STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM

Environmental Evaluation Report

December 2015

Project Limits:

Districtwide Rest Areas

Polk County, Florida

FPID: 438096-1-52-01

Florida Department of Transportation
District One
801 North Broadway Avenue
Bartow, FL 33830

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01
FAP No. PARK 001 A
CE Number: ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d)_____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

Statewide COmmercial Vehicle Truck Parking System, I-4 Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46.

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining driver's decision making to park at approaching rest areas. A wireless presence detection system (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at both the EB and WB Rest Area at MM 46 to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure. The proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore from the EB truck parking facility to the WB truck parking facility within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW. The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs.

Note: The criteria below also consider the conditions listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e) for the CEs described in 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (27) and (28).

		YES	NO
1	Will the action cause major adverse impacts on travel patterns, planned growth, land use for the area or access control?	☐	☒
2	Will the action cause adverse impacts to air, noise or water quality?	☐	☒
3	Will the action cause wetland impacts that would require an individual Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	☐	☒
4	Will the action cause impacts to navigation that would require an individual U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Bridge Permit?	☐	☒
5	Will the action cause impacts greater than minimal floodplain encroachments, which will affect flood heights or base floodplain limits?	☐	☒
6	Will the action require construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of, or proposed for inclusion in, the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers (for 23 CFR 771.117 (c)(26), (27) and (28)?	☐	☒
7	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) "no involvement," (2) "no effect", or (3) with concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, a "may affect but not likely to adversely affect" determination concerning impacts to endangered and threatened species and/or their critical habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)-(d)?	☐	☒
8	Will the action require more than minor amounts of right-of-way and result in any residential or non-residential displacements?	☐	☒
9	Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303? [NOTE: If it has been determined that Section 4(f) is not applicable in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and Part 2, Chapter 13 of the PD&E Manual then the answer to this question is no.]	☐	☒

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

		YES	NO
10	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) no involvement, (2) "no effect," or (3) "no adverse effect" regarding properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act?	☐	☒
11	Does the action have known contamination sites which would have more than a minimal impact to design, and right-of-way or construction activities once assessed as described in Part 2, Chapter 22, Contamination Impacts of the PD&E Manual, and can't be avoided or remediated?	☐	☒
12	Will the action have substantial controversy on environmental grounds?	☐	☒

IMPORTANT: If all answers are **No**, the project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion and this checklist will be the NEPA document. If the answer to any of these questions is **Yes**, follow the Minor Categorical Exclusion Determination Key and coordinate with FHWA as appropriate.

This project has been evaluated and has been determined to meet the conditions as set forth in Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October 2015, as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

Signature: Gwen G. Pipkin Date: January 20, 2016

District Environmental Administrator or designee

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist.

- Field Review, January 14, 2016
- ETDM EST
- FWC Bald Eagle Nest Database
- FEMA Flood Maps

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01

Federal Aid No. PARK 001 A

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This project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 C.F.R. 771.117 and per Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October, 2015:

- ☒ A Type 1 Categorical Exclusion per ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d) _____ as determined on January 20, 2016
- ☐ A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion approved on _____

The final environmental document for this project was a (check one):

- ☐ A Finding of No Significant Impact under 23 C.F.R. 771.121 approved on _____
- ☐ A Record of Decision under 23 C.F.R. 771.127 approved on _____

A reevaluation in accordance with 23 C.F.R. 771.129 was (check one):

- ☐ Approved on _____
- ☐ Not required.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Signature: Gwen L. Pytkowski
Environmental Administrator or designee

Date: January 20, 2016

Centennial FDOT 1915 ★ 2015

Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

801 North Broadway
Bartow, FL 33830

JIM BOXOLD
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 20, 2016

To: Raj Ponnaluri – Project Manager

From: Gwen G. Pipkin - Environmental Administrator

Copies: Bernie Masing, Carl Spirio, Sharon Hedrick Harris, L. K. Nandam, Greg Bowne, Jon Sands, Bill Jones, Sara Stevenson, Tanya Merkel, Brent Setchell, Lori Carlton, Marlon Bizerra, Bill Hartmann, Jeffrey James, Doug Zang, Vivianne Cross, Norma Heberling, EMO file; Randy Cimini-Atkins

Subject:

Financial Project ID:	438096-1-52-01
Federal Project ID:	PARK 001 A
County/Section No:	Polk
Description:	Statewide Commercial Vehicle Truck Parking System, I-4 Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46.

This is a class of action determination for the subject project.

This project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c), effective October 30, 2015, for the following type of project action:

> 21. Deployment of electronics, photonics, communications, or information processing used singly or in combination, or as components of a fully integrated system, to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system or to enhance security or passenger convenience. Examples include, but are not limited to, traffic control and detector devices, lane management systems, electronic payment equipment, automatic vehicle locators, automated passenger counters, computer-aided dispatching systems, radio communications systems, dynamic message signs and security equipment including surveillance and detection cameras on roadways and in transit facilities and on buses.

It has been determined that the project will not cause significant adverse impacts to local traffic patterns, property access, community cohesiveness, planned community growth, wetlands, land use patterns, air quality, noise, water quality and navigation. It should be noted that the project is located within the US Fish and Wildlife Service Consultation Area for the caracara, snail kite, Florida grasshopper sparrow, Florida scrub jay and sand and blue-tailed mole skinks. The project is also located within the core foraging area for three wood stork nesting colonies. Section 7-1.4: Compliance with Federal Endangered Species Act and other Wildlife

Regulations of the *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* manual should be adhered to for wildlife involvement during construction. It has been determined that the project will not cause significant impacts to floodplains, endangered and threatened species or their critical habitats, and will not have significant contamination involvement. If work is conducted outside of the existing right-of-way, or if staging areas are located outside of the existing right-of-way, please contact the Environmental Management Office. It was concluded that no significant impacts would result from this project.

Additional right-of-way will not be required, and there will be no relocations. Properties protected under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act are not acquired or used. Properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are not affected. No public hearing is required.

Please note that projects which are determined to be Type 1 Categorical Exclusions are determined to have general Location and Design Concept Acceptance as described in 23 CFR 771.117(c). This office requests notification if the scope of the project changes at a later date. A copy of this Environmental Determination is available in the project files.

GGP/mr

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Central Office proposes a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system along Florida's interstates. This project will be delivered in two phases to provide full statewide public facility coverage of Florida's Interstate System. Phase I, which received an Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Project grant, will cover I-95 and I-4 and will be the first. Phase II will follow and complete the statewide deployment encompassing I-75 and I-10 public facilities.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Florida's Interstates are an essential economic link to the rest of the United States and for internal Florida trade. The corridors facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and enhance economic vitality. As they travel the nation's highways, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are faced with a number of operational and regulatory challenges including hours-of-service limitations, limited availability of parking at public and privately operated rest facilities, pressure resulting from just-in-time delivery schedules, and severe congestion in many urban areas and/or major truck corridors. These issues also impact the general motoring public, agencies that maintain and operate the transportation infrastructure, and private business, in terms of the safety, operational and economic implications they pose.

FDOT and its partners are providing an innovative program to achieve this strategic objective through the use of advanced technologies.

This project will provide reliable, real-time information about commercial vehicle availability to dispatchers and commercial vehicle drivers to allow for educated decisions to be made about parking at welcome centers, rest areas and weigh stations. At the rest areas and welcome centers, along limited access facilities, a wireless presence detection system will be installed to monitor available truck parking availability. At the weigh stations, vehicle classification equipment will be utilized to monitor the ingress and egress of vehicles at the facility. Both systems will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via the existing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure with Sunguide(r) Software performing the necessary algorithms to determine the number of available parking spaces. This information will be conveyed to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This Environmental Evaluation Memorandum addresses environmentally sensitive areas within the Phase 1 sites of the proposed project. A separate Environmental Evaluation Memorandum will address the environmental sensitive areas within the Phase II sites along I-75 and I-10 when design and construction funding becomes available.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

Truck parking on Florida's Interstate roadways can overflow onto rest area ramps, freeway ramps and shoulders, and adjacent roads. This overflow creates safety concerns for other motorists and for the commercial vehicle operators along the corridor. Expansion of the rest areas to accommodate the need for more truck parking is costly. Rather than building more parking spaces, FDOT has undertaken a project to evaluate if existing spaces along the corridor can be more efficiently utilized through better communication of parking availability to the trucking community. Identifying available parking that provides safe alternatives for the overflow and communicating that information to commercial vehicle operators are the primary needs to be addressed by this project.

The functions of FDOT's Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) are:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution
- Provide a secure solution that protects user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance of the system for truck parking decisions.

The TPAS will include capabilities to measure truck parking availability at public rest areas and weigh stations. FDOT will be responsible for collecting truck parking availability information at the public rest areas welcome centers and weigh stations. Truck parking availability information will be shown on Dynamic Message Signs, and the information will be disseminated over the Internet, via a smart phone application and/or dedicated FDOT website.

2.0 EXISTING FACILITY & PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Two rest areas along I-4 are within the FDOT District 1 jurisdictional boundary and will be improved with TPAS technology. Rest Area 10201 (19) Eastbound (EB) at Mile Marker (MM) 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) Westbound (WB) at MM 46 are located along I-4, between County Road (C.R.) 557 and Route 557A within Polk County, Florida. The rest areas are reachable via access roads from the EB or WB traffic lanes of I-4 and are approximately within half a mile of each other.

Figure 1 shows a Location Map of the FDOT District 1 Polk County rest areas.

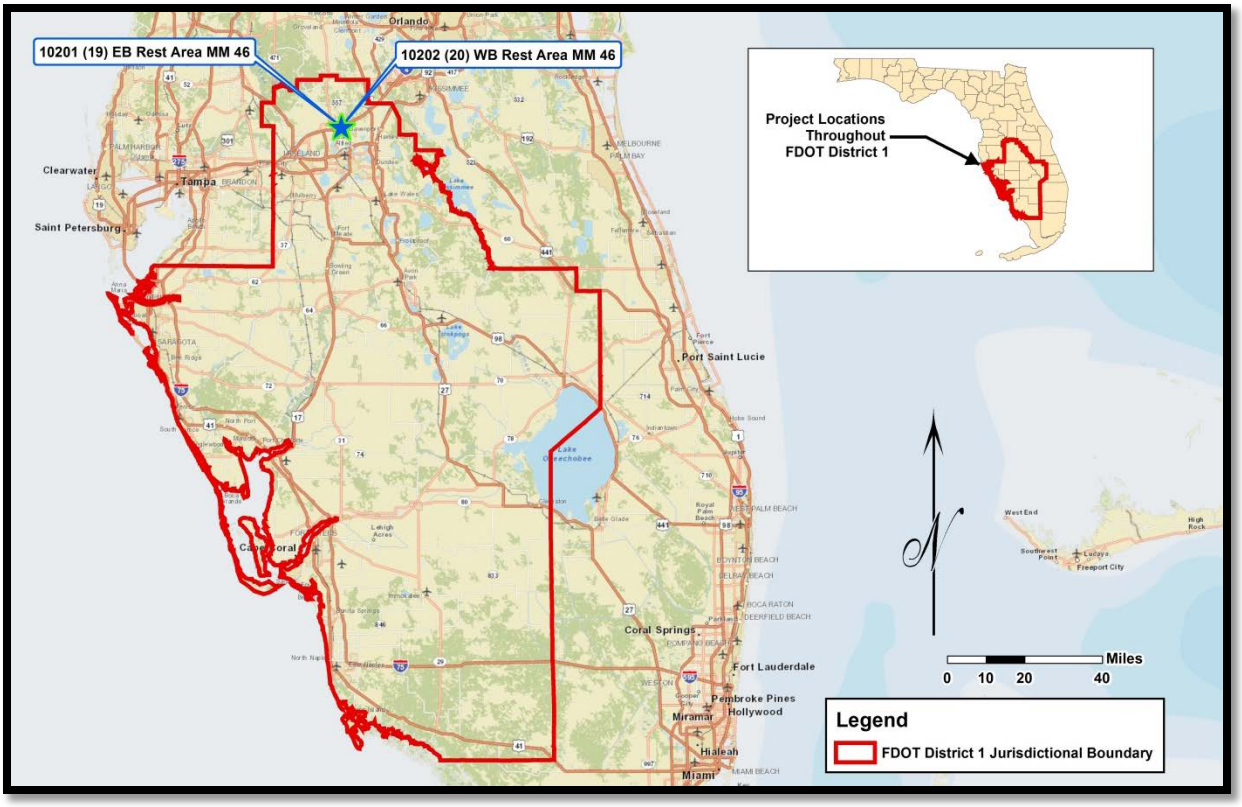


Figure 1: FDOT District 1 Location Map

2.1 Existing Conditions

An analysis of Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46 revealed many similarities between the two project sites due to their close proximity. Both sites are located east of the City of Auburndale, primarily surrounded by undeveloped wetland and agricultural lands. Both sites are accompanied by on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 2 below shows an aerial of the Polk County rest areas.

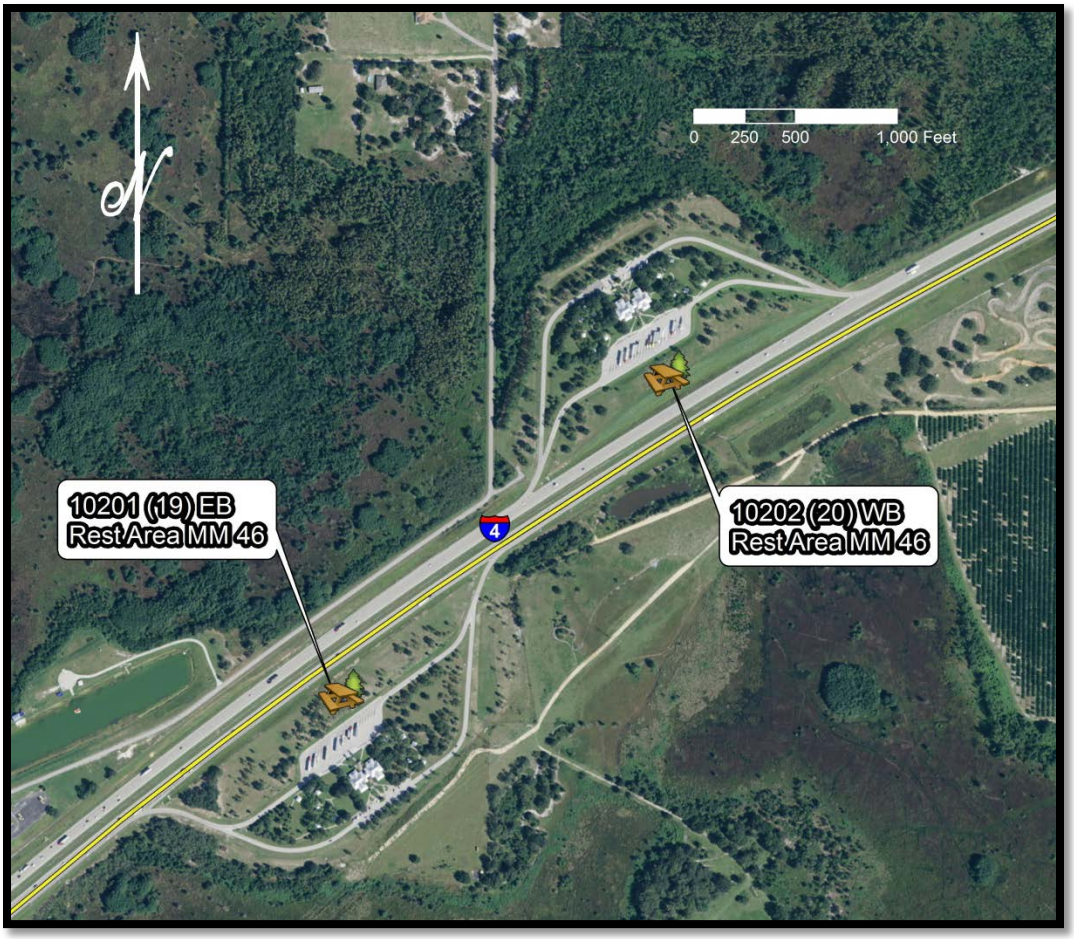


Figure 2: Aerial of Polk County Rest Areas

2.2 Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining the driver's decision making in regards to parking at approaching rest areas or weigh stations. A wireless presence detection system (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at both the EB and WB Rest Area at MM 46 to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. The proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore from the EB truck parking facility to the WB truck parking facility within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT right-of –way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Survey Methodology

Literature reviews and database searches of the study areas within FDOT District 1's jurisdictional boundaries were conducted in an effort to identify environmentally sensitive regions within the project area.

Literature review consisted of the following information:

- Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM), Environmental Screening Tool (EST) databases
- 1990 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Polk County Soil Survey
- 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook, Fourth Edition
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- 1979 FWS Classification System of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.)
- Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) World Imagery
- 2008 South Florida Water Management District Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Eagle Nest Database Locator
- USFWS Consultation Areas
- USFWS Wood Stork Rookeries and Core Foraging Area
- Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL)

Although this project was not processed through FDOT's ETDM EST, the EST was used as primary source of information to screen this project. The EST as well as various other Geographic Information System (GIS) and literature reviews were used to perform a desktop analysis of the proposed project.

3.2 Existing Land Use

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46 are located along the I-4 corridor in Polk County and consist of developed transportation facilities with access roads from limited access I-4. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest area facilities is characterized as upland communities consisting of sodded, mowed and maintained grass with scattered planted pine trees (*Pinus sp.*) and oak trees (*Quercus sp.*). The habitat surrounding the facilities consists of agriculture, cropland, pastureland,

freshwater emergent wetlands, freshwater forested/shrub wetlands, and low density residential development.

Adjacent to the I-4 corridor, within FDOT ROW between the interstate and the rest areas, are roadside open cut ditch systems which appear to be well maintained and actively mowed. The dry retention ponds facilitate the rest area's drainage per Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) No. 41012956.000 and 40012967.000.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 3 below depicts the existing general land uses of the Polk County rest areas.

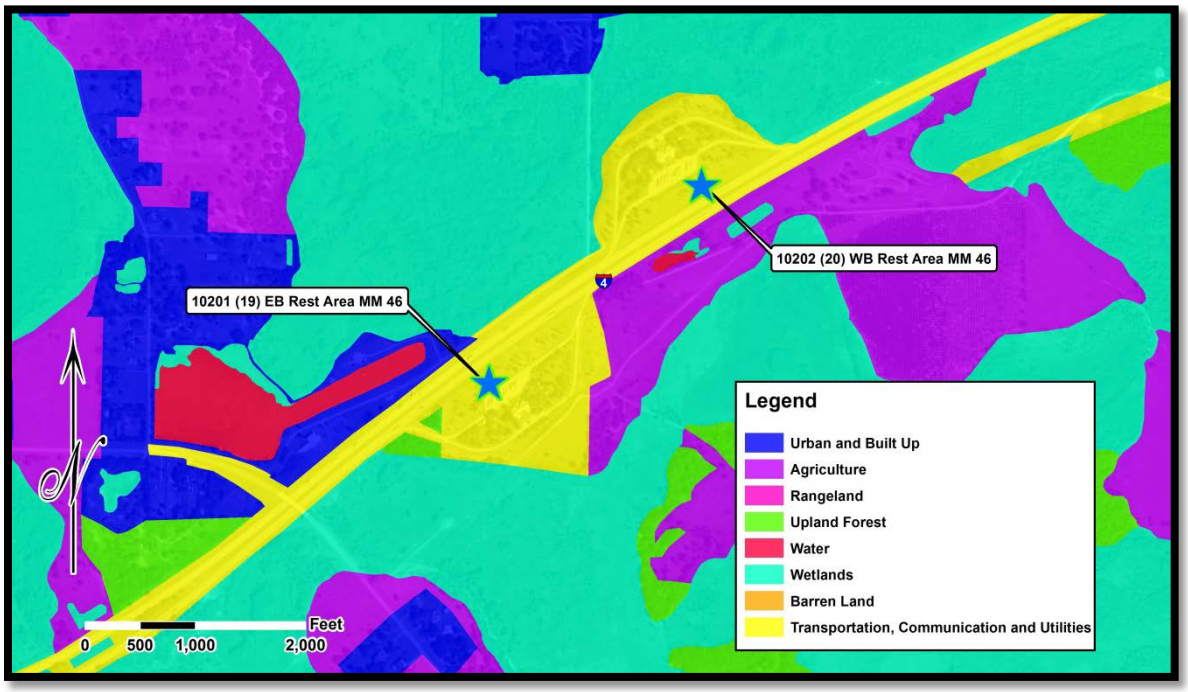


Figure 3: Existing Land Use

3.3 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

Review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) database revealed no EFH located within the project limits.

3.4 Floodplain

Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46 are located entirely within flood zone X. Flood zone X defines areas that are determined to be outside of the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, have minimal flood hazards. Appendix A includes the

respective Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone map for this assessment area.

3.5 Soils

The Polk County soil survey from the USDA NRCS was consulted for the project vicinity and five soils were identified within the project area. According to the 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook (Fourth Edition), one of these soil types is classified as a hydric soil. Although a soil may be listed as hydric within the Hydric Soils Handbook based on hydric soil criteria, many factors are considered including climate, drainage features, the inclusion of non-hydric soil types, and landscape position. The soils identified within the project area have not been field verified and hydric soil identifications should be finalized during design and permitting.

Figure 4 below shows the project area's soil distribution.

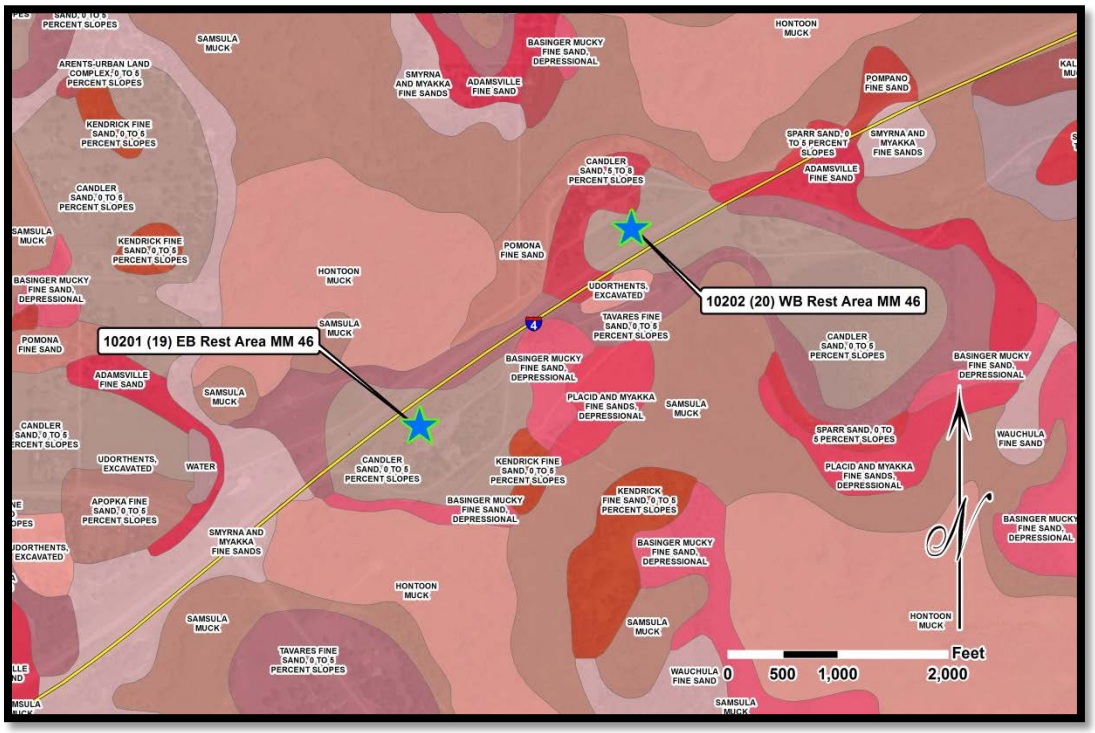


Figure 4: USDA NRCS Soil Map

These soils names, corresponding hydrologic soil groups and soil descriptions within the project area can be found below.

Candler Sand, 0 to 5% Slopes, (A) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as excessively drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent material is Eolian deposits or sandy and loamy marine deposits found on knolls or ridges

on marine terraces. The typical profile commonly contains a sand layer up to 80-inches deep. The seasonal high ground water table (SHGWT) would usually be found below this sand layer. These soils are also frequently found among Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills or in regions of sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.

Candler Sand, 5 to 8% Slopes, (A) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and excessively drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent materials are Eolian deposits or sandy and loamy marine deposits found on knolls or ridges on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a sand layer up to 80-inches deep. The SHGWT is normally expected to be located just below this sand layer. These soils are also frequently found among Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills or in regions of sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.

Pomona Fine Sand, (A/D) – This soil type is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and has high runoff potential. This soil is not commonly associated with prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from fine sand at the surface to loamy sand around a depth of 73 to 80-inches. The SHGWT could be located approximately 0 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also generally found among south Florida flatwoods or within regions of sandy soils found on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

Tavares Fine Sand, 0 – 5% Slopes, (A) – This soil type is classified as hydric soil and is characterized as moderately well drained. This soil is commonly associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent materials are Eolian deposits or sandy marine deposits found on knolls or ridges on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer up to 80-inches deep. The SHGWT could be located approximately 42 to 72-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills or in regions of sandy soils on rises, knolls, and ridges of mesic uplands.

Samsula Muck, (A/D) – This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2% and is considered to be nearly level. This soil is not commonly associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is herbaceous organic material over sandy marine deposits found within depressions on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from a layer of muck at the surface to sand around a depth of 31 to 80-inches. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected at or just below ground level. These soils are also generally found within freshwater marshes and ponds or among other organic soils within depressions and on flood plains.

3.6 Protected Species Habitat

A desktop analysis of the project area was conducted in an effort to identify the presence of federal or state protected species or their habitat within the proposed project limits. The proposed project is located within the USFWS Consultation Area for several federally protected species. Potential habitat for state protected species exists as well. Anticipated effects of the proposed project on listed species can be found in the following descriptions.

3.6.1 Federally-Protected Species

The **Audubon's crested caracara** *(Caracara cheriway audubonii)* is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS. The caracara is a resident, non-migratory raptor species in Florida. This species is typically found nesting in cabbage palms surrounded by open habitats of low density groundcover, but may also be found is sparsely wooded areas. The proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of caracara as suitable habitat is not present. Additionally, no nests have been documented within the limits of the project area. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have no effect on the crested caracara.

The **Eastern Indigo Snake** (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS due to loss or degradation of habitat and human intervention. The species is found in a variety of habitats including swamps, wet prairies, xeric pinelands and scrub areas. It may utilize gopher tortoise burrows for shelter during the winter and to escape the heat during the summer. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction. Based on a desktop analysis of the project area, it was determined that this species has moderate potential of occurrence within the project. The project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the Eastern indigo snake.

The **Florida grasshopper sparrow** *(Ammodramus savannarum floridanaus)* is listed as an endangered species by the USFWS. The Florida grasshopper sparrow requires large areas of frequently burned dry prairie habitat, with patchy open areas sufficient for foraging; however, this species may persist in pasture lands that have not been intensively managed. The Florida grasshopper sparrow generally avoids forested edges and uses the centers of open landscapes. The proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of Florida grasshopper sparrows as suitable habitat is not present. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have no effect on the Florida grasshopper sparrow.

Florida Scrub Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) is similar in size and shape to the blue jay, but the scrub jay lacks the crest and white spotting on its wings and tail. This species is listed as threatened by the USFWS. Optimal scrub-jay habitat consists of low growing, scattered scrub canopy species with patches of bare sandy soil such as those found in sand pine scrub, xeric oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and scrubby coastal strand habitats. In areas where these types of habitats are unavailable, Florida scrub jays may be found in less optimal habitats such as pine flatwoods with scattered oaks. The project does not contain suitable scrub habitat for this

species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the Florida scrub jay.

The **Sand Skink** (*Plestiodon reynoldsi*) and **Blue-tailed Mole Skink** (*Plestiodon egregious lividus*) are listed as threatened by the USFWS due to severe population declines and habitat degradation. These species occur on Florida's central ridges from Marion County south to Highlands County and at elevations of 82-feet or more above sea level (USFWS, 2012). Limited information is known about sand skink dispersal and no information is available on blue-tailed mole skink dispersal. Only sand skinks leave visible signs (tracks) on sandy soil surfaces. Therefore, for practical purposes, the occurrence of sand skinks is used as an indicator of blue-tailed mole skinks as well. Principal habitat for these species includes pine and oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods and turkey oak ridges with excessively drained, well drained or moderately drained soils. Skinks may also use disturbed habitat such as edges of citrus groves, open fields and pastures. These species require loose sand (for burrowing) with large areas of little to no groundcover. The entire EB and WB rest areas are located within the USFWS consultation area for the sand and blue-tailed mole skink, within suitable soils for these species and are located at elevations of 82-feet or more above sea level. When the location, elevation and soil type are present and a proposed action may disturb the soils on-site, the USFWS 2012 Peninsular Florida Species Conservation and Consultation Guide for the Sand Skink and Blue-tailed (Bluetail) Mole Skink must be adhered to. A field survey is required to determine if suitable habitat exists for the sand and blue-tailed mole skinks.

If surveys are required, they are performed between March 1st and May 15$^{th.}$ Sampling must be completed once per week, at a minimum of four times during four consecutive weeks within the survey time period to presume that skinks are not present. Once tracks are observed, the survey can be concluded. If skink tracks are observed during the survey period and soil disturbance is proposed, compensatory mitigation will likely be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the USFWS is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.

Figure 5 shows the layout of suitable sand skink soils associated with these rest areas.

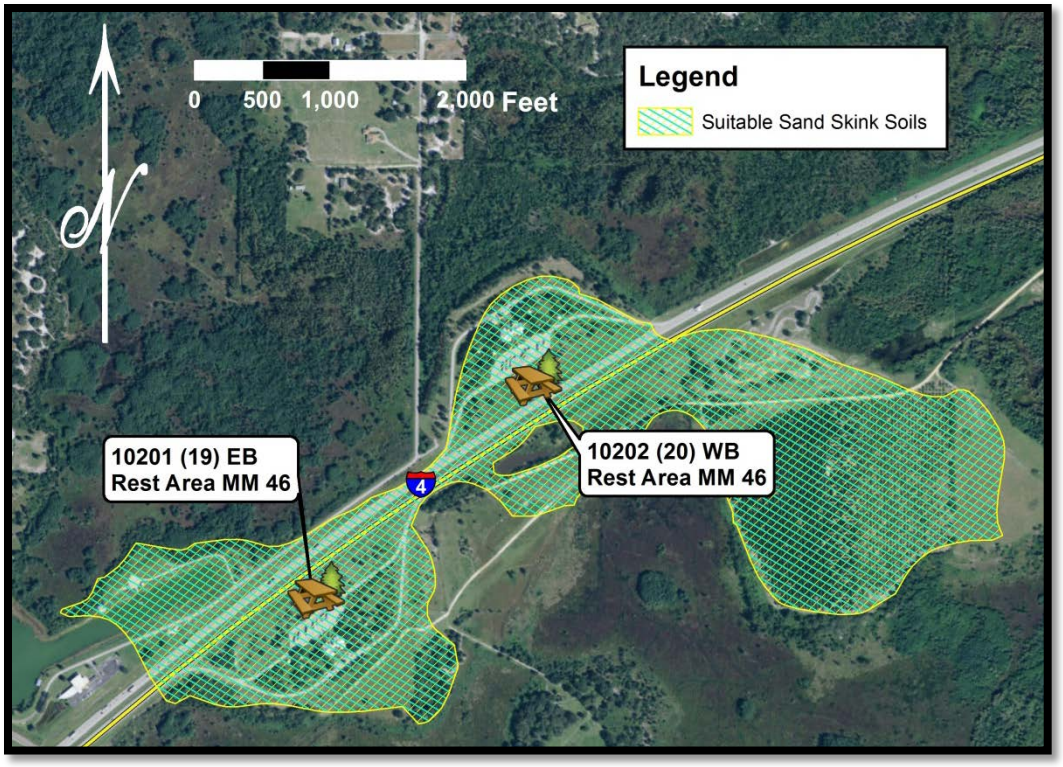


Figure 5: Suitable Sand Skink Soils

The **Snail Kite** (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) is listed as endangered by the USFWS. This species is uniquely adapted to forage almost exclusively on freshwater apple snails. They are dependent of large open freshwater marshes and lakes with shallow water, less than four-feet deep which contain low density emergent vegetation. No wetland habitat is present within the project for this species. Therefore, it anticipated that the project will have no effect on the snail kite.

The **Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) is listed as threatened by the USFWS. This wading bird species is opportunistic, utilizing various habitats including mixed hardwood swamps, man-made wetlands, sloughs, tidal creeks, and mangroves for foraging. The project is located within the wood stork core foraging area (CFA) (18.6-miles) of three nesting colonies: #616117, Lake John and Lone Palm. As defined by the USFWS, Suitable Foraging Habitat (SFH) includes wetlands and surface waters which have areas of water that are relatively calm, uncluttered by dense thickets of aquatic vegetation and have permanent or seasonal water depth between two and 15-inches. No SFH is located within the limits of the proposed improvements. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on SFH for the wood stork.

Figure 6 below depicts wood stork nesting colonies and CFA within the vicinity of the project study area.

