LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC – LAWS TO BE OBSERVED - COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AND OTHER WILDLIFE REGULATIONS (SMALLTOOTH SAWFISH).
(REV 10-21-21) (FA 1-6-22) (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 smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*).

The Department will provide instruction at a preconstruction meeting regarding:

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

Advise all work crews of this information.

Provide sediment and turbidity barriers constructed of material in which a smalltooth sawfish cannot become entangled. Secure and monitor the sediment and turbidity barriers to avoid protected species entrapment. Sediment and turbidity barriers may not block smalltooth sawfish entry to or exit from designated critical habitat without prior approval of the Engineer and concurrence from the National Marine Fisheries Service's Protected Resources Division, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Operate all vessels at the minimum safe speed when transiting and maintain vigilant watch for smalltooth sawfish to avoid striking them. Operate at "Idle Speed/No Wake" speeds while in the construction area and in water depths where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom and in all depths after smalltooth sawfish has been observed and recently departed the area. Follow marked channels or routes of deep water whenever possible. Maintain a distance of 150 feet or greater between smalltooth sawfish and the vessel. When visibility is limited, assign a designated individual to observe for smalltooth sawfish and limit vessel operation to only daylight hours.

All on-site project personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of smalltooth sawfish. When smalltooth sawfish are observed, follow the smalltooth sawfish guidelines posted in the URL address in 7-1.4.