



Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Brett J. Cyphers
Executive Director

Phone: (850) 539-5999 • Fax: (850) 539-2777

August 11, 2015

Thomas Mings
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

RE: Sale of Mitigation Credits from Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank
(SAJ-2002-5061 NW-DEB)

Dear Thomas,

This letter shall serve to fulfill the sponsor's obligations, detailed at 33 CFR 332.3(l)(3) and 332.8(p)(1), to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of the sale of 16.86 federal credits from the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SHLMB). In support of this, the following information is provided, and a copy of Special Condition #10 of the Department of the Army (DOA) permit requiring the credit purchase is attached:

- Project Name: SR 79 (from Cypress Creek to Washington/Holmes County Line)
- DOA Permit #: SAJ-2011-01823 SP-MMW (issued 7/10/2015)
- Number of Credits: 16.86
- Type of Credits: 12.83 Palustrine Forested; 4.03 Palustrine Emergent

Note that Special Condition #10 of SAJ-2011-01823 SP-MMW specifies withdrawal of 13.48 federal palustrine forested mitigation credits and 4.23 federal palustrine emergent mitigation credits. However, the wetland impacts were assessed using UMAM (Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method) whereas the federal credit ledger at the SHLMB was permitted using WRAP (Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure). For debiting purposes at the SHLMB, the USACE has recognized that 1 UMAM credit = 0.9518 WRAP credit, as applied specifically to this mitigation bank. Thus, the 13.48 palustrine forested credits and 4.23 palustrine emergent referenced in SAJ-2011-01823 SP-MMW are equivalent to 12.83 federal palustrine forested and 4.03 federal palustrine emergent WRAP credits respectively as pertains to the mitigation bank permit SAJ-2002-5061 NW-DEB. The DOA permitter (Melinda Wittgenstein) has been informed of the conversion and is in agreement.

The federal credits noted above have been paid in full by the Florida Department of Transportation and we have deducted them from the federal ledger for the SHLMB. By action of this sale, the sponsor for the SHLMB accepts responsibility for providing the compensatory mitigation required by Special Condition #10 of the DOA permit noted above. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at 850-539-5999.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Lide
Enclosures

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

JOHN W. ALTER
Secretary-Treasurer
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

JON COSTELLO
Tallahassee

MARC DUNBAR
Tallahassee

TED EVERETT
Chipley

NICK PATRONIS
Panama City Beach

BO SPRING
Port St. Joe

PERMIT NUMBER: SAJ-2011-01823(SP-MMW)
PERMITTEE: Florida Department of Transportation, District 3
PAGE 6 of 10

10 Mitigation Bank Credit Purchase: Within 30 days from the date of initiating the work authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall provide verification to the Corps that 4.23 palustrine emergent, and 13.48 palustrine forested federal mitigation bank credits have been purchased from the Sandhill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SAJ-2002-05061). The required verification shall reference this project's permit number (SAJ-2011-01823).

Further Information:

1. Congressional Authorities: You have been authorized to undertake the activity described above pursuant to:

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403)

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344)

Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413)

2. Limits of this authorization.

a. This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, State, or local authorizations required by law.

b. This permit does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

c. This permit does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

d. This permit does not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal projects.

3. Limits of Federal Liability. In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

a. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes.

b. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by or on behalf of the United States in the public interest.