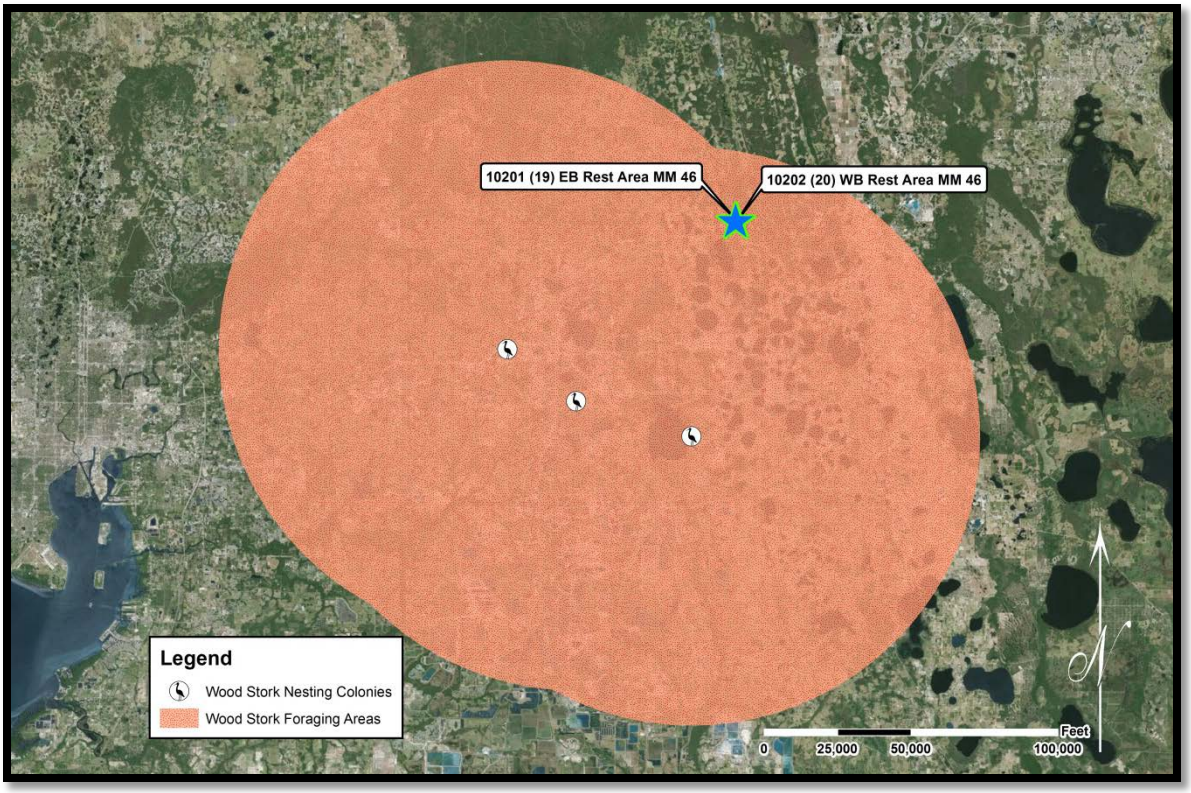


Figure 6: Wood Stork Habitat

3.6.2 State-Protected Species

The **Sherman's Fox Squirrel** (*Sciurus niger shermani*) is listed as a species of special concern by the FWC. This species prefers high pine sandhills, pine flatwoods, pastures and other open, ruderal habitats with scattered pines and oaks. Although the facilities contain planted pine trees throughout, the proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of the Sherman's Fox Squirrel. The proposed project is anticipated to have no effect on the Sherman's Fox Squirrel.

The **Gopher Tortoise** (*Gopherus polyphemus*), **Gopher Frog** (*Lithobates capito*), **Florida Pine Snake** (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitis*), and **Florida Mouse** (*Podomys floridanus*) may potentially occur within the project areas. The gopher tortoise is currently listed as a candidate species with the USFWS and listed as threatened by the FWC. Due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is declining in numbers. This species requires well drained and loose sandy soils for burrowing and low-growing herbs and grasses for foraging. These habitat conditions are best found in sandhill communities, although tortoises are known to use a wide variety of habitats including sand pine scrub, xeric oak hammocks, dry prairies, pine flatwoods as well as ruderal sites such as pastures. Gopher tortoise burrows are frequently used by commensal species including the Florida mouse, gopher frog and Florida pine snake, all of which are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Suitable habitat for these species may be present within the limits of the proposed improvements. Current FWC regulations require a

gopher tortoise relocation permit for any ground disturbance activity occurring within 25-feet of a potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrow. Therefore, a field survey of the project study area is required prior to construction. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC or avoiding construction at a minimum of 25-feet from the burrow opening will be required. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction.

3.6.3 Non-Listed Protected Species

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is no longer listed as a threatened species by the USFWS but is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended. In addition, the FWC has implemented a bald eagle management plan, adopted April 2008. The bald eagle prefers riparian habitat associated with coastal areas, lake shores or rivers. It nests near water bodies which provide a dependable source of food. The locations of eagle nests throughout the state are closely monitored by the FWC each nesting season. The most recent data available for the nest locations is from the 2013-2014 nesting season. One active nest, PO051, is located approximately 2 ¼ miles northwest of the two rest areas. The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within the 660-foot of the proposed construction area, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan shall be followed

3.6.4 Critical Habitat

The project ROW was assessed for Critical Habitat (CH) designated by Congress in 17 CFR 35.1532. Review of the USFWS's available GIS data for CH resulted in the identification of no Critical Habitats.

3.7 Cultural & Historic Resources

A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was completed for Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB at MM 46 in 1991 (A Cultural Resources Survey of Two I-4 Rest Areas in Polk County, Florida - 1991 [Manuscript #3079]). Based on a desktop analysis of the proposed project and vicinity, there are no historic resources documented within the study area. According to the ETDM EST, there are several prehistoric archaeological sites identified within the limits of rest areas; however, these sites are not directly within the vicinity of the proposed improvements. These prehistoric archaeological sites are documented as ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) because they lack contributing significance to historic or archaeological integrity. No impacts to cultural or historic resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed improvements.

3.8 Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) is part of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 which limits the use of publicly owned lands from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of

national, state or local significance. The project site and vicinity were evaluated in an effort to determine if Section 4(f) applies. A Florida Forever Board of Trustees (BOT) property, Green Swamp – Peace River Headwaters, is located north and south of I-4 surrounding the EB and WB rest areas. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

4.0 CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed improvements to Rest Area 10201 (19) EB at MM 46 and Rest Area 10202 (20) WB Rest Area at MM 46 include the installation of a wireless presence detection system (sensors) within existing paved truck parking spaces at both the EB and WB Rest Area at MM 46 to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. A proposed ITS conduit will be installed within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW via open trench or directional bore methods from the EB truck parking facility to the WB truck parking facility.

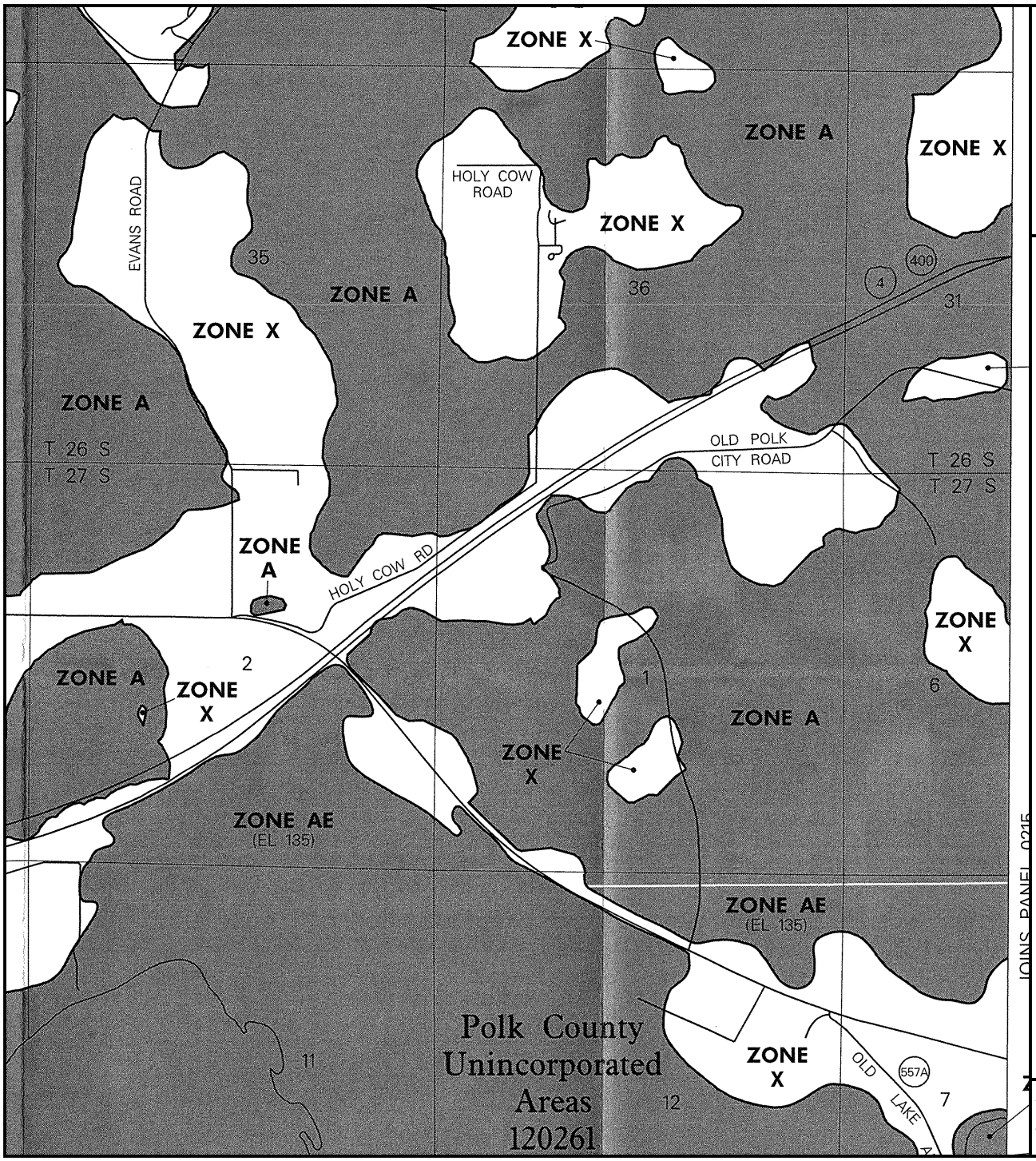
Database searches and literature reviews were conducted to determine impacts to the environment from the proposed improvements. As a result, the following has been concluded:

- Potential habitat exists for the Eastern Indigo Snake. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction.
- The rest areas as well as the FDOT ROW adjacent to I-4 are located within the USFWS consultation area for the sand and blue-tailed mole skinks. The sites are also mapped as suitable soils for these species and are located at elevations of 82-feet or more above sea level. The USFWS 2012 Peninsular Florida Species Conservation and Consultation Guide for the Sand Skink and Blue-tailed (Bluetail) Mole Skink must be adhered to prior to construction. A field survey is required to determine if suitable habitat exists for the sand and blue-tailed mole skinks. If surveys are required, they are performed between March 1st and May 15$^{th.}$ Sampling is completed once per week at a minimum of four times during four consecutive weeks within the survey time period to presume that skinks are not present. Once tracks are observed, the survey can be concluded. If skink tracks are observed during the survey period and soil disturbance is proposed, compensatory mitigation will likely be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the USFWS is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.
- Potential habitat exists for the gopher tortoise and gopher tortoise commensal species. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction. A field survey of the project study area and any proposed staging sites is required prior to construction to document the presence of potentially occupied gopher

tortoise burrows. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC may be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the FWC is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.

- The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within 660-feet of the proposed construction area or staging sites, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan and USFWS 2007 Bald Eagle Monitoring Guidelines must be adhered to.
- A Section 4(f) resource, Green Swamp – Peace River Headwaters is located adjacent to the EB and WB rest areas. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

Appendix A:
FEMA Floodplain Map



APPROXIMATE SCALE

2000 0 2000 FEET

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

POLK COUNTY,
FLORIDA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 200 OF 1025

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR PANELS NOT PRINTED)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
POLK CITY, TOWN OF	120665	0200	F
POLK COUNTY	120261	0200	F

Notice to User: The MAP NUMBER shown below should be used when placing map orders; the COMMUNITY NUMBER shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12105C0200 F

EFFECTIVE DATE:
DECEMBER 20, 2000

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Appendix B:
Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11" x 17" or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Taking" of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. "Take" is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of $25,000 for civil violations and up to $50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A <u>LIVE</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A <u>DEAD</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.

2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.

3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).

2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.

3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.

STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM

Environmental Evaluation Report

December 2015

Project Limits:

Districtwide Welcome Center, Rest Areas and Weigh Stations

Nassau and St. Johns Counties, Florida

FPID: 438096-1-52-01

Florida Department of Transportation
District Two
1109 South Marion Avenue
Lake City, Florida 32025

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-5201

Federal Aid No. PARK-001-A

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM
Districtwide Welcome Center, Rest Areas and Weight Stations
Nassau and St. Johns Counties, FL
Pete Vega, D2 Project Manager

This project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 C.F.R. 771.117 and per Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October, 2015:

- ☒ A Type 1 Categorical Exclusion per ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d) _____ as determined on _____
- ☐ A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion approved on _____

The final environmental document for this project was a (check one):

- ☐ A Finding of No Significant Impact under 23 C.F.R. 771.121 approved on _____
- ☐ A Record of Decision under 23 C.F.R. 771.127 approved on _____

A reevaluation in accordance with 23 C.F.R. 771.129 was (check one):

- ☐ Approved on _____
- ☐ Not required.

Signature: Peter R. Southall
Environmental Administrator or designee

Date: 1-12-2016

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

650-050-12
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
10/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-5201
FAP No. PARK-001-A
CE Number: ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d)_____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM
Districtwide Welcome Center, Rest Areas and Weight Stations
Nassau and St. Johns Counties, FL
Pete Vega, D2 Project Manager

Note: The criteria below also consider the conditions listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e) for the CEs described in 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (27) and (28).

		YES	NO
1	Will the action cause major adverse impacts on travel patterns, planned growth, land use for the area or access control?	☐	☒
2	Will the action cause adverse impacts to air, noise or water quality?	☐	☒
3	Will the action cause wetland impacts that would require an individual Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	☐	☒
4	Will the action cause impacts to navigation that would require an individual U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Bridge Permit?	☐	☒
5	Will the action cause impacts greater than minimal floodplain encroachments, which will affect flood heights or base floodplain limits?	☐	☒
6	Will the action require construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of, or proposed for inclusion in, the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers (for 23 CFR 771.117 (c)(26), (27) and (28)?	☐	☒
7	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) "no involvement," (2) "no effect", or (3) with concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, a "may affect but not likely to adversely affect" determination concerning impacts to endangered and threatened species and/or their critical habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)-(d)?	☐	☒
8	Will the action require more than minor amounts of right-of-way and result in any residential or non-residential displacements?	☐	☒
9	Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303? [NOTE: If it has been determined that Section 4(f) is not applicable in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and Part 2, Chapter 13 of the PD&E Manual then the answer to this question is no.]	☐	☒

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

		YES	NO
10	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) no involvement, (2) "no effect," or (3) "no adverse effect" regarding properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act?	☐	☒
11	Does the action have known contamination sites which would have more than a minimal impact to design, and right-of-way or construction activities once assessed as described in Part 2, Chapter 22, Contamination Impacts of the PD&E Manual, and can't be avoided or remediated?	☐	☒
12	Will the action have substantial controversy on environmental grounds?	☐	☒

IMPORTANT: If all answers are **No**, the project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion and this checklist will be the NEPA document. If the answer to any of these questions is **Yes**, follow the Minor Categorical Exclusion Determination Key and coordinate with FHWA as appropriate.

This project has been evaluated and has been determined to meet the conditions as set forth in Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October 2015, as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

Signature: Peter D. Southall Date: 1-12-2016

District Environmental Administrator or designee

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist.

- Environmental Evaluation Report
- _____
- _____
- _____

Table of Contents

List of Figures

Appendices

Appendix A – FEMA Floodplain Map
Appendix B – Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Central Office proposes a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system along Florida's interstates. This project will be delivered in two phases to provide full statewide public facility coverage of Florida's Interstate System. Phase I, which received an Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Project grant, will cover I-95 and I-4 and will be deployed first. Phase II will follow and complete the statewide deployment encompassing I-75 and I-10 public facilities.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Florida's Interstates are an essential economic link to the rest of the United States and for internal Florida trade. The corridors facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and enhance economic vitality. As they travel the nation's highways, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are faced with a number of operational and regulatory challenges including hours-of-service limitations, limited availability of parking at public and privately operated rest facilities, pressure resulting from just-in-time delivery schedules, and severe congestion in many urban areas and/or major truck corridors. These issues also impact the general motoring public, agencies that maintain and operate the transportation infrastructure, and private business, in terms of the safety, operational and economic implications they pose.

FDOT and its partners are providing an innovative program to achieve this strategic objective through the use of advanced technologies.

This project will provide reliable, real-time information about commercial vehicle availability to dispatchers and commercial vehicle drivers to allow for educated decisions to be made about parking at welcome centers, rest areas and weigh stations. At the rest areas and welcome centers along limited access facilities, a wireless presence detection system will be installed to monitor truck parking availability. At the weigh stations, vehicle classification equipment will be utilized to monitor the ingress and egress of vehicles at the facility. Both systems will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via the existing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure with Sunguide(r) Software performing the necessary algorithms to determine the number of available parking spaces. This information will be conveyed to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This Environmental Evaluation Memorandum addresses environmentally sensitive areas within the Phase I sites of the proposed project. A separate Environmental Evaluation Memorandum will address the environmental sensitive areas within the Phase II sites along I-75 and I-10 when design and construction funding becomes available.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

Truck parking on Florida's Interstate roadways can overflow onto rest area ramps, freeway ramps and shoulders, and adjacent roads. This overflow creates safety concerns for other motorists and for the commercial vehicle operators along the corridor. Expansion of the rest areas to accommodate the need for more truck parking is costly. Rather than building more parking spaces, FDOT has undertaken a project to evaluate if existing spaces along the corridor can be more efficiently utilized through better communication of parking availability to the trucking community. Identifying available parking that provides safe alternatives for the overflow and communicating that information to commercial vehicle operators are the primary needs to be addressed by this project.

The functions of FDOT's Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) are:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution
- Provide a secure solution that protects user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance of the system for truck parking decisions.

The TPAS will include capabilities to measure truck parking availability at public rest areas and weigh stations. FDOT will be responsible for collecting truck parking availability information at the public rest areas, welcome centers and weigh stations. Truck parking availability information will be shown on Dynamic Message Signs, and the information will be disseminated over the Internet, via a smart phone application and/or dedicated FDOT website.

2.0 EXISTING FACILITY & PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

One welcome center, two weigh stations and four rest areas are located within the FDOT District 2 jurisdictional boundaries. All sites are located along I-95 within unincorporated Nassau and St. Johns Counties, Florida and are accessible via access roads from I-95's northbound (NB) and southbound (SB) lanes.

Figure 1 shows a location map of the welcome center, weigh stations and rest areas associated with the proposed improvements.

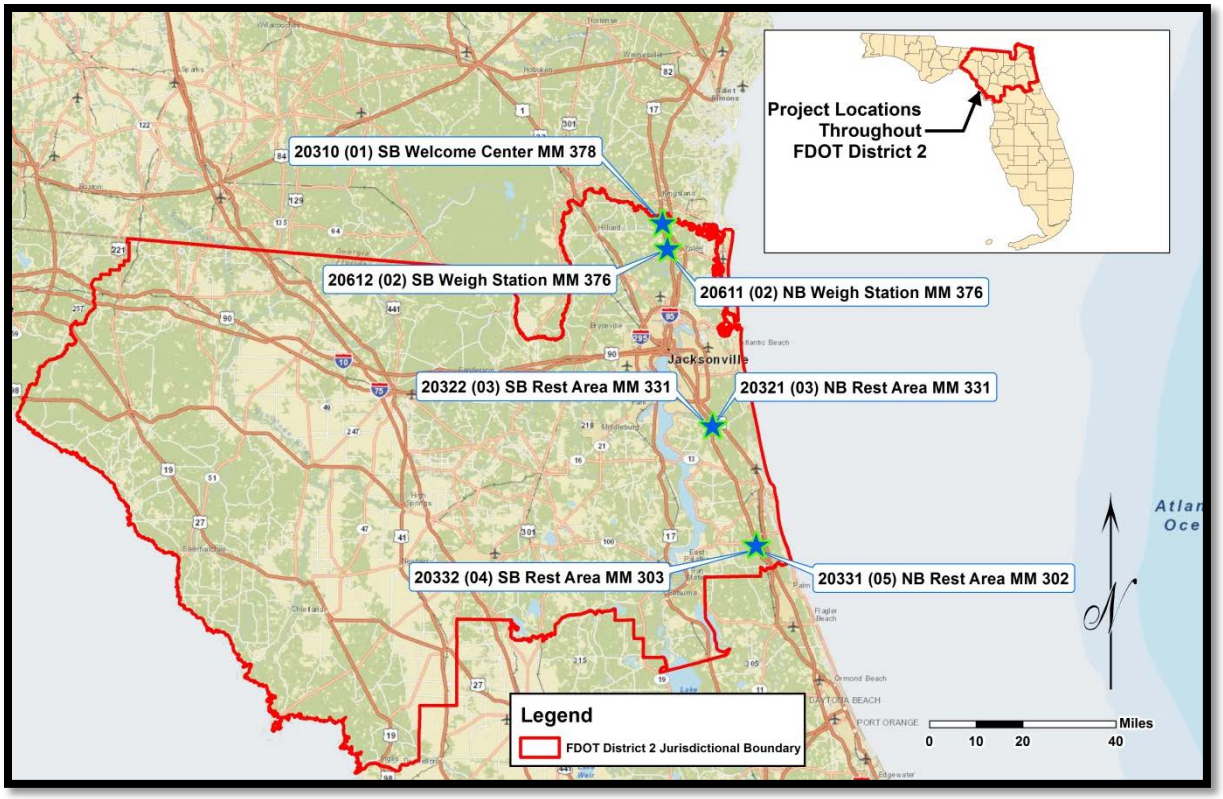


Figure 1: FDOT District 2 Location Map

2.1 Existing Conditions

2.1.1 Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378

The I-95 Florida Welcome Center at Mile Marker (MM) 378 is located approximately 3 miles south of the Florida state line along SB I-95 in Nassau County. The Welcome Center is primarily surrounded by undeveloped upland habitat which includes both pine flatwoods and planted pines (silviculture). The facility consists of ingress/egress access roads via adjacent limited access facilities, truck and car parking, the welcome center building, comfort stations, and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks.

2.1.2 Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376

An analysis of Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376 revealed similarities in the existing conditions of the two sites. The sites are located along I-95, south of CR 108 in Nassau County. The sites are surrounded by planted pine trees and forested wetland communities. The sites consist of ingress/egress access roads, truck parking, two buildings per site and wet detention stormwater ponds.

Figure 2 is an aerial location map of Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378, Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376.

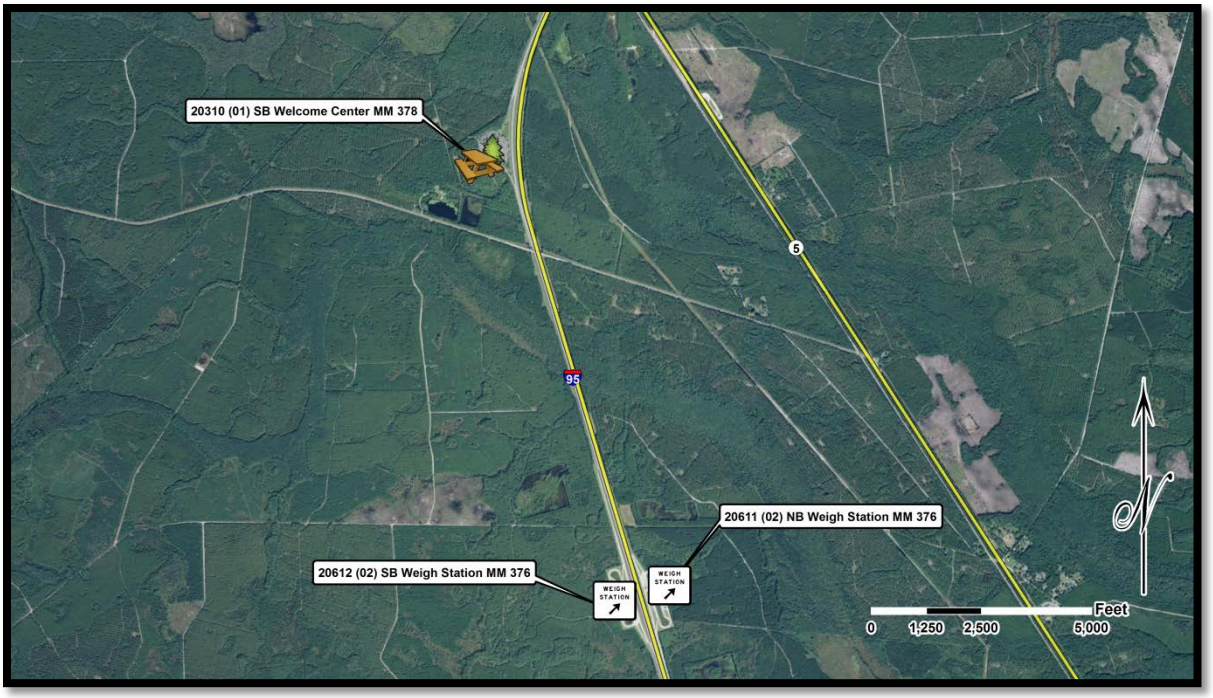


Figure 2: Aerial of Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378, Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376

2.1.3 Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331

An analysis of Rest Areas 20321 (03) NB and 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 revealed similarities in the existing conditions of the two sites. The sites are located along I-95, south of Race Track Road in St. Johns County. The sites are surrounded by planted pine trees and forested wetland communities. Both sites consist of ingress/egress access roads via I-95, truck parking, car parking, comfort stations and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks. Wet detention stormwater facilities are located within the limits of the rest areas.

Figure 3 is an aerial location map of Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB MM at 331.

Figure 3: Aerial of Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331

2.1.5 Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303

Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303 are located approximately 1 mile from one another, along I-95, south of SR 206. The sites are surrounded by planted pines trees, pine flatwoods and palmetto prairie. The sites consist of ingress/egress access roads via I-95, truck parking, car parking, comfort stations and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks.

Figure 4 is an aerial location map of Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303

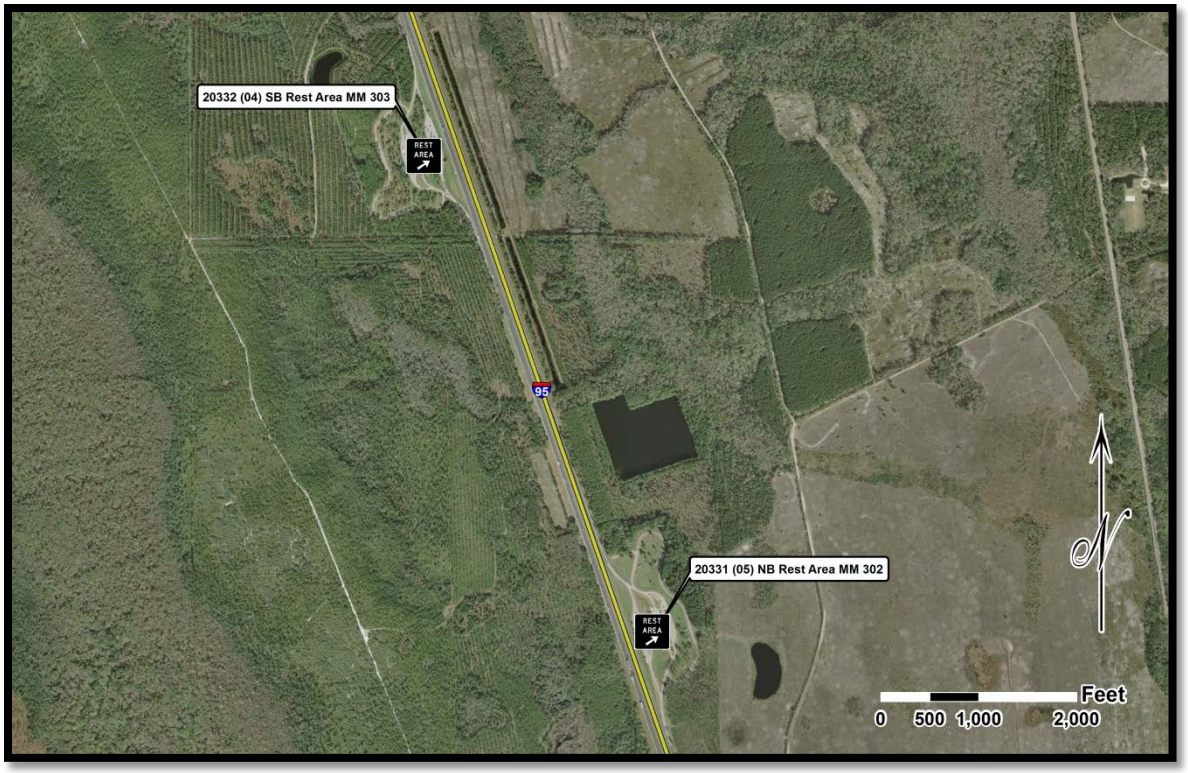


Figure 4: Aerial of Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303

2.4 Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining the driver's decision-making in regards to parking at approaching rest areas or weigh stations. Wireless presence detection systems (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at the welcome center, two weigh stations and four rest areas within Nassau and St. Johns Counties. The system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW. The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Survey Methodology

Literature reviews and database searches of the project study area were conducted in an effort to identify environmentally sensitive regions within the project area.

Literature review consisted of the following information:

- Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM), Environmental Screening Tool (EST) databases
- 1991 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Nassau County Soil Survey
- 1983 U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS St. Johns County Soil Survey
- 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook, Fourth Edition
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- 1979 FWS Classification System of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.)
- Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) World Imagery
- 2009 St. Johns River Water Management District, Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Eagle Nest Database Locator
- USFWS Consultation Areas
- USFWS Wood Stork Rookeries and Core Foraging Area
- Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL)

Although this project was not processed through FDOT's ETDM EST, the EST was used as primary source of information to screen this project. The EST as well as various other Geographic Information System (GIS) and literature reviews were used to perform a desktop analysis of the proposed project.

3.2 Existing Land Use

3.2.1 Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378

Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378 is located along the SB segment of I-95 in Nassau County. The site is characterized as a developed transportation facility with access roads via I-95, including existing paved truck and car parking, a welcome center building, comfort stations and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks. The habitat within the rest area footprint is categorized as upland communities consisting of sodded mowed and maintained grass with scattered pine trees and oak trees. Wet detention ponds are located adjacent to the vehicle parking, along I-95. The surrounding habitat is primarily undeveloped parcels dominated by pine flatwood communities.

Figure 5 depicts the existing general land uses at Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378.

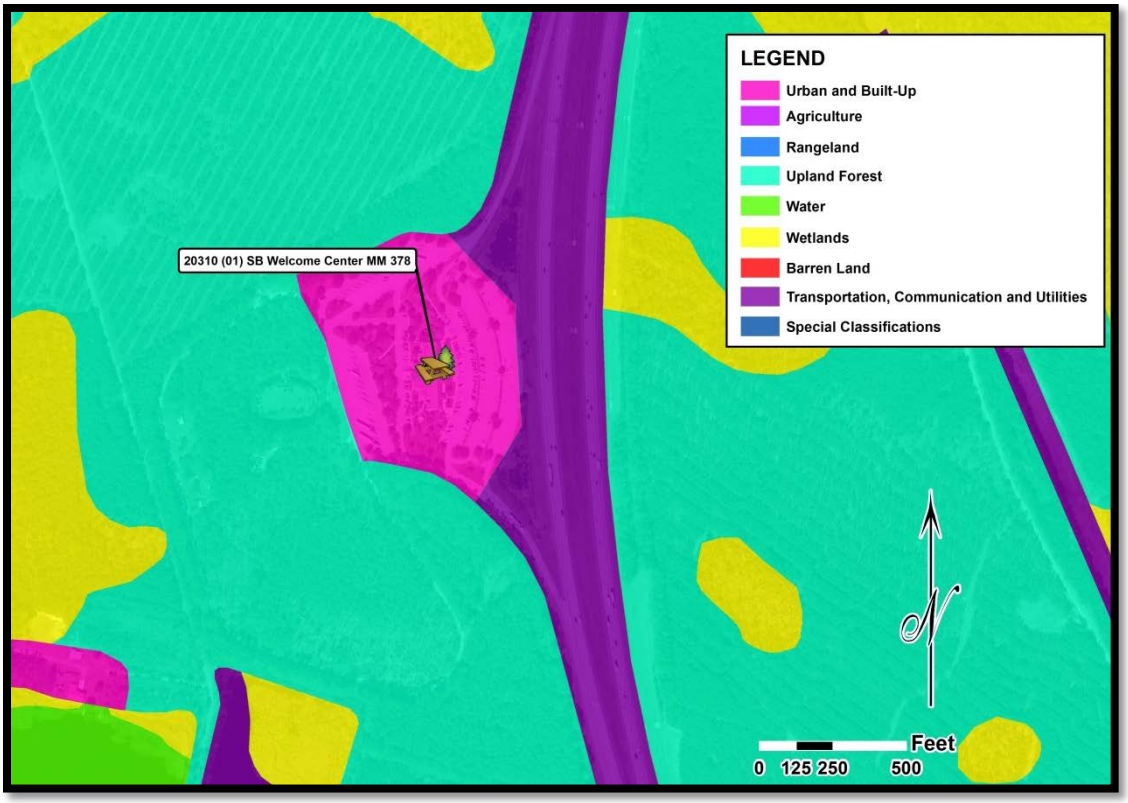


Figure 5: Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378 Existing Land Use

3.2.2 Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376

FLUCFS 810 - Transportation

Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376 are located along I-95, south of CR 108 in Nassau County and consist of developed transportation facilities with access roads from limited access I-95. The sites are surrounded by planted pine trees and forested wetland communities and consist of access roads, truck parking, one administrative/enforcement building and one inspection per site. The portions of the site that remain undeveloped are mainly defined by sodded areas that are actively mowed and maintained, but also include wet detention stormwater ponds which facilitate the weigh stations drainage.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the currently maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 6 depicts the existing general land uses at the NB and SB weigh stations at MM 376.

