LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC – LAWS TO BE OBSERVED - COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT AND OTHER WILDLIFE REGULATIONS (STURGEON).
(REV 6-24-20) (FA 8-24-20) (FY 2027-28)

SUBARTICLE 7-1.4 is expanded by the following:

The Department has determined that the project occurs within the habitat of Atlantic, Gulf or Shortnose sturgeon.

The Department will provide instruction at a preconstruction meeting regarding:

1. The presence of the species.
2. The appearance, habits, biology, migratory patterns and preservation 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 these species.

Provide a spotter for the following:

Projects with Gulf sturgeon in estuarine/marine habitats from Tampa Bay Northward to Pensacola from November 1st through April 30th.

Projects with Gulf sturgeon in riverine habitats from March 1st through October 31st.

Projects with Atlantic and Shortnose sturgeon in all habitat types, from Cape Canaveral Northward to Jacksonville, year-round. During required timeframe, spotter will maintain constant surveillance for the species during in water work activities, which include pile driving, vessel operations, both motorized and non-motorized, and extending equipment or material in the water, and assure adherence to the requirements posted in the URL address in Spec 7-1.4.

Do not restrict passage for these fish.

Post signs on site warning of the presence of sturgeon and their federal protection.

Use floating turbidity barriers made of material which sturgeon cannot become entangled or entrapped. Properly secure, regularly monitor and maintain all deployed sediment and turbidity barriers. Immediately free sturgeon trapped in sediment or turbidity barriers.

Do not dredge the 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.