LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC – LAWS TO BE OBSERVED - COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AND OTHER WILDLIFE REGULATIONS (MANATEE).

(REV 5-13-20) (FA 6-29-20) (FY 2027-28)

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 is expanded by the following:

The Department has determined that the project occurs within the known habitat of manatees *(Trichechus manatus*).

The Department will provide instruction at a preconstruction meeting regarding:

1. The presence of the species and manatee speed zones.
2. The appearance, habits and biology of the species.
3. Their protected status.
4. The need to avoid collisions with and injury to the species.
5. The civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing these species.

Advise all work crews of this information.

Operate all vessels at "Idle Speed/No Wake" at all times while in the construction area and while in water where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. Follow routes of deep water whenever possible.

Do not dredge river bottom for barge access.

Lower all equipment or material to the mudline in a controlled descent. Do not allow freefall of any equipment or material below the water surface.

Use fenders or buoys to prevent entrapping manatees between vessels and other structures.

Maintain taut mooring lines. If slack remains in the line, sleeve the line with PVC.

Advise all on-site project personnel they are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatees. Follow the requirements posted in the URL address in Spec 7-1.4 when manatees are observed.

Except for projects in Bay, Escambia, Franklin, Gilchrist, Gulf, Jefferson, Lafayette, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee and Walton:

1. Sediment or turbidity barriers shall be made of material which manatees cannot become entangled, shall be secured, and shall be monitored to avoid manatee entanglement or entrapment. Barriers must not impede manatee movement.
2. Temporary signs concerning manatees shall be posted prior to and during all in-water project activities. All signs are to be removed by the Contractor upon completion of the project. Temporary signs that have already been approved for this use by the FWC must be used. One sign which reads "Caution: Boaters", must be posted in a location conspicuous to boating traffic. A second sign measuring at least 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches, explaining the requirements for "Idle Speed/No Wake" and the shutdown of in-water operations, must be posted in at least one location prominently visible to all onsite project personnel engaged in water-related activities. These signs can be viewed at: https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/wildlife/manatee/education-for-marinas/