Figure 6: Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376 Existing Land Use

3.2.3 Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 are located along I-95, south of Race Track Road in St. Johns County. The sites are surrounded by planted pine trees and forested wetland communities. The developed portions of the sites consist of access roads, truck parking, car parking, comfort stations and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks. The sites undeveloped areas are characterized by planted oak trees (*Quercus sp.*) and pine trees (*Pinus sp.*) with sodded mowed and maintained grasses. Wet detention stormwater ponds are also located within the limits of the rest areas.

All of the proposed improvements will be performed within currently maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 7 depicts the general land use at the NB and SB rest areas at MM 331.

Figure 7: Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 Existing Land Use

3.2.4 Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303 are located approximately 1 mile from one another, along I-95, south of SR 206. The sites are surrounded by planted pines trees, pine flatwoods and palmetto prairie. The undeveloped areas of the sites are characterized by planted oak trees and pine trees with sodded mowed and maintained grasses. Access roads, truck parking, car parking, comfort stations and picnic shelters connected by sidewalks can be found throughout the sites.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the currently maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 8 depicts the general land use at the Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303.

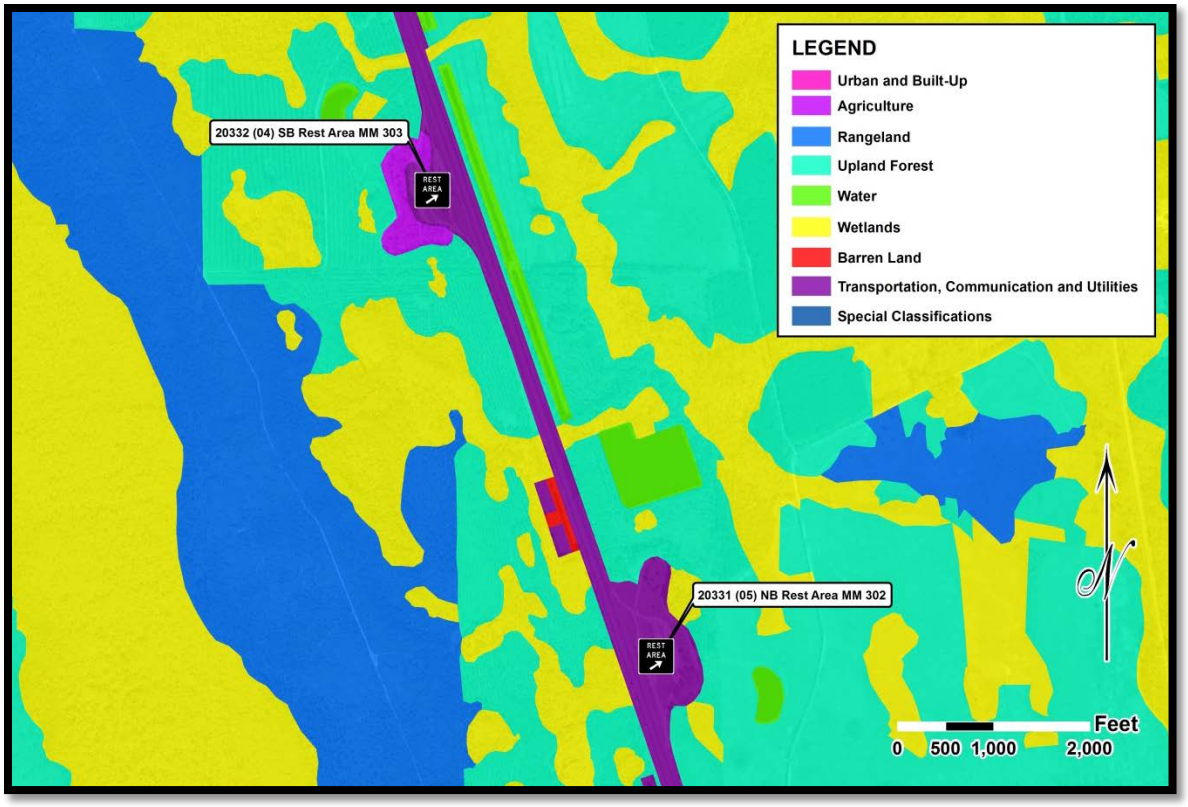


Figure 8: Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303 Existing Land Use

3.3 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

Review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) database revealed no EFH located within the project limits.

3.4 Floodplain

The welcome center, two weigh stations and four rest areas are all located entirely within flood zone X. Flood zone X includes areas that are determined to be outside of the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, have minimal flood hazards Appendix A includes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone maps for the project limits.

3.5 Soils

The Nassau County and St. Johns County soil surveys from the USDA NRCS were consulted for each of the assessment areas within the project vicinity. According to the 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook (Fourth Edition), some of the soil types within or adjacent to the proposed project areas are classified as hydric soils. Although a soil may be listed as hydric within the Hydric Soils Handbook based on hydric soil criteria, many factors are considered including climate, drainage features, the inclusion of non-hydric soil types, and landscape position. The

soils identified within the project area have not been field verified and hydric soil identifications will be finalized during design and permitting.

These soils names, corresponding hydrologic soil groups and soil descriptions for each assessment area can be found below.

3.5.1 Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378

The following three soil types were identified within the Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378 assessment area by the Nassau County soil survey:

- Goldhead Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found on flats on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a clay loam between 33 and 69-inches below ground level. The seasonal high ground water table (SHGWT) can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among north Florida flatwoods and sandy over loamy soils on flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.
- Sapelo-Leon Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam between 43 and 70-inches below ground level. The seasonal ground water table SHGWT can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among north Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.
- Goldhead – Meadowbrook Fine Sands, Depressional, (B/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam between 19 and 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be at ground level. These soils are also frequently found among flood plains, depressions and sandy over loamy soils on stream terraces.

Figure 9 shows the soil distribution for Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378.

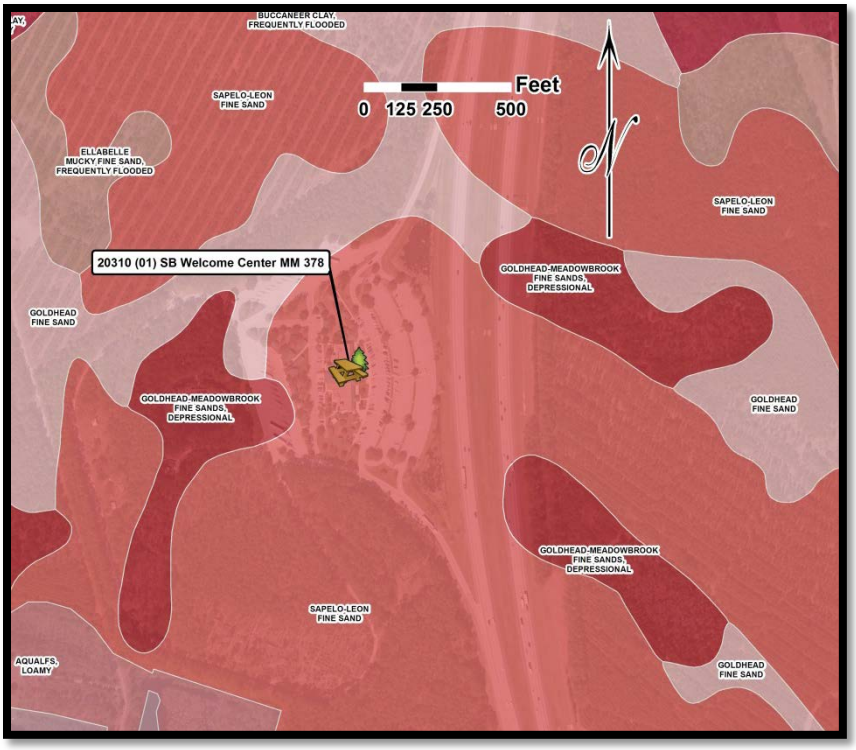


Figure 9: Welcome Center 20310 (01) SB at MM 378 Soils Map

3.5.2 Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376

The following four soil types were identified within the Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376 assessment areas by the Nassau County soil survey:

- Sapelo-Leon Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam between 43 and 70-inches below ground level. The seasonal ground water table SHGWT can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among north Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.
- Goldhead-Meadowbrook Fine Sands, Depressional, (B/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam between 19 and 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be at ground

level. These soils are also frequently found among flood plains, depressions and sandy over loamy soils on stream terraces.

- Goldhead Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found on flats on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will normally contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a clay loam between 33 and 69-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among north Florida flatwoods and sandy over loamy soils on flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.
- Ortega Fine Sand, 0 – 5 % Slopes, (A) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as moderately well drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 5% and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is Eolian or sandy marine deposits found on ridges on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 42 and 60-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills and sandy soils on rises, knolls and ridges of mesic uplands.

Figure 10 shows the soil distribution for Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376.

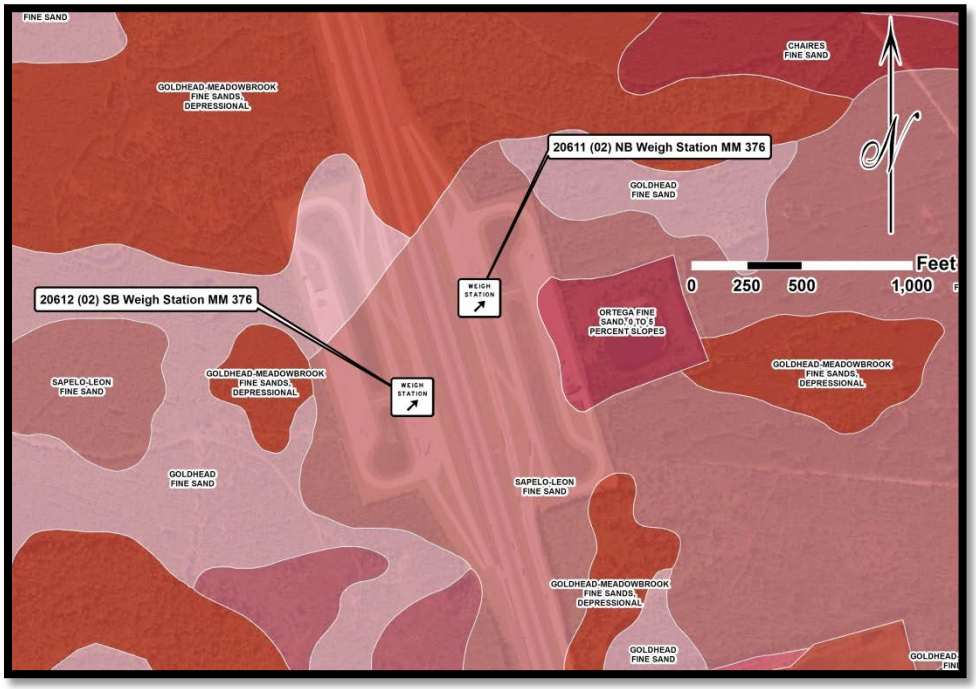


Figure 10: Weigh Station 20611 (02) NB at MM 376 and Weigh Station 20612 (02) SB at MM 376 Soils Map

3.5.3 Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331

The following three soil types were identified within the Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 assessment areas by the St. Johns County soil survey:

- Smyrna-Smyrna, Wet, Fine Sand, 0 - 2% Slopes, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy marine deposits found on flats and flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a fine sand layer which transitions to a loamy fine sand layer between 17 and 27-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 6 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.
- Zolfo Fine Sand, (A) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as somewhat poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy marine deposits found on flats and rises on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 24 and 42-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among sandy soils on rises and knolls of mesic uplands.
- Wesconnett Fine Sand, Frequently Flooded, (A/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2% and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy marine deposits found on drainageways on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be expected to be at ground level. These soils are also frequently found among sandy soils on stream terraces, flood plains and in depressions.

Figure 11 shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331.

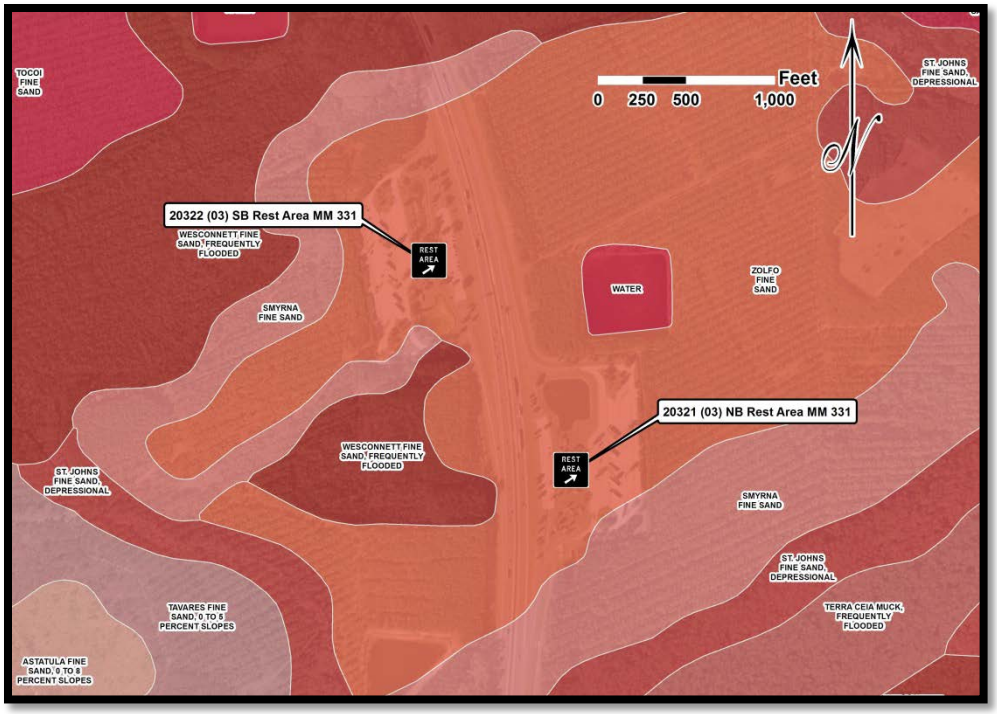


Figure 11: Rest Area 20321 (03) NB at MM 331 and Rest Area 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 Soils Map

3.5.4 Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303

The following four soil types were identified within the Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303 assessment areas by the St. Johns County soil survey:

- Myakka-Myakka, Wet, Fine Sands, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy marine deposits found on flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.
- St. Johns Fine Sand, Depressional, (B/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. The SHGWT is estimated to be at ground level. These soils are also frequently found among sandy soils on stream terraces, flood plains, and in depressions.
- Pomona Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil type is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and has high runoff potential. This soil is not commonly associated with prime farmland. Its parent materials

are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from fine sand at the surface to a fine sandy loam around a depth of 47 to 63-inches. The SHGWT could be located approximately 0 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also generally found among sandy soils found on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Bakersville Muck, (A/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2% and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent material is sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from a thin layer of muck at the surface to a fine sandy loam around a depth of 41 to 59-inches. The SHGWT could be located approximately 0 to 12-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among organic soils in flood plains and in depressions.

Figure 12 shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303.

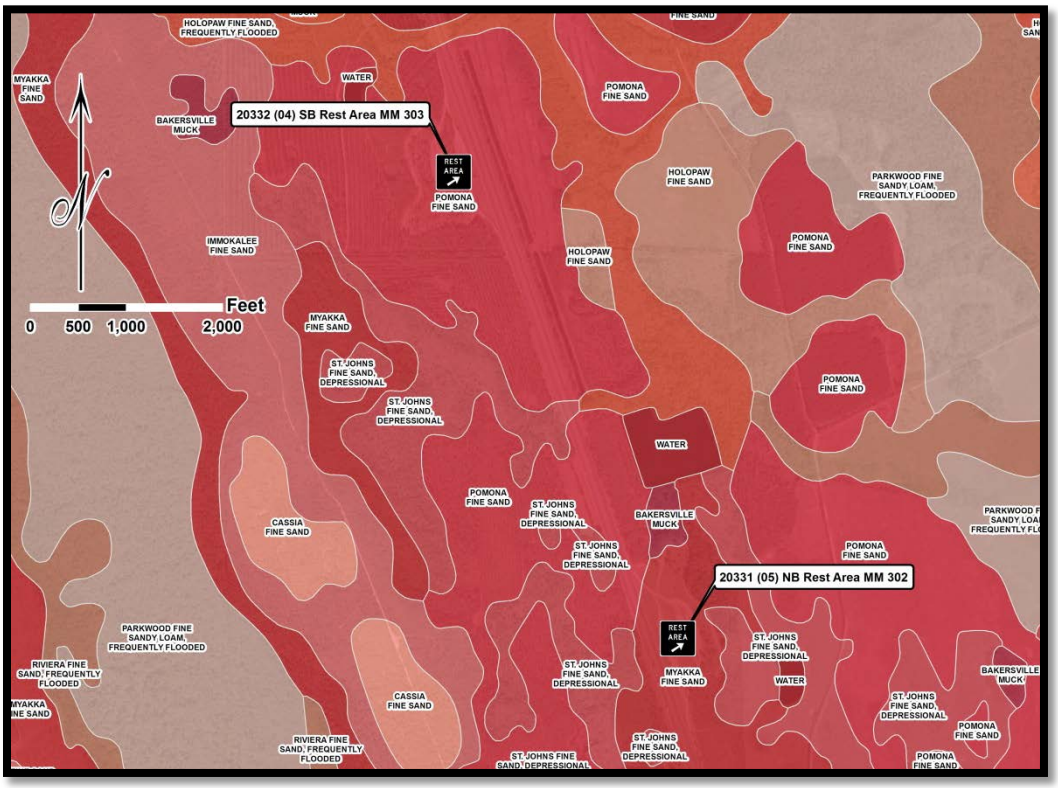


Figure 12: Rest Area 20331 (05) NB at MM 302 and Rest Area 20332 (04) SB at MM 303 Soils Map

3.6 Protected Species Habitat

A desktop analysis of the project area was conducted in an effort to identify the presence of federal or state protected species or their habitat within the proposed project limits. The proposed

project is located within the USFWS Consultation Area for several federally protected species. Potential habitat for state protected species exists as well. Anticipated effects of the proposed project on listed species can be found in the following descriptions.

3.6.1 Federally-Protected Species

The **Eastern Indigo Snake** (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS due to loss or degradation of habitat and human intervention. The species is found in a variety of habitats including swamps, wet prairies, xeric pinelands and scrub areas. It may utilize gopher tortoise burrows for shelter during the winter and to escape the heat during the summer. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the eastern indigo snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction. Based on a desktop analysis of the project area, it was determined that this species has moderate potential of occurrence within the project. The project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the eastern indigo snake.

The **Flatwoods Salamander** (*Ambystoma cingulatum*) is protected as an endangered species by the USFWS. This species prefers pine flatwood communities with wiregrass groundcover and scattered wetlands often dominated by cypress or gum. The flatwoods salamander usually breeds in ponds that lack predatory fish and have some emergent herbaceous vegetation. Although habitat exists adjacent to the project study area, there are no native pine flatwood communities within the project limits. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the flatwoods salamander.

The **Florida Scrub-Jay** (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) is similar in size and shape to the blue jay, but the scrub-jay lacks the crest and white spotting on wings and tail. This species is listed as threatened by the USFWS. Optimal scrub-jay habitat consists of low growing, scattered scrub canopy species with patches of bare sandy soil such as those found in sand pine scrub, xeric oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and scrubby coastal strand habitats. In areas where these types of habitats are unavailable, Florida scrub-jays may be found in less optimal habitats such as pine flatwoods with scattered oaks. The project is located within the USFWS consultation area for the Florida scrub-jay; however, the project does not contain suitable scrub habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, the project is not anticipated to affect the Florida scrub-jay.

The **Red-cockaded Woodpecker** (*Picoides borealis*) is protected as endangered by the USFWS and is endemic to the southeastern United States. The red-cockaded woodpecker uses mature, living pines in which it constructs roosting and nesting holes. Cavities are excavated in mature pines, generally over 80-years old. A cluster of nests and roosts in a group of cavity trees is called a colony. The project is located within the USFWS consultation area for the red-cockaded woodpecker; however, the project does not contain suitable habitat for this species. Based on a

desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, the project is not anticipated to affect the red-cockaded woodpecker.

The **Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) is listed as threatened by the USFWS. This wading bird species is opportunistic, utilizing various habitats including mixed hardwood swamps, man-made wetlands, sloughs, tidal creeks, and mangroves for foraging. The project is located within the wood stork core foraging area (CFA) (13-miles) of three nesting colonies: Matanzas Marsh, St. Augustine Alligator Farm and Dee Dot Ranch.

Figure 13 below depicts wood stork nesting colonies and CFA within the vicinity of the project study area.

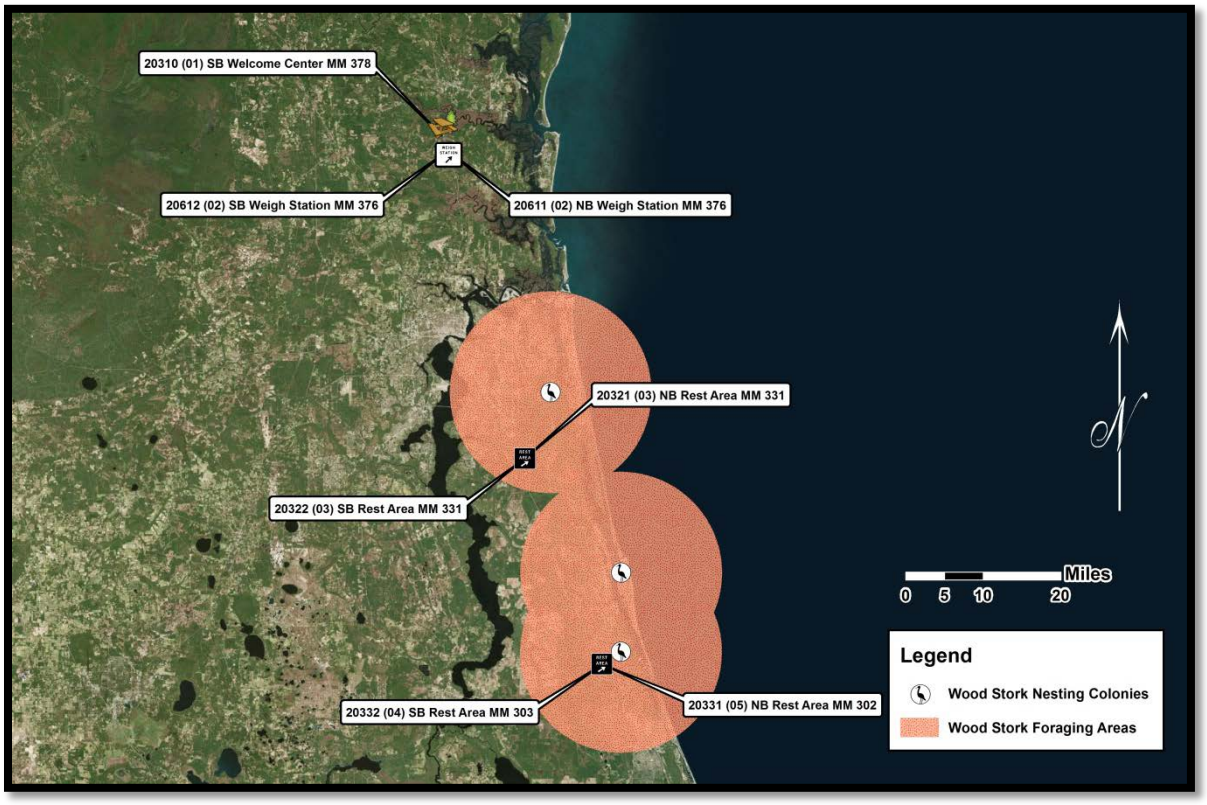


Figure 13: Wood Stork Habitat

As defined by the USFWS, Suitable Foraging Habitat (SFH) includes wetlands and surface waters which have areas of water that are relatively calm, uncluttered by dense thickets of aquatic vegetation and have permanent or seasonal water depth between two and 15-inches. No SFH is located within the limits of the proposed improvements. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on SFH for the wood stork.

3.6.2 State-Protected Species

The **Gopher Tortoise** (*Gopherus polyphemus*), **Gopher Frog** (*Lithobates capito*), **Florida Pine Snake** (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitis*), and **Florida Mouse** (*Podomys floridanus*) may be present within the project areas. The gopher tortoise is currently listed as a candidate species with the USFWS and is listed as threatened by the FWC. Due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is declining in numbers. This species requires well drained and loose sandy soils for burrowing and low-growing herbs and grasses for foraging. These habitat conditions are best found in sandhill communities, although tortoises are known to use a wide variety of habitats including sand pine scrub, xeric oak hammocks, dry prairies, pine flatwoods as well as ruderal sites such as pastures. Gopher tortoise burrows are frequently used by commensal species including the Florida mouse, gopher frog and Florida pine snake, all of which are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Suitable habitat for these species may be present within the limits of the proposed improvements. Current FWC regulations require a gopher tortoise relocation permit for any ground disturbance activity occurring within 25-feet of a potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrow. Therefore, a field survey of the project study area is required prior to construction. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC is required or avoiding construction at a minimum of 25-feet from the burrow opening. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction.

The **Sherman's Fox Squirrel** (*Sciurus niger shermani*) is listed as a species of special concern by the FWC. This species prefers high pine sandhills, pine flatwoods, pastures and other open, ruderal habitats with scattered pines and oaks. Although the facilities contain planted pine trees and potential habitat exists adjacent to the project study area, there is a low potential for the presence of the Sherman's fox squirrel within the project area. The proposed project is anticipated to have no effect on the Sherman's fox squirrel.

3.6.3 Non-Listed Protected Species

The **Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is no longer listed as a threatened species by the USFWS but is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended. In addition, the FWC has implemented a bald eagle management plan, adopted in April 2008. The bald eagle prefers riparian habitat associated with coastal areas, lake shores or rivers. It nests near water bodies which provide a dependable source of food. The locations of eagle nests throughout the state are closely monitored by the FWC each nesting season. Although no active bald eagle nests are located within the vicinity of the proposed improvements; the project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within the 660-foot of the proposed construction area, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan shall be followed.

The **Florida Black Bear (***Ursus americanus floridanus)* is no longer listed is as a protected species by the FWC; however, it is afforded protection under the Florida Black Bear Conservation Rule 68A-4.009 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The Florida black bear is the largest land mammal in Florida and prefers a variety of forested habitats that provide an assortment of nutritional benefits. A portion of the project is located within the secondary zone for the Central (Ocala/St. Johns) Bear Management Unit. Although forested habitat exists within areas adjacent to the project limits, no bear habitat will be impacted by the proposed improvements; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the Florida black bear.

3.6.4 Critical Habitat

The project ROW was assessed for Critical Habitat (CH) designated by Congress in 17 CFR 35.1532. Review of the USFWS's available GIS data for CH resulted in the identification of no Critical Habitats.

3.7 Cultural & Historic Resources

Based on a desktop analysis of the proposed project and vicinity, there are no documented cultural, historic and/or archaeological resources documented within the study area. Although a Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was not completed for each site within the project limits, a CRAS was completed for Rest Areas 20321 (03) NB and 20322 (03) SB at MM 331 in 1994 and a Historic Properties Survey for St. Johns County, Florida was completed in 2001.

No impacts to cultural, historic and/or archaeological resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed improvements to any of the facilities identified within the project study area.

3.8 Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) is part of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 which limits the use of publicly owned lands from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state or local significance. The project site and vicinity were evaluated in an effort to determine if Section 4(f) applies. An FWC Wildlife Management Area (WMA) – Nassau WMA is located along the north and west perimeters of Weigh Station 20612 (02) at MM 376. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

4.0 CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed improvements to one Welcome Center, two weigh stations and four rest areas include the installation of wireless presence detection systems (sensors) within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the

Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW via open trench or directional bore methods.

Databases searches and literature reviews were conducted to determine impacts to the environment from the proposed improvements. As a result, the following has been concluded:

- Potential habitat exists for the Eastern Indigo Snake. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction.
- Potential habitat exists for the gopher tortoise and gopher tortoise commensal species. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction. A field survey of the project study area and any proposed staging sites is required prior to construction to document the presence of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC may be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the FWC is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.
- The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within 660-feet of the proposed construction area or staging sites, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan and USFWS 2007 Bald Eagle Monitoring Guidelines must be adhered to. A Section 4(f) resource, Nassau Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located along the north and west perimeters of the SB weigh station at MM 376. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

Appendix A:
FEMA Floodplain Map

MAP SCALE 1" = 500'

0 0 500 1000 FEET

0 150 300 METERS

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0183F

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 183 OF 510

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

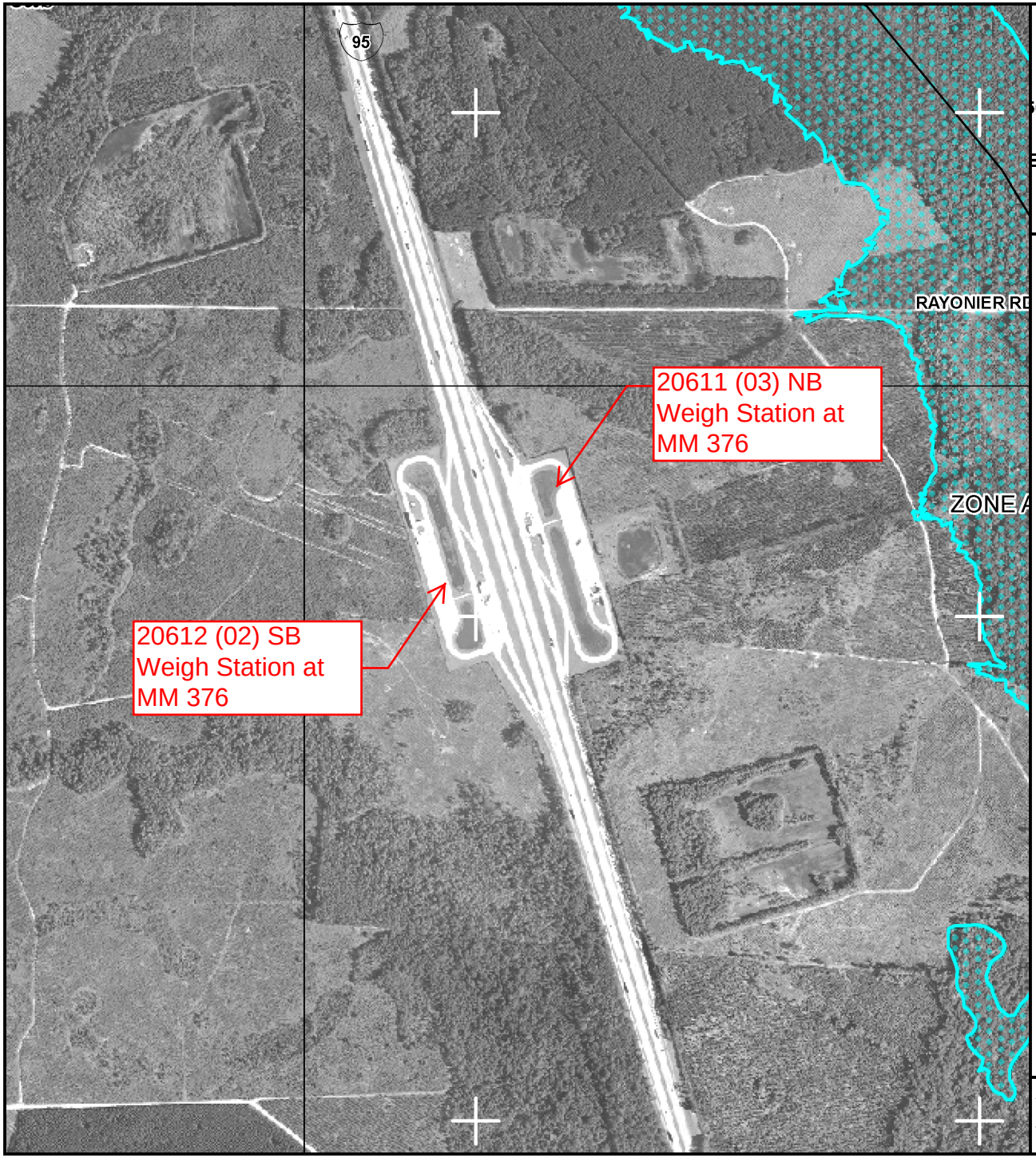
COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
NASSAU COUNTY	120170	0183	F

