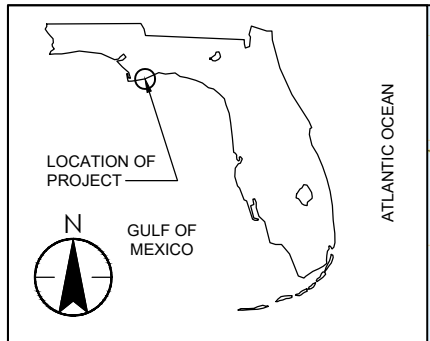


Client/Project
FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
1

Title
LOCATION MAP

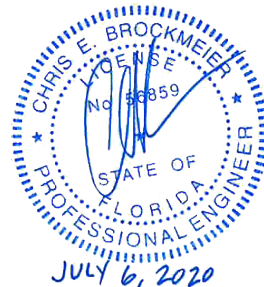
V:\21561\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\quadmap.dwg
2020/07/09 8:04 AM By: Gerth, James



LEGEND	
	US ROADS
	COUNTY ROADS (ALLIGATOR DRIVE)
	LOCAL ROADS
	PROJECT AREA
	PARK BOUNDARY



2316 Killam Center Boulevard Suite 102
Tallahassee FL
www.stantec.com



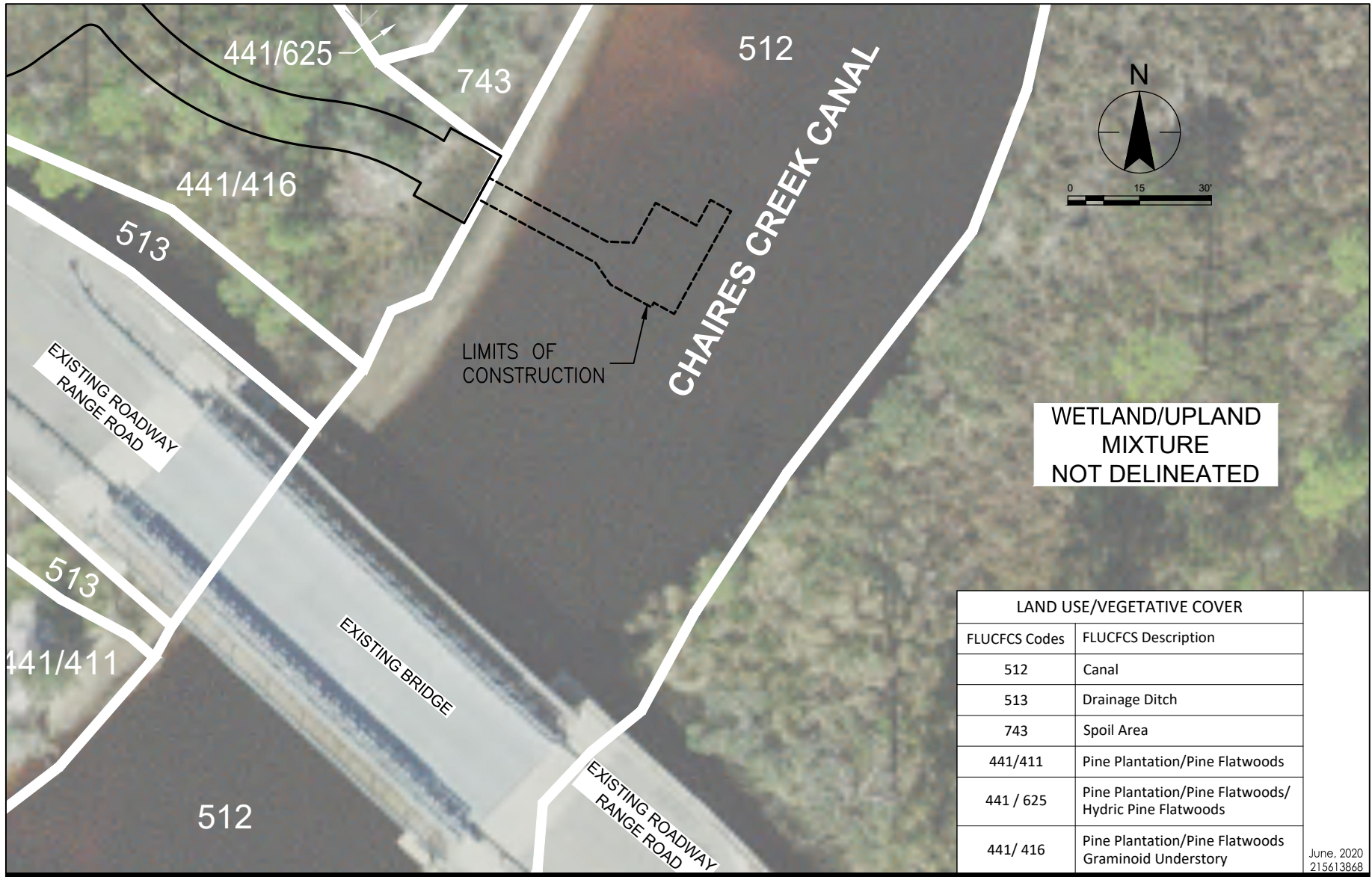
Client/Project
FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
2

Title
USGS QUAD MAP

June, 2020
215613868

V:\2156\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\EXISTING.dwg
 2020/07/09 8:04 AM By: Gerth, James

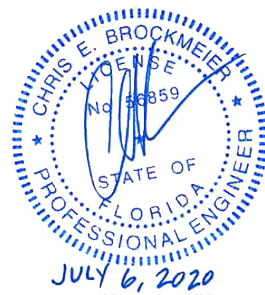


LAND USE/VEGETATIVE COVER	
FLUCFCS Codes	FLUCFCS Description
512	Canal
513	Drainage Ditch
743	Spoil Area
441/411	Pine Plantation/Pine Flatwoods
441 / 625	Pine Plantation/Pine Flatwoods/ Hydric Pine Flatwoods
441/ 416	Pine Plantation/Pine Flatwoods Graminoid Understory

