



HERNANDO COUNTY WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Time: 6:03 p.m.

Location: Hernando Beach Marine Group, Inc. Training Center
4340 Calienta Street, Hernando Beach, FL 34607

Meeting Advertised: Friday, April 9, 2021, Hernando Sun (CLK21-64)

Agenda Available Online:

<https://www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-n-z/public-works/aquatic-services/waterways-advisory-committee/agendas-and-minutes/-folder-1515>

Attendee Name	Title	Attendance
Chuck Morton	Chairman	Yes
Kathryn Birren	Vice Chairman	Yes
Michael Senker	Member	Yes
Sarah Hill	Member	No
Mike Fulford	Member	Yes
Commissioner Wayne Dukes	Committee Liaison	No
Scott Herring, P.E.	Director of Public Works/County Engineer	Yes
Keith Kolasa	Aquatic Services/Waterways Manager	Yes
Cpl. Steve Kelly	Marine Patrol Officer	No
Teena Dagliere	Administrative Assistant II	Yes

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Morton called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Morton asked if everyone reviewed the minutes provided for the February 21, 2021 meeting and asked for approval. Mike Fulford made the motion to approve, and Mike Senker seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

MARINE PATROL REPORT

Corporal Steve Kelly was not in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vote for Vice Chairman

Chairman Morton stated that Mike Fulford had resigned from Port Authority and when the Port Authority was switched to the Waterways Advisory Committee, he was able to return. Chairman Morton motioned for the Vice Chair.

Mike Fulford asked to be recognized. He stated that he was pulling himself out of the list of eligible candidates to provide the newest members an opportunity to obtain leadership opportunities. He nominated Kathryn Birren.

Both Kathryn Birren and Mike Senker stated that they would be interested in serving as Vice Chairman. Mike Fulford nominated Kathryn Birren and Chairman Morton seconded the nomination. Approved 4-0.

2. 2021 Schedule and Meeting Locations

The list of potential meeting dates was presented and three were chosen. The next three meetings will be held on July 21, 2021, October 20, 2021, and December 15, 2021. Chairman Morton motioned to approve, and Vice Chairman Birren seconded. Approved 4-0.

Vice Chairman Birren suggested that the time of the meeting be changed from 6pm-8pm to 7pm to 9pm. The time change was approved 4-0.

Keith Kolasa suggested holding a meeting at the Brooksville Chambers. Vice Chair Birren agreed and stated the Brooksville location may attract a more diverse group of people. All agreed and it was decided to hold the October meeting in Brooksville.

3. Restore Funding

Keith Kolasa gave a presentation on Restore Funding which included prioritization of projects and discussion ensued.

4. Derelict Vessel Procedure

Keith Kolasa presented the Derelict Vessel Procedures provided by Frank McCabe, Supervisor of the Code Enforcement Department. Keith stated that the procedure is the basic procedure and does not include water hazards.

Mike Fulford stated he felt that the Ordinance should be changed. Scott Herring stated that this Board does not normally set up rules that are stricter than the state rules.

5. Mitigation Bank Proposal

Keith Kolasa presented the Bank Mitigation Bank Proposal and thanked Mike Fulford for his part in reaching out to the US Army Corps of Engineers to get the correspondence started. The proposal was denied, but it can now be put to rest.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Chuck Greenwell stated he has some concerns about how RESTORE money has been allocated and was felt that the presentation at this meeting was very clear. He also stated that he is concerned about the drainage problem on Calienta Street.

Scott Herring stated that the Calienta project is moving forward and reminded everyone about the Public Information meeting about Calienta Street on April 29 at the Hernando Beach Marine Corp, Inc from 5pm -7pm.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mike Fulford stated he has knocked on about three hundred doors to inquire about canal traffic in the past couple of weeks. He was amazed about how little feedback that he received on the topic.

Valerie Shelter stated that during the day the noise has been better, but at night she can hear the boats in gear. She normally hears the boats between two and three in the morning.

Diane Greenwell stated she has noticed that they are not playing the loud music in the canals lately. Valerie Shelter agreed.

