

IRT QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

NORTHWEST FLORIDA UMBRELLA, WATERSHED-BASED, REGIONAL MITIGATION PLAN (UMBRELLA PLAN)

APRIL 27 & 28, 2010

Pensacola, FL

Attendees	4/27/10	4/28/10
Randy Turner – USACE (Jacksonville)	❖	❖
Mary Mittiga – USFWS (Panama City)	❖	❖
David Rydene – NMFS (St. Petersburg)	❖	❖
Joy Giddens – FDOT (Chipley)	❖	❖
Tracey Ludyjan-Ybarra – FDOT (Chipley)	❖	❖
Terry Gilbert – URS (FWCC Consultant)	❖	❖
Ann Redmond – Entrix (NFWFMD Consultant)		❖
Duncan Cairns – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)	❖	❖
David Clayton – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)	❖	❖
Robert Lide – NFWFMD (Tallahassee)	❖	❖
Steve Brown – NFWFMD (Pensacola)	❖	❖
Danny Dean – NFWFMD (Pensacola)	❖	❖

The IRT quarterly meeting was held Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27-28, 2010 in Pensacola, FL. Three mitigation sites were field-inspected (Yellow River Ranch – UWRMP 5.2.1, Perdido II – UWRMP 5.1.4, Dutex – UWRMP 5.1.5), with office discussions conducted at the Best Western Blue Angel Inn (2390 W. Detroit Blvd. at I-10/Pine Forest Road interchange). IRT members not in attendance were Andrew Phillips (USACE—on temporary deployment to Afghanistan) and Ted Hoehn (FWCC – Tallahassee). EPA – Atlanta (formerly represented by Cecelia Harper, with Eric Hughes now acting as a temporary fill-in) was not present.

Yellow River Ranch (Tuesday, 4/27/10)—last visited by the IRT on 9/25/07, the site-inspection was led by David Clayton. Restoration is well underway and is strongly trending toward success. Hydrologic restoration is complete (eight breaches in the dike and infilling of ditches). Exotic pasture grasses have been eradicated by herbicide treatments. Prescribed fire has been introduced, and the site has been planted with appropriate wetlands species (including Atlantic White Cedar). Woodstorks were observed onsite during the site visit. Restoration and management activities continue.

Perdido II (Tuesday, 4/27/10)—last visited by the IRT on 3/24/08, restoration is well underway and is strongly trending toward success. Windrows have been eliminated, numbers of pine per acre reduced, herbicide treatments implemented, brush reduced, and wiregrass plugs planted. This mitigation effort has been implemented in advance of impacts associated replacement of the US 90 Perdido River Bridge.

Dutex (Wednesday, 4/28/10)—last visited by the IRT on 10/23/08, both the eastern and western portions were visited. A detailed mitigation plan was presented.

Discussions:

- Brunson Landing on Holmes Creek near Vernon (critical habitat for reticulated flatwoods salamander).
- Blue Angel Pkwy. (ETDM No. 9269) and its proximity to Dutex.
- Secondary and cumulative impacts discussion.
- Three-year extension of Umbrella Plan (needed by 7/9/10 per Final Rule).
- Dutex Credit Evaluation.