June, 2020
 215613868



2316 Killam Center Boulevard Suite 102
 Tallahassee FL
 www.stantec.com



LEGEND

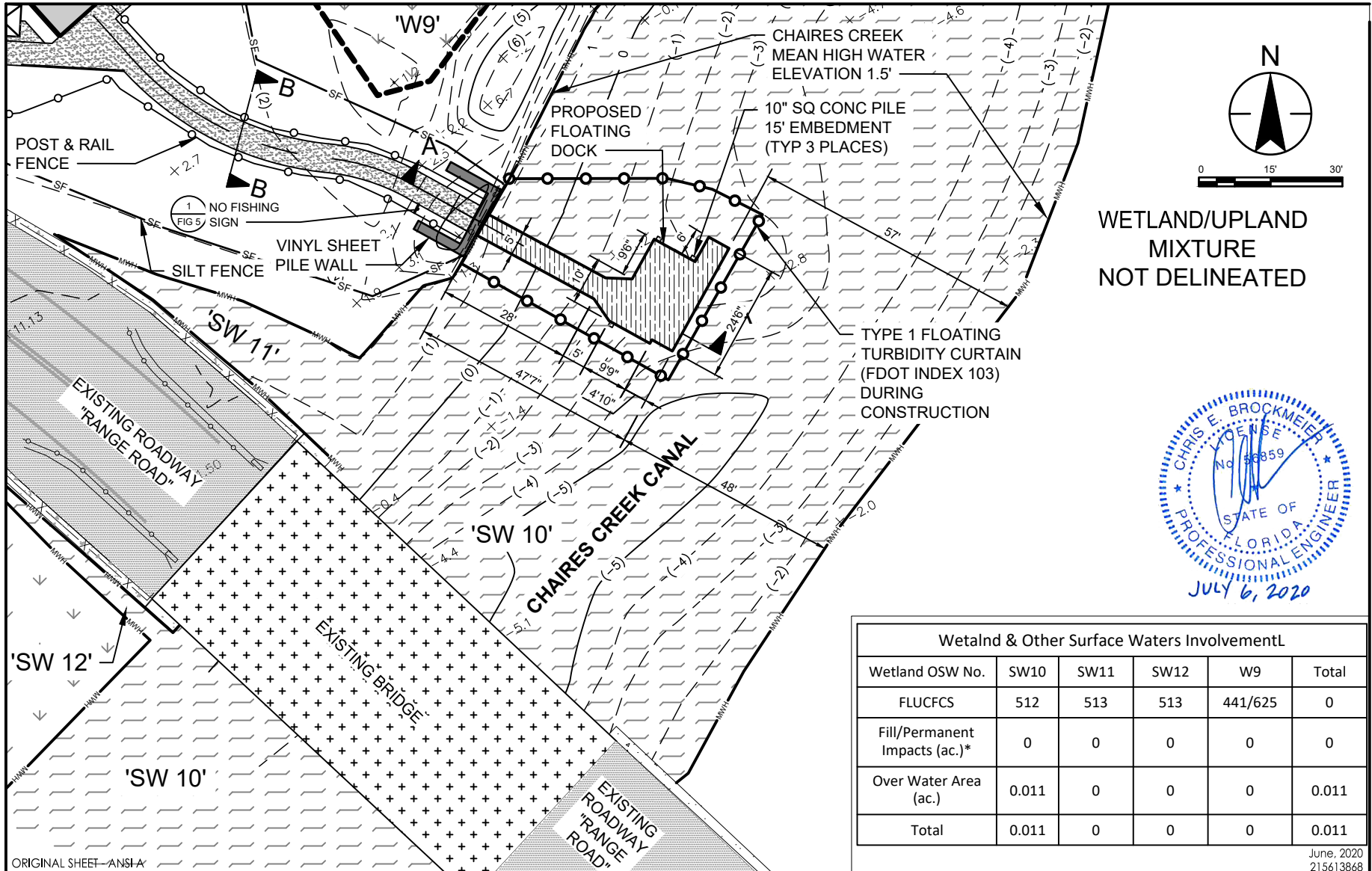
	KAYAK LAUNCH AREA BOUNDARY
	SIDEWALK/ENTRANCE TO KAYAK LAUNCH AREA

Client/Project
 FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
 KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
 3

Title
 KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
 LAND USE/VEGETATIVE COVER

V:\21561\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\DOCK-PLAN.dwg
 2020/07/09 9:38 AM By: Gerth, James



Wetland & Other Surface Waters Involvement					
Wetland OSW No.	SW10	SW11	SW12	W9	Total
FLUCFCS	512	513	513	441/625	0
Fill/Permanent Impacts (ac.)*	0	0	0	0	0
Over Water Area (ac.)	0.011	0	0	0	0.011
Total	0.011	0	0	0	0.011

June, 2020
 215613868



2316 Killiam Center Boulevard Suite 102
 Tallahassee FL
 www.stantec.com

LEGEND

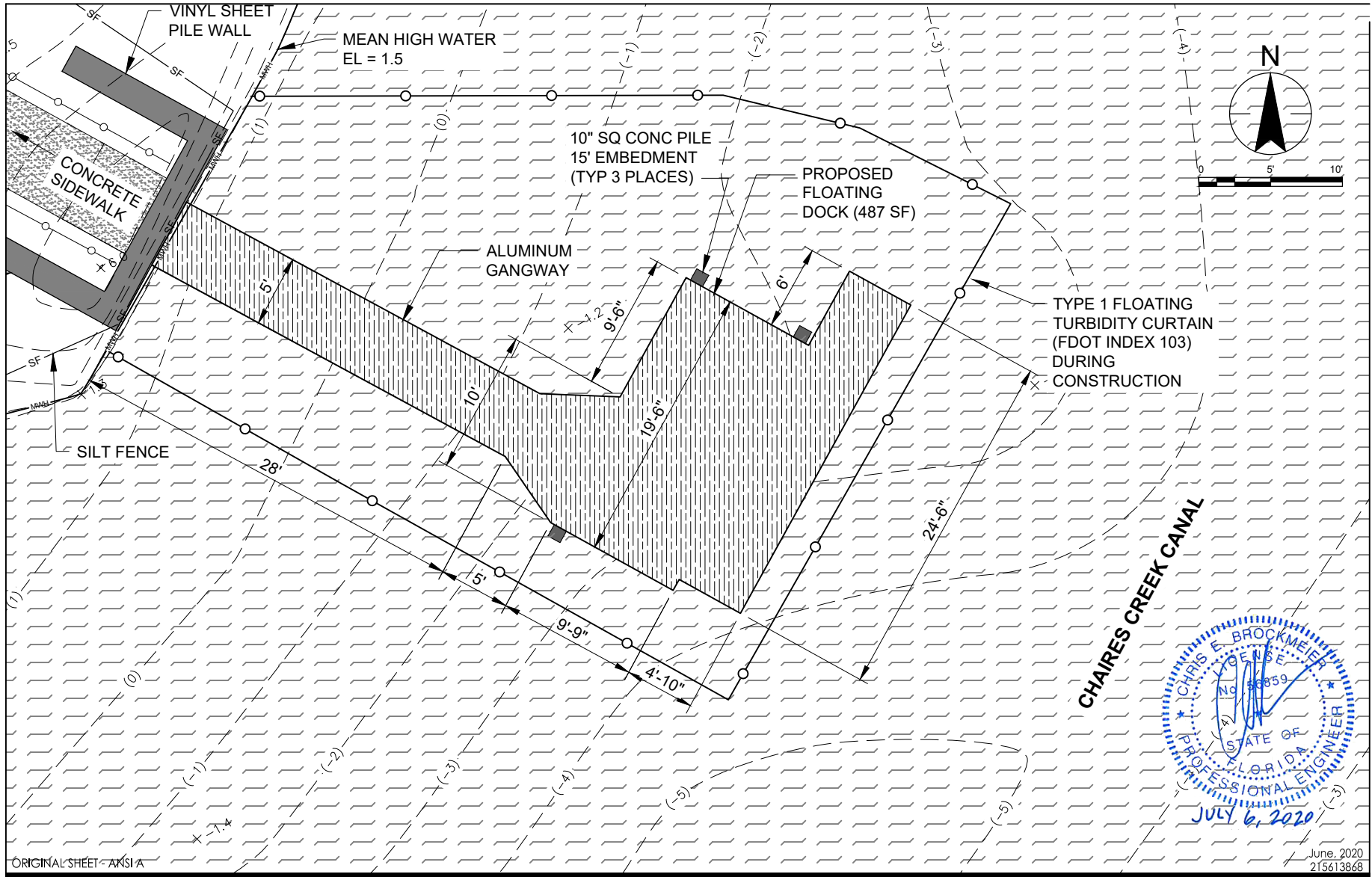
- (2) - - - - ELEVATION CONTOUR (FT-NAVD88)
- [Hatched Box] EXISTING ASPHALT ROAD
- SF - - - - SILT FENCE
- MWH - - - - MEAN HIGH WATER LINE
- [Cross-hatched Box] EXISTING BRIDGE
- [Vertical Hatched Box] FLOATING DOCK OVER UNVEGETATED NON-SSL SURFACE WATERS
- [Downward Arrow Box] USACE/FDEP JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS
- [Wavy Line Box] OTHER SURFACE WATERS
- [Solid Grey Box] VINYL SHEET PILE WALL

Client/Project
 FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
 KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
 4

Title
 KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
 DOCK PLAN VIEW

V:\21561\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\DOCK-enlarged.dwg
 2020/07/09 8:04 AM By: Gerth, James



