

**007 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC.
(REV 6-24-09) (FA 8-27-09) (1-10)**

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 (Page 59) is deleted and the following substituted:

7-1.4 Compliance with Federal Endangered Species Act and other Wildlife

Regulations: The Federal Endangered Species Act requires that the Department investigate the potential impact to a threatened or endangered species prior to initiating an activity performed in conjunction with a highway construction project. If the Department's investigation determines that there is a potential impact to a protected, threatened or an endangered species, the Department will conduct an evaluation to determine what measures may be necessary to mitigate such impact. When mitigation measures and/or special conditions are necessary, these measures and conditions will be addressed on the plans or in permits as identified in 7-2.1.

In addition, in cases where certain protected, threatened or endangered species may unexpectedly be found or appear within close proximity to the project boundaries, the Department has established guidelines that will apply when interaction with certain species occurs, absent of any special mitigation measures or permit conditions otherwise identified for the project.

These guidelines are posted at the following URL address:

www.dot.state.fl.us/specificationsoffice/Implemented/URLinSpecs/Files/endangeredwildlifeguidelines.pdf .

Take responsibility to obtain this information and take all actions and precautions necessary to comply with the conditions of these guidelines during all project activities.

Prior to establishing any off-project activity in conjunction with a project, notify the Engineer of the proposed activity. Covered activities include but are not necessarily limited to borrow pits, concrete or asphalt plant sites, disposal sites, field offices, and material or equipment storage sites. Include in the notification the Financial Project ID, a description of the activity, the location of the site by township, range, section, county, and city, a site location map including the access route, the name of the property owner, and a person to contact to arrange a site inspection. Provide this notification sufficiently in advance of planned commencement of the off-site activity, to allow a reasonable period of time for the Engineer to conduct an investigation without delaying job progress.

Do not perform any off-project activity without obtaining written clearance from the Engineer. In the event the Department's investigation determines a potential impact to a protected, threatened or endangered species and mitigation measures or permits are necessary, coordinate with the appropriate resource agencies for clearance, obtain permits and perform mitigation measures as necessary. Immediately notify the Engineer in writing of the results of this coordination with the appropriate resource agencies. Additional compensation or time will not be allowed for permitting or mitigation, associated with Contractor initiated off-project activities.

SUBARTICLE 7-11.4 (Page 67) is deleted as the following is substituted:

7-11.4 Traffic Signs, Signal Equipment, Highway Lighting and Guardrail: Protect all existing roadside signs, signal equipment, highway lighting and guardrail, for which permanent removal is not indicated, against damage or displacement. Whenever such signs, signal

equipment, highway lighting or guardrail lie within the limits of construction, or wherever so directed by the Engineer due to urgency of construction operations, take up and properly store the existing roadside signs, signal equipment, highway lighting and guardrail and subsequently reset them at their original locations or, in the case of widened pavement or roadbed, at locations designated by the Engineer.

If the Department determines that damage to such existing traffic signs, signal equipment, highway lighting or guardrail is caused by a third party(ies), and is not otherwise due to any fault or activities of the Contractor, the Department will, with the exception of any damage resulting from vandalism, compensate the Contractor for the costs associated with the repairs. Repair damage caused by vandalism at no expense to the Department.

Payment for repairs will be in accordance with 4-3.4.

ARTICLE 7-25 (Pages 76–80) is deleted and the following substituted:

7-25 On-The-Job Training Requirements.

As part of the Contractor’s equal employment opportunity affirmative action program, training shall be provided as follows:

The Contractor shall provide on-the-job training aimed at developing full journeymen in the type(s) of trade or job classification(s) involved in the work. In the event the Contractor subcontracts a portion of the contract work, he/she shall determine how many, if any, of the trainees are to be trained by the subcontractor provided, that the Contractor shall retain the primary responsibility for meeting the training requirements imposed by this Section. The Contractor shall apply the requirements of this Section to such subcontract. Where feasible, 25% of apprentices or trainees in each occupation shall be in their first year of apprenticeship or training.

The number of trainees will be estimated on the number of calendar days of the contract, the dollar value, and the scope of work to be performed. The trainee goal will be finalized at a Post-Preconstruction Trainee Evaluation Meeting and the goal will be distributed among the work classifications based on the following criteria:

1) Determine the number of trainees on Federal Aid Contract:

(a) No trainees will be required for contracts with a contract time allowance of less than 225 calendar days.

