



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

March 7, 2016

Teresa Frame
Regulatory Division – Jacksonville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

RE: NFWFMD ILF Program Ledger Modification – 22.38 Federal Mitigation Credits
Ward Creek West Mitigation Area, (SAJ-2011-00287-TMF)

Dear Teresa:

This letter shall serve to fulfill the Sponsor's (NFWFMD) obligations, described in the NFWFMD In-Lieu Fee Program Final Instrument and in accordance with 33 CFR 332.3(l)(3), to notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) of the transfer of 22.38 federal mitigation credits from the NFWFMD In-Lieu Fee Program, Ward Creek West Mitigation Area credit ledger to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). In support of this notification, a copy of Special Condition #8 of the Department of the Army (DOA) permit requiring the credit purchase is attached and the following information is provided:

- DOA Permit #: SAJ-2006-4624 (IP-DEB)
- Condition Requiring Credit Purchase: #8
- Number of ILF Credits Debited: 22.38
- Type of Functional Credit Assessment: WRAP
- Ecological Classification of Credits: Palustrine Forested
- Specific ILF Project: Ward Creek West Mitigation Area
- Date Fees Received from Permittee: March 2006
- Secondary Impacts (per DOA permit): 208.00 Acres of Freshwater Wetlands

The mitigation credits noted above have been paid in full by FDOT and we have deducted them from the NFWFMD In-Lieu Fee credit ledger. By action of this sale, the Sponsor accepts responsibility for providing the compensatory mitigation required by Special Condition #8 of the DOA permit noted above.

Please note that this ledger modification is an administrative update for secondary impacts described in Special Condition #8. Mitigation has been implemented as scheduled (beginning in 2008 under the pre-ILF Umbrella Plan). To date, the USACE has released 102.77 credits at Ward Creek West (58.09 credits currently available).

Special Condition #6 of SAJ-2006-4624 (IP-DEB), requiring debiting of 10.67 credits from Ward Creek West for direct impacts, was completed under the pre-ILF Umbrella Plan with the 2008 acquisition of the site. Special Condition #7, requiring 18.35 credits from the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SAJ-2002-5061 NW-DEB), was completed on 6/28/2007 (RIBITS).

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at 850-539-5999.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Lide".

Robert F. Lide
Enclosures

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

JOHN W. ALTER
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MARC DUNBAR
Tallahassee

NICK PATRONIS
Panama City Beach

BO SPRING
Port St. Joe

site, the NFWFMD shall provide a restoration/enhancement plan including success criteria to the Corps for recommendation and approval. If the Ward Creek West site can not be acquired within one year from commencement of construction, then the NFWFMD will submit an alternate compensatory mitigation proposal to fully offset the functional loss that occurred as a result of the project. The alternate mitigation proposal must include compensation for the temporal loss of wetland function associated with the delay of mitigation activities. Refer to the January 2007 RMP Revision, Section 11.10, for additional mitigation contingency planning information.

6. Within 60 days from the date of acquisition of 620-acre Ward Creek West mitigation site, the permittee agrees to begin mitigation activities, to include restoration of approximately 60.0 acres of hydric flatwoods, in accordance with the RMP. The mitigation will provide compensation for approximately 10.67 units of functional loss resulting from direct impacts to 15.24 acres of wetlands within the St. Andrew Bay watershed.

7. Within 60 days from the date of permit issuance, the permittee agrees to purchase approximately 18.35 hydric flatwood, and forested freshwater wetland-credits from the SHLMB as compensation for direct impacts to 25.5 acres of water of the United States hydric flatwood, and forested freshwater wetlands in the Choctawhatchee Bay watershed. Approximately 87.77%, or 16.1 of the total credits purchased shall be hydric flatwoods, and 12.23%, or 2.24 of the total credits purchased shall be forested wetlands.

8. Within one year from the date of project construction, the applicant shall provide compensation for secondary impacts to approximately 208.0 acres of freshwater wetlands and waters of the United States within the Choctawhatchee Bay and River, and St. Andrew Bay watersheds. Additional mitigation to offset secondary wetland impacts shall provide an additional 22.38 credits and be carried out in accordance with the RMP.

9. Upon completion of the project-specific mitigation activities, the permittee shall debit the Mitigation Credit Ledger (refer to Section 8.1 of the RMP) accordingly, to reflect use of the credits associated with the mitigation activities outlined in the RMP and the conditions of this permit.