



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**PENSACOLA REGULATORY OFFICE**  
**41 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 301**  
**PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32502**

September 29, 2020

Regulatory Division  
North Permits Branch  
Pensacola Permits Section  
SAJ-2017-01064 (NW-HMM)

City of Valparaiso  
465 Valparaiso Parkway  
Valparaiso, Florida 32580

Dear Sir/Madam:

Your application for a Department of the Army permit has been assigned number SAJ-2017-01064 (NW-HMM). A review of the information and drawings provided shows the proposed work is to reconstruct and reconfigure an existing boat ramp and accessory piers. The new structure will consist of a 27-foot wide 2-lane boat ramp, a 73-foot by 6-foot access pier with a 24-foot by 8-foot L-shaped terminal platform, and a 97-foot by 6-foot access pier with a 14-foot by 5-foot L-shaped terminal platform. Handrails and "No Mooring" signs will be placed on the south side of the southern pier. The project is located within Lincoln Park at North Bayshore Drive, in Boggy Bayou, Latitude 30.5075° North, Longitude 86.4876° West, Section 12, Township 1 South, Range 23 West, in Fort Walton Beach, Okaloosa County, Florida.

Your project, as depicted on the enclosed drawings, is authorized by Nationwide Permit (NWP) Number 3. In addition, project specific conditions have been enclosed. This verification is valid until **March 18, 2022**. Furthermore, if you commence or are under contract to commence this activity before the date that the relevant nationwide permit is modified or revoked, you will have 12 months from the date of the modification or revocation of the NWP to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this nationwide permit. Please access the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Jacksonville District's Regulatory Internet page to access Internet links to view the Final Nationwide Permits, Federal Register Vol. 82, dated January 6, 2017, specifically pages 1983 to 2008, and the table of Regional Conditions. The Internet page address is:

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

Please be aware this internet address is case sensitive and should be entered as it appears above. Once there you will need to click on "Source Book"; and, then click on "Nationwide Permits." These files contain the description of the Nationwide Permit authorization, the Nationwide Permit general conditions, and the regional conditions, which apply specifically to this verification for this NWP. Enclosed is a list of the six

General Conditions, which apply to all Department of the Army authorizations. You must comply with all of the special and general conditions and any project specific condition of this authorization or you may be subject to enforcement action. In the event you have not completed construction of your project within the specified time limit, a separate application or re-verification may be required.

The following special conditions are included with this verification:

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-2017-01064 (NW - HMM), 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 (Attached).
3. **Self-Certification:** Within 60 days of completion of the work authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall complete the attached "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" form and submit it to the Corps. In the event that the completed work deviates in any manner from the authorized work, the Permittee shall describe the deviations between the work authorized by this permit and the work as constructed on the "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" form. The description of any deviations on the "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" form does not constitute approval of any deviations by the Corps.
4. **Erosion Control:** Prior to the initiation of any work authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall install erosion control measures along the perimeter of all work areas to prevent the displacement of fill material outside the work area into waters of the United States. Immediately after completion of the final grading of the land surface, all slopes, land surfaces, and filled areas shall be stabilized using sod, degradable mats, barriers, or a combination of similar stabilizing materials to prevent erosion. The erosion control measures shall remain in place and be maintained until all authorized work is completed and the work areas are stabilized.
5. **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 within 1 foot of 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.

6. **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 **Pensacola** Permits Section. The Corps reserves the right to fully evaluate, amend, and approve or deny the request for modification of this permit.
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. **Eastern Indigo Snake Protection Measures and Inspection:** Permittee shall comply with the attached U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's "Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake" dated August 12, 2013. 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.
9. **Manatee Conditions:** The Permittee shall comply with the attached "Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Work – 2011".
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; A2.1-9; S.2)  
Activity 6 - Boat Ramps: (AP.1-14; A6.1-6; S.1)

#### **11. 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.

This letter of 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 referenced NWP, please contact me by the letterhead address, by email at [Holly.M.Millsap@usace.army.mil](mailto:Holly.M.Millsap@usace.army.mil) or by telephone at 850-470-9823.

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](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,



Holly Millsap  
Project Manager

Enclosures:

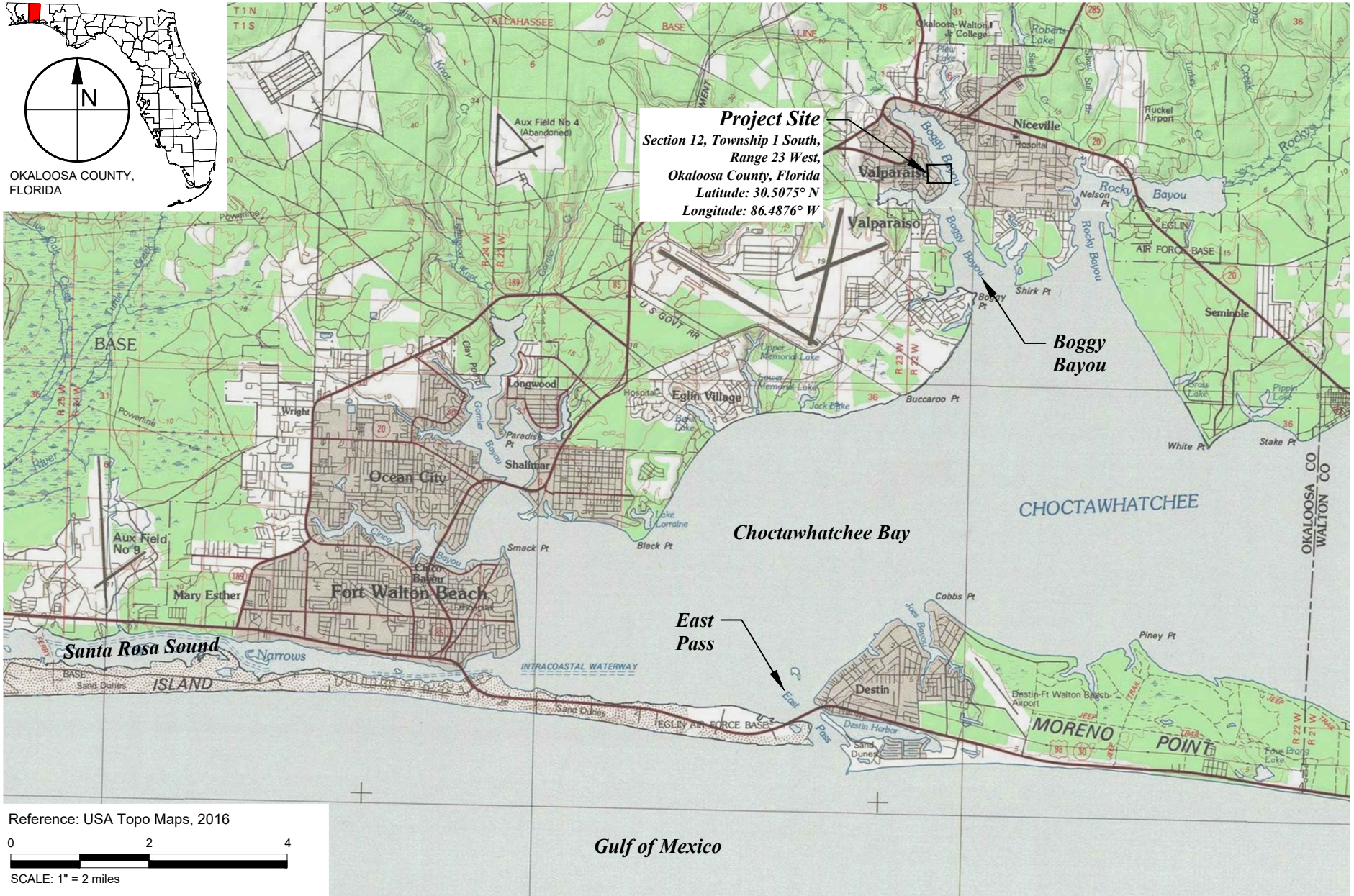
- Permit Drawings
- General Conditions
- Commencement Notification
- Self-Certification Statement of Compliance
- Indigo Snake Conditions
- Manatee Conditions
- PDCs for In-Water Activities (AP.1-14; A2.1-9; A6. 1-6; S.2)
- Department of the Army Permit Transfer Request