Vice Chair Birren stated she has heard a few complaints about loud music and boats taking it out of gear. She stated the boats taking it out of gear are typically the large crab boats.

ADJOURNMENT

Mike Fulford motioned to adjourn and Mike Senker seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

The next Waterways Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at the Hernando Beach Marine Corp, Inc Training Center, 4340 Calienta Street, Hernando Beach, Florida 34607.

Hernando County Waterways Advisory Committee

Meeting Schedule-- 6 Meetings Per Year ----- 7pm-9pm

Location: Hernando Beach Marine Group, Inc Training Center, Hernando Beach Florida

Meeting 1	January 20, 2021
Meeting 2	February 17, 2021
Meeting 3	April 21, 2021
Meeting 4	July 21, 2021
Meeting 5 *	October 20, 2021
Meeting 6	December 15, 2021

*** Meeting location: Brooksville Chambers, 20 N Main St, Brooksville**

RESTORE Act Trust Fund Components



**Pot 1 - Direct County Allocation - County Multi-Year Plan (\$1.9B);
(\$373M to FL)**

Pot 2 - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (\$1.6B)

**Pot 3 - Spill Impact Allocation (\$1.6B);
(\$293M to FL - Gulf Consortium)**

Pot 4 - NOAA Science Program (\$133M)

Pot 5 - Centers of Excellence (\$133M)

RESTORE Act Trust Fund Components



Pot 1 - Direct County Allocation - County Multi-Year Plan

- Administered through U.S. Treasury Department
- County's Multi-Year Plan was approved in 2015
- \$ 1,987,585 allocated to Hernando County with \$1,350,000 encumbered for projects

Pot 3 - Spill Impact Allocation (Gulf Consortium)

- \$ 12.7 million spread out in annual payments over 15 years
- Projects are included the State Expenditure Plan approved in February 2018.

25% limit on infrastructure



What is Infrastructure?

Infrastructure means the public facilities or systems needed to support commerce and economic development. These installations and facilities span a wide range, including highways, airports, roads, buildings, transit systems, *port facilities*, railways, telecommunications, *water and sewer systems*, public electric and gas utilities, *levees, seawalls, breakwaters, major pumping stations, and flood gates*. Infrastructure encompasses new construction, upgrades and repairs to existing facilities or systems, and associated land acquisition and planning.

U.S. Department of Treasury

Hernando County - Pot 1 Project Funding

Project	Funding Allocation
Bayou Drive Restoration	\$ 750,000
Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	\$ 600,000
Unobligated at this Time – TBD after Linda Pedersen Completion	\$ 637,585
TOTAL Available	\$ 1,987,585

- Additional deposits on \$264,562 per year through 2031
- Accumulates to \$4,633,199 by 2031





State of Florida

STATE EXPENDITURE PLAN



Submitted Pursuant to
the Spill Impact Component
of the RESTORE Act

33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)

Prepared by the Gulf Consortium
for the State of Florida



Approved Program RESTORE Funds (Pot 3) for Hernando County

Program	Funds Allocated in FEP
Marine and Coastal Habitat Enhancement	\$3.1 M
Waterway/Gulf Access	\$4.56 M
Water Quality	\$5.0 M



Hernando County - Pot 3 Project Funding

Project	Funding Allocation
Artificial Reef Program	\$ 2,350,000
Oyster Reefs and Living Shorelines	\$ 750,000
Boat Ramp and Coastal Park Amenities	\$ 1,165,000
Channel Improvements	\$ 3,135,000
Paddling Trails	\$ 260,000
Water Quality – Calienta Street	\$ 2,400,000
Septic to Sewer	\$ 2,600,000
TOTAL	\$12,660,000



A Strategic Marine Area Plan for Hernando County

Alexandra Barshel, J.D. Candidate
Amanda Sanders, J.D. Candidate

Conservation Clinic, University of Florida College of Law
Thomas T. Ankerson, Legal Skills Professor and Director,
Statewide Legal Specialist Florida Sea Grant

Emma Pittle, M.S. Candidate

UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station
Mike Allen, Professor and Director

