



Brett J. Cyphers
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

700 U.S. Highway 331 South, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

ERP: (850) 951-4660 • Fax: (850) 892-8007
Wells: (850) 951-4661

June 15, 2021

Scott Bitterman
Okaloosa County
1759 S. Ferdon Boulevard
Crestview, FL 32536

RE: Notice of Final Agency Action - Approval
Individual Environmental Resource Permit
Project Number: IND-091-292254-2
Permit Name: East-West Connector

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed is the approved individual Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) for the above referenced project as authorized on June 15, 2021 by the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

Please be sure to read the enclosed permit and all exhibits in their entirety, paying close attention to the permit conditions in Exhibit A that require you to perform maintenance activities on your stormwater system and to have inspections performed by a Registered Professional at specified times throughout the life of the stormwater system.

Please be advised that you are required to fully execute and submit the following documents:

- "Construction Commencement Notice" [Form 62-330.350(1)] - Submitted to the District no later than 48 hours prior to commencement of any part of the activity authorized by the enclosed permit.
- "As-Built Certification and Request for Conversion to Operational Phase" [Form 62-330.310(1)] Submitted to the District no later than 30 days after the activity has been completed.

Copies of these and other ERP forms are attached and are also available for download on the District website at
<http://www.nfwwater.com/Permits/Environmental-Resource-Permits/Application-Forms>

Please be advised that the District **has not** published a notice in the newspaper of local circulation advising the public that a permit has been issued for this activity. Publication, using the District form, notifies the public of their rights to challenge the issuance of this permit. If proper notice is given by publication, third parties have a 21-day time limit to file a petition opposing the issuance of the permit. If you do not publish, a party's right to challenge the issuance of the permit may extend indefinitely. If you wish to have certainty that the period for filing such a challenge is closed, then you may publish, at your expense, such a notice in a

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

JOHN W. ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

TED EVERETT
Chiplev

NICK PATRONIS
Panama City

KELLIE RALSTON
Tallahassee

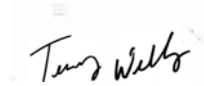
ANNA UPTON
Tallahassee

newspaper of general circulation. A sample notice form is attached for your information. If you choose to publish such a notice, please submit a copy to the District for our records.

The issuance of an Environmental Resource Permit for this activity does not eliminate the need to obtain all necessary permits or approvals from other agencies.

Should you have any questions regarding your permit or its conditions, please contact your permit reviewer, Dana Palermo, PE, at (850) 951-4660 or by e-mail: Dana.Palermo@nwfwater.com, Erica Roberts, at (850) 951-4660 or by e-mail: Erica.Roberts@nwfwater.com and Ted Reese, CWE, at (850) 951-4660 or by e-mail: Ted.Reese@nwfwater.com

Sincerely,



Terry Wells
Division of Regulatory Services; ERP Bureau Chief

cc:

Consultant:

Josey W Walker
25 West Cedar Street
Suite 200
Pensacola, FL 32502

Enc:

Environmental Resource Permit Number: IND-091-292254-2
Construction Commencement Notice [Form 62-330.350(1)]
As-Built Certification and Request for Conversion to Operational Phase [Form 62-330.310(1)]
Notice of Rights
Sample Newspaper Notice

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
INDIVIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMIT**

PERMIT NO: IND-091-292254-2 **DATE ISSUED:** June 15, 2021

PROJECT NAME: East-West Connector

CONSTRUCTION PHASE EXPIRATION DATE: June 26, 2025

A PERMIT AUTHORIZING:

This is a minor modification to change the mitigation bank conditions associated with the previously permitted activity. The previously authorized activities have not changed which consist of the construction of surface water management systems to designed to provide treatment and attenuation for a new east/west roadway alignment in the western portion of Crestview, (Okaloosa County). This roadway alignment will consist of a 4-lane divided roadway with portions equipped with a curb and gutter system and other portions equipped with paved shoulders sloped toward roadside conveyance swales. Each of the conveyance systems are designed to route stormwater runoff toward one of the four stormwater management systems. The project has been divided into four hydraulically separate drainage basins each consisting of wet detention systems (EWC-1A, EWC-1B, EWC-2, and EWC-3) designed without littoral zones and discharge toward adjacent wetlands throughout the project area. Please refer to Plan Sheets 95 through 104 for pond specific information such as proposed elevations, grading, and associated details of the control structures. The submitted plans include information regarding the improvements proposed to the existing dry detention with filtration (bottom sand filter) pond located at the dead-end of Physicians Drive. The improvements to this pond are authorized under IND-091-091-9001-2. The permit authorizes direct impacts to wetlands over an area of approximately 5.91 acres. Impacts to wetlands will be offset through the purchase of wetland mitigation credits from Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank. No construction is authorized until the mitigation credits have been purchased or a suitable alternative compensatory mitigation plan has been approved through a modification of this permit. The surface water management system is in accordance with the approved plans and supporting drainage report prepared by HDR Engineering, Inc.