(b) If the contract time allowance is 225 calendar days or more, the number of trainees shall be established in accordance with the following chart:

Estimated Contract Amount	Trainees Required
Under \$1,000,000	0
Over \$1,000,000 to \$4,000,000	2
Over \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000	3
Over \$6,000,000 to \$12,000,000	5
Over \$12,000,000 to \$18,000,000	7
Over \$18,000,000 to \$24,000,000	9
Over \$24,000,000 to \$31,000,000	12
Over \$31,000,000 to \$37,000,000	13
Over \$37,000,000 to \$43,000,000	14
Over \$43,000,000 to \$49,000,000	15

Estimated Contract Amount	Trainees Required
Over \$49,000,000 to \$55,000,000	16
Over \$55,000,000 to \$62,000,000	17
Over \$62,000,000 to \$68,000,000	18
Over \$68,000,000 to \$74,000,000	19
Over \$74,000,000 to \$81,000,000	20
Over \$81,000,000 to \$87,000,000	21
Over \$87,000,000 to \$93,000,000	22
Over \$93,000,000 to \$99,000,000	23
Over \$99,000,000 to \$105,000,000	24
Over \$105,000,000 to \$112,000,000	25
Over \$112,000,000 to \$118,000,000	26
Over \$118,000,000 to \$124,000,000	27
Over \$124,000,000 to \$130,000,000	28
Over \$130,000,000 to *	
*One additional trainee per \$6,000,000 of estimated Construction Contract amount over \$130,000,000	

Further, if the Contractor or subcontractor requests to utilize banked trainees as discussed later in this Section, a Banking Certificate will be validated at this meeting allowing credit to the Contractor for previously banked trainees. Banked credits of prime Contractors working as Subcontractors may be accepted for credit. The Contractor’s Project Manager, the Construction Project Engineer and the Department’s District Contract Compliance Manager will attend this meeting. Within ten days after the Post-Preconstruction Training Evaluation Meeting, the Contractor shall submit to the Department for approval an On-The-Job Training Schedule indicating the number of trainees to be trained in each selected classification and the portion of the contract time during which training of each trainee is to take place. This schedule may be subject to change if the following occur:

1. When a start date on the approved On-The-Job Training Schedule has been missed by 14 or more days;
2. When there is a change(s) in previously approved classifications;
3. When replacement trainees are added due to voluntary or involuntary termination

The revised schedule will be resubmitted to and approved by the Department’s District Contract Compliance Manager.

The following criteria will be used in determining whether or not the Contractor has complied with this Section as it relates to the number of trainees to be trained:

1. Full credit will be allowed for each trainee that is both enrolled and satisfactorily completes training on this Contract. Credit for trainees, over the established number for this Contract, will be carried in a “bank” for the Contractor and credit will be allowed for those surplus trainees in subsequent, applicable projects. A “banked” trainee is described as an employee who has been trained on a project, over and above the established goal, and for which the Contractor desires to preserve credit for utilization on a subsequent project.
2. Full credit will be allowed for each trainee that has been previously enrolled in the Department’s approved training program on another contract and continues training in the same job classification for a significant period and completes his/her training on this Contract.

3. Full credit will be allowed for each trainee who, due to the amount of work available in his/her classification, is given the greatest practical amount of training on the contract regardless of whether or not the trainee completes training.

4. Full credit will be allowed for any training position indicated in the approved On-The-Job Training Schedule, if the Contractor can demonstrate that he/she has made his/her a good faith effort to provide training in that classification.

5. No credit will be allowed for a trainee whose employment by the Contractor is involuntarily terminated unless the Contractor can clearly demonstrate good cause for this action.

The Contractor shall, as far as is practical, comply with the time frames established in the approved On-The-Job Training Schedule. When this proves to be impractical, a revised schedule shall be submitted and approved as provided above.

Training and upgrading of minorities, women and economically disadvantaged persons toward journeyman status is a primary objective of this Section. Accordingly, the Contractor shall make every effort to enroll minority trainees and women (e.g., by conducting systematic and direct recruitment through public and private sources likely to yield minority and women trainees) to the extent such persons are available within a reasonable area of recruitment. If a non-minority male is enrolled into On-The-Job Training, the On-The-Job Training Notification of Personnel Action Form notifying the District Contract Compliance Manager of such action shall be accompanied by a disadvantaged certification or a justification for such action acceptable to the Department's District Contract Compliance Manager. The Contractor will be given an opportunity and will be responsible for demonstrating the steps that he has taken in pursuance thereof, prior to a determination as to whether the Contractor is in compliance with this Section. This training is not intended, and shall not be used, to discriminate against any applicant for training, whether a minority, woman or disadvantaged person.

No employee shall be employed as a trainee in any classification in which he/she has successfully completed a training course leading to journeyman status, has been employed as a journeyman, or has had extensive experience in the classification being considered for training. The Contractor shall satisfy this requirement by including appropriate questions in the employee application or by other suitable means. Regardless of the method used, the Contractor's records should document the findings in each case.