Brittany Hall - Chief Extension Agent
Florida Sea Grant

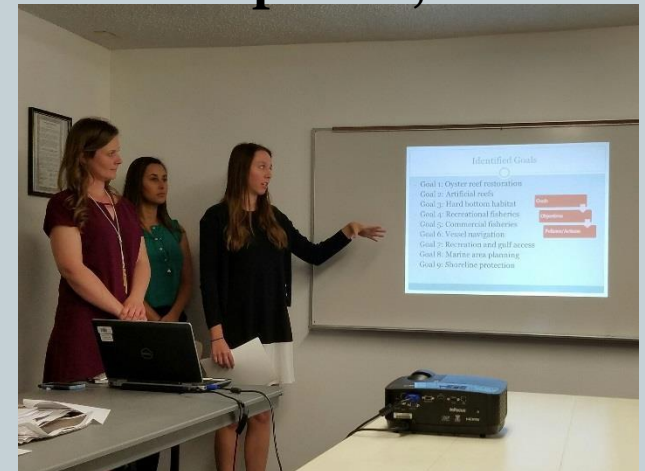
Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services Manager, Hernando County



Plan Timeline



- 1. Goal Ranking Workshop** April 20, 2017
- 2. Policy, Strategy, and Action Discussion** Nov 2, 2017
- 3. Policy, Strategy, and Action Discussion** Dec 7, 2017
- 4. Policy, Strategy, and Action Discussion** Jan 23, 2018
- 5. Final Plan Approval and Approval of Comp Plan Language** Feb 21, 2018
- 6. Comp Plan Amendments – BOCC** March 6, 2018
- 7. Resolution Supporting SMAP** April 18, 2018



Identified Goals



- Goal 1: Shoreline stabilization
- Goal 2: Oyster reefs
- Goal 3: Artificial reefs
- Goal 4: Recreational and commercial fisheries
- Goal 5: Vessel navigation and gulf access
- Goal 6: Hard bottom habitat and seagrass

Goals

Objectives

Strategies



Strategic Marine Area Plan Goals



1. To ensure that all estuarine shoreline interfaces in Hernando County contribute to the health and resiliency of the County's coastal and estuarine ecosystems
2. To establish/reestablish a robust system of **oyster reefs** that contributes to estuarine health and coastal resiliency
3. To enhance Hernando County's recreational fishery by maximizing available structure for recreationally important fish species at all life history stages through **artificial reef deployment**.
4. To maintain a robust and economically and ecologically sustainable **recreational and commercial fishery**
5. To develop, maintain and enhance a resilient program of land-based and in-water **maritime access** infrastructure to support the sustainable commercial and recreational use of the marine and estuarine waters of Hernando County.
6. To ensure the ecological integrity of Hernando County's unique assemblage of **hard bottom habitats** and interspersed **seagrass beds**.

GOAL 11.04 – Protection of Marine Resources

Hernando County’s marine area, which exhibits unique biophysical and ecological characteristics, supports a rich assemblage of marine biota that drive the marine resource-based economy. The County commits to planning for marine resources that conserves natural resources, supports recreation, promotes strategic land conservation, protects water quality, and promotes coastal resiliency through shoreline stabilization, oyster reef restoration, and artificial reefs; recreational and commercial fisheries; vessel navigation and water access; and protects hardbottom and seagrass.

Strategic Marine Area Plan

Objective 11.04A: The County will prepare, implement, and periodically update a Strategic Marine Area Plan (S MAP) to maintain, restore, or create stabilized shorelines, nearshore oyster reefs, and artificial reefs; to sustain economic and ecologic recreational and commercial fisheries; to develop, maintain, and enhance a resilient program of infrastructure to support the sustainable commercial and recreational use of the marine and estuarine waters; and to ensure the ecological integrity of Hernando County’s unique assemblage of seagrass bed habitats and interspersed hardbottom.

Shoreline Stabilization, Oyster Reef Restoration, and Artificial Reefs

Strategy 11.04A(1): As set forth in the S MAP, adopt programs that promote estuarine shoreline interfaces that contribute to the ecological health and resiliency of the County’s coastal and estuarine ecosystems.