LOCATION:

Section(s):	30, 29	Township(s):	3N	Range(s):	23W
	25, 26		3N		24W

Okaloosa County

ISSUED TO:

Okaloosa County
1759 S. Ferdon Boulevard
Crestview, FL 32536

Permittee agrees to hold and save the Northwest Florida Water Management District and its successors harmless from any and all damages, claims, or liabilities which may arise from permit issuance. Said application, including all plans and specifications attached thereto, is by reference made a part hereof.

This permit does not convey to any permittee any property rights nor any rights or privileges other than those specified herein, nor relieve the permittee from complying with any law, regulation or requirement affecting the rights of other bodies or agencies. All structures and works installed by permittee hereunder shall remain the property of the permittee.

This permit is issued pursuant to Part IV of Chapter 373, Florida Statute (F.S.), and Chapter 62-330, Florida Administrative Code, (F.A.C.), and may be revoked, modified or transferred at any time pursuant to the appropriate provisions of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes.

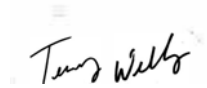
This permit also constitutes certification compliance with water quality standards under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S. Code 1341.

PERMIT IS CONDITIONED UPON:

See conditions on attached "Exhibit A", dated June 15, 2021

AUTHORIZED BY: Northwest Florida Water Management District
Division of Resource Regulation

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Wells", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Terry Wells
Division of Regulatory Services; ERP Bureau Chief

"EXHIBIT A"
CONDITIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMIT NUMBER IND-091-292254-2
East-West Connector
DATED June 15, 2021

1. All activities shall be implemented following the plans, specifications and performance criteria approved by this permit. Any deviations must be authorized in a permit modification in accordance with Rule 62-330.315, F.A.C. Any deviations that are not so authorized may subject the permittee to enforcement action and revocation of the permit under Chapter 373, F.S.
2. A complete copy of this permit shall be kept at the work site of the permitted activity during the construction phase, and shall be available for review at the work site upon request by the Agency staff. The permittee shall require the contractor to review the complete permit prior to beginning construction.
3. Activities shall be conducted in a manner that does not cause or contribute to violations of state water quality standards. Performance-based erosion and sediment control best management practices shall be installed immediately prior to, and be maintained during and after construction as needed, to prevent adverse impacts to the water resources and adjacent lands. Such practices shall be in accordance with the *State of Florida Erosion and Sediment Control Designer and Reviewer Manual (Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Florida Department of Transportation June 2007)*, and the *Florida Stormwater Erosion and Sedimentation Control Inspector's Manual (Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Nonpoint Source Management Section, Tallahassee, Florida, July 2008)*, which are both incorporated by reference in subparagraph 62-330.050(9)(b)5., F.A.C., unless a project-specific erosion and sediment control plan is approved or other water quality control measures are required as part of the permit.
4. At least 48 hours prior to beginning the authorized activities, the permittee shall submit to the Agency a fully executed Form 62-330.350(1), "Construction Commencement Notice," [October 1, 2013], incorporated by reference herein (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02505>), indicating the expected start and completion dates. A copy of this form may be obtained from the Agency, as described in subsection 62-330.010(5), F.A.C. If available, an Agency website that fulfills this notification requirement may be used in lieu of the form.
5. Unless the permit is transferred under Rule 62-330.340, F.A.C., or transferred to an operating entity under Rule 62-330.310, F.A.C., the permittee is liable to comply with the plans, terms and conditions of the permit for the life of the project or activity.
6. Within 30 days after completing construction of the entire project, or any independent portion of the project, the permittee shall provide the following to the Agency, as applicable:
 1. For an individual, private single-family residential dwelling unit, duplex, triplex, or quadruplex – "Construction Completion and Inspection Certification for Activities Associated With a Private Single-Family Dwelling Unit" [Form 62-330.310(3)]; or