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12089C0183F

EFFECTIVE DATE
DECEMBER 17, 2010

Federal Emergency Management Agency



MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 1000 2000 FEET

0 300 600 METERS

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0195F

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 195 OF 510

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

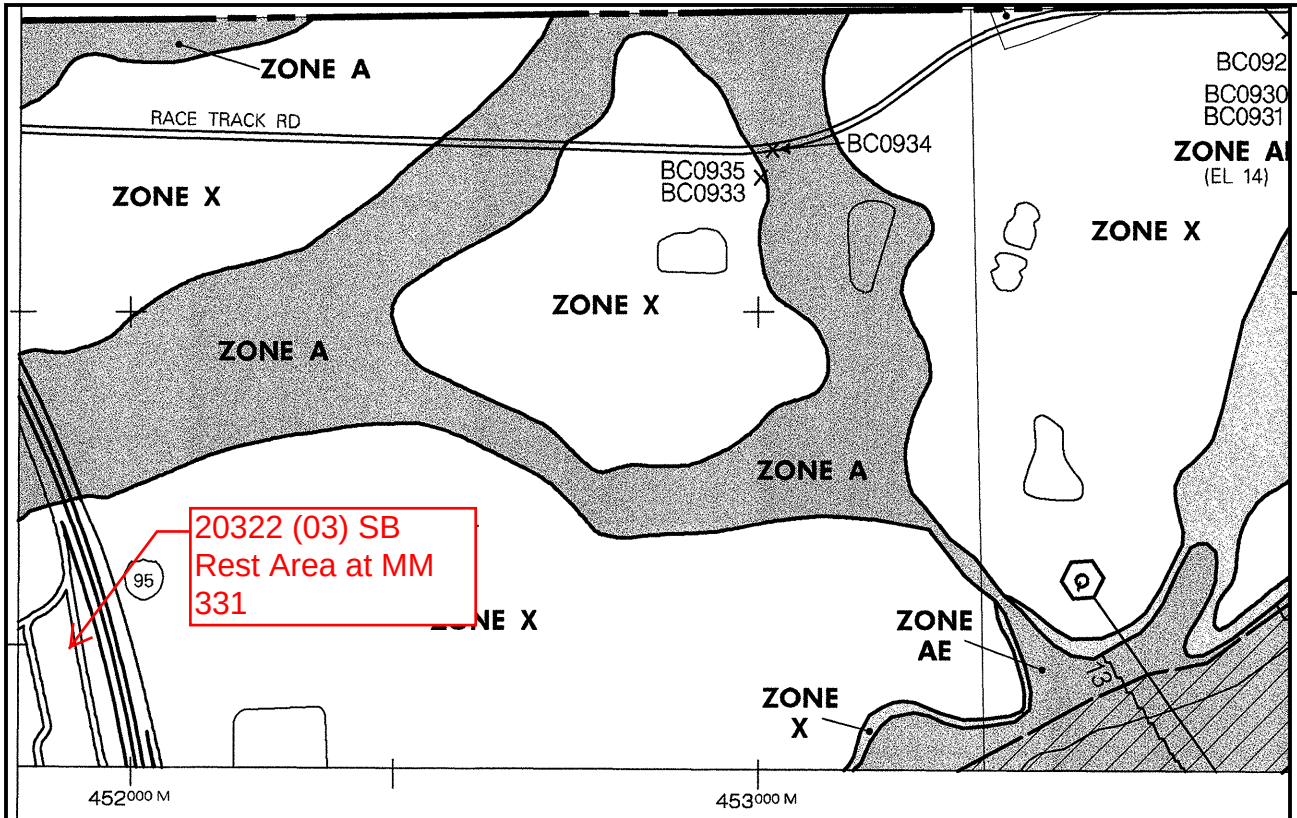
COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
NASSAU COUNTY	120170	0195	F

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12089C0195F

EFFECTIVE DATE
DECEMBER 17, 2010

Federal Emergency Management Agency



MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 1000 2000 FEET

M

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0180H

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 180 OF 560

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

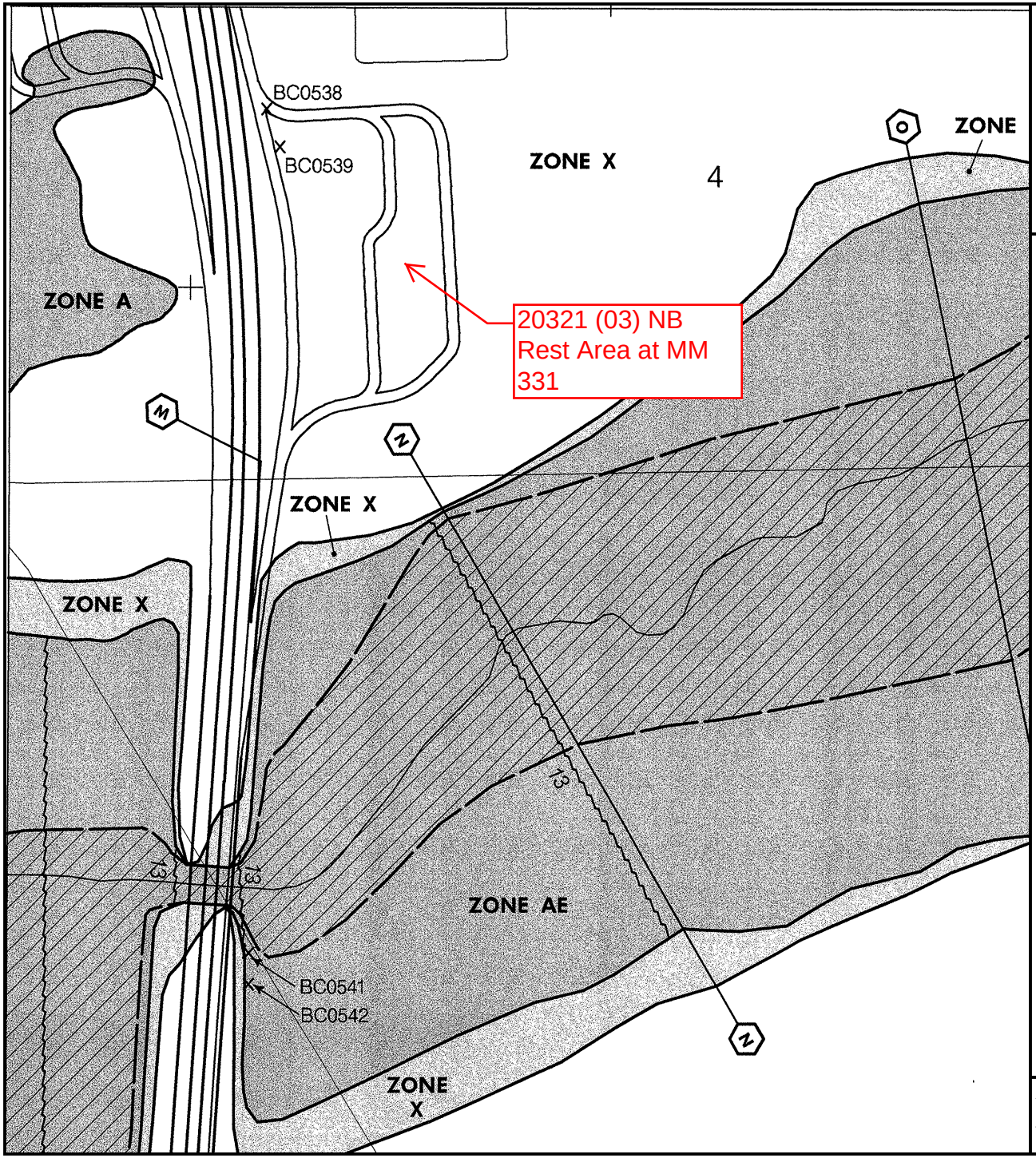
COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
ST. JOHNS COUNTY	125147	0180	H

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12109C0180H

MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

Federal Emergency Management Agency



MAP SCALE 1" = 500'

250 0 500 1000 FEET

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0178H

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 178 OF 560

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

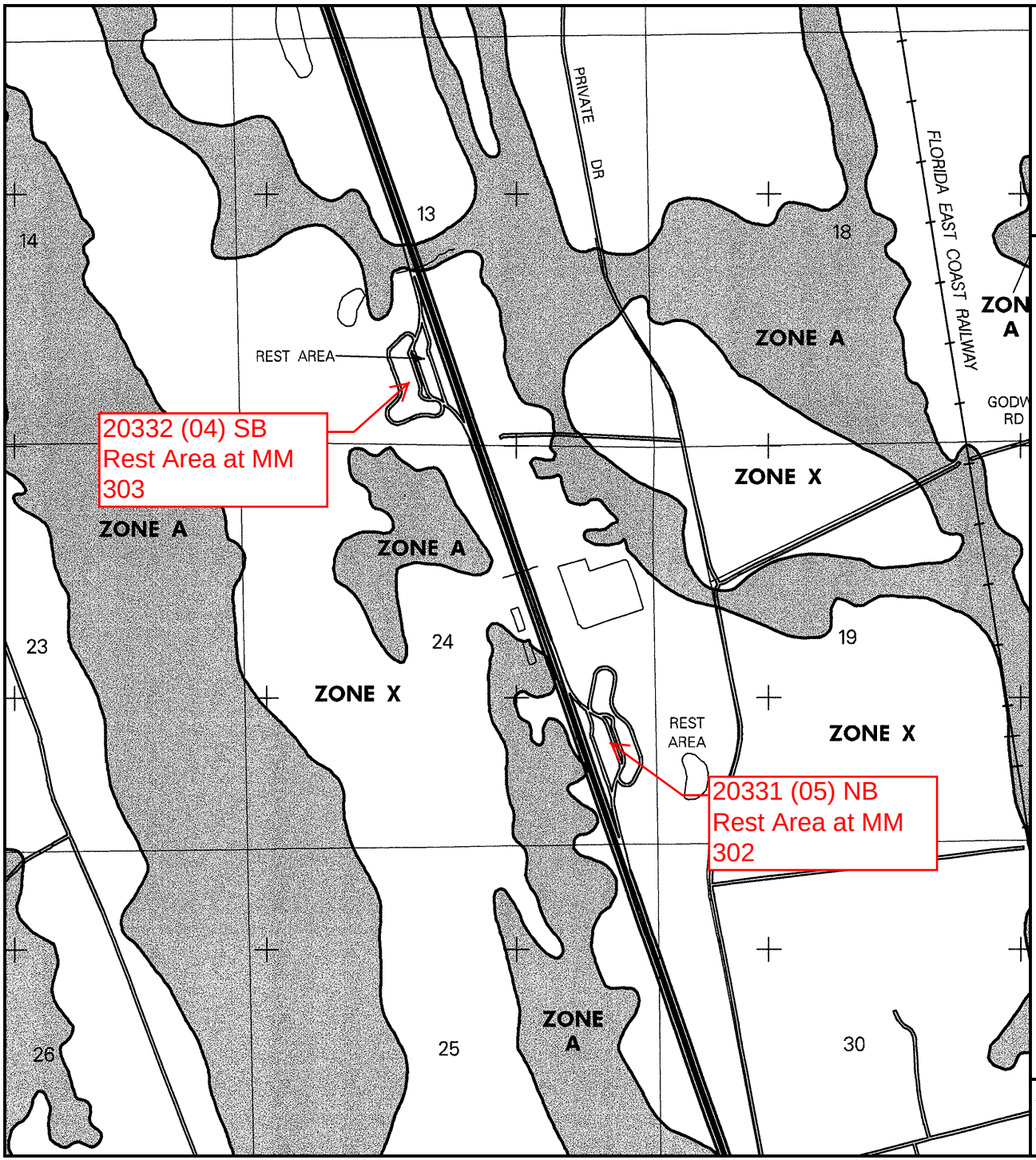
COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
ST. JOHNS COUNTY	125147	0178	H

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12109C0178H

MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

Federal Emergency Management Agency



MAP SCALE 1" = 2000'

1000 0 2000 4000 FEET

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0500H

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 500 OF 560

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
ST. JOHNS COUNTY	125147	0500	H

-NOTE-

THIS MAP INCORPORATES APPROXIMATE BOUNDARIES OF COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM UNITS AND/OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE COASTAL BARRIER IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1990 (PL 101-591).

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12109C0500H

MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

Federal Emergency Management Agency

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11" x 17" or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Taking" of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. "Take" is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of $25,000 for civil violations and up to $50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A <u>LIVE</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A <u>DEAD</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.

2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.

3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).

2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.

3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.

Appendix B:

Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

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STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM

Environmental Evaluation Report

December 2015

Project Limits:

Districtwide Rest Areas and Weigh Stations

Martin and St. Lucie Counties, Florida

FPID: 438096-1-52-01

Florida Department of Transportation
District Four
3400 West Commercial Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01

Federal Aid No. PARK-001-A

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

Truck Parking Availabiltiy System (TPAS) Intelligent Transportation System Plans. This is a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system

This project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 C.F.R. 771.117 and per Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October, 2015:

- ☒ A Type 1 Categorical Exclusion per ☒(c) 12 or ☐(d) _____ as determined on 1/12/2016
- ☐ A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion approved on _____

The final environmental document for this project was a (check one):

- ☐ A Finding of No Significant Impact under 23 C.F.R. 771.121 approved on _____
- ☐ A Record of Decision under 23 C.F.R. 771.127 approved on _____

A reevaluation in accordance with 23 C.F.R. 771.129 was (check one):

- ☐ Approved on _____
- ☒ Not required.

Signature: Ann Broadwell
Environmental Administrator or designee

Date: 1/12/2016

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01
FAP No. PARK-001-A
CE Number: ☐(c)_____ or ☐(d)_____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

Truck Parking Availabiltiy System (TPAS) Intelligent Transportation System Plans. This is a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system

Note: The criteria below also consider the conditions listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e) for the CEs described in 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (27) and (28).

		YES	NO
1	Will the action cause major adverse impacts on travel patterns, planned growth, land use for the area or access control?	☐	☒
2	Will the action cause adverse impacts to air, noise or water quality?	☐	☒
3	Will the action cause wetland impacts that would require an individual Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	☐	☒
4	Will the action cause impacts to navigation that would require an individual U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Bridge Permit?	☐	☒
5	Will the action cause impacts greater than minimal floodplain encroachments, which will affect flood heights or base floodplain limits?	☐	☒
6	Will the action require construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of, or proposed for inclusion in, the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers (for 23 CFR 771.117 (c)(26), (27) and (28)?	☐	☒
7	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) "no involvement," (2) "no effect", or (3) with concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, a "may affect but not likely to adversely affect" determination concerning impacts to endangered and threatened species and/or their critical habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)-(d)?	☐	☒
8	Will the action require more than minor amounts of right-of-way and result in any residential or non-residential displacements?	☐	☒
9	Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303? [NOTE: If it has been determined that Section 4(f) is not applicable in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and Part 2, Chapter 13 of the PD&E Manual then the answer to this question is no.]	☐	☒

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

		YES	NO
10	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) no involvement, (2) "no effect," or (3) "no adverse effect" regarding properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act?	☐	☒
11	Does the action have known contamination sites which would have more than a minimal impact to design, and right-of-way or construction activities once assessed as described in Part 2, Chapter 22, Contamination Impacts of the PD&E Manual, and can't be avoided or remediated?	☐	☒
12	Will the action have substantial controversy on environmental grounds?	☐	☒

IMPORTANT: If all answers are **No**, the project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion and this checklist will be the NEPA document. If the answer to any of these questions is **Yes**, follow the Minor Categorical Exclusion Determination Key and coordinate with FHWA as appropriate.

This project has been evaluated and has been determined to meet the conditions as set forth in Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October 2015, as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

Signature: Ann Broadwell
District Environmental Administrator or designee

Date: 1/12/2016

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist.

- Environmental Evaluation Report for Phase I of the Statewide Commercial Vehicle Truck Parking System
-
-
-

Gonzalez, Andrew

From: Broadwell, Ann L
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7:31 AM
To: Gonzalez, Andrew
Subject: FW: D4 Truck Parking / Environmental Cert / Public Involvement

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Based on this email, please prepare a type 1 checklist and an environmental certification for this project. I am going to respond to thie email with the checklist and let them know that at some point during the design, we want to review the plans from the design/build team.

Thanks,

Ann Broadwell
FDOT District 4
Environmental Administrator
Office: 954-777-4325
Cell: 954-270-6438

From: Tucker, Marie
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 10:35 AM
To: Broadwell, Ann L
Cc: Morefield, Ken; Frost, Jeffery; Ponnaluri, Raj; Heery, Fred H.; ctoth@hntb.com
Subject: D4 Truck Parking / Environmental Cert / Public Involvement

Good morning Ann,

As discussed there is no public involvement noted in the RFP for this project. At the request of District 4, Central Office will have the system manager for this project (HNTB) perform public involvement as requested.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,

Marie Tucker, CAP
Commercial Vehicle Operations Manager
FDOT Traffic Engineering and Operations Office
Phone: (850) 410-5619
Fax: (850) 410-5501
Marie.Tucker@dot.state.fl.us

Table of Contents

List of Figures

Appendices

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Central Office proposes a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system along Florida's interstates. This project will be delivered in two phases to provide full statewide public facility coverage of Florida's Interstate System. Phase I, which received an Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Project grant, will cover I-95 and I-4 and will be deployed first. Phase II will follow and complete the statewide deployment encompassing I-75 and I-10 public facilities.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Florida's Interstates are an essential economic link to the rest of the United States and for internal Florida trade. The corridors facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and enhance economic vitality. As they travel the nation's highways, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are faced with a number of operational and regulatory challenges including hours-of-service limitations, limited availability of parking at public and privately operated rest facilities, pressure resulting from just-in-time delivery schedules, and severe congestion in many urban areas and/or major truck corridors. These issues also impact the general motoring public, agencies that maintain and operate the transportation infrastructure, and private business, in terms of the safety, operational and economic implications they pose.

FDOT and its partners are providing an innovative program to achieve this strategic objective through the use of advanced technologies.

This project will provide reliable, real-time information about commercial vehicle availability to dispatchers and commercial vehicle drivers to allow for educated decisions to be made about parking at rest areas and weigh stations. At the rest areas and weigh stations along limited access facilities, a wireless presence detection system will be installed to monitor truck parking availability. At the weigh stations, vehicle classification equipment will be utilized to monitor the ingress and egress of vehicles at the facility. Both systems will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via the existing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure with Sunguide(r) Software performing the necessary algorithms to determine the number of available parking spaces. This information will be conveyed to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This Environmental Evaluation Memorandum addresses environmentally sensitive areas within the Phase I sites of the proposed project. A separate Environmental Evaluation Memorandum will address the environmental sensitive areas within the Phase II sites along I-75 and I-10 when design and construction funding becomes available.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

Truck parking on Florida's Interstate roadways can overflow onto rest area ramps, freeway ramps and shoulders, and adjacent roads. This overflow creates safety concerns for other motorists and for the commercial vehicle operators along the corridor. Expansion of the rest areas to accommodate the need for more truck parking is costly. Rather than building more parking spaces, FDOT has undertaken a project to evaluate if existing spaces along the corridor can be more efficiently utilized through better communication of parking availability to the trucking community. Identifying available parking that provides safe alternatives for the overflow and communicating that information to commercial vehicle operators are the primary needs to be addressed by this project.

The functions of FDOT's Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) are:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution
- Provide a secure solution that protects user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance of the system for truck parking decisions.

The TPAS will include capabilities to measure truck parking availability at public rest areas and weigh stations. FDOT will be responsible for collecting truck parking availability information at the public rest areas, welcome centers and weigh stations. Truck parking availability information will be shown on Dynamic Message Signs, and the information will be disseminated over the Internet, via a smart phone application and/or dedicated FDOT website.

2.0 EXISTING FACILITY & PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Four rest areas and two weigh stations are located within the jurisdictional boundary of FDOT District 4 along I-95. The facilities are located within Martin and St. Lucie Counties, Florida and are accessible via access roads at an identified mile marker (MM) along I-95's northbound (NB) and southbound (SB) lanes.

Figure 1 below shows a Location Map of the FDOT District 4 weigh stations and rest areas that are associated with the proposed improvements.

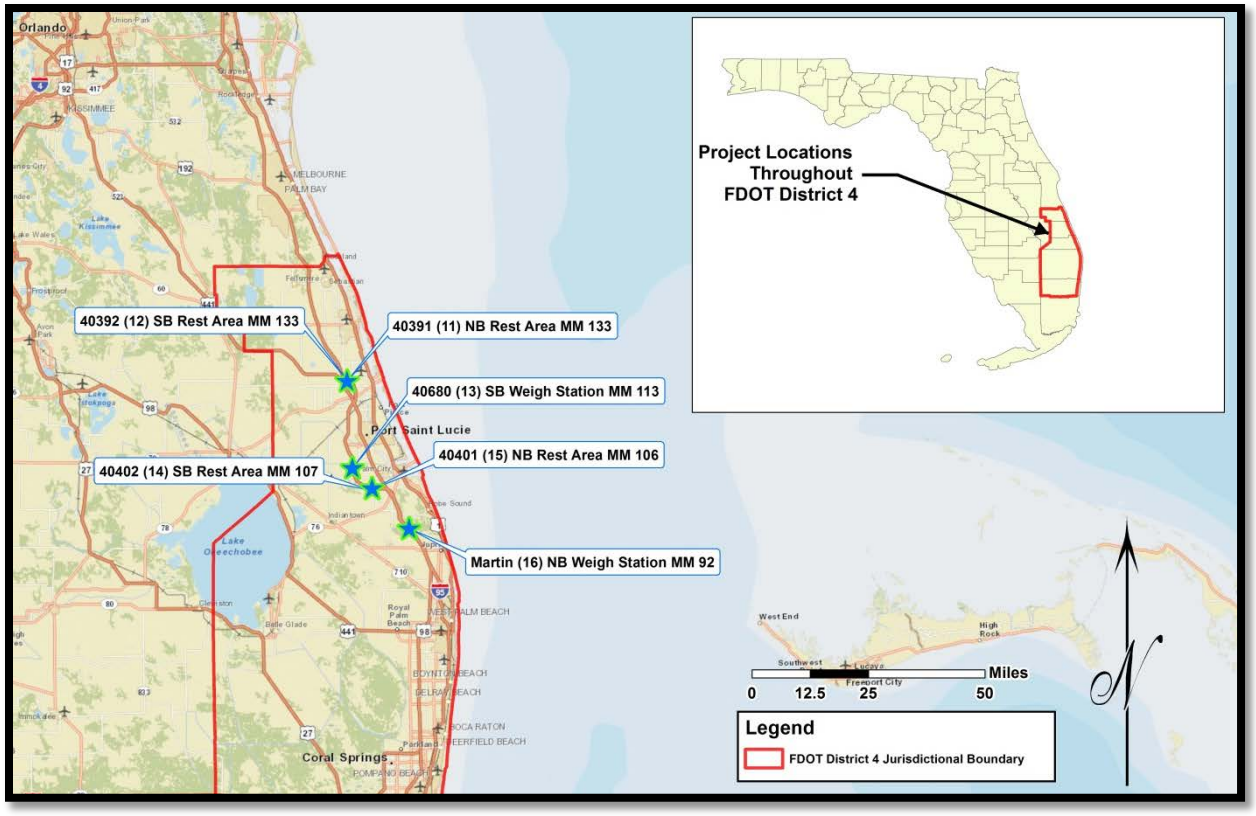


Figure 1: FDOT District 4 Location Map

2.1 Existing Conditions

2.1.1 Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133

An analysis of Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133 revealed many similarities between the two project sites due to their close proximity. Both sites are located just northwest of Fort Pierce in St. Lucie County, Florida, where land cover transitions from high-density residential and commercial development to a more rural signature of pine flatwoods, agriculture and rangelands. Both rest areas feature shelly sands and clays and are accompanied by on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 2 below shows an aerial of Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133.

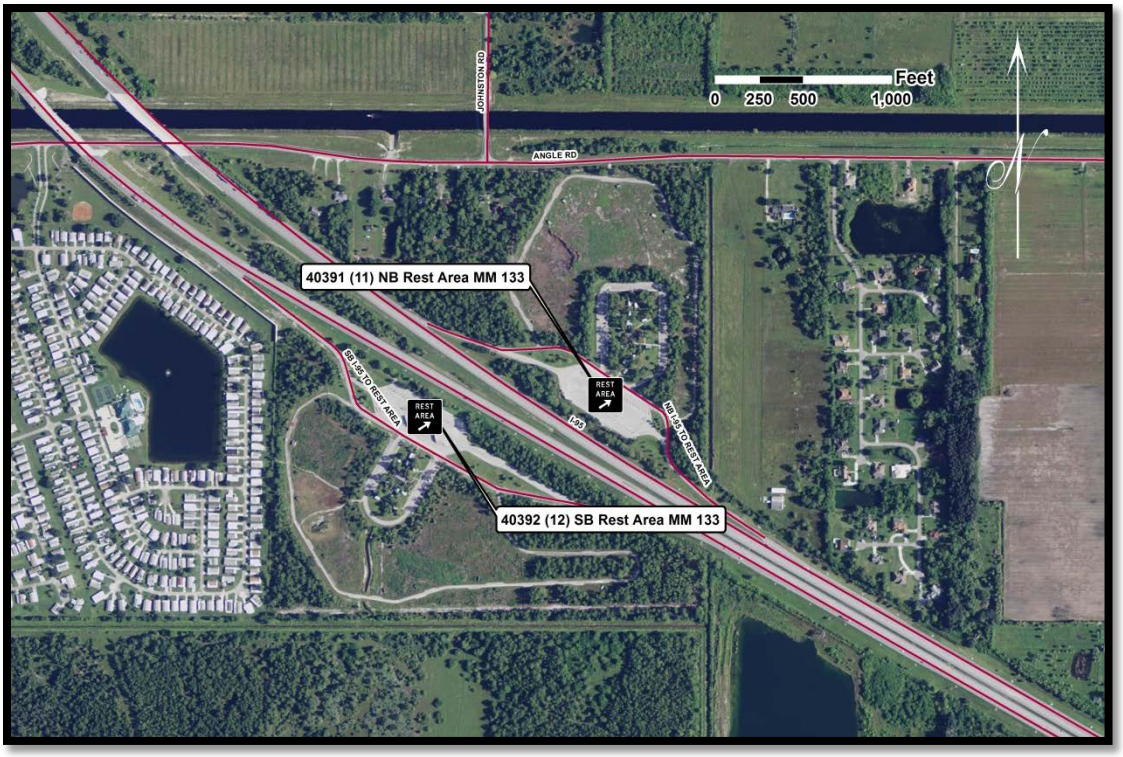


Figure 2: Aerial of Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133

2.1.2 Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113

Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113 is located just southwest of the City of Jensen Beach in Martin County, Florida. This weigh station is adjacent to hundreds of acres of farmlands and sits directly across from low-density residential development. Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113 features medium fine sands and silts and is accompanied by on-site wet detention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 3 below shows an aerial of Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113.

Figure 3: Aerial of Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113

2.1.3 Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107

Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107 are located just southwest of Palm City in Martin County, Florida. These rest areas are also on the border of a major land use transition between high density residential coastal properties and rural agricultural lands which begin to dominate further inland. Both rest areas are situated between alternating areas of pine flatwoods and low lying pockets of marshy wetlands. They both feature shelly sands and clays and are accompanied by on-site wet detention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 4 below shows an aerial of Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107.

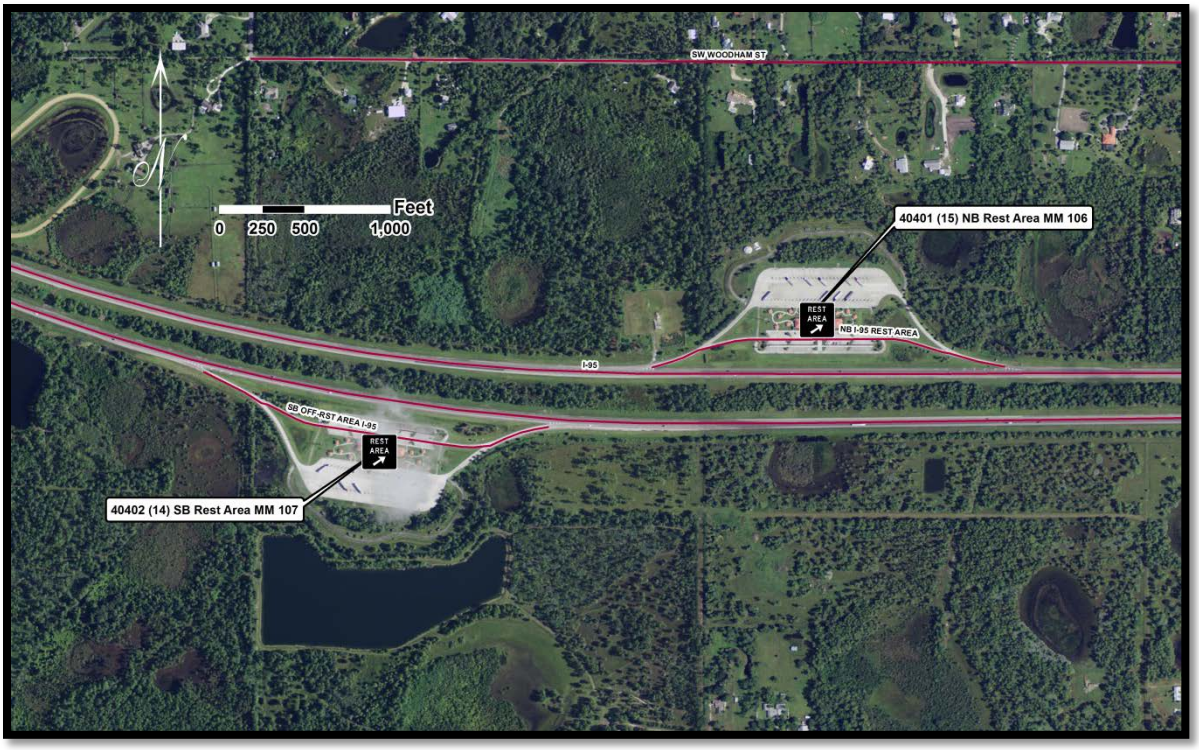


Figure 4: Aerial of Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107

2.1.4 Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92

Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92 is located northwest of Jupiter, Florida, in the heart of a agricultural properties. The weigh station features shelly sands and clays and is supplemented by on-site wet detention stormwater management facilities. It also appears to be bordered by a nutrient-rich perimeter swale which is most likely used for private irrigation by local agriculturists. Figure 5 below shows an aerial of Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92.

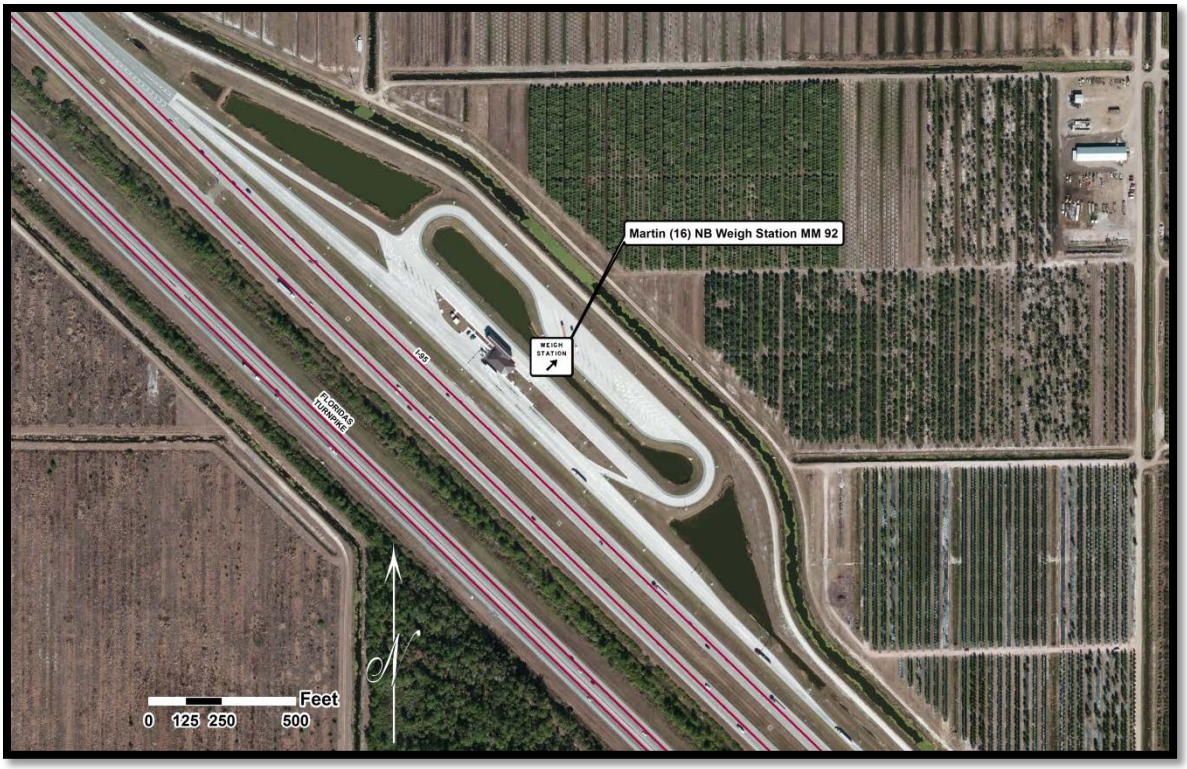


Figure 5: Aerial of Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92

2.2 Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining the driver's decision making in regards to parking at approaching rest areas or weigh stations. Wireless presence detection systems (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at the two weigh stations and four rest areas within Martin and St. Lucie Counties. The system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT right-of –way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Survey Methodology

Literature reviews and database searches of the project study area were conducted in an effort to identify environmentally sensitive regions within the project area.

Literature review consisted of the following information:

- Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM), Environmental Screening Tool (EST) databases
- 1981 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Martin County Soil Survey
- 1980 U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS St. Lucie County Soil Survey
- 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook, Fourth Edition
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- 1979 FWS Classification System of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.)
- Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) World Imagery
- 2008 South Florida Water Management District Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Eagle Nest Database Locator
- USFWS Consultation Areas
- USFWS Wood Stork Rookeries and Core Foraging Area
- Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL)

Although this project was not processed through FDOT's ETDM EST, the EST was used as primary source of information to screen this project. The EST as well as various other Geographic Information System (GIS) and literature reviews were used to perform a desktop analysis of the proposed project.