Strategy 11.04A(2): As set forth in the S MAP, implement a program to restore nearshore oyster reefs that contribute to estuarine health, productive fisheries, and coastal resiliency.

Strategy 11.04A(3): As set forth in the S MAP, implement a program to enhance Hernando County’s fisheries by maximizing available structure for recreationally important fish species at all life history stages through artificial reef deployment.

Recreational and Commercial Fisheries

Strategy 11.04A(4): Determine the relative health and economic value of both fisheries in Hernando County and their relationship to the marine resources they depend on.

Strategy 11.04A(5): Develop and implement a holistic approach to recreational and commercial fisheries management.

Goals 1, 2, and 3

Goal 4

Goal 5

Vessel Navigation and Water Access

Strategy 11.04A(6): Adopt strategies that improve motorized, non-motorized, and motor-assisted vessel navigation in and through the waters of Hernando County.

Strategy 11.04 A(7): Implement robust education, compliance and funding programs to ensure the sustainable use of waterways in Hernando County.

Strategy 11.04A(8): Maintain and improve land-based motorized and non-motorized boating access infrastructure based upon expected growth.

Hardbottom and Seagrass

Strategy 11.04 A(9): As set forth in the S MAP, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of seagrass and hardbottom habitat within Hernando County.

Strategy 11.04 A(10): Protect and enhance water quality to protect marine resources through programs that protect wetlands, reduce erosion through stormwater management controls and protect native vegetation and preserve upland habitat.

Strategy 11.04 A(11): Conduct surveys to document the biodiversity of the seagrass and hardbottom habitats and implement monitoring as set forth in the S MAP.

Goal 6

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE HERNANDO COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY, ACCEPTING THE HERNANDO COUNTY STRATEGIC MARINE AREA SCIENCE PLAN AND STRATEGIC MARINE AREA POLICY PLAN; RECOMMENDING THE STRATEGIC MARINE AREA SCIENCE AND POLICY PLAN AS A REFERENCE DOCUMENT WITHIN THE COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT OF THE HERNANDO COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 7.27, Florida Statutes, Hernando County's marine area includes all waters within the Gulf of Mexico that also lie within the state of Florida measured from the seaward extension of the boundaries of Citrus County to the north and Pasco County to the south to the seaward boundary of the state of Florida, a distance of 9 miles; and

WHEREAS, the marine area of Hernando County exhibits unique biophysical and ecological characteristics including an expansive low wave energy shallow shelf that supports extensive sea grass beds interspersed with isolated limestone outcroppings that support a rich assemblage of marine biota, including hard and soft corals, sponges, and other invertebrates, commercially and recreationally important fish species, marine mammals and several species of sea turtles; and

~~**WHEREAS**~~, Hernando County seeks to develop its marine resource-based economy while conserving the ecosystem services on which that economy depends, promote coastal resilience through hazard mitigation and develop proactive and innovative approaches to fisheries management and enhancement; and

WHEREAS, Hernando County has been designated as an "affected county" under the Restore Act, and hence will receive significant annual funding over a period of at least 15 years in order to "rest ore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast region."; and

WHEREAS, Hernando County benefits from strong community involvement and multiple research and educational partnerships, which it seeks to fully engage in the restoration, management, and enhancement of its marine area resources; and

WHEREAS, Hernando County wishes to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by this dedicated revenue stream to plan for the long-term restoration, enhancement and management of its marine area by creating this Strategic Marine Area Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PORT AUTHORITY OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Strategic Marine Area Science and Policy Plan is accepted by the Hernando County Port Authority to help guide and plan marine resource management and marine and coastal enhancement projects.

2. The Strategic Marine Area Science and Policy Plan is referenced within the Coastal Management Element of the Hernando County Comprehensive Plan to establish Goals and Objective specific to the protection and management of the marine resources within Hernando County.
3. The Strategic Marine Area Science and Policy Plan will be used to help guide implementation of RESTORE Act funded projects to efficiently allocate these funds towards projects designed to restore and manage the County's coastal and marine resources.