2. For all other activities – “As-Built Certification and Request for Conversion to Operational Phase” [Form 62-330.310(1)].
 3. If available, an Agency website that fulfills this certification requirement may be used in lieu of the form.
7. If the final operation and maintenance entity is a third party:
 1. Prior to sales of any lot or unit served by the activity and within one year of permit issuance, or within 30 days of as- built certification, whichever comes first, the permittee shall submit, as applicable, a copy of the operation and maintenance documents (see sections 12.3 thru 12.3.3 of Volume I) as filed with the Department of State, Division of Corporations and a copy of any easement, plat, or deed restriction needed to operate or maintain the project, as recorded with the Clerk of the Court in the County in which the activity is located.
 2. Within 30 days of submittal of the as- built certification, the permittee shall submit “Request for Transfer of Environmental Resource Permit to the Perpetual Operation Entity” [Form 62-330.310(2)] to transfer the permit to the operation and maintenance entity, along with the documentation requested in the form. If available, an Agency website that fulfills this transfer requirement may be used in lieu of the form.
8. The permittee shall notify the Agency in writing of changes required by any other regulatory agency that require changes to the permitted activity, and any required modification of this permit must be obtained prior to implementing the changes.
9. This permit does not:
 1. Convey to the permittee any property rights or privileges, or any other rights or privileges other than those specified herein or in Chapter 62-330, F.A.C.;
 2. Convey to the permittee or create in the permittee any interest in real property;
 3. Relieve the permittee from the need to obtain and comply with any other required federal, state, and local authorization, law, rule, or ordinance; or
 4. Authorize any entrance upon or work on property that is not owned, held in easement, or controlled by the permittee
10. Prior to conducting any activities on state-owned submerged lands or other lands of the state, title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the permittee must receive all necessary approvals and authorizations under Chapters 253 and 258, F.S. Written authorization that requires formal execution by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall not be considered received until it has been fully executed.
11. The permittee shall hold and save the Agency harmless from any and all damages, claims, or liabilities that may arise by reason of the construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal, abandonment or use of any project authorized by the permit.
12. The permittee shall notify the Agency in writing:
 1. Immediately if any previously submitted information is discovered to be inaccurate; and
 2. Within 30 days of any conveyance or division of ownership or control of the property or the system, other than conveyance via a long-term lease, and the new owner shall request transfer of the permit in accordance with Rule 62-330.340, F.A.C. This does not apply to the sale of lots or units in residential or

commercial subdivisions or condominiums where the stormwater management system has been completed and converted to the operation phase

13. Upon reasonable notice to the permittee, Agency staff with proper identification shall have permission to enter, inspect, sample and test the project or activities to ensure conformity with the plans and specifications authorized in the permit.
14. If any prehistoric or historic artifacts, such as pottery or ceramics, stone tools or metal implements, dugout canoes, or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American cultures, or early colonial or American settlement are encountered at any time within the project site area, work involving subsurface disturbance in the immediate vicinity of such discoveries shall cease. The permittee or other designee shall contact the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Compliance and Review Section, at (850) 245-6333 or (800) 847-7278, as well as the appropriate permitting agency office. Such subsurface work shall not resume without verbal or written authorization from the Division of Historical Resources. If unmarked human remains are encountered, all work shall stop immediately and notification shall be provided in accordance with Section 872.05, F.S.
15. Any delineation of the extent of a wetland or other surface water submitted as part of the permit application, including plans or other supporting documentation, shall not be considered binding unless a specific condition of this permit or a formal determination under Rule 62-330.201, F.A.C., provides otherwise.
16. The permittee shall provide routine maintenance of all components of the stormwater management system to remove trapped sediments and debris. Removed materials shall be disposed of in a landfill or other uplands in a manner that does not require a permit under Chapter 62-330, F.A.C., or cause violations of state water quality standards.
17. This permit is issued based on the applicant's submitted information that reasonably demonstrates that adverse water resource-related impacts will not be caused by the completed permit activity. If any adverse impacts result, the Agency will require the permittee to eliminate the cause, obtain any necessary permit modification, and take any necessary corrective actions to resolve the adverse impacts.
18. A Recorded Notice of Environmental Resource Permit may be recorded in the county public records in accordance with subsection 62-330.090(7), F.A.C. Such notice is not an encumbrance upon the property.
19. **Record-keeping.** The permittee shall be responsible for keeping records documenting that relevant permit conditions are met. This documentation shall include, at a minimum, the date of each inspection, the name and qualifications of the inspector, any maintenance actions taken, and a determination by the inspector as to whether the system is operating as intended. Inspection documentation must be readily available and shall be submitted annually to the District by the anniversary date of the permit.
20. Once project construction has been deemed complete, including the re-stabilization of all side slopes, embankments, and other disturbed areas, and before the transfer to the Operation and Maintenance phase, all obsolete erosion control materials shall be removed.