3.2 Existing Land Use

Both weigh stations and all four rest areas along the I-95 corridor in Martin and St. Lucie Counties consist primarily of upland communities surrounded by agriculture, low-density residential development and some freshwater marshes. Adjacent to this rural stretch of the I-95 corridor between the interstate and the rest areas/weigh stations are roadside open cut ditch systems which appear to be well maintained and actively mowed.

The native wetland habitats which neighbor the FDOT ROW are characterized by freshwater emergent wetlands and freshwater forested/shrub wetlands. The remaining natural habitat adjacent to the project consists primarily of privately operated stormwater management facilities, croplands and some pasture land. Assessment areas were determined for all project sites within FDOT District 4 and were evaluated via literature review, GIS analysis, and use of the EST tool. A tailored summary of each areas general land use is provided below.

3.2.1 Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

These St. Lucie County rest areas are immediately surrounded by forested uplands which appear to be populated with mature pine trees (*Pinus sp.*) and oak trees (*Quercus sp.*). Beyond this upland region is a mixture of urban development, agriculture, and rangeland. Surface waters in the area appear to be limited to man-made stormwater management facilities or systems used for crop irrigation. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest areas consists of planted pine trees and oak trees with sodded, mowed and maintained grasses.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 5 below shows the general land use distribution of Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133.

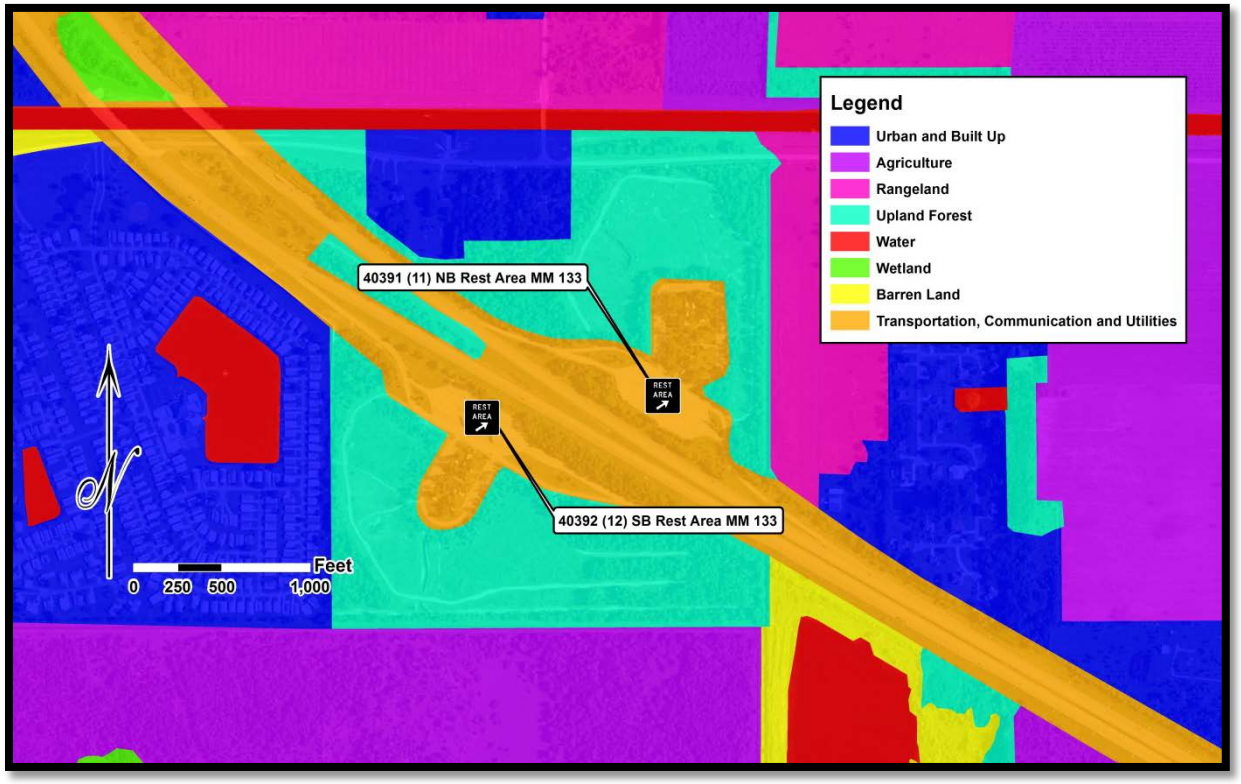


Figure 6: Existing Land Use - Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133

3.2.2 Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113 is located along the west side of I-95 and is bordered by croplands to the west and sits directly across from a newer residential development to the east. Some freshwater wetlands exist within the vicinity of the project but not within limits of the proposed improvements. The developed portion of the site consists of access roads, truck parking, an administrative/enforcement building and an inspection building. The undeveloped portions of the site are sodded, mowed and maintained grasses.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 6 below shows the general land use distribution of Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113.

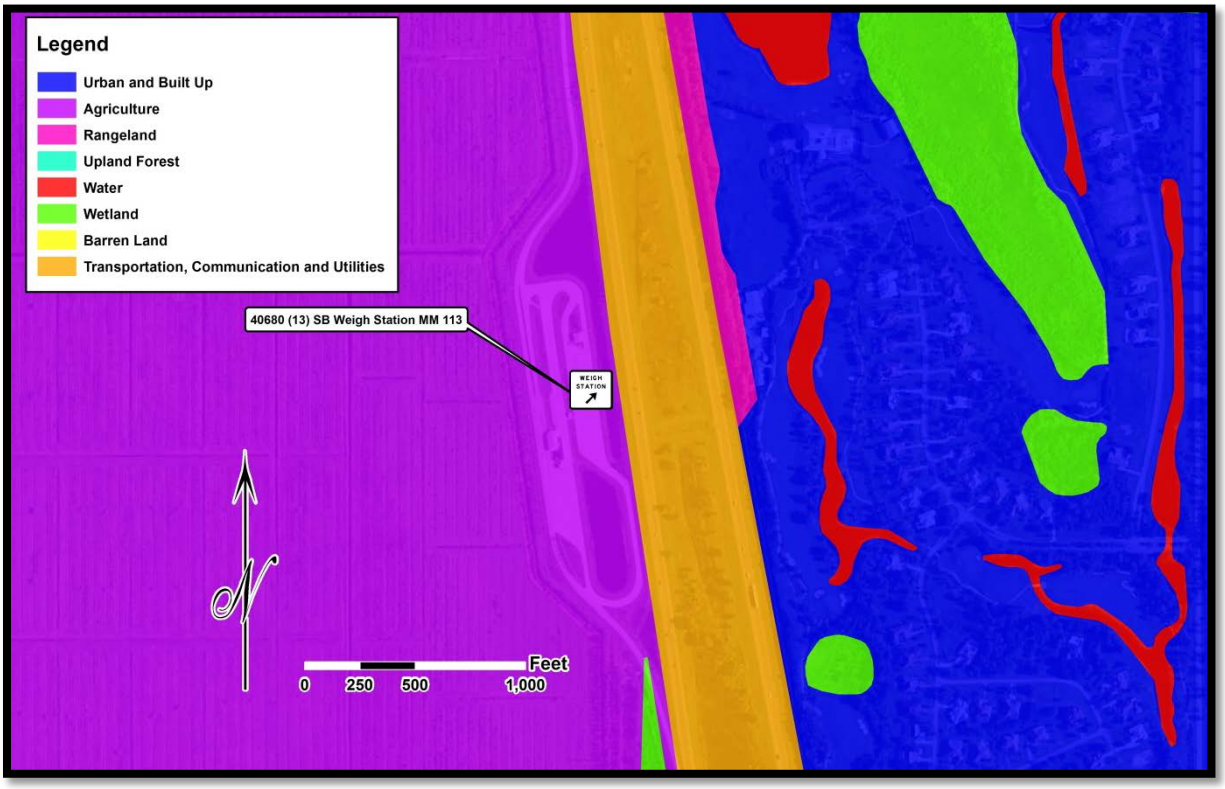


Figure 7: Existing Land Use - Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113

3.2.3 Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

The rest areas are directly bordered by pine flatwoods dominated by pine trees and saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*). The remaining surrounding area is a mixture of low-density residential development with scattered pockets of freshwater wetland habitats. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest area facilities is characterized as upland communities consisting of sodded, mowed and maintained grass with scattered planted pine trees and oak trees. Stormwater ponds and roadside swales are located within the limits of the facilities.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 7 below shows the general land use distribution of Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107.

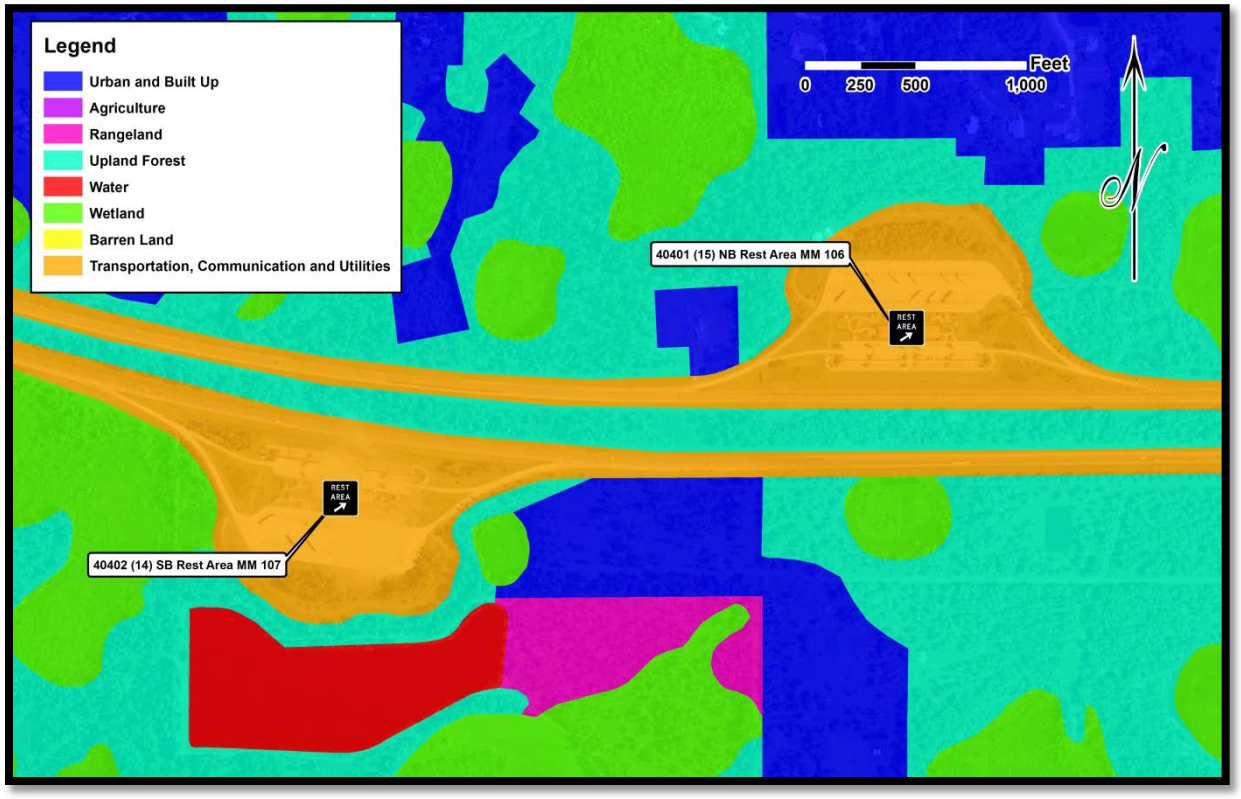


Figure 8: Existing Land Use - Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107

3.2.4 Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92, located in southern Martin County, Florida, is predominantly surrounded by agriculture. A large agricultural ditch borders this weigh station to the east. The developed portion of the site consists of access roads, truck parking, an administrative/enforcement building and an inspection building. The undeveloped portions of the site are sodded, mowed and maintained grasses and wet stormwater ponds.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 8 below shows the general land use distribution of Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92.

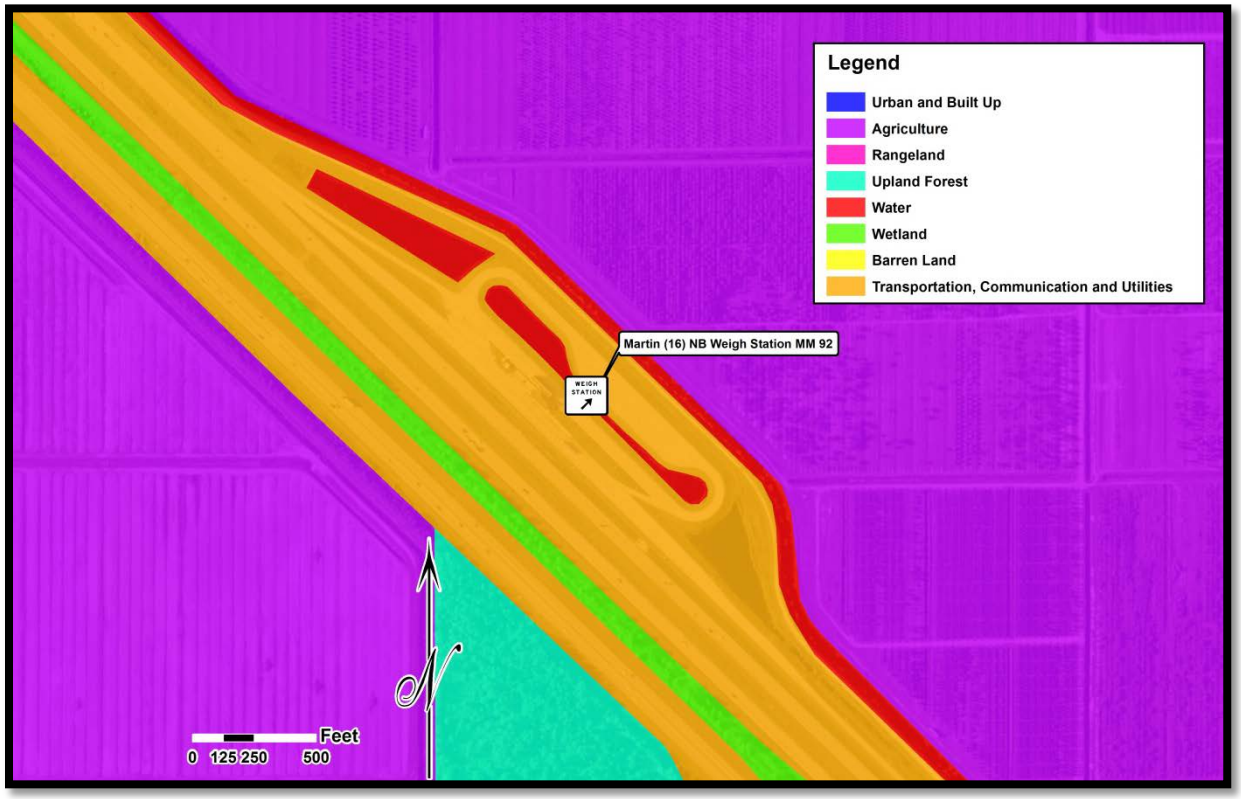


Figure 9: Existing Land Use - Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92

3.3 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

Review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) EFH database revealed no EFH located within the project limits.

3.4 Floodplain

The two weigh stations and four rest areas are located entirely within flood zone X. Flood zone X are areas that are determined to be outside the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, have minimal flood hazards. Appendix A includes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone maps for the project limits.

3.5 Soils

The Martin County and St. Lucie County soil surveys from the USDA NRCS were consulted for each of the assessment areas within the project vicinity. According to the 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook (Fourth Edition), some of the soil types within or adjacent to the proposed project areas are classified as hydric soils. Although a soil may be listed as hydric within the Hydric Soils Handbook based on hydric soil criteria, many factors are considered including climate, drainage features, the inclusion of non-hydric soil types, and landscape position. The soils identified within the project area have not been field verified and hydric soil identifications will be finalized during design and permitting.

These soils names, corresponding hydrologic soil groups and soil descriptions for each assessment area can be found below.

3.5.1 Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133

The following two soil types were identified within the Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133 assessment areas by the St. Lucie County soil survey:

- Nettles and Oldsmar Sands, (C/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and has a high runoff potential. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods of marine terraces. The typical profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a fine sandy loam layer approximately 55 to 80-inches below ground level. The seasonal high ground water table (SHGWT) would usually be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Pineda Sand, (C/D) – This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be poorly drained. This soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and has a very high runoff potential. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in drainageways and on flats of marine terraces. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a sandy loam layer roughly 38 to 52-inches below ground level. Because of this soil group's poorly drained characteristics, the SHGWT can be expected to be anywhere between ground level and 12-inches deep.

These soils are also frequently found among sandy over loamy soils in flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.

Figure 10 below shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133.

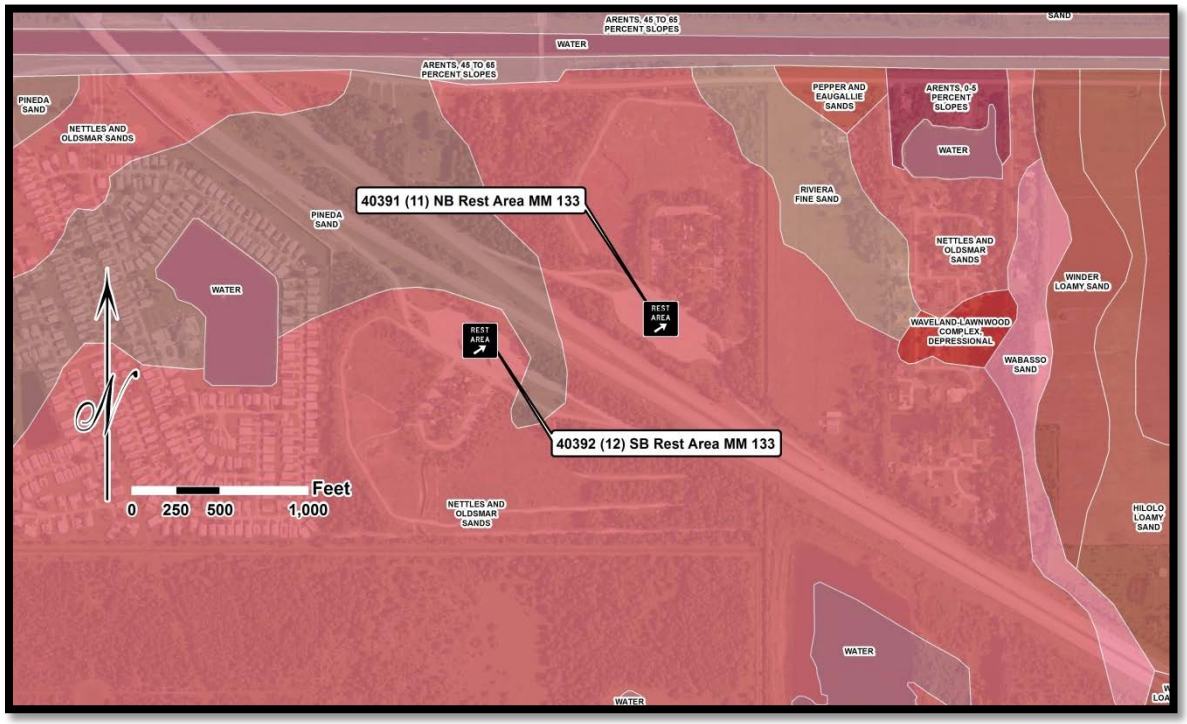


Figure 10: Rest Area 40391 (11) NB at MM 133 and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133 Soils Map

3.5.2 Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113

The following three soil types were identified within the Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113 assessment area by the Martin County soil survey:

- Pineda and Riviera Fine Sands, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be poorly drained. This soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and has a very high runoff potential. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in drainageways of marine terraces. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a fine sandy loam layer approximately 36 to 60-inches below ground level. Because of this soil group's poorly drained characteristics, the SHGWT can be expected to be anywhere between ground level and 12-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among sloughs and sandy over loamy soils in flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.

- Oldsmar Fine Sand, 0 -2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric, considered to be poorly drained and is associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods of marine terraces. The typical profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 50 to 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT would generally be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also commonly found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Winder Sand, Depressional, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be very poorly drained. This soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 15 to 42-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be at or just below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among freshwater marshes and ponds, flood plains, loamy and clayey soils on stream terraces and in depressions.

Figure 11 below shows the soil distribution for Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113.

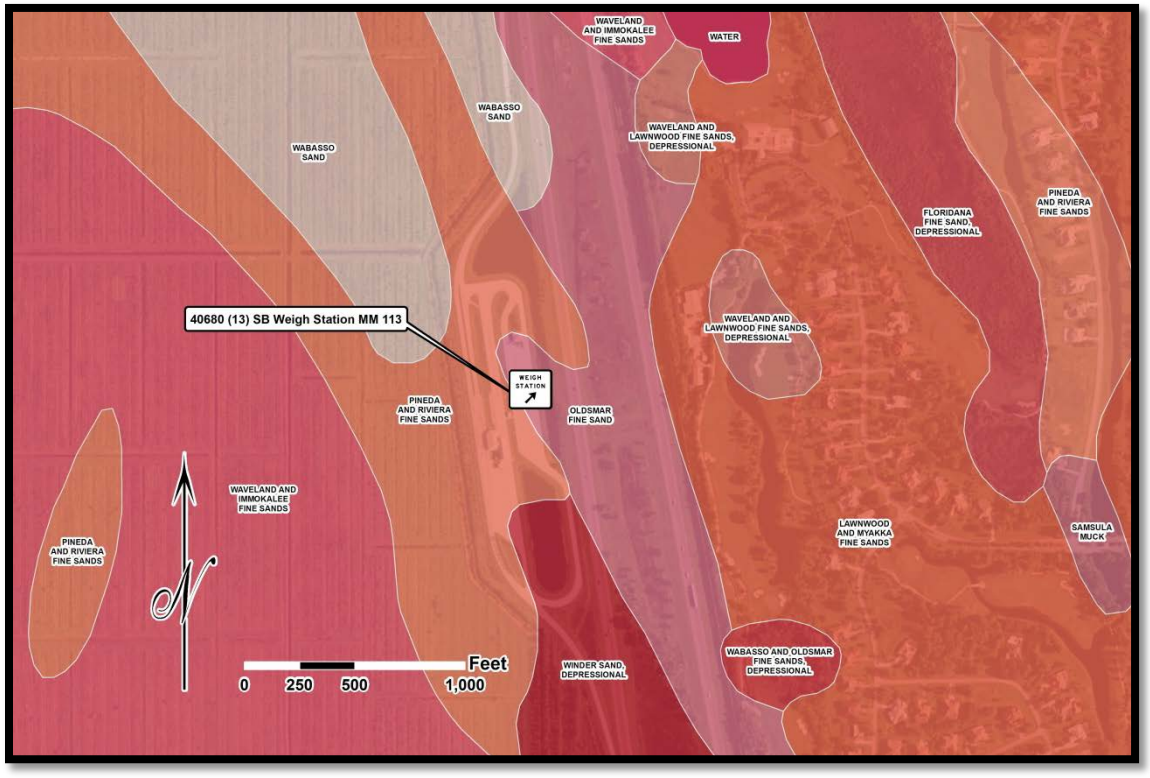


Figure 11: Weigh Station 40680 (13) SB at MM 113 Soils Map

3.5.3 Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107

The following five soil types were identified within the Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107 assessment areas by the Martin County soil survey:

- Malabar Fine Sand, High, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) -This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy over loamy marine deposits. The typical profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a loamy fine sand layer approximately 59 to 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT would usually be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also commonly found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Wabasso Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained. Like other soils in this general area, this soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy over loamy marine deposits. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 30 to 58-inches below ground level. The SHGWT is estimated to be roughly 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also generally found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Oldsmar Fine Sand, 0 -2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is also considered to be poorly drained. This soil group is associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in flatwoods of marine terraces. The typical profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 50 to 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT would frequently be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also commonly found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Holopaw Fine Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy over loamy marine deposits. This soil group is associated with 0 – 2% slopes, nearly flat, and has very high runoff potential. The typical profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a loamy sand approximately 60 to 80-inches below ground level. Because of this soil group's poorly drained characteristics, the SHGWT can be expected to be anywhere between ground level and 12-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among sloughs and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Lawnwood and Myakka Fine Sands, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. This soil group is associated with 0 – 2% slopes, nearly flat, and has high runoff potential. This soil is typically associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in flatwoods of marine terraces. The common soil profile for this soil group contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a loamy fine sand layer approximately 28 to 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT would generally be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

Figure 12 below shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107.

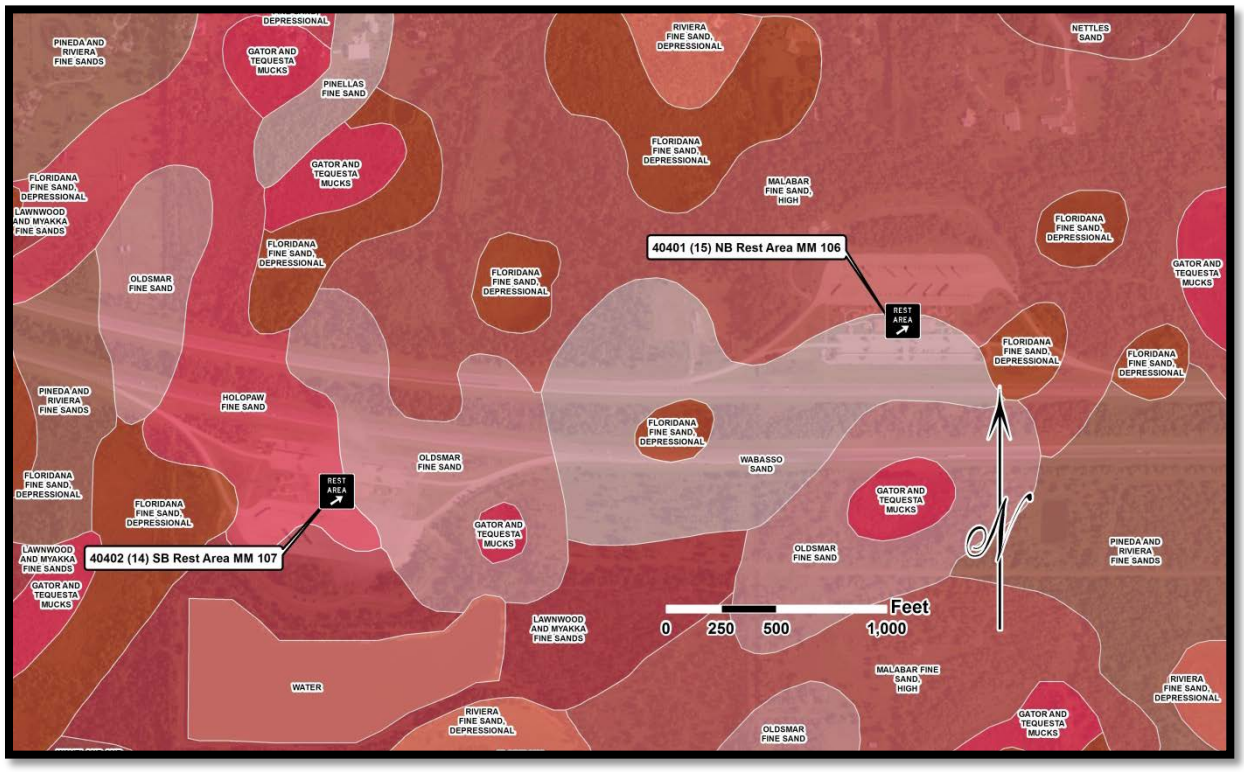


Figure 12: Rest Area 40401 (15) NB at MM 106 and Rest Area 40402 (14) SB at MM 107 Soils Map

3.5.4 Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92

The following three soil types were identified within the Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92 assessment area by the Martin County soil survey:

- Wabasso Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained. Like other soils in this general area, this soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy over loamy marine deposits. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 30 to 58-inches below ground level. The SHGWT would frequently be located 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also generally found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Pineda and Riviera Fine Sands, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be poorly drained. This soil is also normally associated with farmlands of unique importance. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and has a very high runoff potential. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in drainageways of marine terraces. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a fine sand layer which transitions to a fine sandy loam approximately 36 to 60-inches below ground level. Because of this soil group's poorly drained characteristics, the SHGWT can be expected to be anywhere between ground level and 12-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among sloughs and sandy over loamy soils in flats of hydric or mesic lowlands.

- Riviera Fine Sand, Depressional, 0 – 1% Slopes, (C/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be very poorly drained. This soil is normally associated with farmlands of unique importance and is characterized by a slope of 0 to 2%, nearly level. Its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. The soil's typical profile commonly contains a fine sand layer interrupted by a fine sandy loam layer approximately 36 to 42-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be at or just below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among freshwater marshes and ponds, flood plains, loamy and clayey soils on stream terraces, and in depressions.

Figure 13 below shows the soil distribution for Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92.

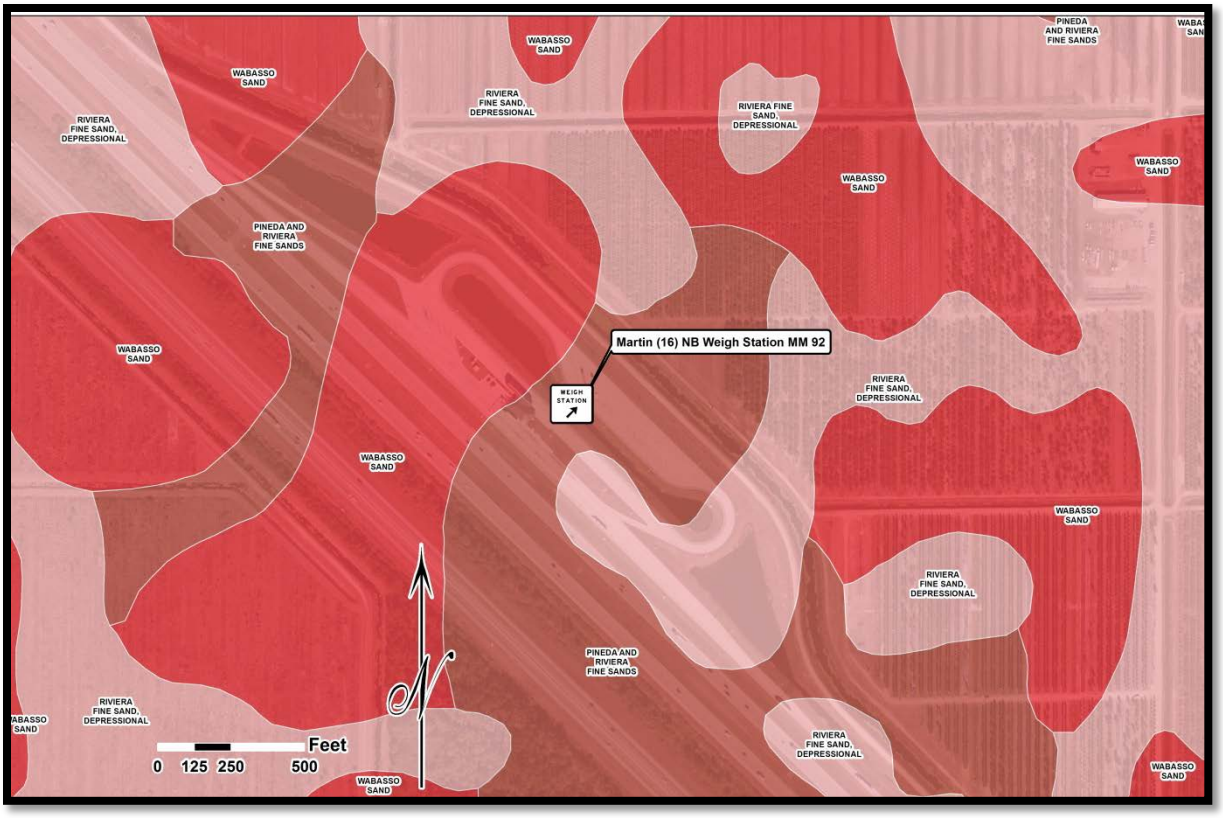


Figure 13: Martin Weigh Station (16) NB at MM 92 Soils Map

3.6 Protected Species Habitat

A desktop analysis of the project area was conducted in an effort to identify the presence of federal or state protected species or their habitat within the proposed project limits. The proposed project is located within the USFWS Consultation Area for several federally protected species. Potential habitat for state protected species exists as well. Anticipated effects of the proposed project on listed species can be found in the following descriptions.

3.6.1 Federally-Protected Species

The **Audubon's crested caracara** *(Caracara cheriway audubonii)* is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS. The caracara is a resident, non-migratory raptor species in Florida. This species is typically found nesting in cabbage palms surrounded by open habitats of low density groundcover, but may also be found is sparsely wooded areas. The proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of caracara as suitable habitat is not present. Additionally, no nests have been documented within the limits of the project area. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have no effect on the crested caracara.

The **Eastern Indigo Snake** (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS due to loss or degradation of habitat and human intervention. The species is found in a

variety of habitats including swamps, wet prairies, xeric pinelands and scrub areas. It may utilize gopher tortoise burrows for shelter during the winter and to escape the heat during the summer. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction. Based on a desktop analysis of the project area, it was determined that this species has moderate potential of occurrence within the project. The project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the Eastern indigo snake.