ADOPTED this 14 day of May, 2018

Hernando County Port Authority

BY: Frank a Santo
Frank Santo
Chairman

From: Frank McCabe <frankcm@co.hernando.fl.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>
Cc: Ronald Pianta <RPianta@hernandocounty.us>; Michael Steele <MSteele@co.hernando.fl.us>
Subject: RE: Derelict vessel procedures.

Scott, after issuing the citation with a specified court date, the violator depending on what was stated on the citation as to mandatory or not, may pay or appear. Of course they could comply as well. In this type of violation, we would probably make it mandatory to appear in order to rectify the problem and not just have them pay a fine without compliance.

Any questions please feel free to give me a call, Thanks

From: Frank McCabe
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:54 AM
To: Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>
Cc: Ronald Pianta <RPianta@hernandocounty.us>; Michael Steele <MSteele@co.hernando.fl.us>
Subject: Derelict vessel procedures.

Scott, here is how we handle a sunken/ derelict vessel.

1st either we receive a complaint or the Officer observes a vessel that has fully or partially sunk.
2nd a 7 day notice of violation would go out to the owner of the property where the violation is occurring.

3rd a citation would be issued if no compliance is found after a reinspection.

Currently that is all we can do to try and rectify the issue.

Thanks,

Frank McCabe
Code Enforcement Supervisor
(352)540-6258

FLORIDA PLANNING



American Planning Association
Florida Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association

www.floridaplanning.org

Summer 2018

Hernando County First in Florida to Bring ENTIRE COASTAL ZONE

By Dorothy Zimmerman into Comprehensive Plan

With technical support from Florida Sea Grant, Hernando County has become Florida's first county to add a long-term management strategy for its entire marine and coastal zone to the county's comprehensive plan.

"To my knowledge this is the most comprehensive and explicit treatment of marine resources in a local government comprehensive plan in Florida," said Tom Ankersen, Florida Sea Grant's legal specialist who led the initiative.

Typically in Florida, a county's comprehensive plan provides long-range guidance on dry land or shoreline issues to keep growth and development in balance among competing interests, Ankersen said. Management of marine submerged lands has not been factored into the planning equation.

continued on page 4



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Sea-Level Rise Resiliency

Engaging the Public in Community Resiliency

Get Ready to Host Your Balk

The Role of Wetland and Seagrass

The Cost of Sea-Level Rise in Tampa Bay

CLEDA Update & News

2018 Project Awards

OTHER FEATURES

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PlanIt's all the Month - p. 1
Case Study: Dade County - p. 20
Errata - p. 2

The Florida Chapter of APA provides statewide leadership in the development of sustainable communities by advocating excellence in planning, providing professional development for its members, and working to protect and enhance the natural and built environments.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT
POST OFFICE BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

February 23, 2020

Regulatory Division
North Permits Branch
Mitigation Bank Team
SAJ-2016-00687

Mr. Ron Carpenter
Strategic Environmental Lands, LLC
1501 Doyle Carlton Drive, Suite 408
Tampa, Florida 33602

Dear Mr. Carpenter:

In accordance with the provisions of the regulations at 33 CFR 332.8(d), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), in consultation with the federal Interagency Review Team (IRT), has reviewed the proposed compensatory mitigation project as defined within the complete prospectus received on February 6, 2019. The prospectus was provided by your agent, Atlantic Ecological Services, LLC, and outlined the establishment of a wetland mitigation bank referred to as the Hernando Beach Mitigation Bank (HBMB). The proposed HBMB totals approximately 181.04 acres and is located north of Minnow Creek, east of the Gulf of Mexico and Coon Key Point, west of Shoal Line Road and Weeki Wachee Preserve, and south of Rice Creek within Sections 11 and 13, Township 23 South, Range 16 East in Hernando County, Florida. The application has been assigned file number SAJ-2016-00687. Please reference this number in all communications regarding this project.

