

NORTHWEST FLORIDA UMBRELLA, WATERSHED-BASED, REGIONAL MITIGATION PLAN

USACE/MRT QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 23, 2008

[DUTEX PROPERTY SITE VISIT]

Attendees
Andrew Phillips – USACE
Shayne Hayes – USACE
Mary Mittiga – USFWS
Cecelia Harper – USEPA (Region 4, Atlanta)
David Rydene – NMFS (St. Petersburg)
Ted Hoehn – FWCC
Tracey Ludyjan-Ybarra – FDOT
Larry O'Donnell – FDEP
Duncan Cairns – NFWFMD
Robert Lide – NFWFMD
David Clayton – NFWFMD

Dutex Property Site Visit (Boat)

By boat, toured inaccessible shoreline and marsh portions of the Dutex property. The site of a planned treatment wetland on Eleven Mile Creek for industrial effluent from the International Paper (IP) mill near Cantonment was also viewed. After the boat tour, drove to Saufley Field NAS and the portions of the Dutex property accessible by land.

Dutex Property Site Visit (Land)

Accessed Dutex property via Wyndotte Road. After inspecting several UMAM polygons it was decided that additional field verification and plan development was necessary before the USACE/MRT would assess UMAM scores. Questions and concerns were raised about the usefulness of breaching the dirt road that traverses the site, and about the accuracy of the FLUCCS mapping.

Offsite Discussions

- The consensus of the USACE/MRT is that, conceptually, the Dutex property is appropriate for use as a mitigation site. However, additional field verification of FLUCCS codes and plan development is necessary before UMAM scores can be decided upon. It was proposed that after the NFWFMD conducts additional reconnaissance and plan development for the site, the USACE/MRT will discuss and attempt to reach consensus on UMAM scores via a conference call and/or another site visit.
- The USACE/MRT agreed that the 40-acre Woolley parcel at Live Oak Peninsula is an acceptable alternative for the Lewis parcel as mitigation for US 331 impacts from US 98 to Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge.
- Once credits for a mitigation project are agreed upon, the USACE/MRT does not believe that credit release schedules are necessary under the UWRMP (Umbrella Plan). The Umbrella Plan was designed to report success and corrective measures, which ensures mitigation is occurring on a regular schedule.
- As the Umbrella Plan establishes a sufficient number of sites and the USACE/MRT has confirmed successful implementation of mitigation projects, it is the USACE goal to allow public sale of mitigation credits. NFWFMD and USACE believe this could perhaps occur as early as next year.