ORIGINAL SHEET - ANS1-A

June, 2020
 215613868



2316 Killiam Center Boulevard Suite 102
 Tallahassee FL
 www.stantec.com

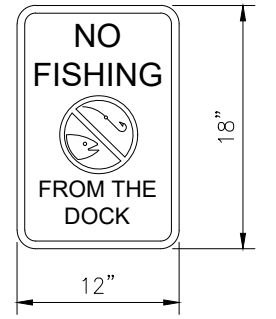
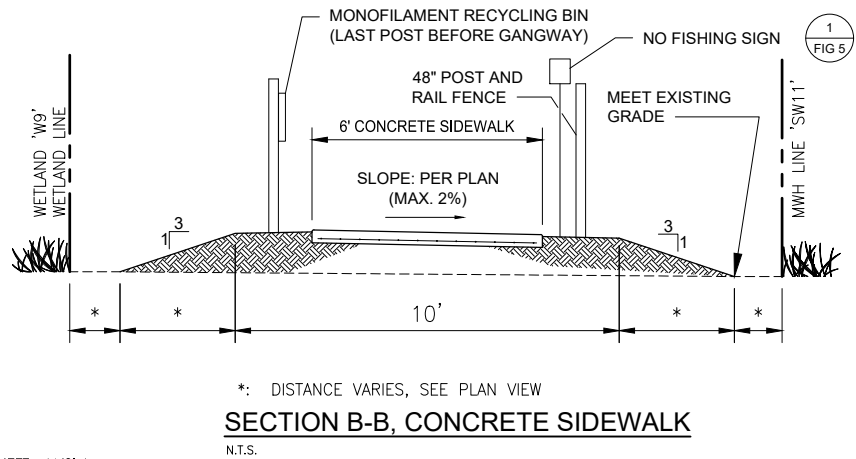
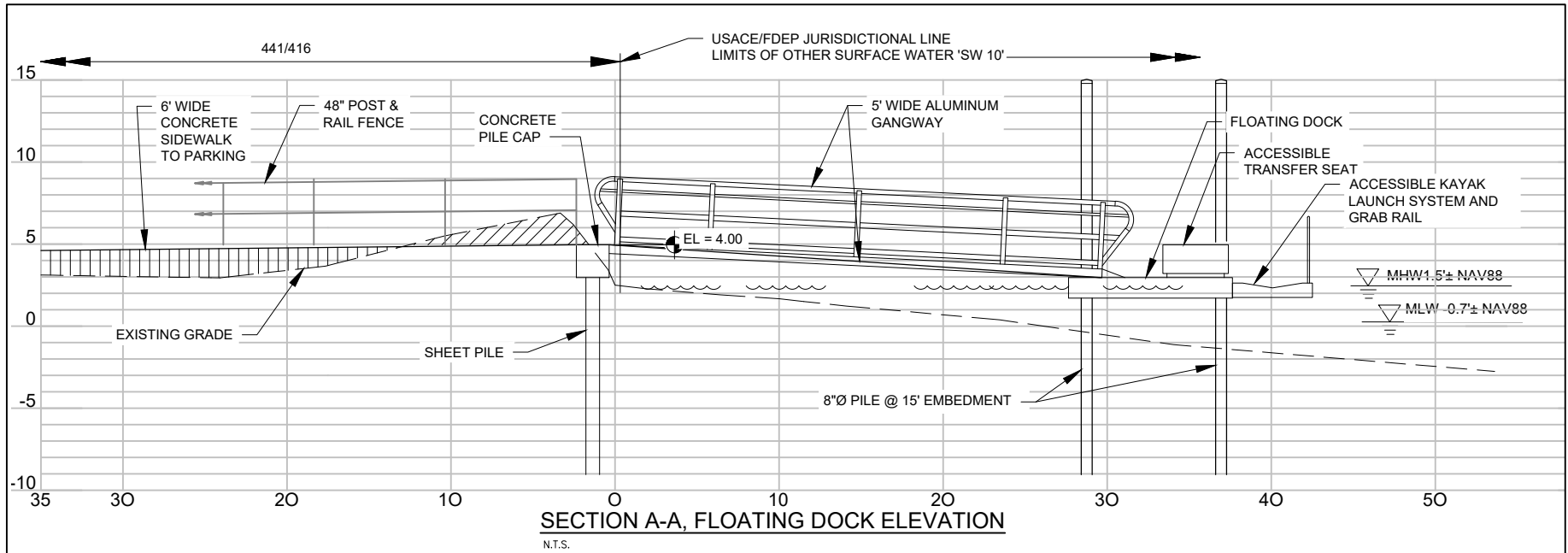
LEGEND	
	ELEVATION CONTOUR (FT-NAVD88)
	EXISTING ASPHALT ROAD
	SILT FENCE
	MEAN HIGH WATER LINE
	EXISTING BRIDGE
	FLOATING DOCK OVER UNVEGETATED NON-SSL SURFACE WATERS
	USACE/FDEP JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS
	OTHER SURFACE WATERS
	VINYL SHEET PILE WALL

Client/Project
 FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
 KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
 5

Title
 KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
 ENLARGED PLAN VIEW

V:\2156\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\Dock-Sections.dwg
 2020/07/09 8:05 AM By: Gerth, James



ALUMINUM SIGN, 0.063\"/>

1 SIGNAGE
 N.T.S.

ORIGINAL SHEET - ANSI A

June, 2020
 215613868



2316 Killiam Center Boulevard Suite 102
 Tallahassee FL
 www.stantec.com

LEGEND

	EXCAVATION IN UPLANDS
	FILL IN UPLANDS



Client/Project
 FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
 KAYAK LAUNCH

Figure No.
 6

Title
 KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
 DOCK PROFILE & SECTIONS

V:\2156\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\KIOSK SIGNS.dwg
2020/07/09 8:05 AM By: Gerth, James

Help Save Protected Marine Life




- Never lift protected marine life from the water
- Do not use gaffs or additional lines to secure protected marine life
- Never throw trash or old fishing line in the water - it can entangle and kill marine life
- Do not dispose of bait and fish remains in the water as it attracts dolphins and sea turtles
- Do not feed or attempt to feed dolphins; it is illegal and harmful
- Cast your line away from protected marine life
- Reel-in your line if protected marine life approaches
- Use monofilament recycling bins to dispose of fishing line
- Release catch away from dolphins when possible without violating any state and federal regulations

Please Do The Following:

 Bottlenose Dolphins  Report hooked, sick, injured, or stranded whales and dolphins (24-hours) to: 1-877-942-5343	 Sea Turtles  If you hook a sea turtle, call for help (24-hours) to: 1-844-4SAWFISH	 Smalltooth Sawfish  Release immediately. Cut line as close to the hook as possible. To help scientists track sawfish recovery please report encounters to: 1-844-4SAWFISH	 Giant Manta Ray  Release immediately. Cut line as close to the hook as possible. To help scientists please report sightings with pictures, date, time and location to: manta.ray@noaa.gov
---	---	--	--

fisheries.noaa.gov

Sawfish Are Endangered

Respect • Release • Report

Sawfish are protected by State and Federal laws: It is illegal to harm, harvest, or handle sawfish



You Can Help Save Smalltooth Sawfish

Angler Guidance:

- Release sawfish immediately
- Never lift from the water or drag ashore
- Do not use gaffs or ropes to secure
- Cut the line as close to the hook as possible

Diver Guidance:

- Keep your distance
- Avoid disturbing sawfish
- Do not chase or pursue
- Never feed or touch


Share Information About Your Encounter

1-844-4SAWFISH

www.SawfishRecovery.org

The information you provide helps scientists track sawfish recovery

HAVE YOU SEEN A STURGEON?



If you catch a sturgeon or find one dead, call the Southeast U.S. Sturgeon Hotline:

(844) STURG 911

(844) 788-7491

Or email: NOAA.Sturg911@noaa.gov


Help Scientific Research:

- Location of sighting (Waterbody and GPS coordinates if possible)
- Condition of animal (Alive or dead? Signs of trauma or injury?)
- Estimated length (From nose to end of tail)
- Photo of entire fish, if possible

Keep Them Swimming

- Do not remove live sturgeon from the water.
- If hooked, cut the line as close to the hook as possible prior to release.

Sturgeon in the Southeastern United States are federally protected. It is illegal to harm or keep them, even if dead.



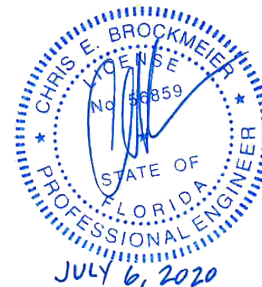
KIOSK MOUNTED SIGNAGE
N.T.S.

PROTECTED SPECIES EDUCATIONAL SIGNS PER N.O.A.A. (18"x12") TO BE INSTALLED IN KIOSK FACING PARKING AREA. SEE KIOSK LOCATION ILLUSTRATION ON FIGURE NO. 8.

