

## ***FY 2026-27 Standard Plans – 440-001 (Underdrains) –***

### **Added Side Bank Filters**

For review by the Chief Engineer

#### **Summary of the Revisions:**

The Department is adding another usage of underdrains to the Standard Index. This additional detail represents a “side bank filter” stormwater best management practice (BMP), which mimics the standard Type V underdrain along dry ponds and swales, but is located on the side of wet detention ponds. This revision is being made in an effort to create standard stormwater BMPs for the Department’s use to compile with the new ERP water quality criteria that will start to take effect 12/2025.

#### **Are changes in line with promoting and making meaningful progress on improving safety, enhancing mobility, inspiring innovation, and fostering talent; explain how?**

Yes, as the stormwater rules change, designers will need to develop innovative ways to meet the new criteria under Chapter 62-330, FAC. Adding stormwater BMPs to the Standard Plans will assist with providing the Department statewide consistency to implement these new stormwater BMPs and provide designers options for meeting the new stormwater rule.

#### **What financial impact does the change have; project costs, pay item structure, or consultant fees?**

Since this proposed change is solely an additional usage of Type V underdrains, the pay item and specifications will remain the same. The use of this stormwater BMP will increase project costs, but its usage is determined by the project’s need to meet the water quality nutrient reduction performance standards established by FDEP.

#### **What impacts does the change have on production or construction schedules?**

Production and construction schedules will not change.

#### **How does this change improve efficiency or quality?**

This additional standard plan will provide designers with additional resources for developing a project-specific strategy to meet the new water quality nutrient reduction performance standards. Additionally, adding this stormwater BMP to the Standard Plans will provide statewide consistency for bidding, constructing, and maintaining the BMP.

#### **Which FDOT offices does the change impact?**

This update impacts the Design, Construction, and Maintenance offices. All these offices coordinated in the development of this revision.

#### **What is the impact to Districts with this change?**

District Operations and Maintenance offices could be impacted. Side bank filters are not anticipated to change the stormwater inspection frequencies listed in the SSWMP, however, it is additional infrastructure to be managed. Additional maintenance includes cleaning out the

underdrain, weeding the top course aggregate layer, and issuing maintenance needs requests when underdrains are under performing.

**Does the change shift risk and to who?**

These changes do not shift any risks.

**Provide summary and resolution of any outstanding comments from the districts or industry?**

All comments from Industry and Internal Review have been reviewed, addressed and responded to. These specific comments are available for review on the [Track the Status Page](#).

**What is the communication plan?**

After completion of FHWA Review/Approval, this index will be published by November 1<sup>st</sup> of this year with FY 2026-27 Standard Plans (Effective July 1, 2026). Standard Plans Update Training will be provided prior to January 1, 2026. All documents will be available on our website.

**What is the schedule for implementation?**

- *The FY 2026-27 Standard Plans will be published on or before November 1, 2025.*
- *Standard Plans Update Training webinars will be provided for revisions in December of 2025.*
- *The FY 2026-27 Standard Plans will be effective for all projects let in July 2026 or after.*