Copy/ies Furnished:

- CESAJ-RD-SE
- Taylor Engineering, Inc., Agent



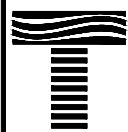
OKALOOSA COUNTY,  
FLORIDA



Reference: USA Topo Maps, 2016



SCALE: 1" = 2 miles



# TAYLOR ENGINEERING INC.

4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
SUITE C246  
DESTIN, FL 32541  
REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 1  
LOCATION MAP  
LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROJECT	C2019-048
DRAWN BY	CS
SHEET	1 of 10
DATE	JUNE 2020

SEAL

DRAFT

DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE

**GENERAL NOTES:**

1. DRAWING REFERENCES FLORIDA STATE PLANE NORTH, NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83).
2. ALL ELEVATIONS REFERENCE THE 1988 NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM (NAVD88). ELEVATIONS IN FEET UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE (U.N.O.).
3. AERIAL IMAGERY OBTAINED FROM FDOT, OKALOOSA COUNTY (2016), U.N.O. AERIAL IMAGERY DISPLAYED HEREON FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO PHOTOGRAPHIC ACCURACY IS IMPLIED BY THESE MAPS.
4. BATHYMETRIC, TOPOGRAPHIC, PROPERTY BOUNDARY SURVEY PERFORMED BY POLY-ENGINEERING, INC. ON APRIL 24, 2017.
5. SEAGRASS BOUNDARIES, MEAN HIGH WATER LINE, OFFSHORE BATHYMETRIC CONTOURS LOCATED BY TAYLOR ENGINEERING, INC. ON AUGUST 30, 2019.
6. NO LIVE-A-BOARDS ARE PROPOSED. CONSTRUCTION SHALL NOT VIOLATE STATE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS.
7. NO FUELING FACILITIES OR SEWAGE PUMP-OUTS ARE PROPOSED AT THIS FACILITY.
8. WATER, POWER, AND FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.
9. MATERIALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PILE EMBEDMENT, DIMENSIONS, AND SPACING WILL BE DETERMINED DURING FINAL DESIGN. FRANGIBLE DECKING PANELS MAY BE INCORPORATED FOR INCREASED RESILIENCY.
10. DOCK PILINGS WILL BE HDPE-WRAPPED TREATED TIMBER OR OTHERWISE MADE FROM NON-LEACHING MATERIALS.
11. TURBIDITY CURTAINS SHALL BE LOCATED AND REPOSITIONED BY THE CONTRACTOR USING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO ASSURE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT CONSTRUCTION.

**PROPOSED DOCK PLAN:**

1. PUBLIC MOORING SLIPS
  - 1.1. EXISTING: 0
  - 1.2. TOTAL PROPOSED TRANSIENT PUBLIC MOORING: 73 LF
2. FIXED TIMBER DOCK AREA WATERWARD OF MHW
  - 2.1. EXISTING: 710 SF
  - 2.2. PROPOSED INCREASE FROM EXISTING: 319 SF
  - 2.3. TOTAL PROPOSED FIXED TIMBER DOCK AREA: 1,029 SF

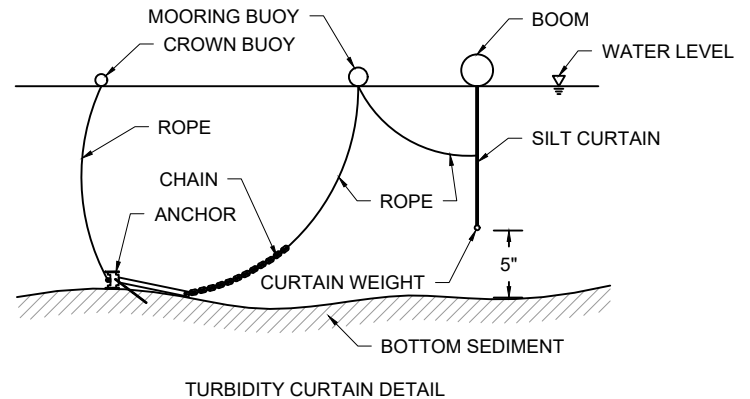
**PROPOSED BOAT RAMP PLAN:**

1. CONCRETE FOOTPRINT AREA
  - 1.1. EXISTING: 1,191 SQ. FT.
  - 1.2. INCREASE FROM EXISTING: 309 SQ. FT.
  - 1.3. PROPOSED: 1,500 SQ. FT. (~46 CY)
2. ESTIMATED EARTHWORK VOLUMES BELOW MHW
  - 2.1. FOUNDATION PREPARATION CUT
    - 2.1.1. MECHANICAL SOIL EXCAVATION (DREDGING): 142 CY
    - 2.1.2. CONCRETE REMOVAL: 21.3 CY
    - 2.1.3. TOTAL FOUNDATION CUT: 163 CY
  - 2.2. FOUNDATION PREPARATION FILL
    - 2.2.1. COMPACTED PEA GRAVEL: 95 CY
    - 2.2.2. CLEAN SAND: 40 CY
    - 2.2.3. TOTAL FOUNDATION FILL: 135 CY