June, 2020
215613868



2316 Killiam Center Boulevard Suite 102
Tallahassee FL
www.stantec.com



Client/Project
FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
DAY USE AREA

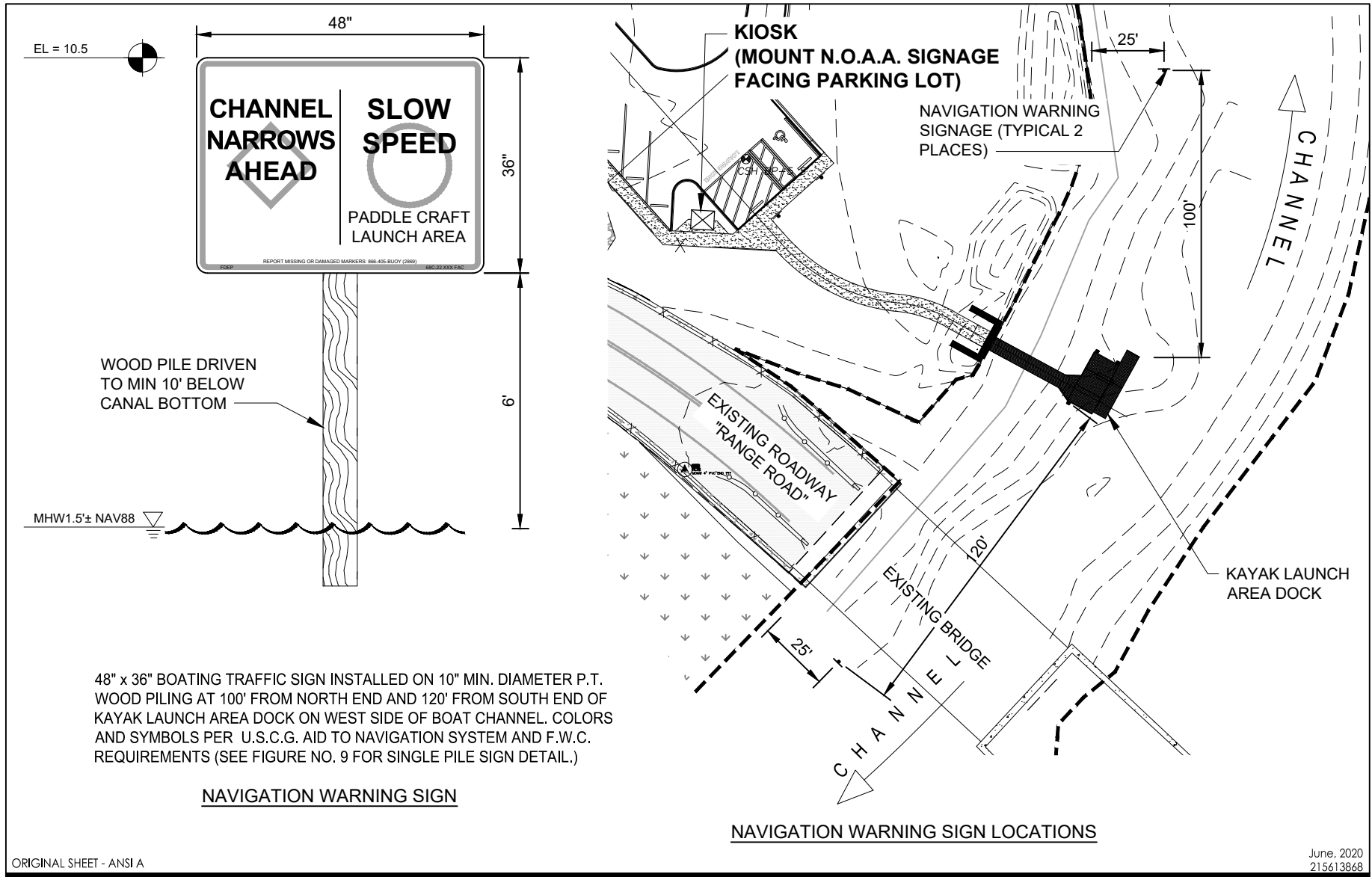
Figure No. _____

7

Title

KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
KIOSK SIGNAGE

V:\2156\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permit\KIOSK SIGNS.dwg
2020/07/09 8:05 AM By: Gerth, James

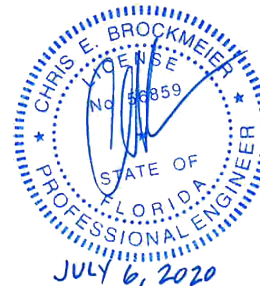


ORIGINAL SHEET - ANSI A

June, 2020
215613868



2316 Killam Center Boulevard Suite 102
Tallahassee FL
www.stantec.com



Client/Project

FDEP/BALD POINT STATE PARK
DAY USE AREA

Figure No.

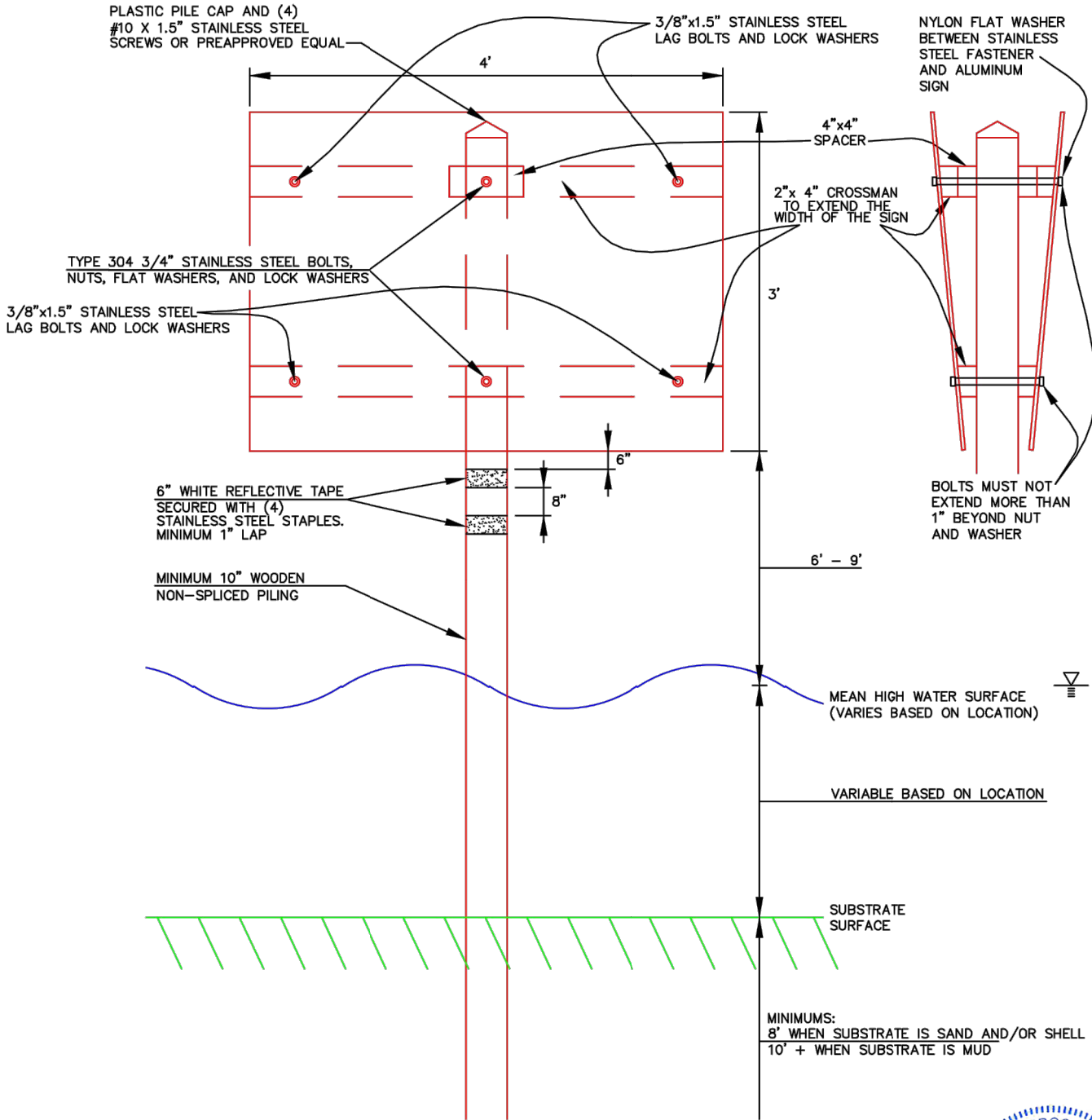
8

Title

KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
PILE MOUNTED BOAT TRAFFIC SIGNS

v:\2156\active\215613868\environmental\drawing\exhibits\dock_permif\kosk signs

2020.07.09 8:05:10 AM



NOTE:

1. ALL PILING MUST BE PRESSURE TREATED LUMBER (2.50 CCA FOR SALTWATER APPLICATIONS; 0.80 CCA, 0.80 ACQ, OR 1.0 ACZA FOR FRESHWATER APPLICATIONS).
2. ALL FRAMING FOR SIGNBOARD MUST BE PRESSURE TREATED LUMBER (0.60 CCA, 0.60 ACQ, OR 0.60 ACZA FOR SALTWATER APPLICATIONS; 0.40 CCA, 0.40 ACQ, 0.40 ACZA, 0.21 CA OR 0.41 CBA FOR FRESHWATER APPLICATIONS).
3. BOLT HOLES BORED 1/8" LARGER THAN DIAMETER OF BOLT. ALL FASTENERS MUST BE VANDAL PROOFED.
4. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT IMPACT THE MESSAGE AREA OR REFLECTIVE SURFACES OF THE SIGN WHEN DRILLING HOLES IN THE SIGNS, OR SPLIT THE ENDS OF THE CROSSING TIMBERS
5. PLASTIC PILE CAP SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE TOP EDGE OF THE SIGN (±6") AND SHALL FIT PILING NATURALLY WITHOUT HAVING TO MODIFY CAP IN ANY WAY.
6. SIGN(S) MUST BE CENTERED ON SINGLE PILE.



