

IRT QUARTERLY MEETING

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA IN-LIEU FEE PROGRAM
(UMBRELLA PLAN)**

MARCH 24, 2011

[FDOT Midway Maintenance Office – Midway, FL]

Attendees
Andrew Phillips – USACE (Jacksonville)
Randy Turner – USACE (Jacksonville)
Mary Mittiga – USFWS (Panama City)
Joy Giddens – FDOT (Chipley)
Tracey Ludyjan-Ybarra – FDOT (Chipley)
David Rydene – NMFS (St. Petersburg)
Terry Gilbert – URS (FWC Consultant-Tallahassee)
Duncan Cairns – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)
David Clayton – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)
Kim Branciforte – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)
Robert Lide – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)
Lynne V. Phillips – NASA (KSC)

The IRT quarterly meeting was held Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the FDOT Midway Maintenance Office (17 Commerce Blvd. at the US 90 / I-10 interchange west of Tallahassee).

CR 293 (Bauer Road at Unnamed Stream)

Per the FDOT District-3 Environmental Mitigation Escrow Report (12/31/2010), this project (FDOT FIN No. 422895-1-C8-01) will impact 0.64 acre of wetlands. This impact is not within the mitigation service area (MSA) of any existing mitigation bank. The consensus of the IRT is that this impact may be appropriately mitigated at the Dutex Tract Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.1.5).

US 90 Yellow River Bridge

Per the FDOT District-3 Environmental Mitigation Escrow Report (12/31/2010), this project (FDOT FIN No. 424508-1-C8-01) will impact 4.00 acres of wetlands. This impact is not within the mitigation service area (MSA) of any existing mitigation bank. The consensus of the IRT is

that this impact may be appropriately mitigated at the Yellow River Ranch Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.2.1).

Because of adaptive management in response to on-the-ground conditions, there have been minor changes in the targeted vegetation communities being restored. Thus, the approved mitigation plan for Yellow River Ranch needs to be modified. This will also entail a request for a minor permit modification to SAJ-2004-2643 IP-ESP (SR 87 from Five Forks Road to Eglin AFB) to reflect the changes. NFWFMD will draft a modification package for FDOT to be sent to USACE for consideration and approval.

IRT Approval of Dutex Tract Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.1.5) Potential UMAM Credits

The IRT conducted site inspections of Dutex on 10/23/2008 and 4/28/2010, with discussions of potential UMAM values held the evening of 4/28/2010. An in-depth mitigation plan (prepared for NFWFMD by Entrix, Inc.), with detailed UMAM assessments, was finalized 6/24/2010. The IRT agrees that full implementation of the the Dutex restoration plan would yield 107.16 UMAM credits. A current credit balance and release schedule will be developed in consultation with the IRT.

Shoal River Wetlands Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.2.3)

The IRT conducted a site inspection of Shoal River on 9/25/2007 and deemed it “appropriate” as a wetlands mitigation site. However, because there are no current or near-term FDOT mitigation needs in this area, the fact that UMAM assessments by the IRT would require additional site visits and extended discussions, and because of the workload associated with current FDOT mitigation needs, the IRT-Chair (USACE) decided to not consider UMAM determinations at this time.

Potential UMAM Credits for Three Additional Projects in Tates Hell State Forest

The NFWFMD is implementing additional restoration work at three sites in Tates Hell State Forest:

- Doyle Creek II (UWRMP 5.5.13)—estimated 1.38 UMAM credits
- Whiskey George II (UWRMP 5.5.14)—estimated 7.70 UMAM credits
- Juniper Creek (UWRMP 5.5.15)—estimated 5.31 UMAM credits

The IRT directs the NFWFMD to combine the credit ledgers / credit release schedules for Tates Hell State Forest.

SR 77 and SR 79 Segments

The Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SHLMB—UWRMP 5.3.1) was acquired in 2002 and developed as a mitigation bank specifically with SR 77 and SR 79 mitigation in mind. The SHLMB was developed and permitted for this purpose years before private mitigation banks in the area came online. It is the consensus of the IRT that mitigation for the following FDOT projects go to the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank:

- SR 79 (Segment 8—from Cypress Creek to Washington/Holmes County Line; 20-acre impact.
- SR 77 (Segment 3—from Bay/Washington County Line to CR 279); 0.76-acre impact.
- SR 77 (Segment 8—from CR 276/Clayton Road to Blue Lake Road); 2.37-acre impact.
- SR 79 (Segment 3—from Washington/Holmes County Line to 4-Lane Section); 3.37-acre impact.
- SR 79 (Segment 7—from CR 279/Pate Pond Road to Cypress Creek); 3.5-acre impact.
- SR 79 (Segment 5—from Mill Branch to Reedy Creek); 3.92-acre impact.

Further consideration by FDOT will be required for SR 79 (Segment 6—from north of Reedy Branch to Court Street); 13-acre impact.

US 331 (from Bay Grove Road to SR 20)

Per the FDOT District-3 Environmental Mitigation Escrow Report (12/31/2010), this project (FDOT FIN No. 220679-1-C8-01) will impact 50.92 acres of wetlands. Direct functional loss is estimated at 34.36 UMAM credits (estimated secondary impacts not known at this time). This impact is within the mitigation service area (MSA) of the Nokuse Mitigation Bank (UWRMP 5.3.10), the Devils Swamp Mitigation Bank (UWRMP 5.4.9), and is proximate to the Lafayette Creek Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.3.6). Further consideration by FDOT will be required.

US 331 (from Nokuse Plantation to Edgewood Circle)

Per the FDOT District-3 Environmental Mitigation Escrow Report (12/31/2010), this project (FDOT FIN No. 220663-5-C8-01) will impact 3.84 acres of wetlands. This impact is within the mitigation service area (MSA) of the Nokuse Mitigation Bank (UWRMP 5.3.10), a portion of the Devils Swamp Mitigation Bank (UWRMP 5.4.9), and is proximate to the Lafayette Creek Mitigation Area (UWRMP 5.3.6). Further consideration will be required.

US 98 (Gulf to Bay – Segment 2)

Duncan will circulate NFWFMD mitigation option package for comments

West Bay Parkway (SR 388 Segments 1 & 2)

Many IRT members did not receive information beyond corridor analyses for Segment 2.
Andrew will circulate information related to Segment 2.