

**Northwest Florida Water Management District**  
**Submittal of Transportation Mitigation Plans for**  
**Florida Department of Environmental Protection Approval**  
**Per Section 373.4137(4), Florida Statutes**

**February 28, 2014**

Revisions to section 373.4137, Florida Statutes (F.S.), passed during the 2012 legislative session require that mitigation plans developed by the water management districts for transportation projects are approved by FDEP prior to implementation. NFWFMD mitigation plans for 4 new transportation projects submitted by FDOT District-3 since January 1, 2013 are summarized below. One new mitigation site is proposed. These plans have been approved by the NFWFMD governing board designee and are hereby submitted to FDEP for review. Additional information is included in the attached map and tables, with detailed plans posted at [www.NFWFMDwetlands.com](http://www.NFWFMDwetlands.com). Under section 373.4137(5), F.S., the NFWFMD may deviate from the approved mitigation plan in order to comply with federal permitting requirements.

**New Transportation Projects (Submitted ≥1/1/2013)**

- **US 98 / US 319 (from Carrabelle Beach Park to CR 379 / River Road).** Impact is to an estimated 2.00 acres (estimated functional loss has not been provided at this time). This impact is not within the service area of any private mitigation bank. Potential mitigation is use of credits from the NFWFMD Tate's Hell In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area (either Tate's Hell—Whiskey George / Sumatra Unit or Tate's Hell—Pine Log Creek Unit). At this time state and federal permitting authorities have not reviewed the potential mitigation. Additional information on this impact and proposed mitigation is posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=233](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=233).
- **CR 489 / Stefani Road Bridge at Unnamed Creek.** Impact is to an estimated 0.49 acres (estimated functional loss has not been provided at this time). This impact is not within the service area of any private mitigation bank. Potential mitigation is use of credits from the NFWFMD Dutex In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area. At this time state and federal permitting authorities have not reviewed the potential mitigation. Additional information on this impact and proposed mitigation is posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=227](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=227).
- **Brickyard Road Bridge at Molino.** Impact is to 0.50 acres of wetlands. Mitigation, per USACE permit, will consist of hydrologic enhancement on NFWFMD lands on the Escambia River floodplain via installation of one low-water-crossing at Cotton Creek Road. No mitigation was required by state permits. Functional assessments were not used by permitting authorities; however, District staff estimate the functional gain of the mitigation at 0.45 UMAM. This impact is not within the service area of any private mitigation bank. Additional information on this impact is posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=228](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=228).

- **US 331 Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge.** Amount of impact has not yet been determined, although FDOT has indicated that impacts will be to estuarine wetlands. Potential mitigation may consist of onsite mitigation (FDOT responsibility), plus use of the remaining 0.07 estuarine credit at the NFWFMD Live Oak Peninsula Mitigation Site. Although this impact is within the service area of a private mitigation bank, no private estuarine mitigation credits are available. Additional information on this impact is posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=234](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=234).

### **Associated NFWFMD Mitigation**

- **NFWFMD Tates Hell In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area.** Extensive hydrologic restoration activities (e.g., road and ditch removal, low-water-crossings, ditch plugs and culverts) have been implemented at Tates Hell State Forest. Currently, 35.41 UMAM mitigation credits released by the USACE are available. Restoration is being guided by the “Tates Hell State Forest Hydrologic Restoration Plan” which was developed jointly by the NFWFMD and the Florida Forest Service. Detailed plans and monitoring reports posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=38](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=38).
- **NFWFMD Dutex In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area.** Extensive restoration and preservation of 809.85 acres of wetlands including hydric pine flatwoods and savannah. Currently, 43.53 UMAM mitigation credits released by the USACE are available. Detailed plans and monitoring reports posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=152](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=152).
- **NFWFMD Lands on Escambia River Floodplain (Cotton Creek Road).** Mitigation, approved by USACE permit, will consist of hydrologic enhancement on NFWFMD lands on the Escambia River floodplain via installation of one low-water-crossing at Cotton Creek Road. This is a new mitigation project on existing NFWFMD lands. Detailed plans posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=219](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=219).
- **NFWFMD Live Oak Peninsula Mitigation Area (Umbrella Plan Project).** Mitigation derived from preservation of 513.7 acres of mostly estuarine marsh, with some inclusions of hydric pine flatwoods. All credits associated with this preservation have been used for previous FDOT impacts, except for 0.07 estuarine credits which may be potentially be used as partial-offsetting mitigation for the US 331 Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge impact. Additional information posted at [http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site\\_id=12](http://nwfwmdwetlands.com/Site.php?site_id=12).