NOT TO SCALE



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
2316 Killlearn Center Boulevard Suite 102
Tallahassee FL 32309-3676
Tel: (850) 878-5001
www.stantec.com

Client/Project
**FDEP/BALD POINT
STATE PARK
DAY USE AREA**

Project No.
215613868

Title
**KAYAK LAUNCH AREA
SINGLE PILE SIGN DETAIL**

Revision _____ Date **JUNE 2020**
Reference Sheet _____ Figure No. **9**

COMMENCEMENT NOTIFICATION

*Within ten (10) days of initiating the authorized work, submit this form via electronic mail to saj-rd-enforcement@usace.army.mil (preferred, not to exceed 15 MB) **or** by standard mail to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enforcement Section, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019.*

1. **Department of the Army Permit Number:** SAJ-2020-02663(GP-LSL)

2. **Permittee Information:**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

3. **Construction Start Date:** _____

4. **Contact to Schedule Inspection:**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Signature of Permittee

Printed Name of Permittee

Date

AS-BUILT CERTIFICATION BY PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

Submit this form and one set of as-built engineering drawings to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enforcement Section, 41 North Jefferson Street, Suite 301, Pensacola, Florida, 32502. If you have questions regarding this requirement, please contact the Enforcement Branch at 904-232-3131.

1. Department of the Army Permit Number: SAJ-2020-02663(GP-LSL)

2. Permittee Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

3. Project Site Identification (physical location/address):

4. As-Built Certification: I hereby certify that the authorized work, including any mitigation required by Special Conditions to the permit, has been accomplished in accordance with the Department of the Army permit with any deviations noted below. This determination is based upon on-site observation, scheduled, and conducted by me or by a project representative under my direct supervision. I have enclosed one set of as-built engineering drawings.

Signature of Engineer

Name (*Please type*)

(FL, PR, or VI) Reg. Number

Company Name

City

State

ZIP

(Affix Seal)

Date

Telephone Number

Date Work Started:_____ Date Work Completed:_____

Identify any deviations from the approved permit drawings and/or special conditions (attach additional pages if necessary):

STANDARD MANATEE CONDITIONS FOR IN-WATER WORK

2011

The permittee shall comply with the following conditions intended to protect manatees from direct project effects:

- a. All personnel associated with the project shall be instructed about the presence of manatees and manatee speed zones, and the need to avoid collisions with and injury to manatees. The permittee shall advise all construction personnel that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees which are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Florida Manatee Sanctuary Act.
- b. All vessels associated with the construction project shall operate at "Idle Speed/No Wake" at all times while in the immediate area and while in water where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. All vessels will follow routes of deep water whenever possible.
- c. Siltation or turbidity barriers shall be made of material in which manatees cannot become entangled, shall be properly secured, and shall be regularly monitored to avoid manatee entanglement or entrapment. Barriers must not impede manatee movement.
- d. All on-site project personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatee(s). All in-water operations, including vessels, must be shutdown if a manatee(s) comes within 50 feet of the operation. Activities will not resume until the manatee(s) has moved beyond the 50-foot radius of the project operation, or until 30 minutes elapses if the manatee(s) has not reappeared within 50 feet of the operation. Animals must not be herded away or harassed into leaving.
- e. Any collision with or injury to a manatee shall be reported immediately to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Hotline at 1-888-404-3922. Collision and/or injury should also be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Jacksonville (1-904-731-3336) for north Florida or in Vero Beach (1-772-562-3909) for south Florida, and emailed to FWC at ImperiledSpecies@myFWC.com.
- f. Temporary signs concerning manatees shall be posted prior to and during all in-water project activities. All signs are to be removed by the permittee upon completion of the project. Temporary signs that have already been approved for this use by the FWC must be used. One sign which reads *Caution: Boaters* must be posted. A second sign measuring at least 8½" by 11" explaining the requirements for "Idle Speed/No Wake" and the shut down of in-water operations must be posted in a location prominently visible to all personnel engaged in water-related activities. These signs can be viewed at http://www.myfwc.com/WILDLIFEHABITATS/manatee_sign_vendors.htm. Questions concerning these signs can be forwarded to the email address listed above.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) Applicable to All Projects

NOTE - You are required to comply with the following PDCs, which serve to address requirements pursuant to Section 7, Endangered Species Act (ESA) for those listed species and designated critical habitat under purview of the National Marine Fisheries Service Protected, Resources Division. These PDCs are taken from the Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) referred to as JaxBO. These criteria serve to address ESA requirements only, and additional conditions may be required to address other Federal laws, including the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act. Authorization under this permit is conditional upon your compliance with all applicable PDCs, which are made part of this permit. You are reminded that you must complete the attached self-certification statement of compliance following completion of the authorized work. Your statement of compliance does not obviate the need to satisfy all PDCs, including those requirements (e.g., such as structural dimensions and educational signs) that are observable post-construction, and those requirements (e.g., construction methods or procedures to be followed) that are not observable post-construction. Please note that failure to comply with the applicable PDCs of this PBO, where a take of the listed species occurs, would constitute an unauthorized take, and it would also constitute noncompliance with this permit. The NMFS is the appropriate authority to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of this PBO.

AP.1. The applicant must agree to adhere to PDCs for *In-Water Activities* (provided below).

AP.2. All projects involving the installation of piles or sheet piles shall follow the PDCs for *In-Water Noise from Pile and Sheet Pile Installation* (Section 2.2). This Opinion does not cover projects that use seismic surveys, low frequency sonar, explosions, and seismic air guns.

AP.3. All projects proposed in or near areas with mangroves, seagrasses, corals, or hard bottom habitat must refer to PDCs for *Mangroves, Seagrasses, Corals, and Hard Bottom for All Projects* (provided below) to determine whether the project is covered under the Opinion and, if it is covered, to ensure it is sited, designated, and implemented following all of the PDCs in that section.

AP.4. For every project, the USACE must determine if the project is located within:

- a) Smalltooth sawfish critical habitat limited exclusion zones (Section 2.1.1.1)
- b) Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones (Section 2.1.1.2)
- c) Atlantic sturgeon critical habitat exclusion zone (St. Marys River) (Section 2.1.1.3)
- d) North Atlantic right whale educational sign zones (Section 2.1.1.4)
- e) U.S. Caribbean sea turtle critical habitat restriction zones (Section 2.1.1.5)
- f) Bryde's whale exclusion zone (Section 2.1.1.6)

Where the activity is excluded from the Opinion within a particular zone, the application must be processed under a separate consultation. Where additional restrictions apply to activities within that zone, the USACE or other authorizing entity must ensure that the project meets the requirements for that zone.

AP.5. This Opinion only covers new construction (i.e., installation, repair, replacement) and does not apply to after-the-fact consultations or enforcement actions handled by the Corps.

AP.6. All activities must be completed during daylight hours.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) for In-Water Activities

AP.7. Education and Observation: The permittee must ensure that all personnel associated with the project are instructed about the potential presence of species protected under the ESA and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). All on-site project personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of protected species. All personnel shall be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing ESA-listed species or marine mammals. To determine which species may be found in the project area, please review the relevant Protected Species List at:

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/protected_resources/section_7/threatened_endangered/index.html

AP.8. Reporting Interactions with Protected Species:

- a) Any collision(s) with and/or injury to any sea turtle, sawfish, whale, or sturgeon occurring during the construction of a project, shall be reported immediately to NMFS's Protected Resources Division (PRD) at (1-727-824-5312) or by email to: takereport.nmfs@noaa.gov and SAJ-RD-Enforcement@usace.army.mil.
- b) Smalltooth sawfish: Report sightings to 1-844-SAWFISH or email: Sawfish@MyFWC.com
- c) Sturgeon: Report dead sturgeon to 1-844-STURG 91 (1-844-788-7491) or email: nmfs.ser.sturgeonnetwork@noaa.gov
- d) Sea turtles and marine mammals: Report stranded, injured, or dead animals to 1-877-WHALE HELP (1-877-942-5343).
- e) North Atlantic right whale: Report injured, dead, or entangled right whales to the USCG via VHF Channel 16.