21. The wet detention area shall be inspected periodically for debris and trash built up around the discharge structures. Accumulations of debris and trash that negatively affect the function of the system shall be removed upon discovery.
22. **Inspections by a Registered Professional.** The stormwater management system shall be inspected by a registered professional to evaluate whether the system is functioning as designed and permitted. The Registered Professional may record his inspection on Form No 62-330.311(1), Operation and Maintenance Inspection Certification or may provide his evaluation in any other format; however any report must be signed and sealed by the Registered Professional. Submittal of the inspection report to the District shall occur within 30 days of the inspection. Inspections shall be made by the Registered Professional in accordance with this schedule:
- o On the first anniversary of the date of conversion to Operation and Maintenance Phase.
 - o Every fifth year on the anniversary of conversion to Operation and Maintenance phase, after the first year of successful operation.
23. **Reporting by a Registered Professional.** Within 30 days of any failure of the stormwater management system or deviation from the permit, a report shall be submitted to the District on Form 62-330.311(1), Operation and Maintenance Inspection Certification, describing the remedial actions taken to resolve the failure or deviation. This report shall be signed and sealed by a Registered Professional.
24. All wetlands areas or other surface waters that are outside the specific limits of construction authorized by this permit must be protected from erosion, siltation, scouring or excess turbidity, and dewatering.
25. All storage or stockpiling of tools or materials (i.e. lumber, pilings, etc.) shall be limited to uplands or within the impact areas authorized by this project. In addition, all equipment being utilized shall be limited to operation and storage in uplands or within the impact areas authorized by this permit.
26. Prior to construction, the limits of the proposed construction shall be demarcated (clearly flagged and/or staked): particularly in areas adjacent to remaining natural wetlands. All construction personnel shall be shown the location(s) of all wetland areas outside of the construction area so as to prevent encroachment from heavy equipment into these areas.
27. Negative impacts to wetland or other surface waters as a result of construction shall be reported immediately to the Northwest Florida Water Management District, 700 South U.S. Highway 331, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435, Phone: (850) 951-4660. Corrective action shall be taken as soon as practicable to restore the impacted areas
28. This permit does not authorize the permittee to cause any adverse impact to or "take" of state listed species and other regulated species of fish and wildlife. Compliance with state laws regulating the take of fish and wildlife is the responsibility of the owner or applicant associated with this project. Please refer to Chapter 68A-27 of the Florida Administrative Code for definitions of "take" and a list of fish and wildlife species. If listed species are observed onsite, FWC staff are available to provide decision support information or assist in obtaining the appropriate FWC permits. Most marine endangered and threatened species are statutorily protected and a "take" permit cannot be issued.

Requests for further information or review can be sent to
FWCConservationPlanningServices@MyFWC.com.

29. Construction and operation is prohibited until the District has received proof of final purchase and sale of no less than 4.89 Freshwater Mixed Hardwoods credits from Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank. If for whatever reason, the proposed mitigation credit purchase cannot be completed, the applicant shall submit an application for a modification to this permit to address impacts to wetlands and other surface waters for which no mitigation has been provided. This application shall be submitted to the appropriate Water Management District office.



NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Northwest Florida Water Management District
152 Water Management Drive, Havana, FL 32333-4712
(850) 539-5999 Fax (850) 539-2693
www.nwfwater.com



The following information addresses procedures to be followed if you desire an administrative hearing or other review of agency action.

PETITION FOR FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

Any person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the action described in the enclosed Notice of Agency Action, may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with the requirements of section 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, or may choose to pursue mediation as an alternative remedy under section 120.573, Florida Statutes, before the deadline for filing a petition. Pursuit of mediation will not adversely affect the right to administrative proceedings in the event mediation does not result in a settlement. Petitions for an administrative hearing must be filed with the Agency Clerk of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, 81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-9700 by the deadline specified in the attached cover letter. Failure to file a petition within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any rights such person may have to request an administrative determination (hearing) under section 120.57, Florida Statutes, concerning the subject permit application. Petitions which are not filed in accordance with the above provisions are subject to dismissal.

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

A party who is adversely affected by final agency action on the permit application and who has exhausted available administrative remedies is entitled to judicial review in the District Court of Appeal pursuant to section 120.68, Florida Statutes. Review under section 120.68, Florida Statutes, is initiated by filing a Notice of Appeal in the appropriate District Court of Appeal in accordance with Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.110.