The **Florida grasshopper sparrow** *(Ammodramus savannarum floridanaus)* is listed as an endangered species by the USFWS. The Florida grasshopper sparrow requires large areas of frequently burned dry prairie habitat, with patchy open areas sufficient for foraging; however, this species may persist in pasture lands that have not been intensively managed. The Florida grasshopper sparrow generally avoids forested edges and uses the centers of open landscapes. The proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of Florida grasshopper sparrows as suitable habitat is not present. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have no effect on the Florida grasshopper sparrow.

The **Florida Scrub Jay** (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) is similar in size and shape to the blue jay, but the scrub jay lacks the crest and white spotting on wings and tail. This species is listed as threatened by the USFWS. Optimal scrub-jay habitat consists of low growing, scattered scrub canopy species with patches of bare sandy soil such as those found in sand pine scrub, xeric oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and scrubby coastal strand habitats. In areas where these types of habitats are unavailable, Florida scrub jays may be found in less optimal habitats such as pine flatwoods with scattered oaks. The project does not contain suitable scrub habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the Florida scrub jay.

The **Red-cockaded Woodpecker** (*Picoides borealis*) is protected as endangered by the USFWS and is endemic to the southeastern United States. The red-cockaded woodpecker uses mature, living pines in which it constructs roosting and nesting holes. Cavities are excavated in mature pines, generally over 80 years old. A cluster of nests and roosts in a group of cavity trees is called a colony. The project does not contain suitable habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, the project is not anticipated to affect the red-cockaded woodpecker.

The **Snail Kite** (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) is listed as endangered by the USFWS. This species is uniquely adapted to forage almost exclusively on freshwater apple snails. They are dependent of large open freshwater marshes and lakes with shallow water, less than four-feet deep which

contain low density emergent vegetation. No wetland habitat is present within the project for this species. Therefore, it anticipated that the project will have no effect on the snail kite.

The **Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) is listed as threatened by the USFWS. This wading bird species is opportunistic, utilizing various habitats including mixed hardwood swamps, man-made wetlands, sloughs, tidal creeks, and mangroves for foraging. The project is located within the wood stork core foraging area (CFA) (18.6-miles) of six nesting colonies: #616047A, North Fork St. Lucie River, PBC SWA, Sewel Point/MC2/Bird Island, Wabasso, and Westcott Grove Reservoir. As defined by the USFWS, Suitable Foraging Habitat (SFH) includes wetlands and surface waters which have areas of water that are relatively calm, uncluttered by dense thickets of aquatic vegetation and have permanent or seasonal water depth between two and 15-inches. No SFH is located within the limits of the proposed improvements. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on SFH for the wood stork.

Figure 14 below depicts wood stork nesting colonies and CFA within the vicinity of the project study area.

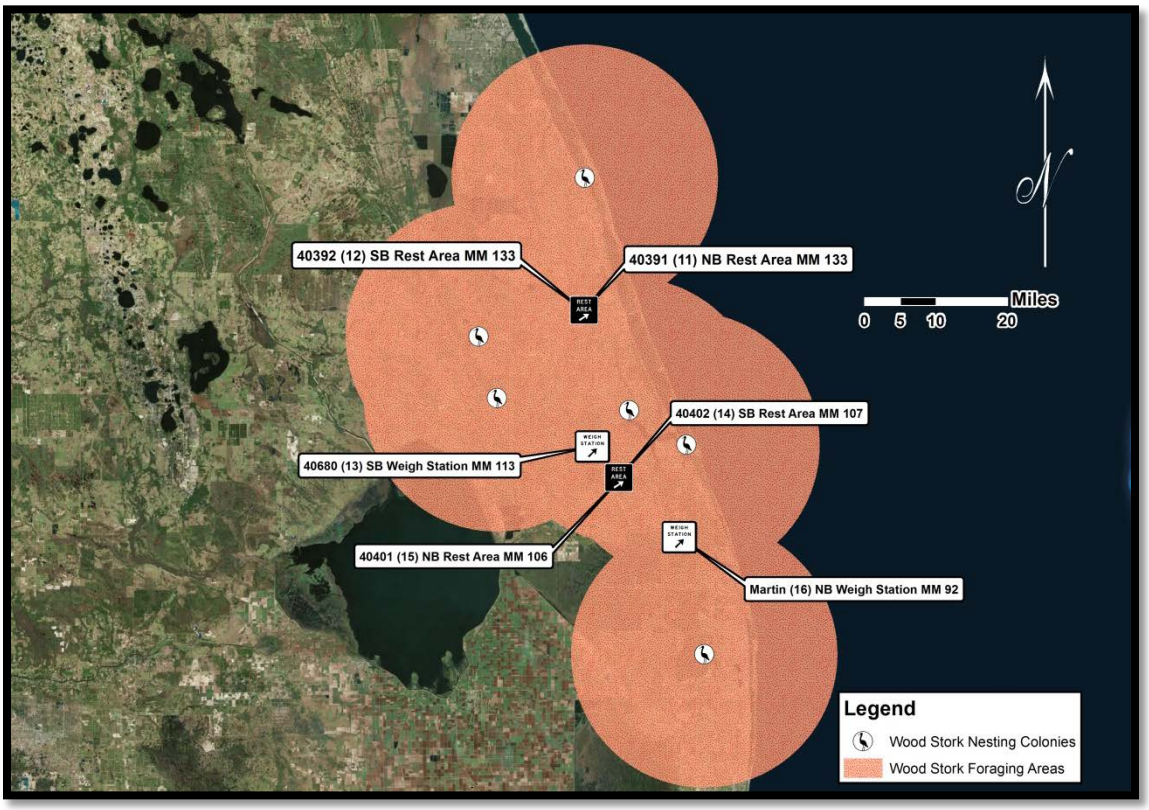


Figure 14: Wood Stork Habitat

3.6.2 State-Protected Species

The **Gopher Tortoise** (*Gopherus polyphemus*), **Gopher Frog** (*Lithobates capito*), **Florida Pine Snake** (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitis*), and **Florida Mouse** (*Podomys floridanus*) may be present within the project areas. The gopher tortoise is currently listed as a candidate species with the USFWS and is listed as threatened by the FWC. Due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is declining in numbers. This species requires well drained and loose sandy soils for burrowing and low-growing herbs and grasses for foraging. These habitat conditions are best found in sandhill communities, although tortoises are known to use a wide variety of habitats including sand pine scrub, xeric oak hammocks, dry prairies, pine flatwoods as well as ruderal sites such as pastures. Gopher tortoise burrows are frequently used by commensal species including the Florida mouse, gopher frog and Florida pine snake, all of which are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Suitable habitat for these species may be present within the limits of the proposed improvements. Current FWC regulations require a gopher tortoise relocation permit for any ground disturbance activity occurring within 25-feet of a potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrow. Therefore, a field survey of the project study area is required prior to construction. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC or avoiding construction at a minimum of 25-feet from the burrow opening will be required. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction.

The **Sherman's Fox Squirrel** (*Sciurus niger shermani*) is listed as a species of special concern by the FWC. This species prefers high pine sandhills, pine flatwoods, pastures and other open, ruderal habitats with scattered pines and oaks. Although the facilities contain planted pine trees throughout, the proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of the Sherman's Fox Squirrel. The proposed project is anticipated to have no effect on the Sherman's Fox Squirrel.

3.6.3 Non-Listed Protected Species

The **Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is no longer listed as a threatened species by the USFWS but is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended. In addition, the FWC has implemented a bald eagle management plan, adopted April 2008. The bald eagle prefers riparian habitat associated with coastal areas, lake shores or rivers. It nests near water bodies which provide a dependable source of food. The locations of eagle nests throughout the state are closely monitored by the FWC each nesting season. Although no active bald eagle nests are located within the vicinity of the proposed improvements; the project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within the 660-foot of the proposed construction area, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan shall be followed.

3.6.4 Critical Habitat

The project ROW was assessed for Critical Habitat (CH) designated by Congress in 17 CFR 35.1532. Review of the USFWS's available GIS data for CH resulted in the identification of no Critical Habitats.

3.7 Cultural & Historic Resources

The ETDM EST was consulted for documented archaeological, cultural or historic resources within the vicinity of the proposed improvements. Several Cultural Resource Assessment Surveys (CRAS) and Archaeological Surveys were completed within the limits of the proposed project: St. Lucie County Historic Resources Survey was completed in 2003 (Manuscript #9684); An Archaeological and Historical Survey of the Southbound I-95 Weigh In Motion Station (site 40680 (13) SB Weigh Station at MM 113) in Martin County, Florida was completed in 2008 (Manuscript #16757); An Archaeological Survey of Martin County, Florida was completed in 1995 (Manuscript #4104); Historic Architectural Survey of Martin County, Florida was completed in 1997 (Manuscript #4818); and A Phase II Archaeological Survey of Martin County, Florida was completed in 1998 (Manuscript #6039).

Based on a desktop analysis, there are no impacts to cultural, historic and/or archaeological resources anticipated as a result of the proposed improvements.

3.8 Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) is part of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 which limits the use of publicly owned lands from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state or local significance. The project site and vicinity were evaluated in an effort to determine if Section 4(f) applies. No Section 4(f) resources are located within or adjacent to the proposed improvements. The proposed project will have no involvement with Section 4(f) resources.

4.0 CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed improvements to two weigh stations and four rest areas within the jurisdictional boundaries of FDOT District 4 include the installation of wireless presence detection systems (sensors) within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW via open trench or directional bore methods.

Databases searches and literature reviews were conducted to determine impacts to the environment from the proposed improvements. As a result, the following has been concluded:

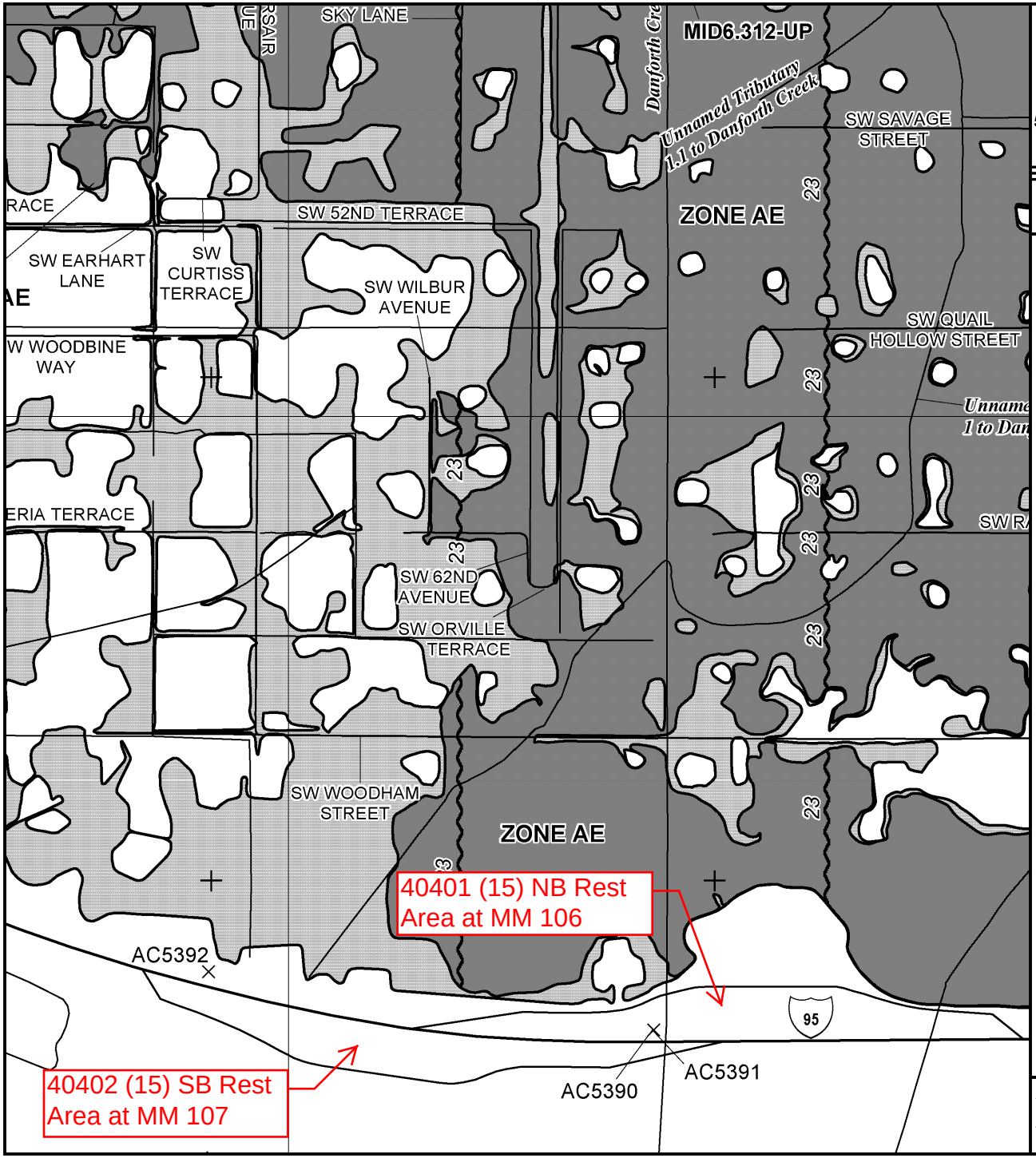
- Potential habitat exists for the Eastern Indigo Snake. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction.
- Potential habitat exists for the gopher tortoise and gopher tortoise commensal species. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction. A field survey of the project study area and any proposed staging sites is required prior to construction to document the presence of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC may be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the FWC is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.
- The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within 660-feet of the proposed construction area or staging sites, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan and USFWS 2007 Bald Eagle Monitoring Guidelines must be adhered to.

Appendix A:

FEMA Floodplain Maps

Rest Area 40391 (11) NB and Rest Area 40392 (12) SB at MM 133 are located within an unincorporated area of St. Lucie County that was not historically mapped by FEMA. The facilities are not located within FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Weigh Station 40680 (13) MM 133 is located within an unincorporated area of Martin County that was not historically mapped by FEMA. The facility is not located within FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas.



MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 1000 2000 FEET

METER

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0140G

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 140 OF 527

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
MARTIN COUNTY	120161	0140	G

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12085C0140G
MAP REVISED
MARCH 16, 2015

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Martin (16) NB Weigh Station at MM 92 is located within an unincorporated area of Martin County that was not historically mapped by FEMA. The facility is not located within FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Appendix B:

Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11" x 17" or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Taking" of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. "Take" is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of $25,000 for civil violations and up to $50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A <u>LIVE</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A <u>DEAD</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.

2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.

3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).

2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.

3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.

STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM

Environmental Evaluation Report

December 2015

Project Limits:

Districtwide Rest Areas and Weigh Stations

Brevard, Flagler, and Seminole Counties, Florida

FPID: 438096-1-52-01

Florida Department of Transportation
District Five
719 South Woodland Boulevard
DeLand, Florida 32720

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01

Federal Aid No. PARK 001 A

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

The sites are located within Brevard, Flagler and Seminole counties along I-95 and I-4. A wireless presence detection system (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. The proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional borewithin the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT right-of –way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 C.F.R. 771.117 and per Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October, 2015:

- ☒ A Type 1 Categorical Exclusion per ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d) _____ as determined on December 28, 2015
- ☐ A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion approved on _____

The final environmental document for this project was a (check one):

- ☐ A Finding of No Significant Impact under 23 C.F.R. 771.121 approved on _____
- ☐ A Record of Decision under 23 C.F.R. 771.127 approved on _____

A reevaluation in accordance with 23 C.F.R. 771.129 was (check one):

- ☐ Approved on _____
- ☒ Not required.

Signature: William G Waldo
Environmental Administrator or designee

Date: 12/28/15

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01
FAP No. PARK 001 A
CE Number: ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d)_____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

The sites are located within Brevard, Flagler and Seminole counties along I-95 and I-4. A wireless presence detection system (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. The proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional borewithin the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT right-of –way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

Note: The criteria below also consider the conditions listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e) for the CEs described in 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (27) and (28).

		YES	NO
1	Will the action cause major adverse impacts on travel patterns, planned growth, land use for the area or access control?	☐	☒
2	Will the action cause adverse impacts to air, noise or water quality?	☐	☒
3	Will the action cause wetland impacts that would require an individual Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	☐	☒
4	Will the action cause impacts to navigation that would require an individual U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Bridge Permit?	☐	☒
5	Will the action cause impacts greater than minimal floodplain encroachments, which will affect flood heights or base floodplain limits?	☐	☒
6	Will the action require construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of, or proposed for inclusion in, the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers (for 23 CFR 771.117 (c)(26), (27) and (28)?	☐	☒
7	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) "no involvement," (2) "no effect", or (3) with concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, a "may affect but not likely to adversely affect" determination concerning impacts to endangered and threatened species and/or their critical habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)-(d)?	☐	☒
8	Will the action require more than minor amounts of right-of-way and result in any residential or non-residential displacements?	☐	☒
9	Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303? [NOTE: If it has been determined that Section 4(f) is not applicable in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and Part 2, Chapter 13 of the PD&E Manual then the answer to this question is no.]	☐	☒

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

		YES	NO
10	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) no involvement, (2) "no effect," or (3) "no adverse effect" regarding properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act?	☐	☒
11	Does the action have known contamination sites which would have more than a minimal impact to design, and right-of-way or construction activities once assessed as described in Part 2, Chapter 22, Contamination Impacts of the PD&E Manual, and can't be avoided or remediated?	☐	☒
12	Will the action have substantial controversy on environmental grounds?	☐	☒

IMPORTANT: If all answers are **No**, the project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion and this checklist will be the NEPA document. If the answer to any of these questions is **Yes**, follow the Minor Categorical Exclusion Determination Key and coordinate with FHWA as appropriate.

This project has been evaluated and has been determined to meet the conditions as set forth in Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October 2015, as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

Signature: _____ Date: 12/28/15
District Environmental Administrator or designee

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist.

- Google Earth
- ETDM EST
- FWC Bald Eagle Nest Database
- FEMA Flood Maps

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Appendices

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Central Office proposes a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system along Florida's interstates. This project will be delivered in two phases to provide full statewide public facility coverage of Florida's Interstate System. Phase I, which received an Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Project grant, will cover I-95 and I-4 and will be deployed first. Phase II will follow and complete the statewide deployment encompassing I-75 and I-10 public facilities.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Florida's Interstates are an essential economic link to the rest of the United States and for internal Florida trade. The corridors facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and enhance economic vitality. As they travel the nation's highways, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are faced with a number of operational and regulatory challenges including hours-of-service limitations, limited availability of parking at public and privately operated rest facilities, pressure resulting from just-in-time delivery schedules, and severe congestion in many urban areas and/or major truck corridors. These issues also impact the general motoring public, agencies that maintain and operate the transportation infrastructure, and private business, in terms of the safety, operational and economic implications they pose.

FDOT and its partners are providing an innovative program to achieve this strategic objective through the use of advanced technologies.

This project will provide reliable, real-time information about commercial vehicle availability to dispatchers and commercial vehicle drivers to allow for educated decisions to be made about parking at rest areas and weigh stations. At the rest areas and weigh stations along limited access facilities, a wireless presence detection system will be installed to monitor truck parking availability. At the weigh stations, vehicle classification equipment will be utilized to monitor the ingress and egress of vehicles at the facility. Both systems will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via the existing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure with Sunguide(r) Software performing the necessary algorithms to determine the number of available parking spaces. This information will be conveyed to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This Environmental Evaluation Memorandum addresses environmentally sensitive areas within the Phase I sites of the proposed project. A separate Environmental Evaluation Memorandum will address the environmental sensitive areas within the Phase II sites along I-75 and I-10 when design and construction funding becomes available.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

Truck parking on Florida's Interstate roadways can overflow onto rest area ramps, freeway ramps and shoulders, and adjacent roads. This overflow creates safety concerns for other motorists and for the commercial vehicle operators along the corridor. Expansion of the rest areas to accommodate the need for more truck parking is costly. Rather than building more parking spaces, FDOT has undertaken a project to evaluate if existing spaces along the corridor can be more efficiently utilized through better communication of parking availability to the trucking community. Identifying available parking that provides safe alternatives for the overflow and communicating that information to commercial vehicle operators are the primary needs to be addressed by this project.

The functions of FDOT's Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) are:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution
- Provide a secure solution that protects user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance of the system for truck parking decisions.

The TPAS will include capabilities to measure truck parking availability at public rest areas and weigh stations. FDOT will be responsible for collecting truck parking availability information at the public rest areas, welcome centers and weigh stations. Truck parking availability information will be shown on Dynamic Message Signs, and the information will be disseminated over the Internet, via a smart phone application and/or dedicated FDOT website.

2.0 EXISTING FACILITY & PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Two weigh stations and six rest areas are located within the FDOT District 5 jurisdictional boundary associated with Phase I of this project. The sites are located along segments of I-4 and I-95 within Brevard, Flagler and Seminole Counties, Florida. These rest areas and weigh stations are directly adjacent to limited access interstate corridors are accessible via access roads at an identified mile marker (MM) along I-95's northbound (NB) and southbound (SB) or I-4's eastbound (EB) and westbound (WB) lanes.

Figure 1 below shows a Location Map of the FDOT District 5 weigh stations and rest areas that are associated with this project.

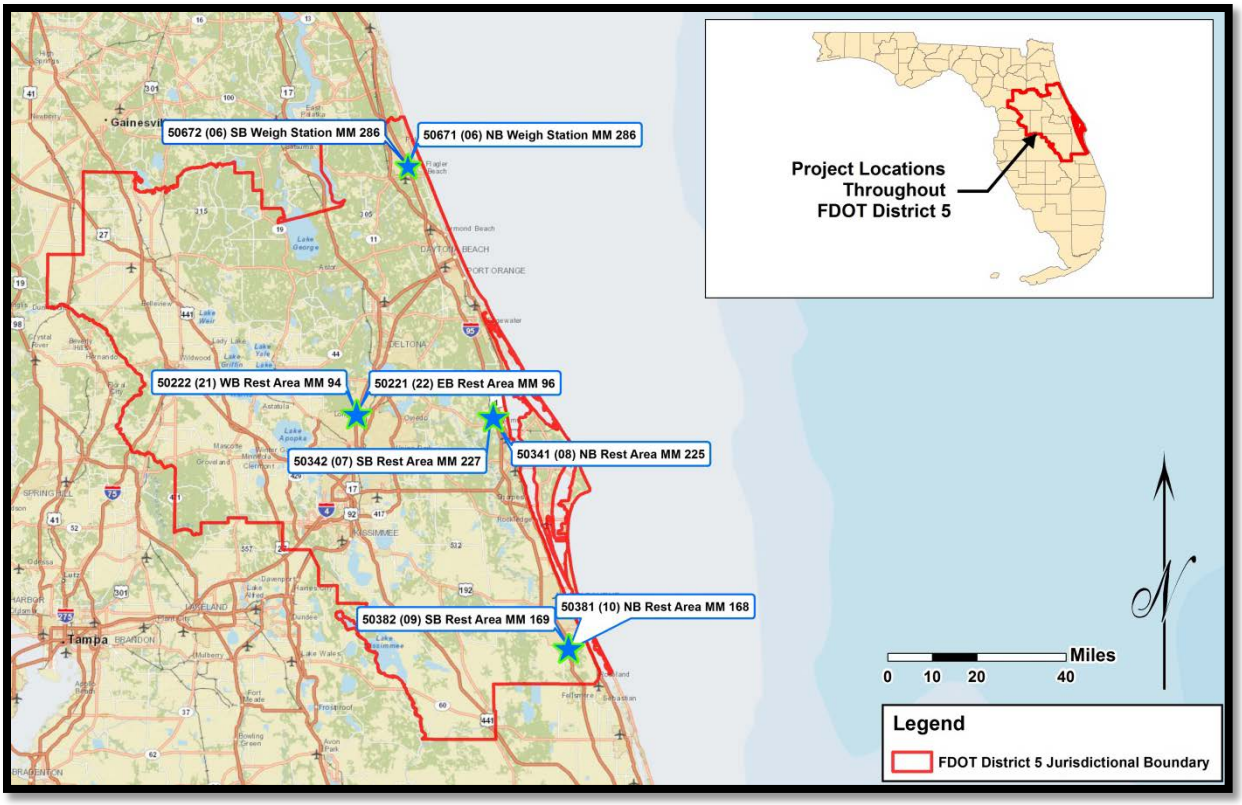


Figure 1: FDOT District 5 Location Map

2.1 Existing Conditions

2.1.1 Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286

Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286 are located just northwest of Flagler Beach in Flagler County, Florida and in existing conditions share very similar characteristics due to their close proximity to each other. Local land cover consists of high-density residential and commercial development and various types of natural marine habitat. Both weigh stations feature shelly sands and clays and are supplemented with on-site dry retention stormwater ponds.

Figure 2 below shows an aerial of Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286.

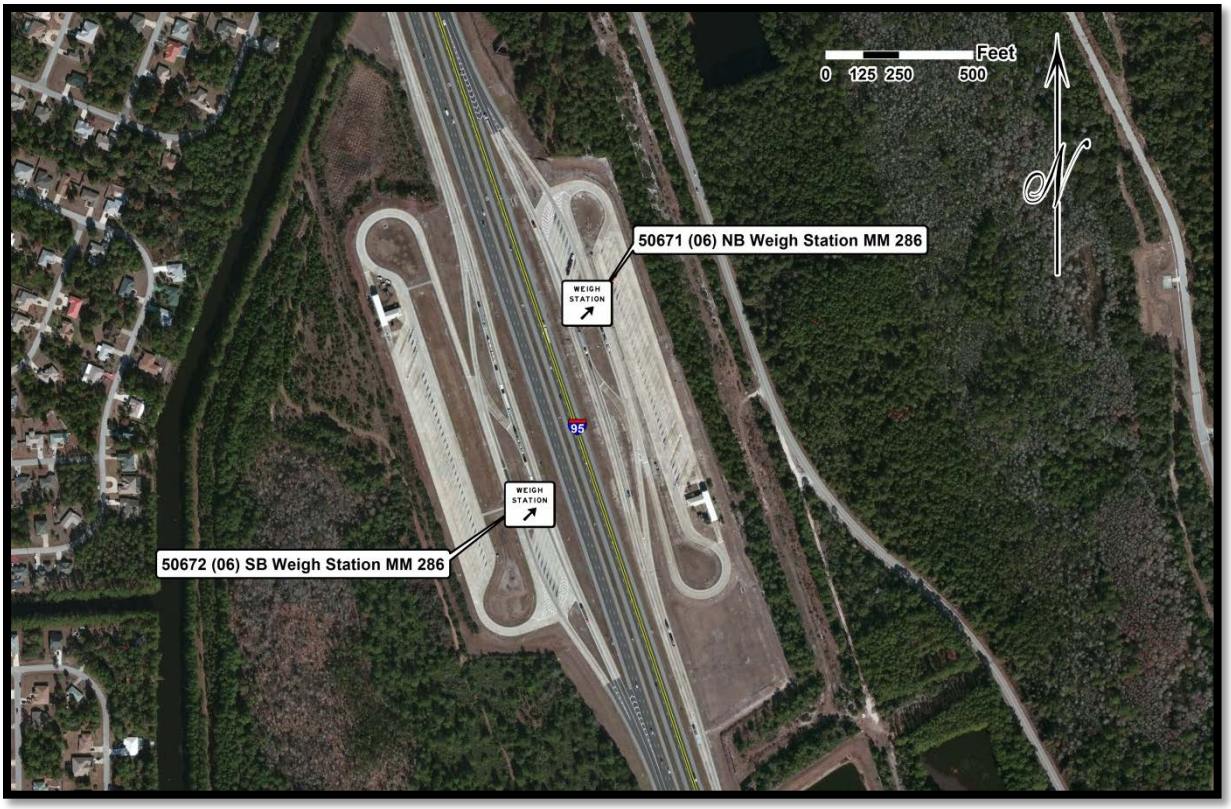


Figure 2: Aerial of Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286

2.1.2 Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94

Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94 are located just northeast of Wekiva Springs in Seminole County, Florida, approximately 2-miles from one another. In existing conditions, land cover is dominated by high-density residential and commercial development. Both rest areas geologically feature clayey sand or medium fine sand and silt and are accompanied by on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 3 below shows an aerial of Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94.

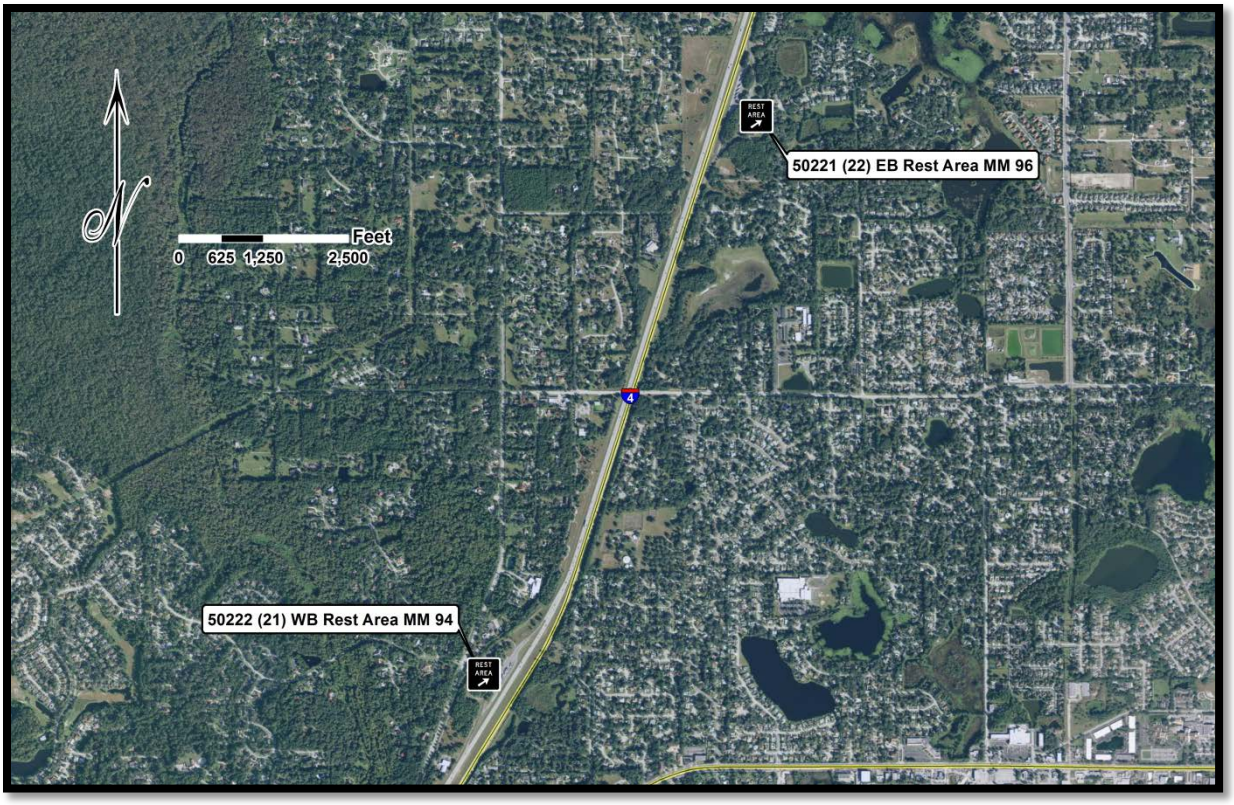


Figure 3: Aerial of Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94

2.1.3 Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227

Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227 are located just southwest of Scottsmoor in northern Brevard County, Florida. In existing conditions, local land cover transitions from a signature of high-density development to a vast area of less disturbed natural habitat. Both rest areas geologically feature shelly sands and clays and are supplemented with on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 4 below shows an aerial of Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227.

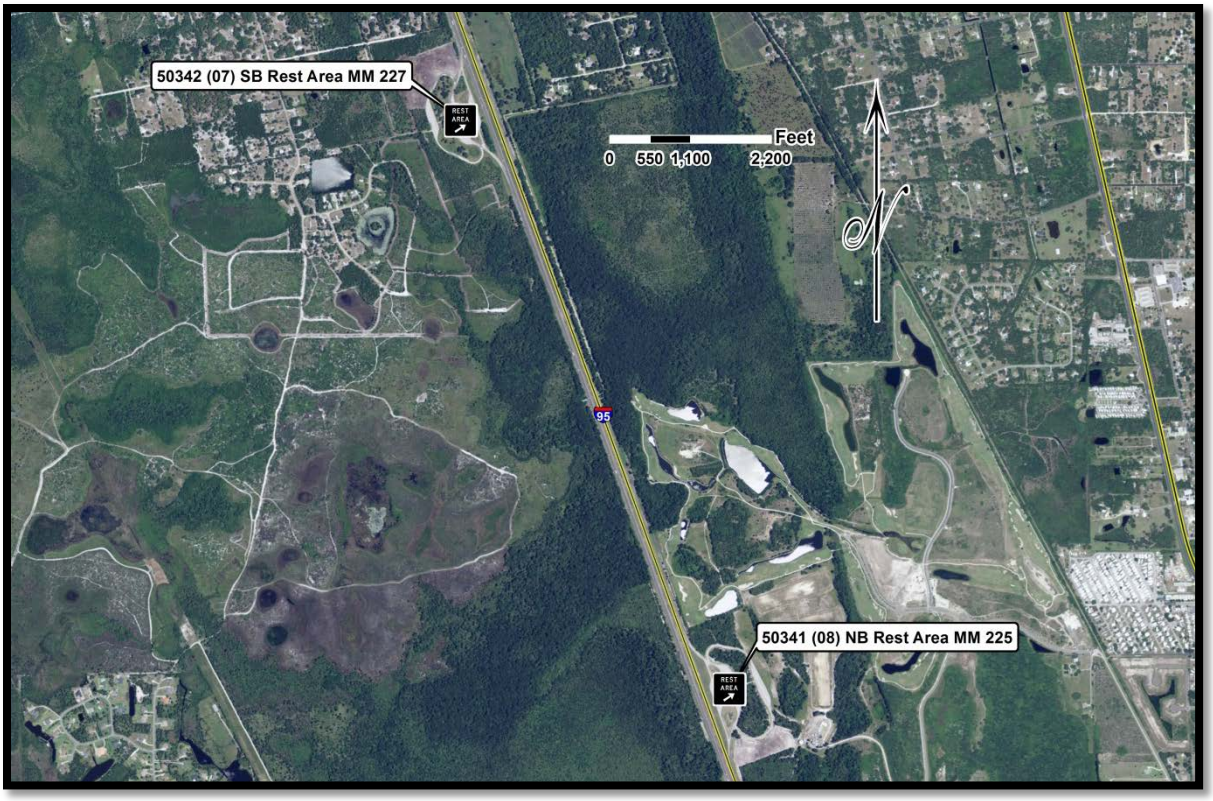


Figure 4: Aerial of Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227

2.1.4 Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169

Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169 are both located just southwest of Palm Bay in southern Brevard County, Florida, approximately 1.5 miles from one another. In current conditions, local land cover transitions from a signature of high-density development to a vast area of forested upland and wetland communities. Both rest areas geologically feature medium fine sands and clays and are supplemented with on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 5 below shows an aerial of Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169.