AP.9. Vessel Traffic and Construction Equipment: All vessel operators must watch for and avoid collision with species protected under the ESA and MMPA. Vessel operators must avoid potential interactions with protected species and operate in accordance with the following protective measures:

- a) *Construction Equipment*:
 - i) All vessels associated with the construction project shall operate at "Idle Speed/No Wake" at all times while operating in water depths where the draft of the vessel provides less than a 4-foot (ft) clearance from the bottom, and in all depths after a protected species has been observed in and has departed the area.
 - ii) All vessels will follow marked channels and/or routes using the maximum water depth whenever possible.
 - iii) Operation of any mechanical construction equipment, including vessels, shall cease immediately if a listed species is observed within a 50-ft radius of construction equipment and shall not resume until the species has departed the area of its own volition.
 - iv) If the detection of species is not possible during certain weather conditions (e.g., fog, rain, wind), then in-water operations will cease until weather conditions improve and detection is again feasible.

- b) *All Vessels:*
 - i) Sea turtles: Maintain a minimum distance of 150 ft.
 - ii) North Atlantic right whale: Maintain a minimum 1,500-ft distance (500 yards).
 - iii) Vessels 65 ft in length or longer must comply with the Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction Rule (50 CFR 224.105) which includes reducing speeds to 10 knots or less in Seasonal Management Areas (<http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/pr/shipstrike/>).
 - iv) Mariners shall check various communication media for general information regarding avoiding ship strikes and specific information regarding right whale sightings in the area. These include NOAA weather radio, USCG NAVTEX broadcasts, and Notices to Mariners.
 - v) Marine mammals (i.e., dolphins, whales [other than North Atlantic right whales], and porpoises): Maintain a minimum distance of 300 ft.
 - vi) When these animals are sighted while the vessel is underway (e.g., bow-riding), attempt to remain parallel to the animal's course. Avoid excessive speed or abrupt changes in direction until they have left the area.
 - vii) Reduce speed to 10 knots or less when mother/calf pairs or groups of marine mammals are observed, when safety permits.

- AP.10. Turbidity Control Measures during Construction:** Turbidity must be monitored and controlled. Prior to initiating any of the work covered under this Opinion, the Permittee shall install turbidity curtains as described below. In some instances, the use of turbidity curtains may be waived by the USACE project manager if the project is deemed too minimal to generate turbidity (e.g., certain ATON installation, scientific survey device placement, marine debris removal) or if the current is too strong for the curtains to stay in place. Turbidity curtains specifications:
- a) Install floating turbidity barriers with weighted skirts that extend to within 1 ft of the bottom around all work areas that are in, or adjacent to, surface waters.
 - b) Use these turbidity barriers throughout construction to control erosion and siltation and ensure that turbidity levels within the project area do not exceed background conditions.
 - c) Position turbidity barriers in a way that does not block species' entry to or exit from designated critical habitat.
 - d) Monitor and maintain turbidity barriers in place until the authorized work has been completed and the water quality in the project area has returned to background conditions.
 - e) In the range of ESA-listed corals (St. Lucie Inlet, Martin County south to the Dry Tortugas and the U.S. Caribbean) and Johnson's seagrass (Turkey Creek/Palm Bay south to central Biscayne Bay in the lagoon systems on the east coast of Florida):
 - i. Projects that include upland earth moving (e.g., grading to install a building or parking lot associated with a dock and seawall project), must install sediment control barriers to prevent any upland sediments from reaching estuarine or marine waters.
 - ii. The turbidity curtain requirement cannot be waived for any project that moves or removes sediment (e.g., dredging, auger to create a pile, trenching to install a cable

line). If turbidity curtains are not feasible in an area based on site conditions such as water current, high wave action, or stormy conditions, the project must undergo individual Section 7 consultation and is not covered under this Programmatic Opinion.

AP.11. Entanglement: All turbidity curtains and other in-water equipment must be properly secured with materials that reduce the risk of entanglement of marine species (described below). Turbidity curtains likewise must be made of materials that reduce the risk of entanglement of marine species.

- a) In-water lines (rope, chain, and cable, including the lines to secure turbidity curtains) must be stiff, taut, and non-looping. Examples of such lines are heavy metal chains or heavy cables that do not readily loop and tangle. Flexible in-water lines, such as nylon rope or any lines that could loop or tangle, must be enclosed in a plastic or rubber sleeve/tube to add rigidity and prevent the line from looping and tangling. In all instances, no excess line is allowed in the water.
- b) Turbidity curtains and other in-water equipment must be placed in a manner that does not entrap species within the construction area or block access for them to navigate around the construction area.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) for Mangroves, Seagrasses, Corals and Hard Bottom for All Projects

Note: **For projects authorized in reliance on this Opinion only**, the PDCs below supercede any other guidance documents otherwise applicable to reduce or avoid impacts to mangroves, seagrasses, and corals. This includes the NMFS's *Construction Guidelines in Florida for Minor Piling-Supported Structures Constructed in or over Submerged Aquatic Vegetation, Marsh, or Mangrove Habitat* dated August 2001, and NMFS's *Key for Construction Conditions for Docks or Other Minor Structures Constructed in or over Johnson's Seagrass (Halophila johnsonii)*, dated October 2002. NMFS may still apply these guidance documents in other consultations, including consultations on Essential Fish Habitat under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as appropriate.

AP.12. Mangroves:

- a) To qualify for coverage under this Opinion, all projects must be sited and designed to avoid or minimize impacts to mangroves.
- b) Mangrove removal must be conducted in a manner that avoids any unnecessary removal and is limited to the following instances:
 - i. Removal to install up to a 4-ft-wide walkway for a dock.
 - ii. Removal to install up to an 8-ft-wide walkway for public docks, where the walkway is necessary to address compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
 - iii. Removal to install culverts necessary to improve water quality or restore hydrology between 2 water bodies. Such mangrove removal is limited to a maximum of 20 linear feet (lin ft) of shoreline per culvert opening.
 - iv. Removal of mangroves above mean high water (MHW) provided that the tree does not have any prop roots that extend into the water below the MHWL.
- c) Mangrove Trimming. Mangrove trimming is regulated by FDEP, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, and U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources. Consistent with those authorities, when used in this Opinion, mangrove trimming refers to the removal (using hand equipment such as chain saws and/or machetes) of lateral branches (i.e., no alteration of the trunk of the tree) in a manner that ensures survival of the tree. This Opinion does not limit or supersede any restrictions on mangrove removal required under any federal, state, or local law.
 - i. This Opinion only covers projects with associated mangrove trimming occurring waterward of MHW if such trimming (1) occurs within the area where the authorized structures are placed or will be placed (e.g., removal of branches that overhang a dock),
 - ii. (2) is necessary to provide temporary construction access, and (3) is conducted in a manner that avoids any unnecessary trimming.

- iii. The Opinion does not apply to projects proposing to remove red mangrove props roots waterward of MHW, except for removal to install the dock walkways, as described above (up to a 4-ft walkway and up to a 8-ft ADA compliant walkway) and to install culverts necessary to improve water quality or restore hydrology between 2 water bodies.

AP.13. Seagrass:

- a) Pile-supported structures must follow the PDCs for *Docks or Other Minor Structures* (PDC A2.17, Section 2.2.2)

Johnson's seagrass:

- b) This Opinion does not apply to projects where Johnson's seagrass is found within the project footprint except for:
 - i. Installation of pile-supported structures that meet the PDCs for *Docks or Other Minor Structures* (PDC A2.17, Section 2.2.2).
 - ii. Maintenance dredging of previously authorized areas. This is limited to the removal of no more than 0.1 acre (ac) (4,356 ft²) of Johnson's seagrass per year (Activity 3; see Section 2.2.3).
 - iii. Transmission/utility line repairs within the same footprint of the lines being repaired (Activity 8; see Section 2.2.8).