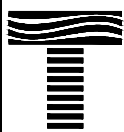
**NOAA VDATUM  
TIDAL DATUM REFERENCE**

LATITUDE: 30.5075° N  
LONGITUDE: 86.4876° W

MHHW	0.67'
MHW	0.66'
MTL	0.41'
MLW	0.17'
MLLW	0.16'
NAVD 88	0.000'



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**TAYLOR ENGINEERING INC.**

4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
SUITE C246  
DESTIN, FL 32541  
REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 2  
GENERAL NOTES  
LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

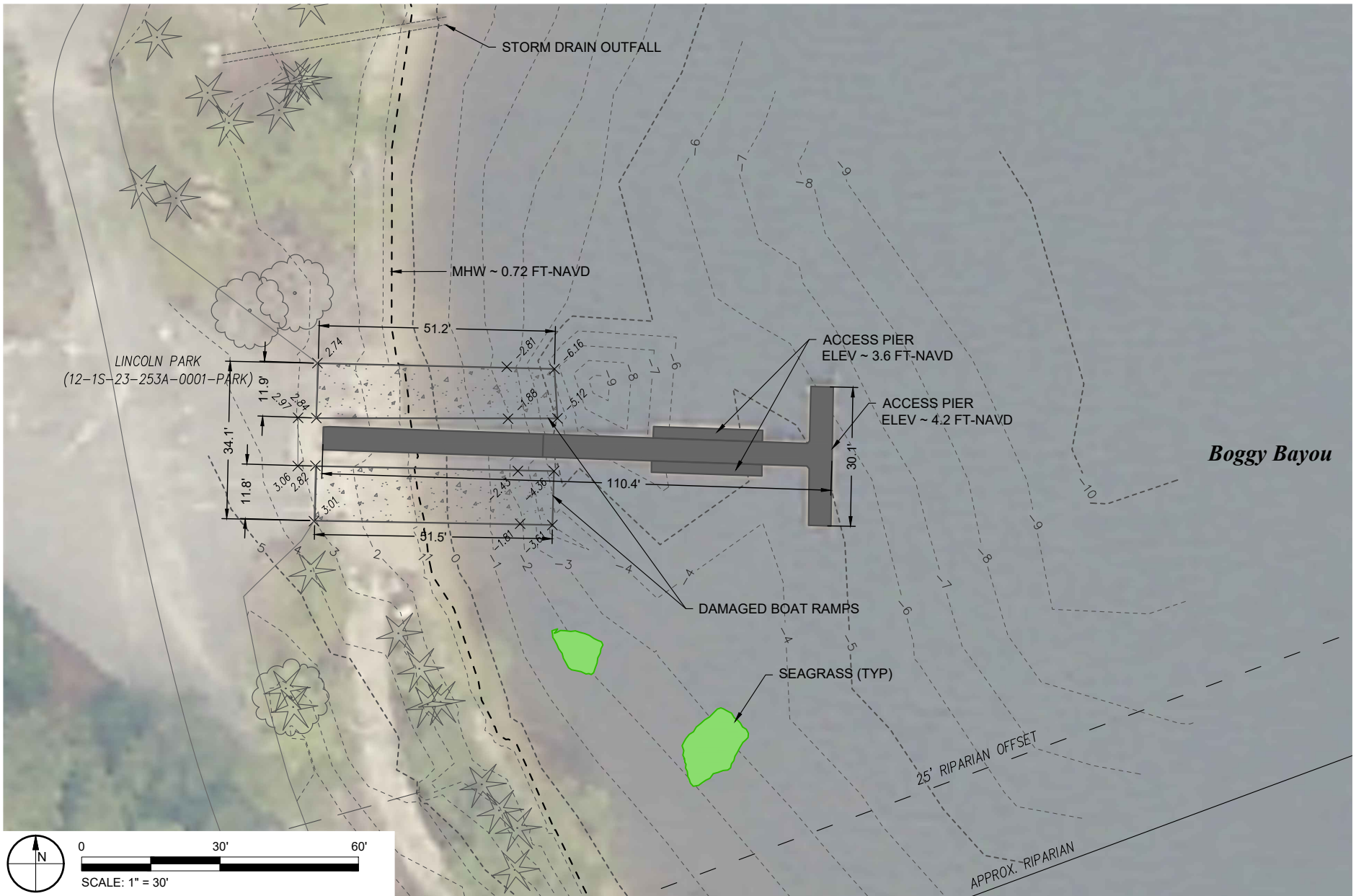
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DRAWN BY	CS
SHEET	2 of 10
DATE	JUNE 2020

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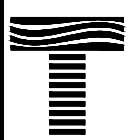
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DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE



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 4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
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 DESTIN, FL 32541  
 REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 3  
 EXISTING CONDITIONS  
 LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROJECT	C2019-048
DRAWN BY	CS
SHEET	3 of 10
DATE	JUNE 2020