The Corps, in consultation with other members of the IRT, has completed our review of the proposed HBMB project. The evaluation process included a thorough review of the prospectus, posting of a public notice on the Corps' Jacksonville District Regulatory web page on February 7, 2019, and a site inspection conducted on March 14, 2019. Pursuant to our review of the proposed project as described in the prospectus, along with the findings of the site inspection, our initial evaluation has determined that the proposed HBMB project does not have the potential for providing appropriate compensatory mitigation to offset impacts to waters of the United States associated with activities authorized by Department of the Army (DA) permits. Please be advised that as of the date of this letter, the Corps has ended its review of your prospectus for the HBMB and your request has been withdrawn.

In accordance with our regulations, more specifically, as stated at 33 CFR 332.8(d)(5)(iii), this letter does not prohibit the submittal of a revised prospectus which addresses the concerns noted below. If you choose to revise and resubmit your prospectus, the evaluation process will be re-initiated. This will include a "completeness" review of the revised prospectus and the preparation and issuance of a public notice in accordance with our regulations.

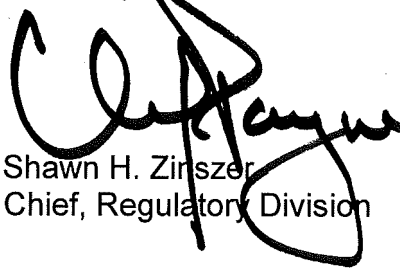
Members of the IRT, including representatives from the Corps, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, have provided the following comments and/or concerns regarding the proposal.

1. The major component of the bank proposal is preservation of the site. In order for preservation to be used to provide compensatory mitigation for activities authorized by DA permits, there are five criteria, identified at 33 CFR 332.3(h), which must be met. The proposal does not satisfy all five elements, particularly (iv): "The resources are under threat of destruction or adverse modifications" and (v) "The preserved site will be permanently protected through an appropriate real estate or other legal instrument." It does not appear as if there is a significant threat to the aquatic resources which warrant mitigation credit through preservation. In addition, there is concern regarding the ability to permanently protect the property through a conservation easement, establish a "No Motorboat Area" within the bank according to Florida Statute 327.46, and ultimately restrict navigation in navigable waters of the United States.
2. There is concern regarding the proposed removal of the spoil piles in relation to potential increased flood risk to the Hernando Beach community.
3. There is concern regarding the proposed removal of the spoil piles in relation to the potential impact to navigation and dredging operations in the adjacent Minnow Creek channel due to unknown potential changes in sediment dynamics.
4. There is concern that there are limited opportunities for tidal wetland and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) enhancement. A majority of the proposed tidal wetland and SAV activities include the preservation of existing high quality habitats, which would not provide additional ecological lift through establishment of the bank.

5. There is concern that the proposed service area is too geographically extensive and contains significantly varying environmental conditions. It is recommended that the service area consist of habitats comparable to the proposed bank site with similar water quality, salinity, depth, etc. in accordance with 33 CFR 332.3(b).
6. There is concern regarding the ability to enforce a "No Motorboat Area" within the bank.
7. There is concern that the proposed removal of spoil areas has the potential to negatively impact compensatory mitigation associated with DA permit SAJ-2005-05553. Particularly, the potential for sedimentation into an area identified as a seagrass protection zone.
8. The title insurance commitment does not contain legible copies of the plat books which are necessary for verification of the legal description of the property boundary.
9. There is concern regarding how rising sea levels will impact the long-term management and viability of the bank.

Should you have any questions or if additional information or assistance is required, please contact Steven Currie at the letterhead address, by telephone at 904-232-3701, or by electronic mail at steven.j.currie@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



or Shawn H. Zinszer
Chief, Regulatory Division

cc:

Jody Sisk, Atlantic Ecological Services, LLC, jody@atlanticeco.com
Cynthia Van Der Wiele, EPA, VanDerWiele.Cynthia@epa.gov
Mark Sramek, NOAA, mark.sramek@noaa.gov
Jason Wagman, FWC, Jason.Wagman@myfwc.com
Erin Gawera, FWS, Erin_Gawera@fws.gov