Non-listed seagrasses:

- a) All impacts to non-ESA listed native, non-invasive seagrasses should be avoided and minimized to the extent practicable.
- b) This Opinion does not apply to projects located within the geographic boundary of U.S. Caribbean sea turtle critical habitat (hawksbill, leatherback, and the NA DPS of green sea turtle critical habitat identified in Section 2.1.1.5) if non-ESA listed, native, non-invasive seagrasses are found within the project footprint.
- c) This Opinion does not apply to projects that may affect, directly or indirectly, ESA-listed corals.
- d) Projects occurring within in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) may require separate consultation or authorization from NOAA's FKNMS. Projects authorized to occur in the FKNMS shall comply with any measures NOAA FKNMS has developed to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate any effects on non-listed corals. For projects occurring outside of the FKNMS, if non-listed corals are found within the project footprint, we recommend relocating all non-listed corals, when possible, in a manner that is protective of the corals.

AP.14. Coral and Hard Bottom Habitat:

- a) This Opinion does not apply to projects that may affect, directly or indirectly, ESA-listed corals.
- b) Projects occurring within in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) may require separate consultation or authorization from NOAA's FKNMS. Projects authorized to occur in the FKNMS shall comply with any measures NOAA FKNMS has developed to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate any effects on non-listed corals. For projects occurring outside of the FKNMS, if non-listed corals are found within the project footprint, we recommend relocating all non-listed corals, when possible, in a manner that is protective of the corals.
- c) This Opinion does not apply to projects where hard bottom habitat is found within the project footprint, except for the temporary placement (up to 24 months) of scientific survey devices (Activity 5) that have a footprint of less than 1 square foot (ft²) per device and are installed in a manner that does not permanently alter the hardbottom (e.g., the devices are not installed by drilling). For this Opinion, we define hard bottom in 2 ways:
 - i. Natural consolidated hard substrate that is suitable to support corals, coral larval settlement, reattachment and recruitment of asexual coral fragments. These areas of hard bottom or dead coral skeleton must be free from fleshy or turf macroalgae cover and sediment cover.
 - ii. Nearshore and surf-zone, low-profile hard bottom outcroppings (e.g., worm-rock reef [sabellariid worm reefs] and eolianite, granodiorite). This habitat can be persistent or ephemeral, cycling through periods of exposure and cover by sand. The range of this hard bottom habitat extends along the southeastern coast of Florida from Cape Canaveral to Miami-Dade County and in the U.S. Caribbean. It is an important developmental habitat for juvenile hawksbill and green sea turtles, which use it for both foraging and refuge.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) Specific to Activity 2 for Pile-Supported Structures and Anchored Buoys

A2.1. Activities covered by this Opinion include the installation, repair, replacement, and removal of structures as described below:

- A2.1.1. The pile-supported and anchored structures included in this Opinion are: docks and piers, boatlifts, mooring piles and dolphin piles associated with docks/piers; ATONs and PATONs; floating docks; pile-supported chickees (i.e., small, back-country, over-water, pile-supported, primitive camping shelters); boardwalks (as long as they are designed and clearly marked to prohibit fishing and vessel mooring); mooring fields and buoys; and other minor pile-supported structures. This does not include structures that support large commercial vessels including ferries, tankers, and cargo ships such as ferry terminals and large ports.
- A2.1.2. Pile-supported docks/piers for a single-family residential lot are limited to 4 slips for motorized vessels. Slips for non-motorized vessels (e.g., kayak, canoe, and paddleboard) and associated launching areas do not count toward the total slip number.
- A2.1.3. Pile-supported structures for marinas, multi-family facilities (e.g., condo complexes, trailer parks, subdivisions when the homeowners association owns and controls the in-water structures). Docks and piers for multi-family residential properties (e.g., condos, trailer parks, apartment complexes), and marinas are limited to a maximum of 50 total slips (i.e., combination of wet and dry slips for existing plus proposed slips).
- A2.1.4. Anchored buoys and temporary pile-supported structures associated with marine events. Upon completion of the event, these structures must be removed and, to the maximum extent practical, the site must be restored to pre-construction elevations. Water depths in the area of marine events must be deep enough to support at least 5 ft of water depth under the keel of a vessel and between the keel of a vessel and ESA-listed coral colonies when transiting to the mooring areas. There is no limit on the number of vessel slips allowed for temporary structures associated marine events such as boat shows.
- A2.1.5. Mooring fields are limited to a maximum of 50 motorized vessels (there is no limit on the number of non-motorized vessels).
- A2.1.6. All pile-supported structures constructed must comply with PDC 2.17 for *Docks or Other Minor Structures Constructed in Florida Under this Opinion* (see below).

The following PDCs apply to all the activities described in PDC A2.1 above:

A2.2. For commercial, multi-family, or public facilities, and marine events, signs must be posted in a visible location(s), alerting users of listed species in the area susceptible to vessel strikes and hook-and-line captures. The most current version of the signs that must be downloaded and sign installation guidance are available at:

(http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/protected_resources/section_7/protected_species_educational_signs/index.html). The signs required to be posted by area are stated below:

- A2.2.1. All projects in Florida shall use the Save Sea Turtle, Sawfish, and Dolphin sign. These signs shall include contact information to the sea turtle and marine

- mammal stranding networks and smalltooth sawfish encounter database.
- A2.2.2. Projects within the North Atlantic right whale educational sign zone (as defined in Section 2.1.1.4) shall post the Help Protect North Atlantic Right Whales sign.
 - A2.2.3. On the east coast of Florida, projects located within the St. John's River and those occurring north of the St. Johns River to the Florida-Georgia line shall post the Report Sturgeon sign. On the west coast of Florida, projects occurring from the Cedar Key, Florida north to the Florida-Alabama line.
 - A2.2.4. We are still developing the signs to be used in the U.S. Caribbean. Once developed, those signs will be included at the website above.

A2.3. For commercial, multi-family, or public facilities, monofilament recycling bins must be provided at the docking facility to reduce the risk of turtle or sawfish entanglement in, or ingestion of, marine debris. Monofilament recycling bins must:

- A2.3.1. Be constructed and labeled according to the instructions provided at <http://mrrp.myfwc.com>.
- A2.3.2. Be maintained in working order and emptied frequently (according to <http://mrrp.myfwc.com> standards) so that they do not overflow.

A2.4. For any dock project (new construction, repair, or replacement) at a private residence located within 11 nautical miles of North Atlantic right whale critical habitat (as measured in a radius from the center of the nearest inlet to open ocean and described in Section 2.1.1.4), the property owner will be provided a handout with their USACE permit describing the presence of North Atlantic right whales in the area and the Federal regulations governing the approach to North Atlantic right whales (Appendix C).

A2.5. ATONs and PATONs must be approved by and installed in accordance with the requirements of the USCG (see 33 CFR, chapter I, subchapter C, part 66 and RHA Section 10 and any other pertinent requirements).

A2.6. Chickees must be less than 500 ft² and support no more than 2 slips.

A2.7. No activities associated with municipal or commercial fishing piers are covered under this Opinion.

A2.8. Docks installed within visible distance of ocean beaches are required to comply with turtle-friendly lighting, if lighting is necessary to the project. Turtle-friendly lighting is explained and examples are provided on the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission website:
<http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/managed/sea-turtles/lighting/>

A2.9. Project construction will take place from uplands or from floating equipment (e.g., barge); prop or wheel-washing is prohibited.