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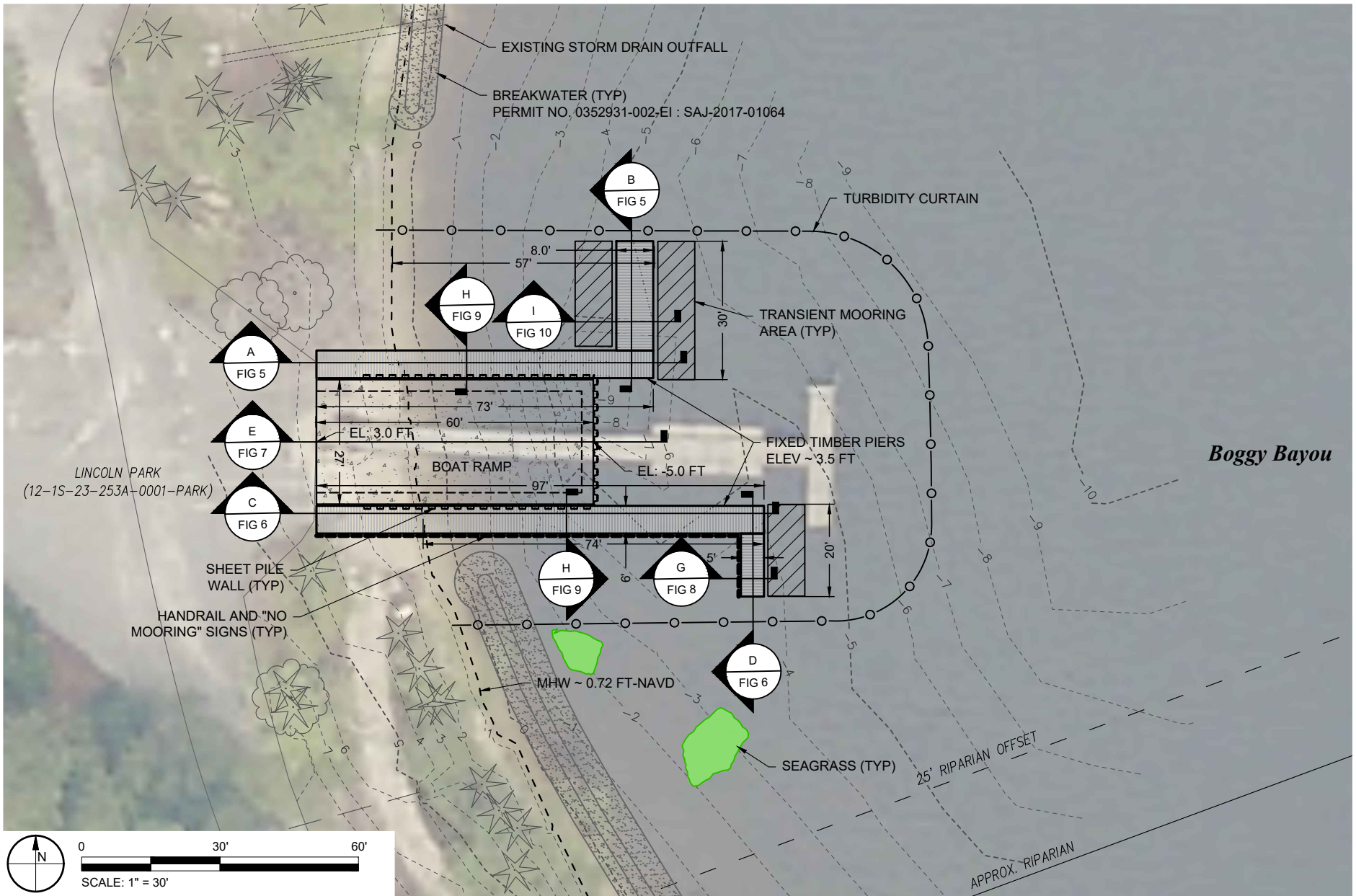
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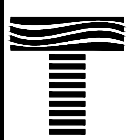
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PRELIMINARY DRAWINGS: THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT IN FINAL FORM, BUT ARE BEING TRANSMITTED FOR AGENCY REVIEW.





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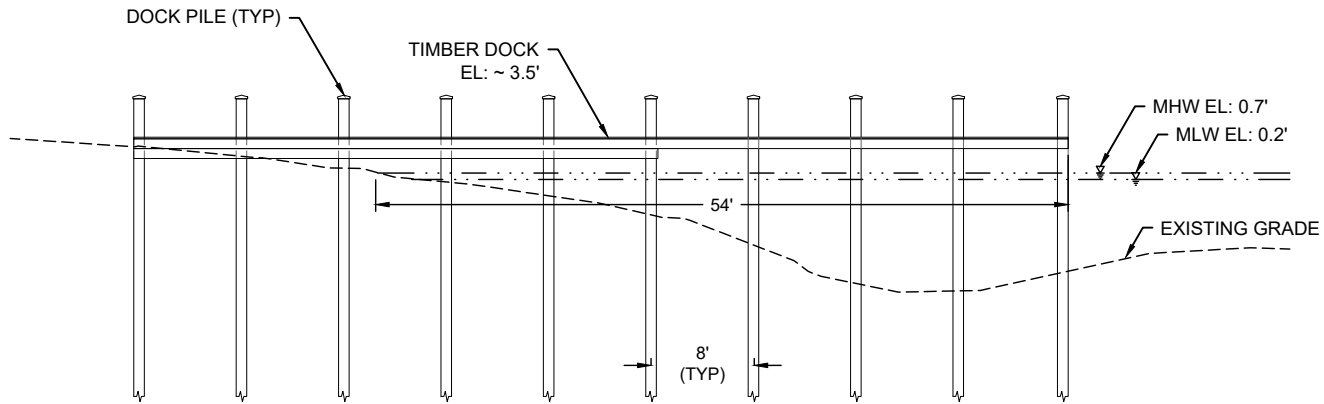
**TAYLOR ENGINEERING INC.**  
 4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
 SUITE C246  
 DESTIN, FL 32541  
 REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 4  
 PROPOSED SITE PLAN  
 LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

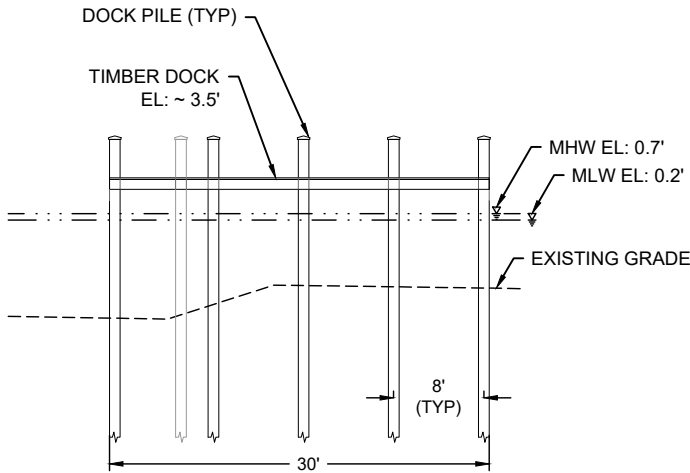
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DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306	
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PRELIMINARY DRAWINGS: THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT IN FINAL FORM, BUT ARE BEING TRANSMITTED FOR AGENCY REVIEW.