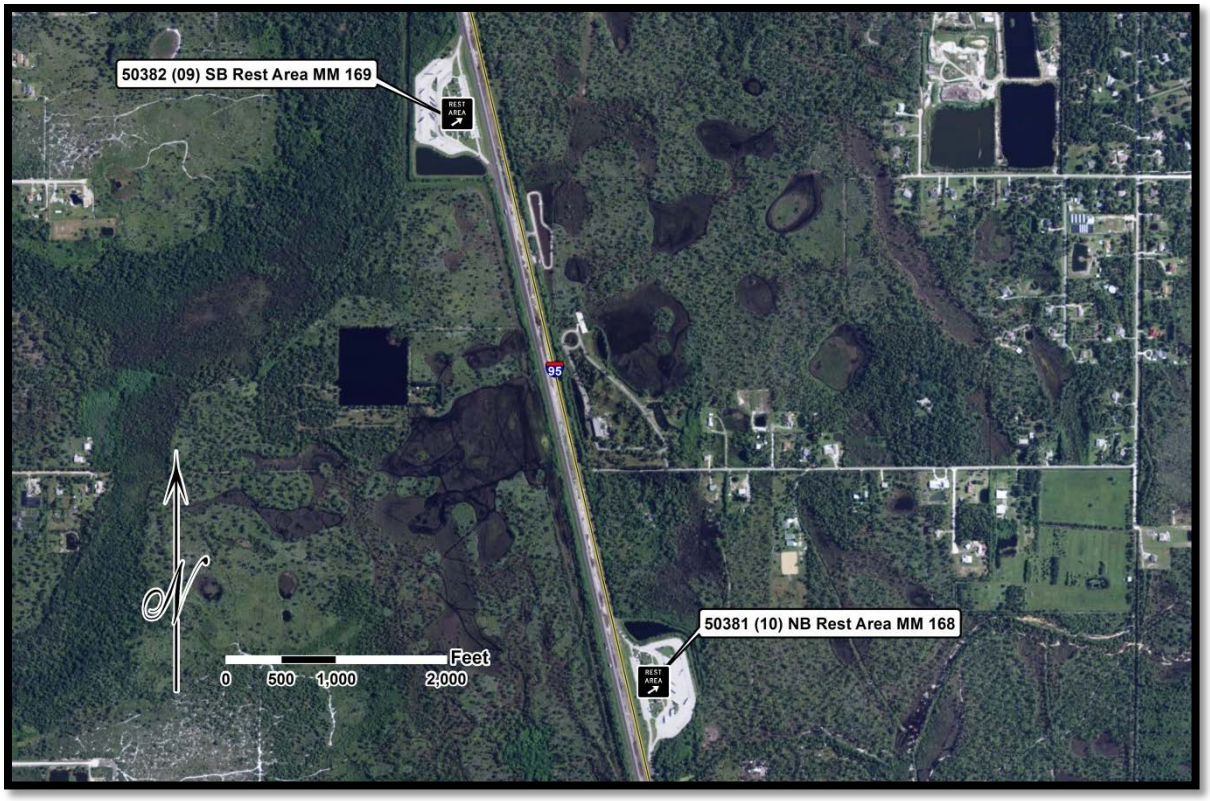


Figure 5: Aerial of Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169

2.2 Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining the driver's decision making in regards to parking at approaching rest areas or weigh stations. Wireless presence detection systems (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at the two weigh stations and six rest areas within Brevard, Flagler, and Seminole Counties. The system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT right-of –way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Survey Methodology

Literature reviews and database searches of the project study area were conducted in an effort to identify environmentally sensitive regions within the project area.

Literature review consisted of the following information:

- Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM), Environmental Screening Tool (EST) databases
- 1974 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Brevard County Soil Survey
- 1997 U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS Flagler County Soil Survey
- 1990 U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS Seminole County Soil Survey
- 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook, Fourth Edition
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- 1979 FWS Classification System of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.)
- Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) World Imagery
- 2008 South Florida Water Management District Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Eagle Nest Database Locator
- USFWS Consultation Areas
- USFWS Wood Stork Rookeries and Core Foraging Area
- Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL)

Although this project was not processed through FDOT's ETDM EST, the EST was used as primary source of information to screen this project. The EST as well as various other Geographic Information System (GIS) and literature reviews were used to perform a desktop analysis of the proposed project.

3.2 Existing Land Use

Both weigh stations and all six rest areas along the I-95 and I-4 corridors in Brevard, Flagler, and Seminole Counties consist primarily of upland communities surrounded by high-density residential development and some freshwater wetlands. Adjacent to these rural stretches of the I-95 and I-4 corridors between the interstate and the rest areas/weigh stations are roadside open cut ditch systems which appear to be well maintained and actively mowed.

The native wetland habitats which neighbor the FDOT ROW are characterized by freshwater emergent wetlands and freshwater forested/shrub wetlands. The remaining natural habitat adjacent to the project consists primarily of privately operated stormwater management facilities and some pasture land. Assessment areas were determined for all project sites within FDOT District 5 and were evaluated through literature review, GIS analysis, and with use of the EST. A tailored summary of each areas general land use is provided below.

3.2.1 Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286 are both located in eastern Flagler County, Florida. The weigh stations are surrounded by upland and wetland forested communities. The sites consist of access roads, truck parking one administrative/enforcement building and one inspection building per site. The undeveloped portions of the site are sodded, mowed and maintained grasses with dry stormwater ponds.

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 6 below shows the general land use distribution of Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286.

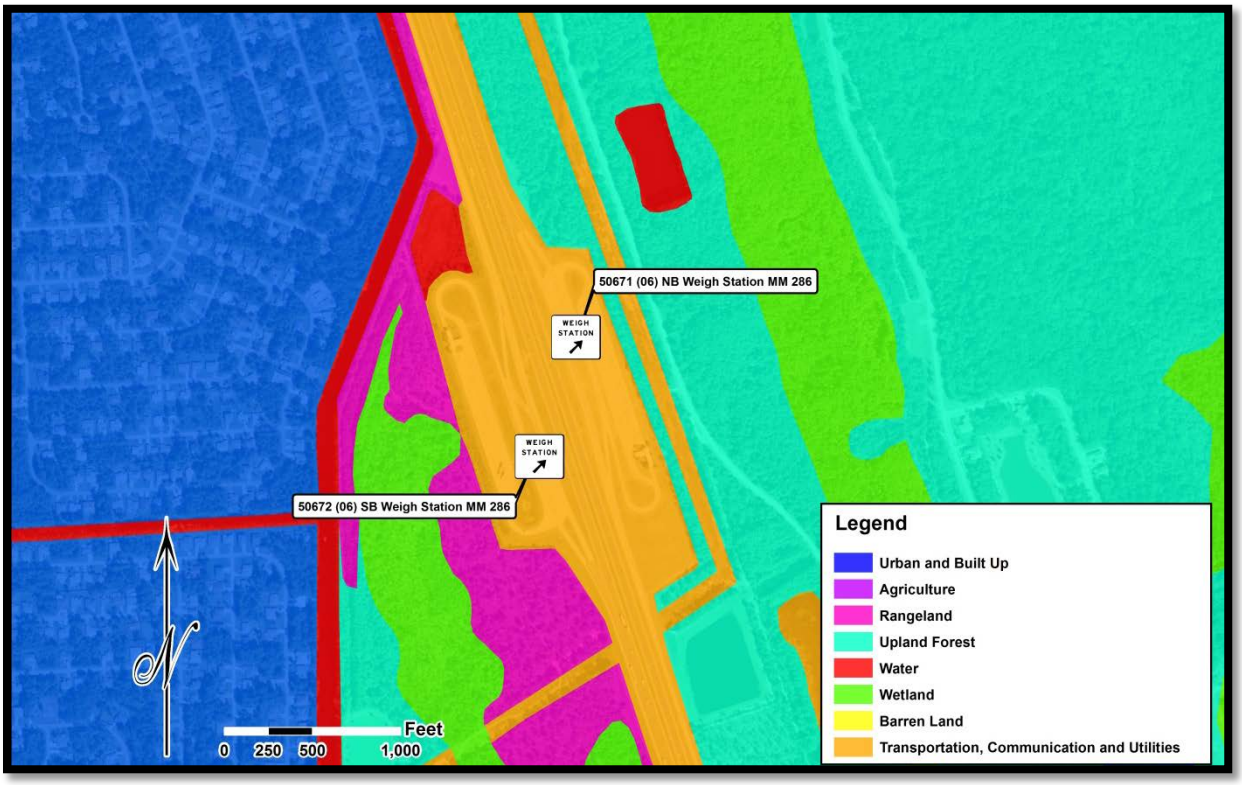


Figure 6: Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286 Existing Land Use

3.2.2 Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94, both located within the western portion of Seminole County, Florida, are primarily surrounded by commercial and residential development. Immediately adjacent to the rest areas there are small pockets of forested upland communities and herbaceous wetland communities. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest area facilities is characterized as upland communities consisting of sodded, mowed and maintained grass with scattered planted pine trees (*Pinus sp*.) and oak trees (*Quercus sp.*).

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 7 below shows the general land use distribution of Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94.

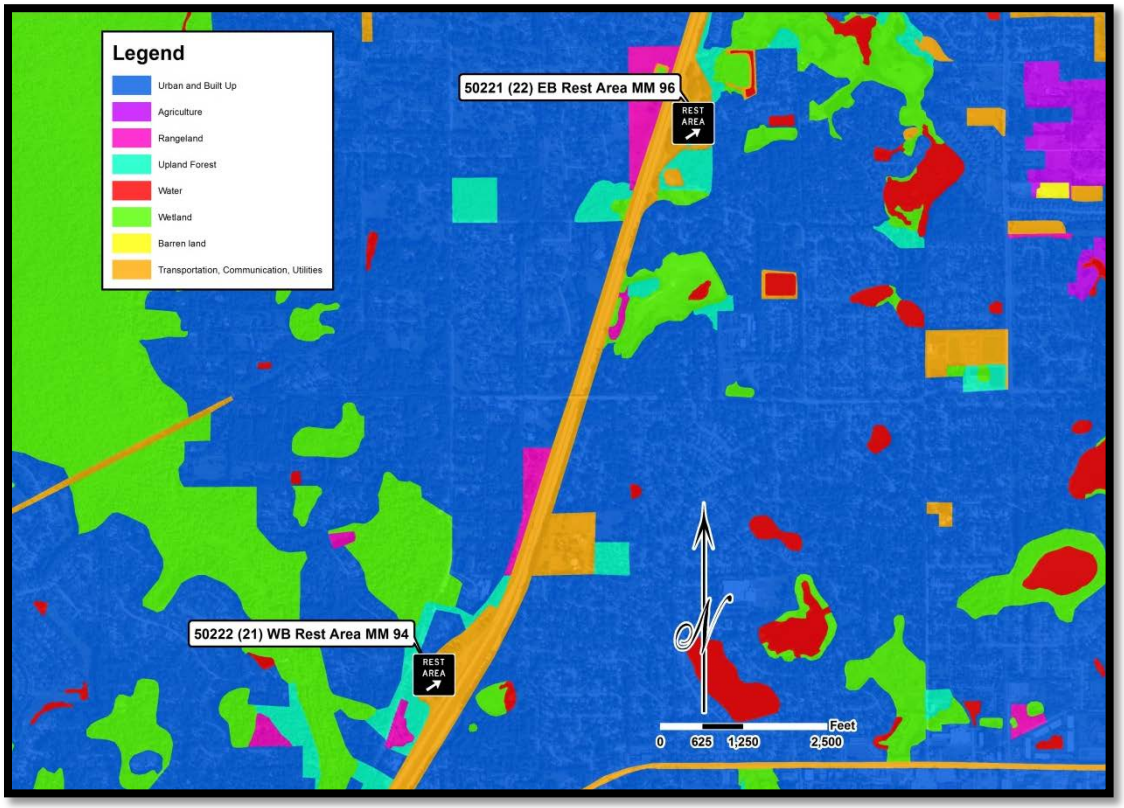


Figure 7: Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94 Existing Land Use

3.2.3 Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227, both located in northern Brevard County, Florida, are within the transitional zone between high-density development and forested wetland habitat. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest area facilities is characterized as upland communities consisting of sodded, mowed and maintained grass with scattered planted pine trees (*Pinus sp*.) and oak trees (*Quercus sp.*).

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 8 below shows the general land use distribution for Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227.

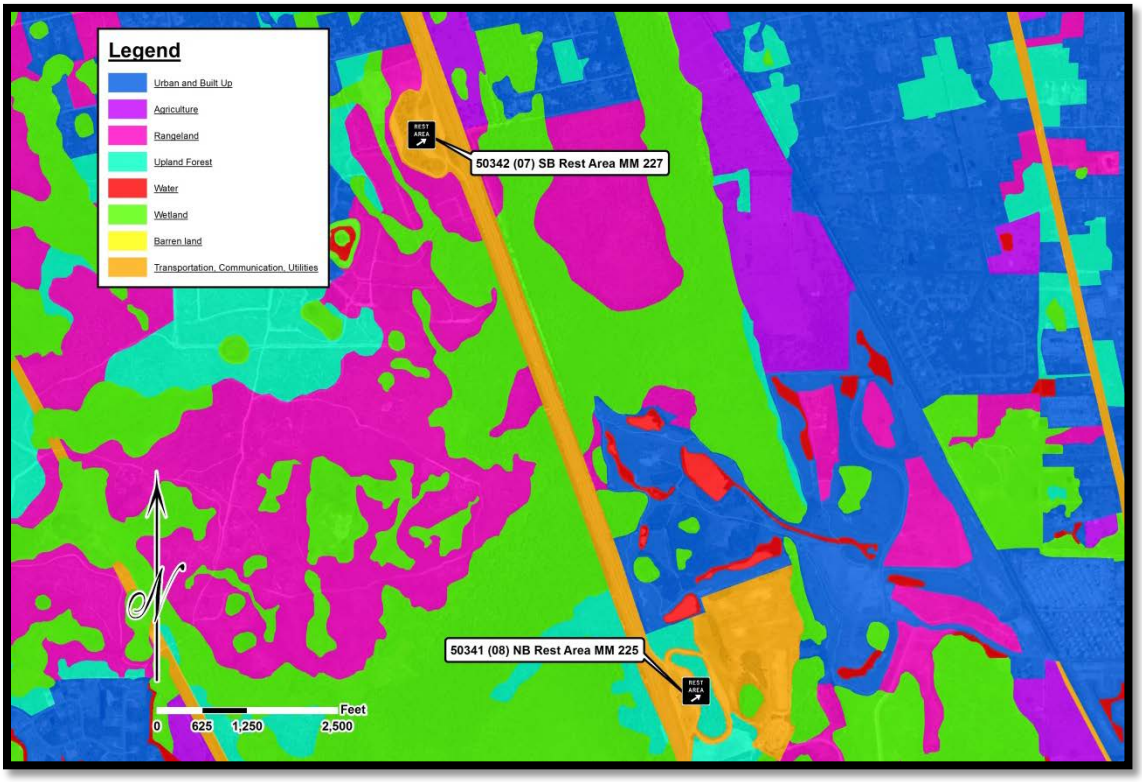


Figure 8: Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227 Existing Land Use

3.2.4 Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169

FLUCFCS 810 – Transportation

Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169, both located in southern Brevard County, Florida, are surrounded by rangelands, wetlands, and forested uplands. The sites contain existing paved truck and car parking, comfort station buildings, and scattered picnic shelters with connecting sidewalks. The undeveloped habitat within the rest area facilities is characterized as upland communities consisting of sodded, mowed and maintained grass with scattered planted pine trees (*Pinus sp.*) and oak trees (*Quercus sp.*).

All proposed improvements will be performed within the existing maintained FDOT ROW. No wetlands or surface waters will be impacted by the proposed improvements.

Figure 9 below shows the general land use distribution of Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169.

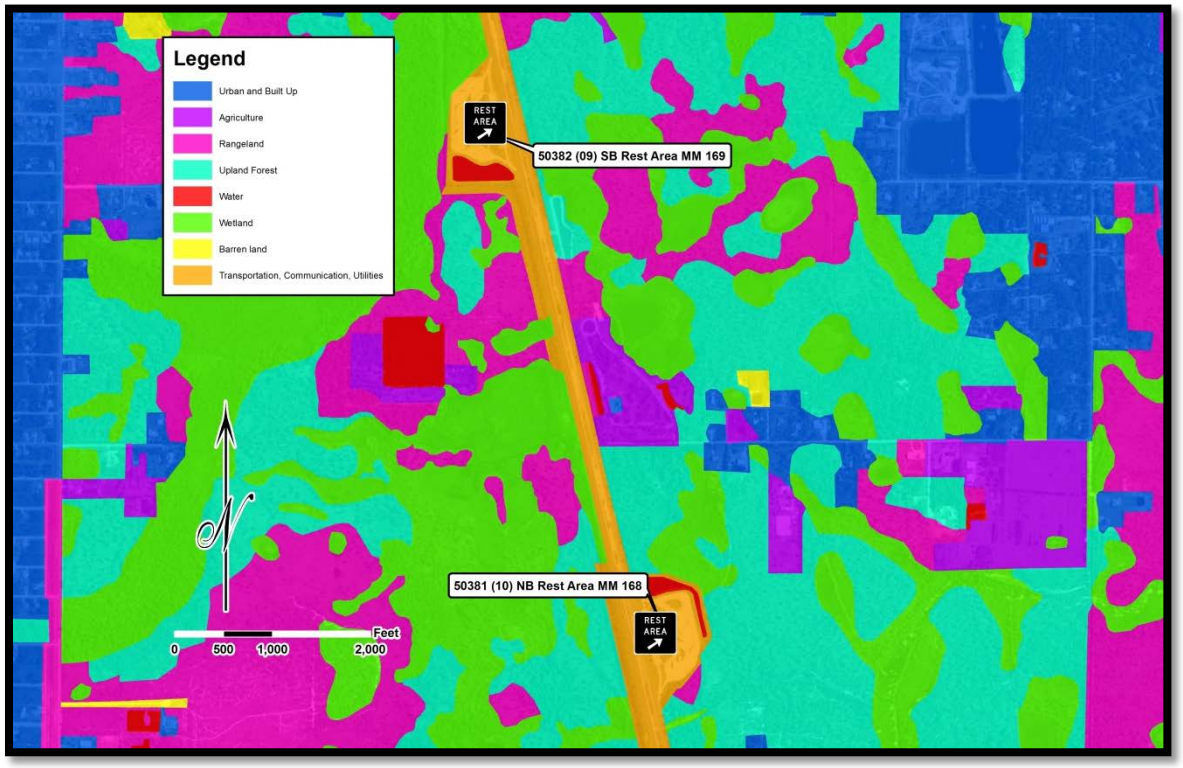


Figure 9: Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169 Existing Land Use

3.3 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

Review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) EFH database revealed no EFH located within the project limits.

3.4 Floodplain

The two weigh stations and six rest areas are primarily located within flood zone X; however, small portions of some sites are located within flood zone A. Flood zone X are areas that are determined to be outside the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, have minimal flood hazards. Flood zone A are areas located within the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, may be subjected to inundation by the 100-year storm event. No impacts to the 100-year floodplain are anticipated as a result of the proposed activities. Appendix A includes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone maps for the project limits.

3.5 Soils

The Brevard County, Flagler County and Seminole County soil surveys from the USDA NRCS were consulted for each of the assessment areas within the project vicinity. According to the 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook (Fourth Edition), some of the soil types within or adjacent to the proposed project areas are classified as hydric soils. Although a soil may be listed as hydric within the Hydric Soils Handbook based on hydric soil criteria, many factors are considered including climate, drainage features, the inclusion of non-hydric soil types, and landscape position. The soils identified within the project area have not been field verified and hydric soil identifications will be finalized during design and permitting.

These soils names, corresponding hydrologic soil groups and soil descriptions for each assessment area can be found below.

3.5.1 Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286

The following five soil types were identified within the Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286 assessment areas by the Flagler County soil survey:

- Myakka-Myakka, Wet, Fine Sands, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained with high runoff potential. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer which lasts until at least a depth of 80-inches. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 0 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.
- Udarents, Moderately Wet, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as somewhat poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are mine spoil, earthy fill, and altered marine deposits found on flats on marine terraces. This soil's typical

profile will frequently contain a single fine sand layer at least 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be estimated between a depth of 18 and 36-inches.

- Immokalee Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will similarly have a single fine sand layer from ground level to at least a depth of 80-inches. The SHGWT can be estimated between a depth of 6 and 18-inches. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.
- Placid, Basinger, and St. Johns Soils, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is classified as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 1%, nearly flat, and is not associated with prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will also frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer 80-inches deep. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected between ground level and a depth of 12-inches. These soils are also frequently found among sandy soils on stream terraces, flood plains, and in depressions.
- Cassia Fine Sand, (A/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as somewhat poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on rises of marine terraces. Like the other soils in this assessment area, this soil group's typical profile is a fine sand layer for the first 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be estimated between a depth of 18 and 42-inches. These soils are also frequently found among sand pine scrub and sandy soils on rises and knolls of mesic uplands.

Figure 10 shows the soil distribution for Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286.

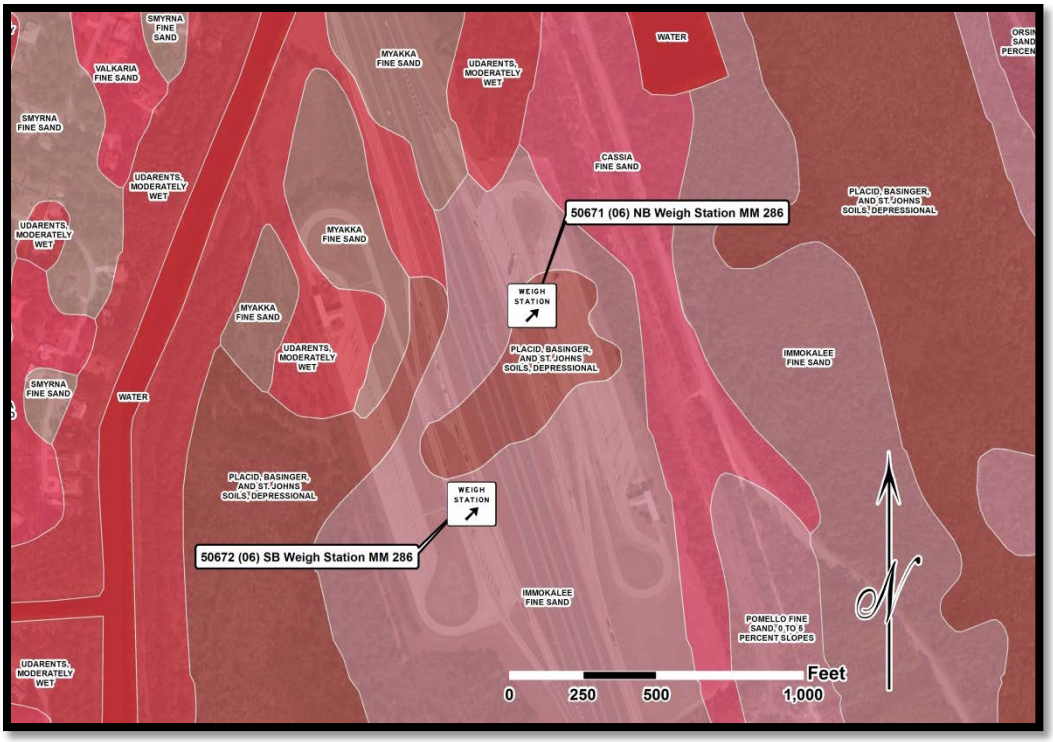


Figure 10: Weigh Station 50671 (06) NB at MM 286 and Weigh Station 50672 (06) SB at MM 286 Soils Map

3.5.2 Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94

The following five soil types were identified within the Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94 assessment areas by the Seminole County soil survey:

- Astatula – Apopka Fine Sands, 0 – 5% Slopes, (A) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and excessively drained. The soil group is not associated with any prime farmland and its parent materials are Eolian or sandy marine deposits found on ridges and hillslopes of marine terraces. Its typical profile is a single layer of fine sand for the first 80-inches below ground level. Depth to the SHGWT is generally found below this homogenous fine sand layer. This soil group can also regularly be found in Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills and sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.
- Astatula – Apopka Fine Sands, 5 – 8% Slopes, (A) – This soil is characteristically identical to the Astatula – Apopka Fine Sands, 0 – 5% Slopes soil group; however, it is defined by areas with steeper slopes.
- Myakka and EauGallie Fine Sands, (A/D) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained with high runoff potential. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer which lasts until at least a depth of

80-inches. The SHGWT can be expected to be between 6 and 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Basinger, Samsula, and Hontoon Soils, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is classified as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will contain a thin layer of mucky fine sand which transitions to a fine sand layer at a depth of about 6-inches. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected at or just below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among freshwater marshes and ponds and among other sandy soils on stream terraces, flood plains, and in depressions.
- Adamsville – Sparr Fine Sands, (A) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and somewhat poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 – 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on knolls and rises on marine terraces. Its typical profile is an uninterrupted fine sand layer for the first 80-inches below ground level. Depth to the SHGWT is generally 24 to 42-inches in these soils. This soil group can also frequently be found in south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on rises and knolls of mesic uplands.

Figure 11 below shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94.

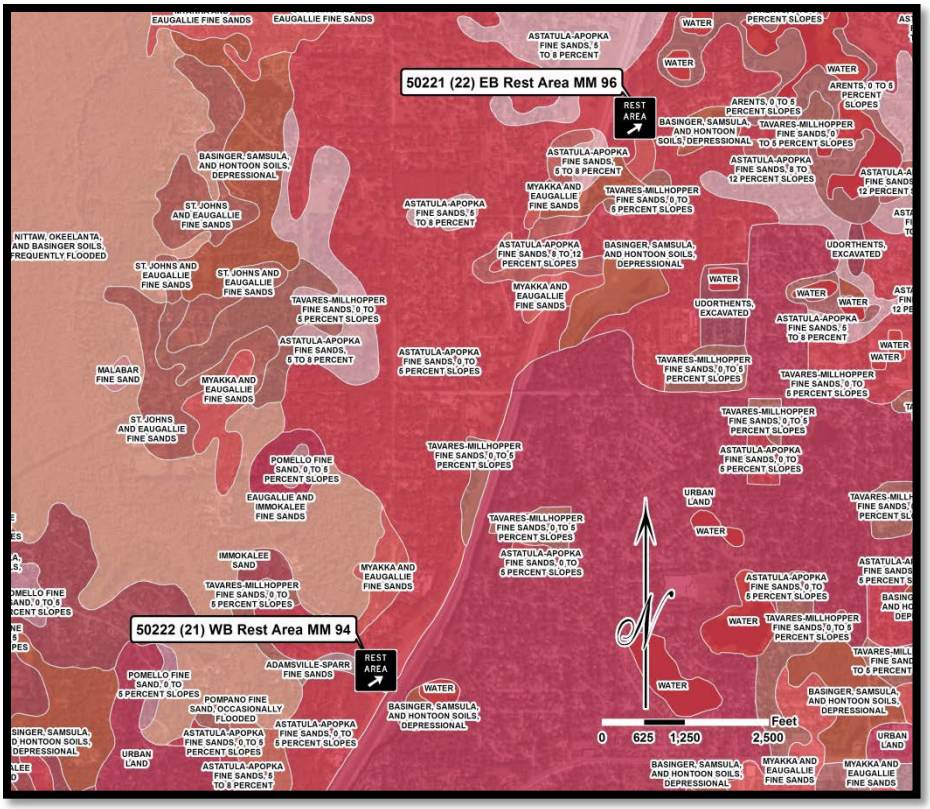


Figure 11: Rest Area 50221 (22) EB at MM 96 and Rest Area 50222 (21) WB at MM 94 Soils Map

3.5.3 Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227

The following five soil types were identified within the Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227 assessment areas by the Brevard County soil survey:

- Paola Fine Sand, 0 – 8% Slopes, (A) – This soil group is classified as non-hydric and excessively drained. The soil group is not associated with any prime farmlands and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on knolls, ridges, flats, and hills of marine terraces. Its typical profile is a single layer of fine sand which is homogenous to a depth of at least 80-inches. Due to this soil layer's well-drained properties, the SHGWT is estimated to be at least 80-inches deep. These soils are also commonly found among sand pine scrub and other sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.
- Paola Fine Sand, 5 – 12% Slopes, (A) – These soils are characteristically identical to the Paola Fine Sand, 0 – 8% Slopes soil group; however, it is defined by areas with steeper slopes.
- Myakka Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained with high runoff potential. This soil group is associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits

found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's profile will typically contain a homogenous sand layer which lasts until at least a depth of 80-inches. The SHGWT is approximated to be 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Pomello Sand, (A) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and moderately well drained. The soil group is not associated with any prime farmlands and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on flats and rises on marine terraces. Its slope is 0 – 2%, nearly level, and its typical profile is a single layer of sand which is uninterrupted to a depth of at least 80-inches. The SHGWT is estimated to be between 24 and 42-inches deep. These soils are also commonly found among sand pine scrub and other sandy soils on rises and knolls of mesic uplands.
- Samsula Muck, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 1% and is considered to be nearly flat. This soil is not commonly associated with any prime farmlands. Its parent material is herbaceous organic material over sandy marine deposits found within depressions on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from a layer of muck at the surface to sand around a depth of 36 to 60-inches. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected at or just below ground level. These soils are also generally found among organic soils in depressions and on flood plains.

Figure 12 below shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227.

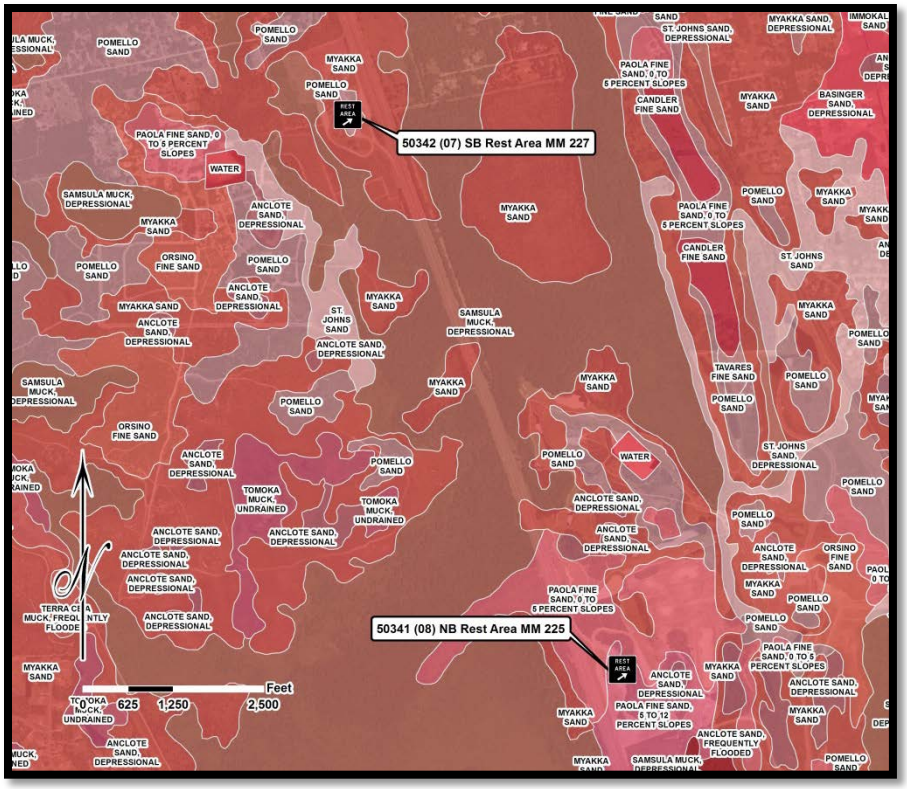


Figure 12: Rest Area 50341 (08) NB at MM 225 and Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227 Soils Map

3.5.4 Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169

The following four soil types were identified within the Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169 assessment areas by the Brevard County soil survey:

- EauGallie Sand, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and poorly drained. It's typically associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found on flats of marine terraces. The soil's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and has high potential for runoff. The soil group's typical profile will contain a sand layer to a depth of approximately 55-inches, where it transitions to a sandy clay loam layer. The SHGWT is commonly 6 to 18-inches deep and these soils can also frequently be found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.
- Myakka Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is considered to be poorly drained with high runoff potential. This soil group is associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in flatwoods on marine terraces. This soil's profile will typically contain a homogenous sand layer which continues until at least a depth of 80-inches. The SHGWT

is approximated to be 6 to 18-inches deep. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Samsula Muck, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 1% and is considered to be nearly flat. This soil is not commonly associated with any prime farmlands. Its parent material is herbaceous organic material over sandy marine deposits found within depressions on marine terraces. This soil's typical profile commonly transitions from a layer of muck at the surface to sand around a depth of 36 to 60-inches. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected at or just below ground level. These soils are also generally found among organic soils in depressions and on flood plains.
- EauGallie, Winder, and Riviera Soils, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is considered to be very poorly drained. This soil is not associated with any prime farmlands. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and its parent materials are sandy and loamy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces. The soil's representative profile commonly contains a sand layer which transitions to a sandy clay loam layer approximately 55 to 61-inches below ground level. The SHGWT can be expected to be at or just below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among freshwater marshes and ponds, flood plains, sandy soils on stream terraces and in depressions.