### **Discussion of Consideration Given to Use of Private Mitigation Banks**

No private mitigation bank option was available for any of the above FDOT projects. Three of the FDOT projects occur in areas not served by private mitigation banks. The US 331 Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge, with estuarine impacts, although within the service area of a private mitigation bank, occurs in an area where no private estuarine credits, potential or released, exist.

**Table 1. New Transportation Project Impacts - 2/28/2014 (Submitted to NFWFMD by FDOT Since 1/1/2013)**

<b>Transportation Impact Project</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Impact Drainage Basin</b>	<b>Habitat/Community Type Impact</b>	<b>Impact Acres by Type</b>	<b>Functional UMAM Loss by Type</b>	<b>Total Impact Acres</b>	<b>Total Functional UMAM Loss</b>	<b>T/E species</b>
US 98 / US 319 (from Carrabelle Beach Park to CR 379 / River Road)	Tates Hell In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	Apalachicola Watershed	Unknown	UNK	Unknown	2.00	Unknown	Unknown
CR 489 / Stefani Road Bridge at Unnamed Creek	Dutex In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	Perdido Watershed	Palustrine Wetlands	0.49	Unknown	0.49	Unknown	Unknown
Brickyard Road Bridge at Molino	Cotton Creek Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	Pensacola Bay Watershed	Palustrine Wetlands	0.50	Unknown	0.50	Unknown	Unknown
US 331 Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge	Onsite (FDOT Responsibility) Plus Live Oak Peninsula Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	Choctawhatchee Watershed	Estuarine Wetlands	UNK	Unknown	UNK	Unknown	Unknown

**Table 2. Mitigation Projects for New Transportation Impacts - 2/28/2014 ( Submitted to NFWFMD by FDOT Since 1/1/2013)**

<b>Mitigation Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>SWIM Drainage Basin</b>	<b>Habitat / Community Type</b>	<b>Mitigation Type</b>	<b>Mitigation Acres by Type</b>	<b>Total Mitigation Acres</b>	<b>Land Acquisition</b>
Tates Hell In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	Franklin	Apalachicola River and Bay	Palustrine Wetlands	Wetland Enhancement	225	225	No
Dutex In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	Escambia	Perdido River and Bay	Estuarine and Palustrine Wetlands	Wetland Enhancement	810	810	Previously Acquired
Cotton Creek Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	Escambia	Pensacola Bay	Palustrine Wetlands	Wetland Enhancement	6	6	No
Live Oak Peninsula Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	Walton	Choctawhatchee River and Bay	Estuarine and Palustrine Wetlands	Preservation	500	500	Previously Acquired

**Table 3. Estimated Mitigation Costs (NWFWMMD - 2/28/2014)**

<b>Transportation Project</b>	<b>Impact Acres</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Planning / Design Cost</b>	<b>Construction Cost</b>	<b>Acquisition or Credit Purchase Cost</b>	<b>Management Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Mitigation Cost per Acre of Impact</b>
US 98 / US 319 (from Carrabelle Beach Park to CR 379 / River Road)	2.00	Tates Hell In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$70,000
CR 489 / Stefani Road Bridge at Unnamed Creek	0.49	Dutex In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Area	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,300	\$34,300	\$70,000
Brickyard Road Bridge at Molino	0.50	Cotton Creek Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$70,000
US 331 Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge	UNK	Onsite (FDOT Responsibility) Plus 0.07 Mitigation Credit from Live Oak Peninsula Mitigation Area (Non In-Lieu Fee Project)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$70,000



**Northwest Florida Water Management District  
Regional Mitigation Plan Modification  
(FDOT Projects Added Since 1/1/2013)  
February 28, 2013**