Additional PDCs for Activity 2 applicable in Critical Habitat

- A2.10.** *Acropora* critical habitat and the U.S. Caribbean: This Opinion does not cover new and expanded pile-supported structures in *Acropora* critical habitat where the essential features are present. The distance from ATONs to ESA-listed corals and *Acropora* critical habitat shall ensure there are no impacts to the corals or the essential feature of *Acropora* critical habitat from the movement of buoys and tackle. The appropriate distance shall be based on the size of the anchor chain or other tackle to be installed to secure the buoy to its anchor, particularly when the design of the ATON does not prohibit contact of tackle with the marine bottom. In all cases, buoy tackle will include flotation to ensure there is no contact between the anchor chain or line and the marine bottom.
- A2.11.** Gulf sturgeon critical habitat: Additional noise restrictions are required for pile and sheet pile installation in the Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones defined in Section 2.1.1.2. The noise restrictions are described in that section.
- A2.12.** Smalltooth sawfish critical habitat: This Opinion does not cover activities occurring in areas identified as smalltooth sawfish limited exclusion zones defined in Section 2.1.1.1.
- A2.13.** North Atlantic right whale critical habitat: This Opinion does not cover installation of anchored ATONs and permanent buoys in North Atlantic right whale critical habitat; temporary buoys for marine events are allowed in North Atlantic right whale critical habitat.
- A2.14.** Johnson's seagrass critical habitat: This Opinion does not cover new marinas or multi-family facilities in Johnson's seagrass critical habitat. Repair, replacement, and reconfiguration of existing marinas or multi-family facilities may be covered if it (1) occurs within same overall footprint (out to the perimeter of the facility, including the outer limits of the structure and permitted mooring locations), (2) does not increase the total aerial extent (i.e., area of coverage from the dock structures) of the existing facility, and (3) does not affect Johnson's seagrass. Mooring fields are allowed in Johnson's seagrass critical habitat and within the range of Johnson's seagrass so long as they occur in waters deeper than -13 ft (-4 m).
- A2.15.** NWA DPS of loggerhead sea turtle critical habitat: ATONs (pile-supported and anchored buoys) are allowed in nearshore reproductive habitat of the NWA DPS of loggerhead sea turtles under this Opinion. No other pile-supported structures are allowed in nearshore reproductive habitat under this Opinion.
- A2.16.** U.S. Caribbean sea turtle critical habitat (hawksbill, leatherback, and the NA DPS of green sea turtle critical habitat): ATONs (pile-supported and anchored buoys) are allowed near sea turtle nesting beaches under this Opinion. No other pile-supported structures are allowed near sea turtle nesting beaches under this Opinion.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) for Gulf Sturgeon Critical Habitat Migratory Restriction Zones

1. This Opinion does not apply to the placement of living shoreline, oyster reef, and artificial reef materials (Activity 7, PDC A7.26) and temporary platform, fill, and cofferdams (Activity 10, PDC A10.11) in Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones.
2. This Opinion does not apply to new transmission and utility line installation in the Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones between September and March, when sturgeon are likely to be present in these areas. Emergency repair/replacement of transmission and utility lines may occur in these areas during this time frame if the work is conducted without the use of heavy in-water equipment (e.g., dredging equipment) (Activity 8, PDC A8.10).
3. This Opinion does not apply to the installation of metal piles and metal sheet piles by impact hammer in the areas identified as Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones.
4. The allowable pile and sheet pile driving activities vary depending on the width of the project action area, as described below.
5. Areas that are 0-500 ft wide: In areas up to 500 ft wide, the allowable pile or sheet pile driving activities within the Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones are:
 - a. Creating a pilot hole for any type of pile using an auger or drop punch
 - b. Trenching a shoreline with mechanical equipment to create a space to install any type of sheet pile and backfilling behind it
 - c. Installing any type of piles and sheet piles by jetting.
6. Areas that are 501-1,400 ft wide: In areas over 500 ft wide, but less than 1,400 ft wide, the allowable pile or sheet pile driving activities within the Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones are:
 - a. The activities described in 1-3 above, and
 - b. Installing any type of piles and sheet piles by vibratory hammer.
7. Areas over 1,401 ft wide: In areas 1,401 ft wide or wider, the allowable pile or sheet pile driving activities within the Gulf sturgeon critical habitat migratory restriction zones are:
 - a. The activities described in 1-4 above, and
 - b. Installing wood, vinyl, and concrete piles and sheet piles by impact hammer.

Project Design Criteria (PDCs) for In-Water Noise from Pile and Sheet Pile Installation

Open Water

The letters A-E in the tables below specify the PDC category. Activities labeled A-D must follow the corresponding PDCs for labeled Category A-D below. Activities labeled E are excluded from this Opinion, as stated in Category E below.

	Trench and	Pilot hole (auger or	Jetting	Vibratory	Impact hammer
Wood piles 14-inch (in) diameter or less when installed via impact hammer and 36-in or less for all other installation methods	A	A	A	A	B
Concrete pile 24-in diameter/width or less in open	A	A	A	A	B
Metal pipe pile 36-in diameter or less	A	A	A	A	E
2 metal boatlift I-beams	A	A	A	A	B
Concrete slab wall- any size	A	A	A	A	B
Vinyl sheet pile- any size	A	A	A	A	B
Metal sheet pile- any size	A	A	A	A	E

Confined Space

In Florida, we consider the confined space to be any area that has a solid object (e.g., shorelines or seawalls) within 150 ft of the pile installation site and in the U.S. Caribbean we consider confined space to be any area that has a solid object within 260 ft of the pile installation site.

	Trench and	Pilot hole (auger or	Jetting	Vibratory	Impact hammer
Wood pile 14-in diameter or less when installed via impact hammer and 36-in or less for all other installation methods	A	A	A	A	B
Concrete pile 24-in diameter/width or less (5 piles	A	A	A	A	C
Concrete pile 24-in diameter/width or less (6-10	A	A	A	A	D
Metal pipe pile 36-in diameter or less	A	A	A	A	E
2 metal boatlift I-beams	A	A	A	A	B
Vinyl sheet pile – any size	A	A	A	A	B
Concrete slab wall- any size (5 slabs or less	A	A	A	A	C
Concrete slab wall- any size (6-10 slabs installed/day)	A	A	A	A	D
Metal sheet pile- any size	A	A	A	A	E

- A. The Projects identified as A above must comply with PDCs identified for all projects in this Opinion. Specific PDCs related to noise include:**
1. All work must occur during daylight hours only (PDC AP.6).
 2. All construction personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities to detect the presence of these species and avoid them (PDC AP.7).
- B. The projects identified as B above must follow all of the conditions under A, above, **AND** also must limit the maximum number of piles installed per day to no more than 10 piles per day.**
- C. The projects identified as C above must follow all of the conditions under A, above, **AND** also must limit the maximum number of piles installed per day to no more than 5 piles per day.**
- D. The projects identified as D above must follow all of the conditions under A and B, above, **AND** also must abide by one of the noise abatement measures below, as chosen by the applicant:**
1. Bubble curtain: The bubble curtain design must adhere to the guidelines for unconfined and confined bubble curtains described in Appendix B.
 2. Temporary noise attenuation pile (TNAP) also known as a pile isolation casing: The TNAP design must be constructed of a double-walled tubular casing (a casing within a larger casing), with at least a 5-in-wide area between the casings that is dewatered to create a hollow space or 5-in wide area between the casings completely filled with closed-cell foam or other noise dampening material between the walls. The TNAP must be long enough to be seated firmly on the sea bottom, fit over the pile being driven, and extend at least 3 ft above the surface of the water.
 3. The use of any other alternative noise control method must receive prior approval by NMFS and the USACE, as described in Section 2.3.
- E. The projects identified as E are not covered under this Opinion.**

Attachment X

North Atlantic Right Whale Federal Regulations Information Handout

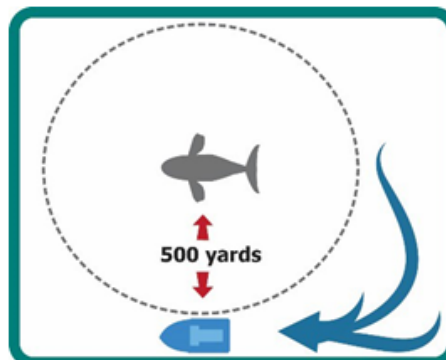
Federal Regulations Governing the Approach to North Atlantic Right Whales



1. Federal regulations governing the approach to North Atlantic right whales can be found at 50 CFR 224.103(c). It is illegal to approach and remain within 500 yards of right whales; 500 yards is equal to the distance of 5 football fields.

Prohibitions on approaching right whales are as follows (Excerpts from 50 CFR 224.103(c), available at www.ecfr.gov): Unless otherwise lawfully allowed or unless doing so would create an imminent and serious threat to a person or vessel, it is unlawful to:

- (i) *Approach (including by interception) within 500 yards (460 m) of a right whale by vessel*
- (ii) *Fail to undertake required right whale avoidance measures. If underway, a vessel must steer a course away from the right whale and immediately leave the area at a slow safe speed.*



2. Updates can be downloaded from:
 - a. http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale_northatlantic.htm, or
 - b. www.ecfr.gov

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or “approval” from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or “approval” from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11” x 17” or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. “Taking” of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. “Take” is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of \$25,000 for civil violations and up to \$50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A LIVE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant’s designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A DEAD EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant’s designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.
2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.
3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).
2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.
3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.