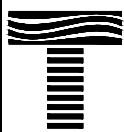


**A** NORTH DOCK 1 SECTION  
FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 15'



**B** NORTH DOCK 2 SECTION  
FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 15'

—SD1



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DESTIN, FL 32541  
REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 5  
NORTH DOCK SECTIONS  
LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROJECT	C2019-048
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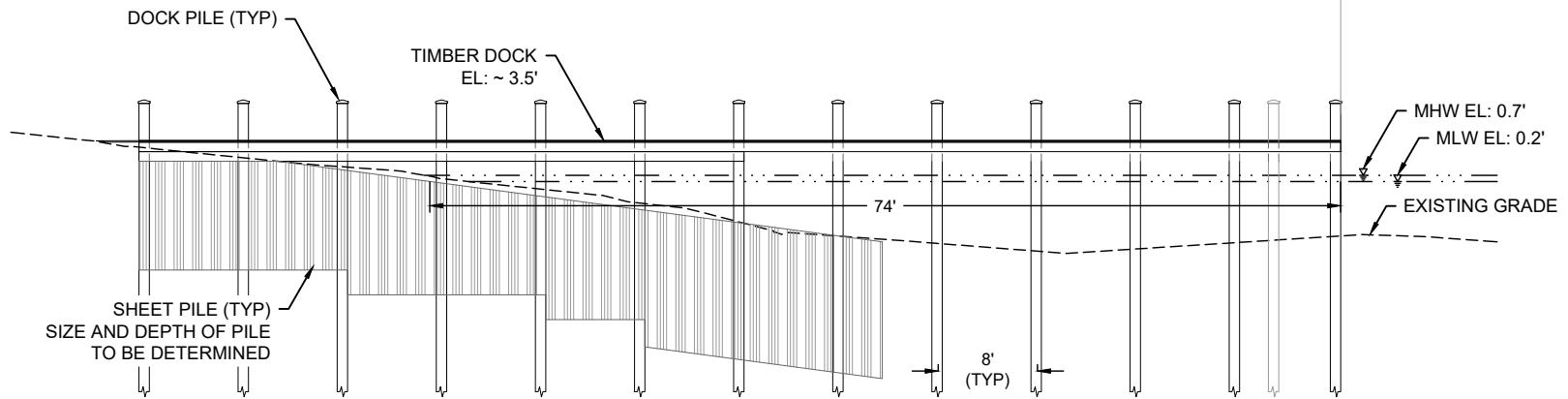
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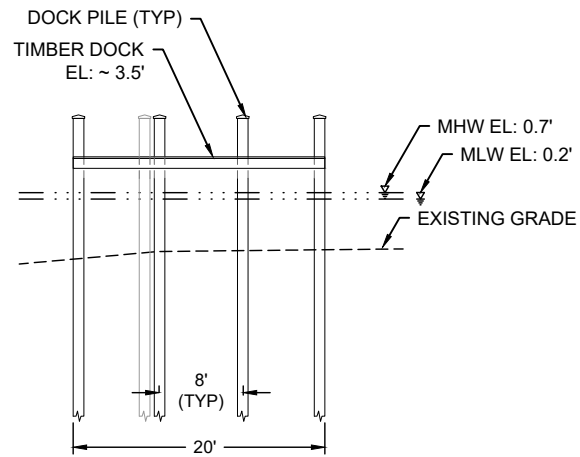
DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE

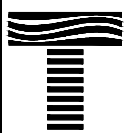
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**C SOUTH DOCK 1 SECTION**  
 FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 15'



**D SOUTH DOCK 2 SECTION**  
 FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 15'



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 REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 6  
 SOUTH DOCK SECTIONS  
 LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

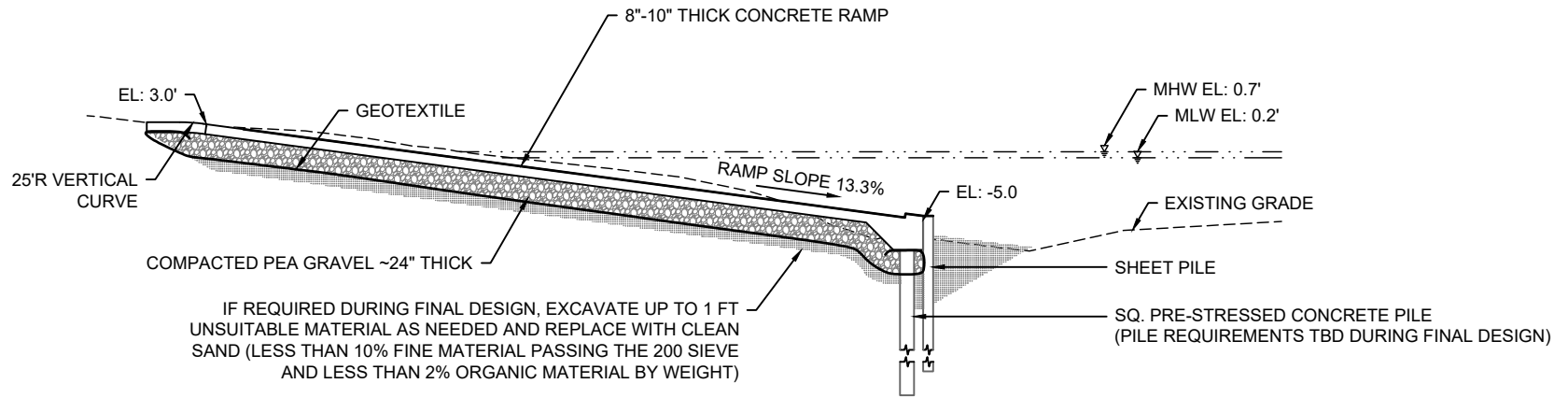
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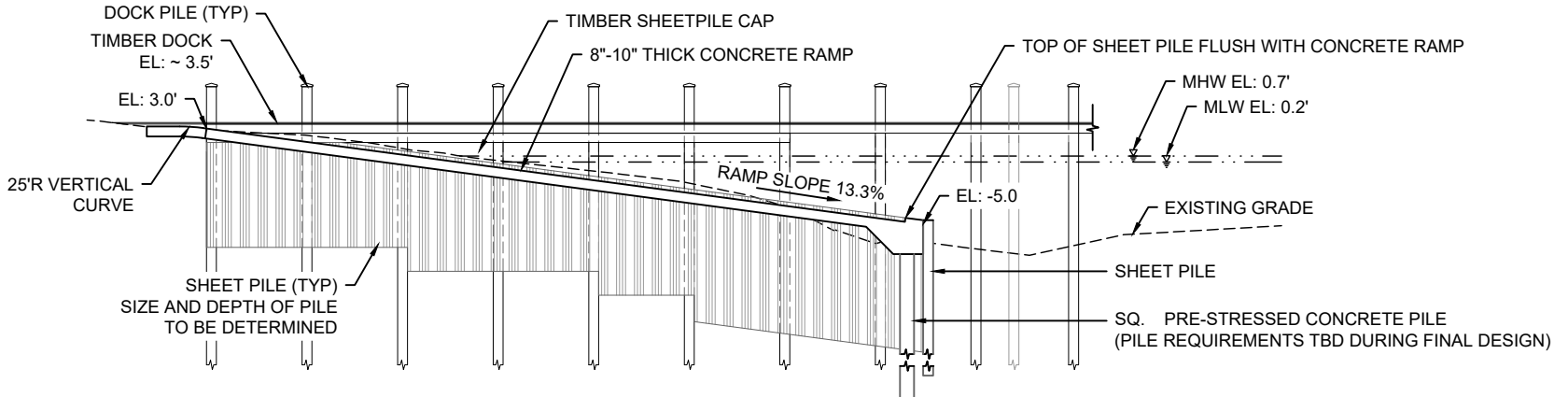
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DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE

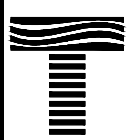


**E BOAT RAMP SECTION**  
 FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 1'



**F BOAT RAMP & NORTH DOCK SECTION**  
 FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 15'

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 REGISTRY # 4815

FIGURE 7  
 BOAT RAMP SECTIONS  
 LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROJECT	C2019-048
DRAWN BY	CS
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DATE	JUNE 2020

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 DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306  
 DATE

HANDRAIL AND "NO MOORING" SIGNS

5'-0"

PILE CAP (TYP)

2X6 DECKING (TYP)  
TOP OF DECK  
EL: ~3.5' NAVD

JOIST (TYP)

3X10 TIMBER BEAM (TYP)

CROSS BRACE (TYP)  
IF REQUIRED

MHW EL: +0.7'

MLW EL: +0.2'

CROSS BRACE (TYP)

~10" Ø WRAPPED  
TIMBER PILE (TYP)

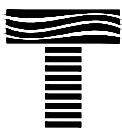
EXISTING GRADE  
VARIES

PILE TIP VARIES (TYP)

G TYPICAL DOCK SECTION  
FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 2'



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SUITE C246  
DESTIN, FL 32541  
REGISTRY # 4815

TYPICAL DOCK SECTION  
FIGURE 8  
LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROJECT C2019-048 DRAWN BY CS SHEET 8 of 10 DATE JUNE 2020

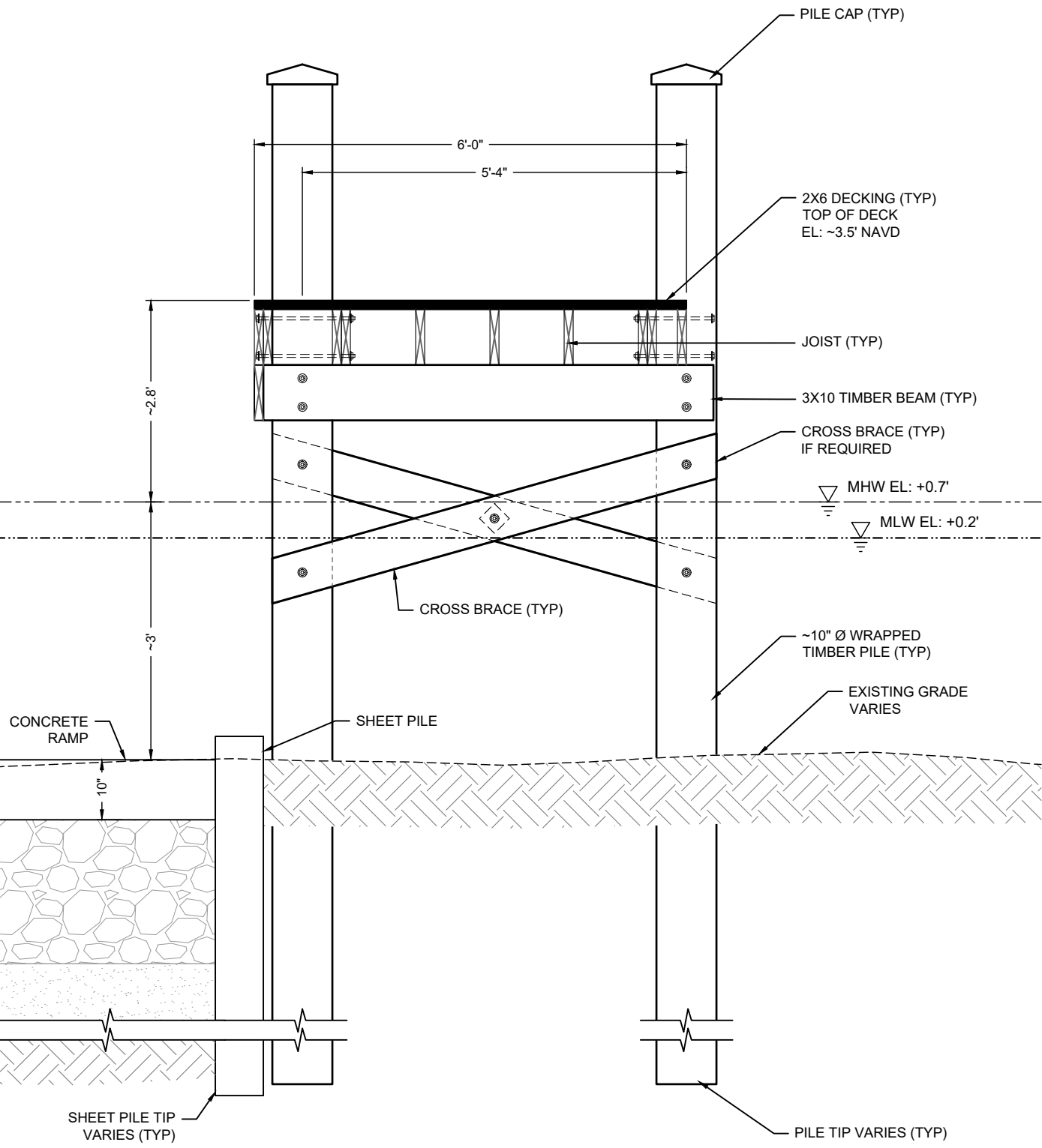
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DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE

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**H** SHEET PILE AT DOCK SECTION  
**FIG 4** SCALE: 1" = 2'



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 4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
 SUITE C246  
 DESTIN, FL 32541  
 REGISTRY # 4815

**FIGURE 9**  
 BOAT RAMP & DOCK SECTION  
 LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS  
 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

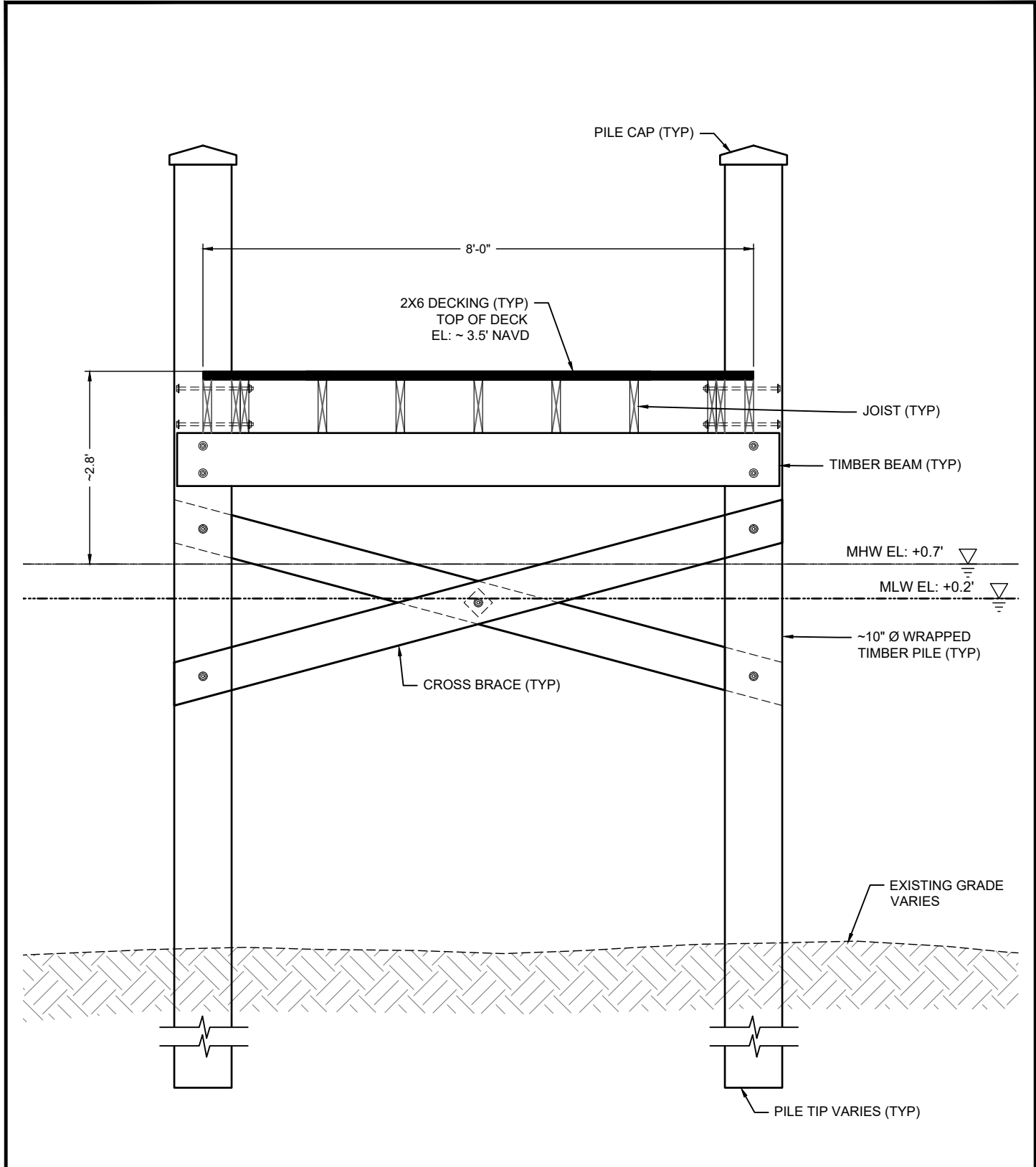
PROJECT	DRAWN BY	SHEET	DATE
C2019-048	CS	9 of 10	JUNE 2020



SEAL

**DRAFT**

DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306

DATE




**ACCESS DOCK SECTION**  
 FIG 4 SCALE: 1" = 2' 

CATHY SHELL X:\SIS\PROJECTS\C2019-048\LINCOLN PARK\PERMIT\C2019-048-P-SECTIONS.DWG 6/9/2020 3:58:24 PM


**TAYLOR ENGINEERING INC.**  
 4300 LEGENDARY DRIVE  
 SUITE C246  
 DESTIN, FL 32541  
 REGISTRY # 4815

**FIGURE 10**  
**ACCESS DOCK SECTION**  
**LINCOLN PARK BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS**  
**OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PROJECT	DRAWN BY	SHEET	DATE
C2019-048	CS	10 of 10	JUNE 2020

SEAL **DRAFT**  
 DUNCAN GREER P.E. #83306 DATE

PRELIMINARY DRAWINGS: THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT IN FINAL FORM, BUT ARE BEING TRANSMITTED FOR AGENCY REVIEW.