SECTION 28-106.201, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS

- (1) Unless otherwise provided by statute, and except for agency enforcement and disciplinary actions that shall be initiated under Rule 28-106.2015, F.A.C., initiation of proceedings shall be made by written petition to the agency responsible for rendering final agency action. The term "petition" includes any document that requests an evidentiary proceeding and asserts the existence of a disputed issue of material fact. Each petition shall be legible and on 8 1/2 by 11 inch white paper. Unless printed, the impression shall be on one side of the paper only and lines shall be double-spaced.
- (2) All petitions filed under these rules shall contain:
 - (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
 - (b) The name, address, any e-mail address, any facsimile number, and telephone number of the petitioner, if the petitioner is not represented by an attorney or a qualified representative; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination;
 - (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency decision;
 - (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
 - (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action;
 - (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and
 - (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action.
- (3) Upon receipt of a petition involving disputed issues of material fact, the agency shall grant or deny the petition, and if granted shall, unless otherwise provided by law, refer the matter to the Division of Administrative Hearings with a request that an administrative law judge be assigned to conduct the hearing. The request shall be accompanied by a copy of the petition and a copy of the notice of agency action.

NOTICING PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The District's action regarding the issuance or denial of a permit, a petition or qualification for an exemption only becomes closed to future legal challenges from members of the public ("third parties"), if 1) "third parties" have been properly notified of the District's action regarding the permit or exemption, and 2) no "third party" objects to the District's action within a specific period of time following the notification.

Notification of "third parties" is provided through publication of certain information in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the proposed activities are to occur. Publication of notice informs "third parties" of their right to have a 21-day time limit in which to file a petition opposing the District's action. However, if no notice to "third parties" is published, there is no time limit to a party's right to challenge the District's action. The District has not published a notice to "third parties" that it has taken final action on your application. If you want to ensure that the period of time in which a petition opposing the District's action regarding your application is limited to the time frame state above, you may publish, at your own expense, a notice in a newspaper of general circulation. A copy of the Notice of Agency Action the District uses for publication is attached. You may use this format or create your own, as long as the essential information is included.

If you do decide to publish a Notice of Final Agency Action, please provide the District a copy of the Proof of Publication when you receive it. That will provide us notice that action on this permit application is closed after the 21 days following publication.

**Notice of Final Agency Action Taken by the
Northwest Florida Water Management District**

Notice is given that Environmental Resource permit number IND-091-292254-2 issued on June 15, 2021 to Scott Bitterman of Okaloosa County for the construction of a new surface water management system designed to provide treatment and attenuation for a new east/west roadway alignment in the western portion of Crestview, (Okaloosa County). This is a minor modification to change the previously approved mitigation bank. The original project design and authorized work has not changed which will consist of a 4-lane divided roadway with portions equipped with a curb and gutter system and other portions equipped with paved shoulders sloped toward roadside conveyance swales. Each of the conveyance systems are designed to route stormwater runoff toward one of the four stormwater management systems. The project has been divided into four hydraulically separate drainage basins each consisting of wet detention systems designed without littoral zones and discharge toward adjacent wetlands throughout the project area. The permit authorizes direct impacts to wetlands over an area of approximately 5.91 acres. Impacts to wetlands will be offset through the purchase of wetland mitigation credits from Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank. The project is located at Okaloosa County RW between Antioch Rd. and Physician's Way, Okaloosa County.

The application file is available online and can be accessed through the District's e-Permitting Portal at:

<https://permitting.sjrwmd.com/nwepermitting/jsp/Search.do?theAction=PermitNumSearch>. If you have any questions or are experiencing difficulty viewing the electronic application, please contact us at (850) 951-4660.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the District permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, or may choose to pursue mediation as an alternative remedy under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, and Rules 28-106.111 and 28-106.401-404, Florida Administrative Code. Petitions must comply with the requirements of Florida Administrative Code, Chapter 28-106 and be filed with (received by) the District Clerk located at District Headquarters, 81 Water Management Drive, Havana, FL 32333-4712. Petitions for administrative hearing on the above application must be filed within twenty-one (21) days of publication of this notice or within twenty-six (26) days of the District depositing notice of this intent in the mail for those persons to whom the District mails actual notice. Failure to file a petition within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right(s) such person(s) may have to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., concerning the subject permit. Petitions which are not filed in accordance with the above provisions are subject to dismissal.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the District on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceedings, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.