



Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

July 5, 2011

Monica Gourdine
Program Operations Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: Office of Design, Specifications
Section 007
Proposed Specification: 0070104 Legal Requirements and Responsibility to the Public

Dear Ms. Gourdine:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

The change is proposed by John Previte to clarify the use of the Department's Endangered Wildlife Guidelines when an endangered species is encountered on the project.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via Email to SP965RP or rudy.powell@dot.state.fl.us.

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call Rudy Powell, State Specifications Engineer at 414-4280.

Sincerely,

Rudy Powell, Jr., P.E.
State Specifications Engineer

RP/ft

Attachment

cc: Gregory Jones, Chief Civil Litigation
Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.
State Construction Engineer

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC.

(REV ~~11-24-106-28-11~~) (~~FA 1-21-11~~) (~~7-11~~)

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 (of the Supplemental Specifications) 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~~*are* 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:
[dwildlifeguidelines.pdf">http://www.dot.state.fl.us/specificationsoffice/Implemented/URLinSpecs/Files/endangeredwildlifeguidelines.pdf](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/specificationsoffice/Implemented/URLinSpecs/Files/endangere<span style=) .

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.

**LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC.
(REV 6-28-11)**

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 (of the Supplemental Specifications) 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 are 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:
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