GENERAL CONDITIONS  
33 CFR PART 320-330

1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends on **March 18, 2022.**
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.



## COMMENCEMENT NOTIFICATION

*Within ten (10) days of initiating the authorized work, submit this form via electronic mail to [saj-rd-enforcement@usace.army.mil](mailto: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-2017-01064 (NW-HMM)

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

**SELF-CERTIFICATION STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

**Permit Number: SAJ-2017-01064 (NW-HMM)**

Permittee's Name & Address (please print or type): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of the Work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Work Started: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Work Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPERTY IS INACCESSIBLE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_**

**TO SCHEDULE AN INSPECTION PLEASE CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_**  
**AT \_\_\_\_\_**

Description of the Work (e.g. bank stabilization, residential or commercial filling, docks, dredging, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Acreage or Square Feet of Impacts to Waters of the United States: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe Mitigation completed (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe any Deviations from Permit (attach drawing(s) depicting the deviations):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

I certify that all work, and mitigation (if applicable) was done in accordance with the limitations and conditions as described in the permit. Any deviations as described above are depicted on the attached drawing(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Permittee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**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](mailto:jaxregs@fws.gov); South Florida Field Office: [verobeach@fws.gov](mailto:verobeach@fws.gov); Panama City Field Office: [panamacity@fws.gov](mailto: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.



# **ATTENTION:**

## **THREATENED EASTERN INDIGO SNAKES MAY BE PRESENT ON THIS SITE!!!**

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

- Cease clearing activities and allow the 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (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.

### **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**

### **Killing, harming, or harassing indigo snakes is strictly prohibited and punishable under State and Federal Law.**

**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:** 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:**

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- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (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:**

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- 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.

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

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

**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.

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**Killing, harming, or harassing indigo snakes is strictly prohibited and punishable under State and Federal Law.**

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.

**LEGAL STATUS:** 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.



August 12, 2013

**ATTENTION:**  
THREATENED EASTERN INDIGO  
SNAKES MAY BE PRESENT ON  
THIS SITE!!!



Please read the following information provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to become familiar with standard protection measures for the eastern indigo snake.



## 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. [Omitted]
- 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 Vero Beach (1-772-562-3909) for south Florida, and emailed to FWC at [ImperiledSpecies@myFWC.com](mailto:ImperiledSpecies@myFWC.com).
- f. [Omitted]

[Conditions "c" and "f" have been omitted as they are not applicable in this location.]

## 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](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](mailto:takereport.nmfs@noaa.gov) and [SAJ-RD-Enforcement@usace.army.mil](mailto:SAJ-RD-Enforcement@usace.army.mil).
- b) Smalltooth sawfish: Report sightings to 1-844-SAWFISH or email: [Sawfish@MyFWC.com](mailto:Sawfish@MyFWC.com)
- c) Sturgeon: Report dead sturgeon to 1-844-STURG 91 (1-844-788-7491) or email: [nmfs.ser.sturgeonnetwork@noaa.gov](mailto: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 ft<sup>2</sup>) 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 (ft<sup>2</sup>) 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](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 ft<sup>2</sup> 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.

## Project Design Criteria (PDCs) Specific to Activity 6 for Boat Ramps

### **A6.1.** Activities covered by this Opinion include:

- A6.1.1. Removal or reconfiguration of existing boat ramps. The removal of upland-cut boat basins by walling off and filling them in is a type of shoreline stabilization covered under Activity 1, PDC A1.1, Section 2.2.1.
- A6.1.2. Installation of new boat ramps for motorized vessels (1) are limited in size to 40 ft wide, (2) can have up to 2 boat lanes, and (3) can be associated with no more than 50 trailered vehicle parking spaces.
- A6.1.3. New boat ramps for non-motorized vessels are limited in size to 60 ft wide.
- A6.1.4. Repair and replacement of existing boat ramps can occur within the same footprint of the existing ramp, even if the repaired or replaced boat ramp does not meet the size requirements in PDC A6.1.2 and A6.1.3. Reconfiguration of boat ramps for motorized vessels that propose to expand the footprint must meet the size limitations described in A6.1.2 (i.e., the reconfiguration must be no more than 40 ft wide and can have up to 2 boat lanes).

### **The following PDCs apply to all the activities described in PDC A6.1 above:**

- A6.2.** Excavation is limited to the area necessary for site preparation. All excavated material shall be removed to an area that is not waters of the United States, as that term is defined and interpreted under the CWA, including wetlands.
- A6.3.** All commercial or public boat ramps must have signs posted in a visible location(s) on the dock(s), alerting boaters of listed species in the area susceptible to vessel strikes or hook-and-line captures. These signs shall include contact information for the sea turtle and marine mammal stranding networks and smalltooth sawfish encounter database.  
Please visit our website  
([http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/protected\\_resources/section\\_7/protected\\_species\\_educational\\_signs/index.html](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/protected_resources/section_7/protected_species_educational_signs/index.html)) to determine which signs are required for your area, for sign installation guidance, and to download the most current version of the signs. In addition,
  - A6.3.2. 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.
  - A6.3.3. Projects in the range of Gulf, Atlantic, or shortnose sturgeon also shall post the *Report Sturgeon* sign.
  - A6.3.4. 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.

- A6.4.** All commercial and public boat ramps also must install and maintain for the life of the facility monofilament recycling bins to reduce the risk of turtle or sawfish entanglement in or ingestion of marine debris. Monofilament recycling bins must:
- A6.4.1. Be constructed and labeled according to the instructions provided at <http://mrrp.myfwc.com> or any equivalent guidance for the U.S. Caribbean.
  - A6.4.2. Be maintained for the life of the facility in working order and emptied frequently so that they do not overflow.
- A6.5.** The length of new boat ramps and changes to existing boat ramps to make them longer should ensure a water depth at the end of the ramp is deep enough to minimize sediment resuspension associated with launching vessels in shallow water.
- A6.6.** New boat ramps cannot be installed on ocean beaches that are used by nesting sea turtles.

## 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.**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT TRANSFER REQUEST**

**Permit Number: SAJ-2017-01064 (NW-HMM)**

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, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(TRANSFEREE-SIGNATURE)**

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**(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)**