LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC – LAWS TO BE OBSERVED - COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AND OTHER WILDLIFE REGULATIONS (FLORIDA SANDHILL CRANE).
(REV 7-11-23) (FA 11-6-23) (FY 2027-28)

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 is expanded by the following new Subarticle:

Florida sandhill crane nesting habitat is located within 400 feet of the project limits. Suitable nesting habitat and active nest locations from the most recent nesting season are shown in the Plans.

Provide notification to the Engineer at least 30 days prior to conducting project activities within 400 feet of suitable nesting habitat (shallow freshwater marshes with an average water depth from 5 to 13 inches). For work occurring during the breeding season (December 1 – August 30), the FDOT Monitor will conduct a survey and identify active nests locations within 5 days of survey completion.

Avoid project activities within 400 feet of active nests. Demarcate a 400 foot buffer around each active nest site clearly visible to all project personnel. Use material with an open design that allows ingress and egress for adult cranes and chicks. Do not use silt fence. Acceptable materials include 3-4-foot-tall stakes with a single line of string or rope, suspended at least 18 inches off the ground, or three strand barbed wire with the bottom wire at least 18 inches off the ground. Maintain the buffer until young are walking on their own as determined by the FDOT Monitor.

Construction activities more than 400 feet from an active nest may be conducted, at any time of year. When Florida sandhill cranes or flightless young are observed in these locations within the project area coordinate with the Engineer and the FDOT Monitor regarding work activities.

If new nests are discovered during work activities, report the nest location to the Engineer and FDOT monitor to obtain further direction. Report injured Florida sandhill cranes immediately to the FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at (888) 404-3922.