

From: **Stahl, Chris** <[Chris.Stahl@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Chris.Stahl@dep.state.fl.us)>

Date: Mon, Dec 3, 2018 at 1:48 PM

Subject: [EXTERNAL] State\_Clearance\_Letter\_For\_FL201810048449C\_Natural Resource Damage Assessment -Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment

To: [dianne\\_ingram@fws.gov](mailto:dianne_ingram@fws.gov) <[dianne\\_ingram@fws.gov](mailto:dianne_ingram@fws.gov)>

Cc: State\_Clearinghouse <[State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us)>

December 3, 2018

Dianne Ingram

Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office

341 Greeno Road North, Suite A

Fairhope, Alabama 36532

RE: U.S. Department of the Interior and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Natural Resource Damage Assessment -Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands; Nutrient Reduction; Water Quality; and Provide And Enhance Recreational Opportunities, Gulf of Mexico and the Waters of Florida  
SAI# FL201810048449C

Dear Dianne:

Florida State Clearinghouse staff has reviewed the proposal under the following authorities: Presidential Executive Order 12372; § 403.061(42), Florida Statutes; the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended; and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4347, as amended.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Districts have reviewed the proposals and determined that environmental restoration or enhancement activities may be authorized by General Permits under Rule 62-330.630 or 631, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Applicants may verify the qualifications prior to applying for a permit. If a project (such as roadway improvements) exceeds the thresholds under Rule 62-330.020, F.A.C., and does not qualify for a General Permit or an Exemption, then the applicant may be required to obtain an Individual Permit. Applicants may obtain environmental resource permits through the Department or the Water Management District (WMD), in accordance with the Operating Agreement between DEP and WMD. Please contact the Northeast District office regarding details and permitting requirements. Project WQ11 for Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration proposes replacement of road sections with culverts to help restore hydrologic connectivity (page 2-52). Based on the description of this activity, this project would require an environmental resource permit from the Department. Please contact the Northeast District regarding details and permitting requirements.

The Suwannee River Water Management District has reviewed the plans for NR3 (Lower Suwannee Nutrient Reduction) and WQ11 (LSNWR Hydrologic Restoration). It is likely these projects will require a permit from our agency. We are happy to assist with a preapplication meeting, where we can discuss project details and potential permitting requirements. To schedule this meeting or discuss any questions you might have, you can contact Tim Beach 386.362.0439.

If prehistoric or historic artifacts, such as pottery or ceramics, projectile points, dugout canoes, metal implements, historic building materials, or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American, early European, or American settlement are encountered at any time within the project site area, the permitted project shall cease all activities involving subsurface disturbance in the vicinity of the discovery. The applicant shall contact the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Compliance Review Section at (850)-245-6333. Project activities shall not resume without verbal and/or written authorization. In the event that unmarked human remains are encountered during permitted activities, all work shall stop immediately and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Thompson, Historic Preservationist, by email at [Rachel.Thompson@dos.myflorida.com](mailto:Rachel.Thompson@dos.myflorida.com), or by telephone at 850.245.6453 or 800.847.7278.

Based on the information submitted and minimal project impacts, the state has no objections to allocation of federal funds for the subject project and, therefore, the funding award is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). The state's final concurrence of the project's consistency with the FCMP will be determined during any environmental permitting processes, in accordance with Section 373.428, Florida Statutes, if applicable.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed plan. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at (850) 717-9076.

Sincerely,  
Chris Stahl

Chris Stahl, Coordinator  
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