The minimum length and type of training for each classification will be as established at the Post-Preconstruction Trainee Evaluation Meeting and approved by the Department. Graduation to journeyman status will be based upon satisfactory completion of a Proficiency Demonstration set up at the completion of training and established for the specific training classification, completion of the minimum hours in a training classification range, and the employer's satisfaction that the trainee does meet journeyman status in the classification of training. Upon reaching journeyman status, the following documentation must be forwarded to the District Contract Compliance Office:

Trainee Enrollment and Personnel Action Form

Proficiency Demonstration Verification Form indicating completion of each standard established for the classification signed by representatives of both the Contractor and the Department; and,

A letter stating that the trainee has sufficiently progressed in the craft and is being promoted to journeyman status.

The Department and the Contractor shall establish a program that is tied to the scope of the work in the project and the length of operations providing it is reasonably calculated to meet

the equal employment opportunity obligations of the Contractor and to qualify the average trainee for journeyman status in the classifications concerned, by at least, the minimum hours prescribed for a training classification. Furthermore, apprenticeship programs registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, or with a State apprenticeship agency recognized by the Bureau and training programs approved but not necessarily sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Manpower Administration, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training shall also be considered acceptable provided it is being administered in a manner consistent with the equal employment obligations of Federal Aid highway construction contract. Approval or acceptance of a training schedule shall be obtained from the Department prior to commencing work on the classifications covered by the program.

A voluntary On-The-Job Training Program is available to a Contractor which has been awarded a state funded project. Through this program, the Contractor will have the option to train employees on state funded projects for "banked credit" as discussed previously in this provision, to be utilized on subsequent Federal Aid Projects where training is required. Those Contractors availing themselves of this opportunity to train personnel on state funded projects and bank trainee hours for credit shall comply with all training criteria set forth in this Section for Federal Aid Projects; voluntary banking may be denied by the Department if staff is not available to monitor compliance with the training criteria.

It is the intention of these provisions that training is to be provided in the construction crafts rather than clerk-typists or secretarial type positions. Training is permissible in positions such as office engineers, estimators, etc., where the training is oriented toward construction applications. Training in the laborer classification may be permitted provided that significant and meaningful training is provided and approved by the District Contract Compliance Office. Some offsite training is permissible as long as the training is an integral part of an approved training program and does not compromise a significant part of the overall training.

When approved in advance by the District Contract Compliance Manager, credit will be given for training of persons in excess of the number specified herein under the current contract or a Contractor will be allowed to bank trainees who have successfully completed a training program and may apply those trainees to a training requirement in subsequent project(s) upon approval of the Department's District Contract Compliance Manager. This credit will be given even though the Contractor may receive training program funds from other sources, provided such other source do not specifically prohibit the Contractor from receiving other form of compensation. Credit for offsite training indicated above may only be made to the Contractor where he does one or more of the following and the trainees are concurrently employed on a Federal Aid Project; contributes to the cost of the training, provides the instruction to the trainee and pays the trainee's wages during the offsite training period.

No credit shall be given to the Contractor if either the failure to provide the required training, or the failure to hire the trainee as a journeyman for a period ample enough to allow the employee time to gain experience in the training classification or failure to continue training the employee time to gain experience in the training classifications is caused by the Contractor and evidences a lack of good faith on the part of the Contractor in meeting the requirements of this Section.

The Contractor shall compensate the trainee at no less than the laborer rate established in the Contract at the onset of training. This compensation rate will be increased to the journeyman's wage for that classification upon graduation from the training program.

The Contractor shall furnish the trainee a copy of the program he will follow in providing the training. The Contractor shall provide each trainee with a certification showing the type and length of training satisfactorily completed. The Contractor shall enroll a trainee in one training classification at a time to completion before the trainee can be enrolled in another classification on the same project.

The Contractor shall maintain records to document the actual hours each trainee is engaged in training on work being performed as a part of this Contract.

The Contractor shall submit to the District Contract Compliance Manager a copy of an On-The-Job Training Notification of Personnel Action form no later than seven days after the effective date of the action when the following occurs: a trainee is transferred on the project, transferred from the project to continue training on another contract, completes training, is upgraded to journeyman status or voluntarily terminates or is involuntary terminated from the project.

The Contractor shall furnish to the District Contract Compliance Manager a copy of a Monthly Time Report for each trainee. The Monthly Time Report for each month shall be submitted no later than the tenth day of the subsequent month. The Monthly Time Report shall indicate the phases and sub-phases of the number of hours devoted to each.

Highway or Bridge Carpenter Helper, Mechanic Helper, Rodman/Chainman, Timekeeper, trainees will not be approved for the On-The-Job Training Program.

Painters, Electricians, and Mechanics are identified as crafts under-utilized by minorities. All training classifications except Laborers are identified as under-utilized by females.

Priority selection should also include those crafts under-utilized and/or void of minorities and/or female by that particular company's workforce.

If the Contractor does not select a training classification that has been targeted as an under-utilized craft, and those classifications can be used for the selection of training for this project, the On-The-Job Training Schedule will not be approved unless written justification for exceptions is attached.