Figure 13 below shows the soil distribution for Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169.

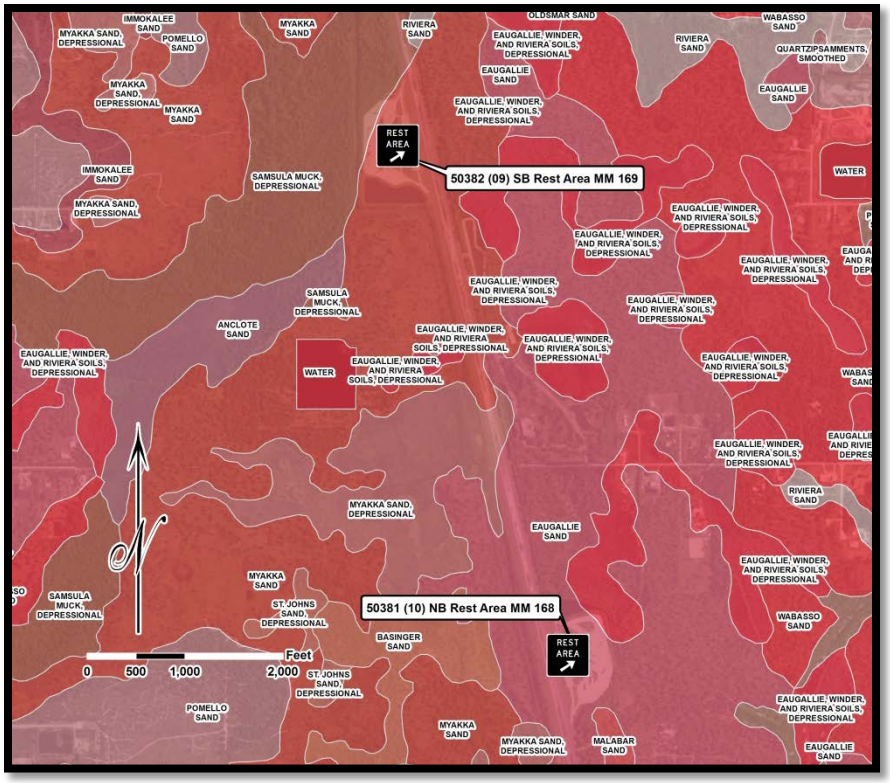


Figure 13: Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168 and Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169 Soils Map

3.6 Protected Species Habitat

A desktop analysis of the project area was conducted in an effort to identify the presence of federal or state protected species or their habitat within the proposed project limits. The proposed project is located within the USFWS Consultation Area for several federally protected species. Potential habitat for state protected species exists as well. Anticipated effects of the proposed project on listed species can be found in the following descriptions.

3.6.1 Federally-Protected Species

The **Eastern Indigo Snake** (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS due to loss or degradation of habitat and human intervention. The species is found in a variety of habitats including swamps, wet prairies, xeric pinelands and scrub areas. It may utilize gopher tortoise burrows for shelter during the winter and to escape the heat during the summer. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction. Based on a desktop analysis of the project area, it was determined that this species has moderate potential of occurrence within the project. The project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the Eastern indigo snake.

The **Florida grasshopper sparrow** *(Ammodramus savannarum floridanaus)* is listed as an endangered species by the USFWS. The Florida grasshopper sparrow requires large areas of frequently burned dry prairie habitat, with patchy open areas sufficient for foraging; however, this species may persist in pasture lands that have not been intensively managed. The Florida grasshopper sparrow generally avoids forested edges and uses the centers of open landscapes. Part of the project area is located within a Florida grasshopper sparrow consultation area, however, the proposed study area has a low potential for the presence of Florida grasshopper sparrows as suitable habitat is not present. Therefore, it is anticipated that the proposed project will have no effect on the Florida grasshopper sparrow.

The **Florida Scrub Jay** (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) is similar in size and shape to the blue jay, but the scrub jay lacks the crest and white spotting on wings and tail. This species is listed as threatened by the USFWS. Optimal scrub-jay habitat consists of low growing, scattered scrub canopy species with patches of bare sandy soil such as those found in sand pine scrub, xeric oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and scrubby coastal strand habitats. In areas where these types of habitats are unavailable, Florida scrub jays may be found in less optimal habitats such as pine flatwoods with scattered oaks. The project does not contain suitable scrub habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the Florida scrub jay.

The **Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) is listed as threatened by the USFWS. This wading bird species is opportunistic, utilizing various habitats including mixed hardwood swamps, man-made wetlands, sloughs, tidal creeks, and mangroves for foraging. The project is located within the wood stork core foraging area (CFA) (15 and 18.6-mile radii) of eleven nesting colonies: #612320, #616119, #616301, Grant Farm Island, Lake Washington, Micco North, Micco South, Pelican Island, SW Lake Washington, Valkaria and Wabasso. As defined by the USFWS, Suitable Foraging Habitat (SFH) includes wetlands and surface waters which have areas of water that are relatively calm, uncluttered by dense thickets of aquatic vegetation and have permanent or seasonal water depth between two and 15-inches. No SFH is located within the limits of the proposed improvements. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on SFH for the wood stork.

Figure 14 below depicts wood stork nesting colonies and CFA within the vicinity of the project study area.

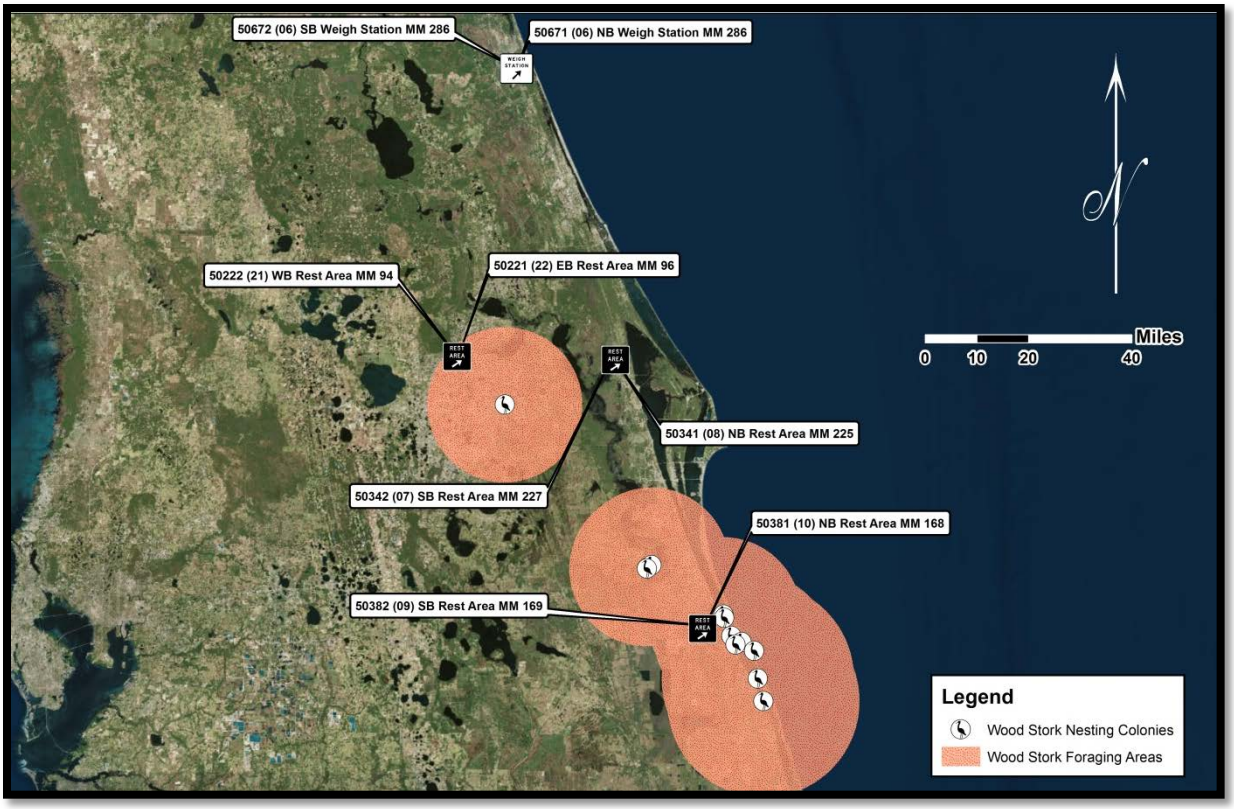


Figure 14: Wood Stork Habitat

3.6.2 State-Protected Species

The **Gopher Tortoise** (*Gopherus polyphemus*), **Gopher Frog** (*Lithobates capito*), **Florida Pine Snake** (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitis*), and **Florida Mouse** (*Podomys floridanus*) may be present within the project areas. The gopher tortoise is currently listed as a candidate species with the USFWS and is listed as threatened by the FWC. Due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is declining in numbers. This species requires well drained and loose sandy soils for burrowing and low-growing herbs and grasses for foraging. These habitat conditions are best found in sandhill communities, although tortoises are known to use a wide variety of habitats including sand pine scrub, xeric oak hammocks, dry prairies, pine flatwoods as well as ruderal sites such as pastures. Gopher tortoise burrows are frequently used by commensal species including the Florida mouse, gopher frog and Florida pine snake, all of which are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Suitable habitat for these species may be present within the limits of the proposed improvements. Current FWC regulations require a gopher tortoise relocation permit for any ground disturbance activity occurring within 25-feet of a potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrow. Therefore, a field survey of the project study area is required prior to construction. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC is required or avoiding construction at a minimum of 25-feet from the burrow opening. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction.

The **Sherman's Fox Squirrel** (*Sciurus niger shermani*) is listed as a species of special concern by the FWC. This species prefers high pine sandhills, pine flatwoods, pastures and other open, ruderal habitats with scattered pines and oaks. Suitable habitat for this species is located within the project study area; however, impacts to this species are not anticipated as a result of the proposed improvements.

3.6.3 Non-Listed Protected Species

The **Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is no longer listed as a threatened species by the USFWS but is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended. In addition, the FWC has implemented a bald eagle management plan, adopted April 2008. The bald eagle prefers riparian habitat associated with coastal areas, lake shores or rivers. It nests near water bodies which provide a dependable source of food. The locations of eagle nests throughout the state are closely monitored by the FWC each nesting season. Although no active bald eagle nests are located within the vicinity of the proposed improvements; the project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within the 660-foot of the proposed construction area, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan shall be followed.

The **Florida Black Bear (***Ursus americanus floridanus)* is no longer listed is as a protected species by the FWC; however, it is afforded protection under the Florida Black Bear Conservation Rule 68A-4.009 F.A.C. The Florida black bear is the largest land mammal in Florida and prefers variety of forested habitats that provided a variety of nutritional benefits. Although forested habitat exists within areas adjacent to the project limits, no bear habitat will be impacted by the proposed improvements; therefore, it is not anticipated that the project will have an effect on the Florida Black Bear.

3.6.4 Critical Habitat

The project ROW was assessed for Critical Habitat (CH) designated by Congress in 17 CFR 35.1532. Review of the USFWS's available GIS data for CH resulted in the identification of no Critical Habitats.

3.7 Cultural & Historic Resources

The ETDM EST was consulted for documented archaeological, cultural or historic resources within the vicinity of the proposed improvements. Cultural Resource Assessment Surveys (CRAS) were completed within the limits of the proposed project: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of I-95 Flagler Beach Weight-In-Motion Facility Flagler County, Florida completed in 1992 (Manuscript #3323); Cultural Resources Study of Seminole County, Florida: Historic and Architectural Resources, Volume II completed in 1994 (Manuscript #3889). One prehistoric campsite (Rest Area BR00208), is an archaeological resource located adjacent to Rest Area 50341 (08) NB Rest Area at MM 225 in Brevard County. Based on the desktop analysis, this site

was not evaluated by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Although the proposed improvements will not change the use of the existing rest area, coordination with SHPO may be required.

3.8 Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) is part of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 which limits the use of publicly owned lands from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state or local significance. The project site and vicinity were evaluated in an effort to determine if Section 4(f) applies. North Buck Lake Scrub Sanctuary, a Brevard County project, is located along the western perimeter of Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227; Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem-Malabar Expansion and Valkaria/Micco Expansion, a Florida Forever Board of Trustees Project, is located around the perimeter of Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168; and Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem-Ten Mile Ridge, a Florida Forever Board of Trustees Project, is located around the perimeter of Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

4.0 CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed improvements to two weigh stations and six rest areas within the jurisdictional boundaries of FDOT District 5 include the installation of wireless presence detection systems (sensors) within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed within the existing sodded and regularly mowed and maintained FDOT ROW via open trench or directional bore methods.

Databases searches and literature reviews were conducted to determine impacts to the environment from the proposed improvements. As a result, the following has been concluded:

- Potential habitat exists for the Eastern Indigo Snake. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction.
- Potential habitat exists for the gopher tortoise and gopher tortoise commensal species. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction. A field survey of the project study area and any proposed staging sites is required prior to construction to document the presence of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC may be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the FWC is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.

- The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within 660-feet of the proposed construction area or staging sites, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan and USFWS 2007 Bald Eagle Monitoring Guidelines must be adhered to.
- One prehistoric campsite (Rest Area BR00208), is an archaeological resource located adjacent to Rest Area 50341 (08) NB Rest Area at MM 225 in Brevard County. Based on the desktop analysis, this site was not evaluated by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Although the proposed improvements will not change the use of the existing rest area, coordination with SHPO may be required.
- Section 4(f) resources, North Buck Lake Scrub Sanctuary, a Brevard County project, is located along the western perimeter of Rest Area 50342 (07) SB at MM 227; Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem-Malabar Expansion and Valkaria/Micco Expansion, a Florida Forever Board of Trustees Project, is located around the perimeter of Rest Area 50381 (10) NB at MM 168; and Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem-Ten Mile Ridge, a Florida Forever Board of Trustees Project, is located around the perimeter of Rest Area 50382 (09) SB at MM 169. Although no improvements are proposed outside of the existing FDOT ROW, no construction or staging of construction equipment or vehicles should be placed outside of the FDOT ROW, within the limits of the Section 4(f) resources.

Appendix A:
FEMA Floodplain Map

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The **community map repository** should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain more detailed information in areas where **Base Flood Elevations** (BFEs) and/or **floodways** have been determined, users are encouraged to consult the Flood Profiles, Floodway Data and/or Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report that accompanies this FIRM. Users should be aware that BFEs shown on the FIRM represent rounded whole-foot elevations. These BFEs are intended for flood insurance rating purposes only and should not be used as the sole source of flood elevation information. Accordingly, flood elevation data presented in the FIS report should be utilized in conjunction with the FIRM for purposes of construction and/or floodplain management.

Coastal Base Flood Elevations shown on this map apply only landward of 0.0' National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29). Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood elevations are also provided in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction. Elevations shown in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables should be used for construction and/or floodplain management purposes when they are higher than the elevations shown on this FIRM.

Boundaries of the **floodways** were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by **flood control structures.** Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study report for information on flood control structures in this jurisdiction.

The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) zone 17. The **horizontal datum** was NAD 83, GRS80 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or UTM zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

Flood elevations on this map are referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same **vertical datum**. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at www.ngs.noaa.gov or contact the National Geodetic Survey at the following address:

Spatial Reference System Division
National Geodetic Survey, NOAA
Silver Spring Metro Center
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
(301) 713-3191

To obtain current elevation, description, and/or location information for **bench marks** shown on this map, please contact the Information Services Branch of the National Geodetic Survey at **(301) 713-3242**, or visit their website at www.ngs.noaa.gov.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was derived from U.S. Geological Survey Digital Orthophoto Quadrangles (DOQs) produced at a scale of 1:12,000 from photography dated 1999 or later.

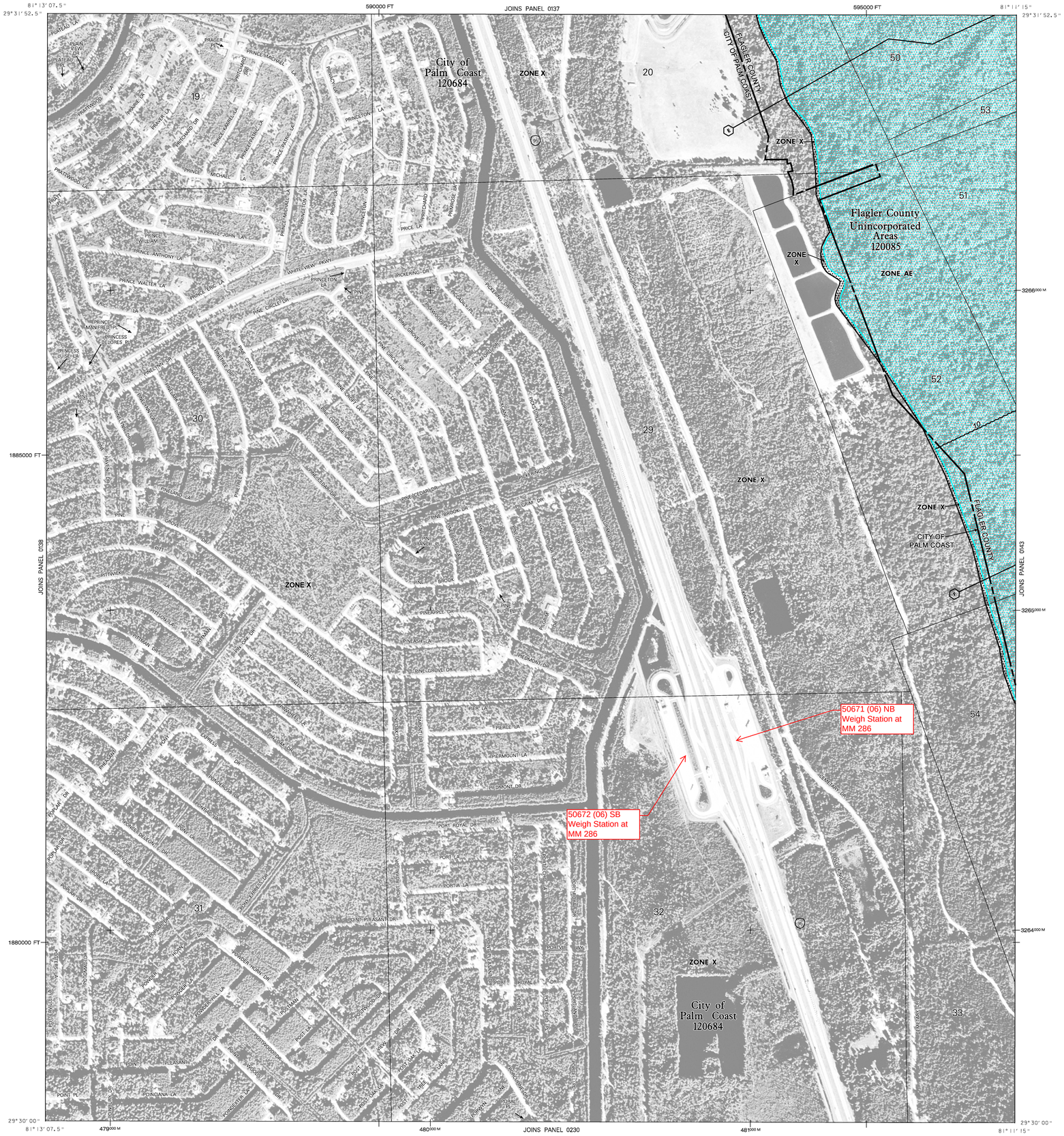
This map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data Tables for Middle Haw Creek, Middle Haw Creek Tributary No.1, Middle Haw Creek Tributary No.2, Sixteenmile Creek, and Sweetwater Branch in the Flood Insurance Study report (which contains authoritative hydraulic data) may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on this map.

Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after this map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

Please refer to the separately printed **Map Index** for an overview map of the county showing the layout of map panels; community map repository addresses; and a Listing of Communities table containing National Flood Insurance Program dates for each community as well as a listing of the panels on which each community is located.

Contact the **FEMA Map Service Center** at 1-800-358-9616 for information on available products associated with this FIRM. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study report, and/or digital versions of this map. The FEMA Map Service Center may also be reached by Fax at 1-800-358-9620 and their website at www.fema.gov/msc.

If you have **questions about this map** or questions concerning the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call **1-877-FEMA MAP** (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA website at www.fema.gov.



LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS (SFHAs) SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD

The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The Special Flood Hazard Area is the area subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. Areas of Special Flood Hazard include Zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V, and VE. The Base Flood Elevation is the water-surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood.

ZONE A No Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AH Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AO Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.

ZONE AR Special Flood Hazard Area formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.

ZONE A99 Area to be protected from 1% annual chance flood by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

ZONE D Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

- 1% annual chance floodplain boundary
- 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary
- Floodway boundary
- Zone D boundary
- CBRS and OPA boundary
- Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths or flood velocities
- 513 Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
- (EL 987) Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

*Referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929

- A–A Cross section line
- 23–23 Transect line
- 97°07'30", 32°22'30" Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83)
- 4276000 M 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid values, zone 17
- 600000 FT 5000-foot grid ticks: Florida State Plane coordinate system, east zone (FIPSZONE 901), Transverse Mercator projection.
- DX5510 Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
- M1.5 River Mile

MAP REPOSITORY
Refer to listing of Map Repositories on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
JULY 17, 2006

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

MAP SCALE 1" = 500'
250 0 500 1000 FEET
150 0 150 300 METERS

NFIP

PANEL 0139D

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
FLAGLER COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 139 OF 345

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
FLAGLER COUNTY	120085	0139	D
PALM COAST, CITY OF	120684	0139	D

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12035C0139D

EFFECTIVE DATE
JULY 17, 2006

Federal Emergency Management Agency

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

NOTES TO USERS

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National Geodetic Survey, NOAA
Silver Spring Metro Center
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
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Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by Seminole County, Florida. This information was photogrammetrically compiled at a scale of 1:12000 from aerial photography dated March 2004.

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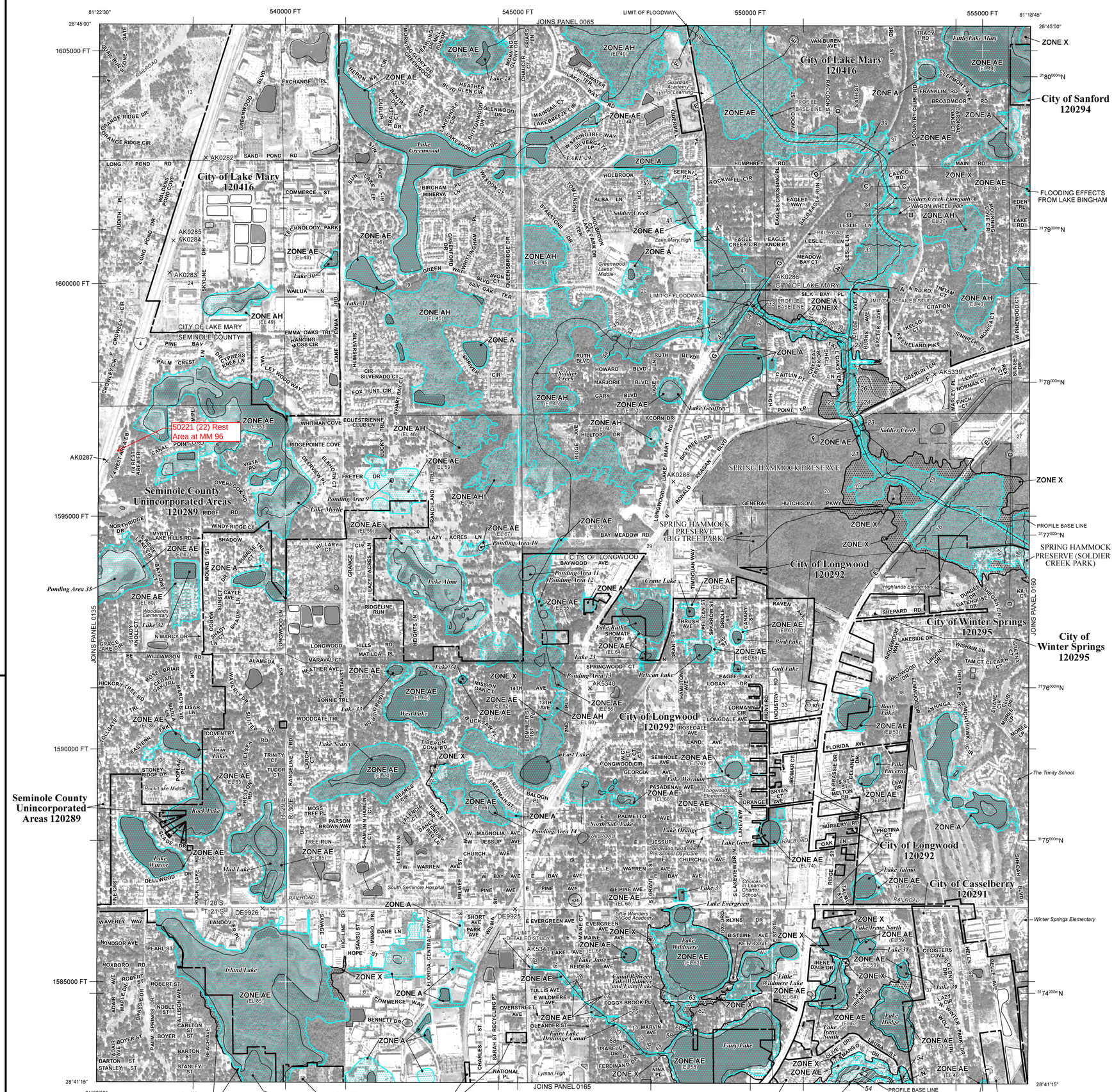

LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS (SFHAs) SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD EVENT

The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The Special Flood Hazard Area is the area subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. Areas of Special Flood Hazard include Zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V, and VE. The Base Flood Elevation is the water-surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood.

ZONE A No Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AH Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AO Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.

ZONE AR Special Flood Hazard Area formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood event by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.

ZONE A99 Areas to be protected from 1% annual chance flood event by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

ZONE D Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

1% annual chance floodplain boundary

0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary

Floodway boundary

Zone D boundary

CBRS and OPA boundary

Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths or flood velocities.

513 — Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*

(EL 987) — Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

* Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88)

A — A — Cross section line

23 — 23 — Transect line

97°07'30", 32°22'30" — Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), Western Hemisphere

4275000mE — 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17

6000000 FT — 5000-foot grid values: Florida State Plane coordinate system, East Zone (FIPSZONE = 901), Transverse Mercator projection

DX5510 — Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)

M1.5 — River Mile

MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories list on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
APRIL 17, 1995

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL
SEPTEMBER 28, 2007 - to update corporate limits, to change Base Flood Elevations and Special Flood Hazard Areas, to add Base Flood Elevations and Special Flood Hazard Areas, to delete Special Flood Hazard Areas, to change zone designations, to update map format, to update roads and road names, to incorporate previously issued Letters of Map Revision, and to reflect updated topographic information.

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 FEET
300 0 300 600 METERS

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0155F

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 155 OF 330

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
CASSELBERRY, CITY OF	120291	0155	F
LAKE MARY, CITY OF	120416	0155	F
LONGWOOD, CITY OF	120292	0155	F
SANFORD, CITY OF	120294	0155	F
SEMINOLE COUNTY	120289	0155	F
WINTER SPRINGS, CITY OF	120295	0155	F

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12117C0155F

MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

Federal Emergency Management Agency

NOTES TO USERS

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The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was State Plane Florida East FIPS Zone 0901. The **horizontal datum** was NAD83, GRS1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or UTM zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

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Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by Seminole County, Florida. This information was photogrammetrically compiled at a scale of 1:12000 from aerial photography dated March 2004.

This map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables *in the Flood Insurance Study report (which contains authoritative hydraulic data)* may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on this map.

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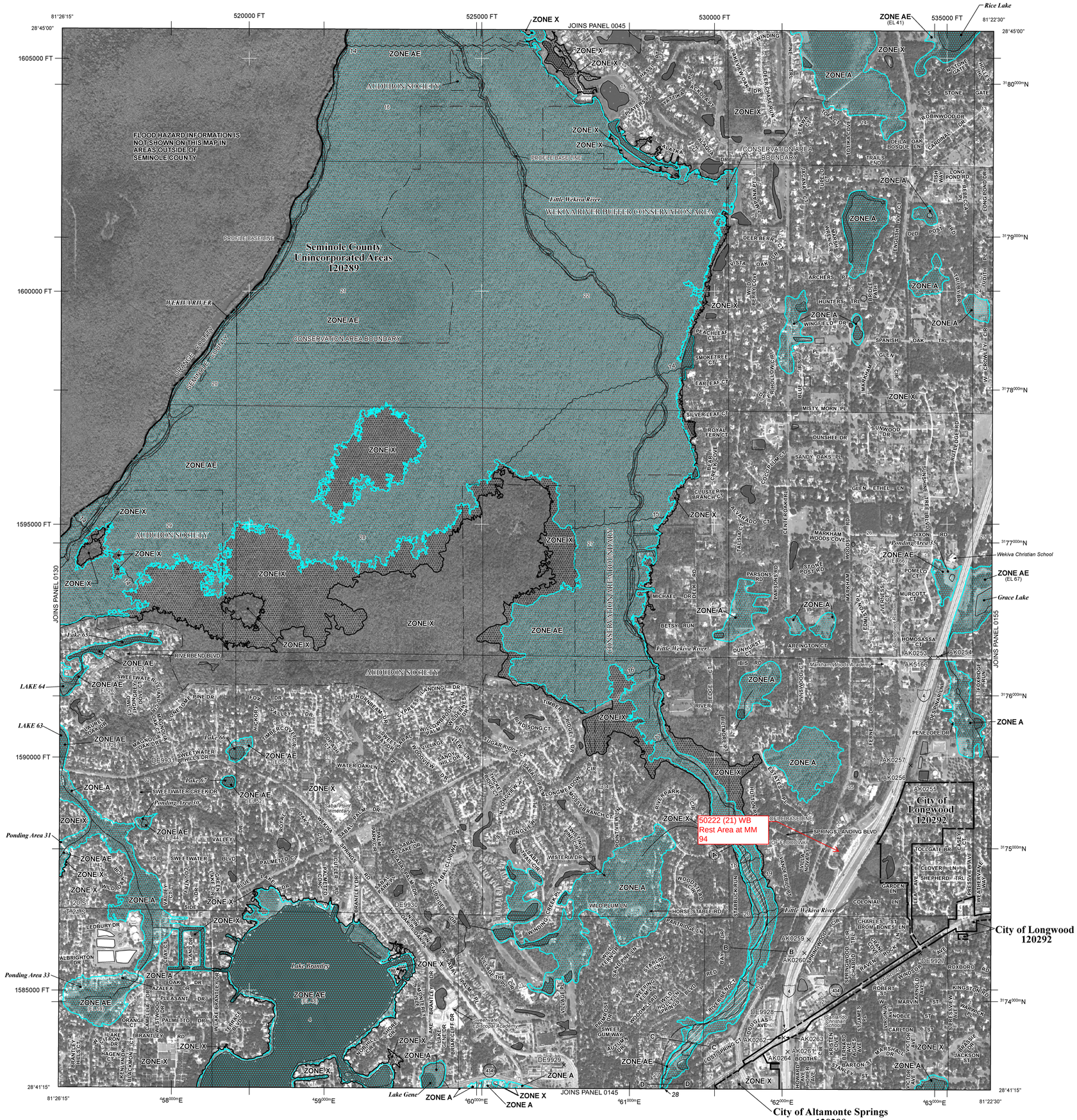

LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS (SFHAs) SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD EVENT

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ZONE A No Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AH Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AO Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.

ZONE AR Special Flood Hazard Area formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood event by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.

ZONE A99 Areas to be protected from 1% annual chance flood event by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

ZONE D Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

1% annual chance floodplain boundary
0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary
Floodway boundary
Zone D boundary
CBRS and OPA boundary
Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths or flood velocities.
513 — Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
(EL 987) — Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*
* Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88)
A — A — Cross section line
23 — 23 — Transect line
97°07'30", 32°22'30" — Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), Western Hemisphere
4275000mE — 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17
6000000 FT — 5000-foot grid values: Florida State Plane coordinate system, East Zone (FIPSZONE = 901), Transverse Mercator projection
DX5510 — Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
M1.5 — River Mile

MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories list on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
APRIL 17, 1995

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL
SEPTEMBER 28, 2007 - to update corporate limits, to change Base Flood Elevations and Special Flood Hazard Areas, to add Base Flood Elevations and Special Flood Hazard Areas, to delete Special Flood Hazard Areas, to change zone designations, to update map format, to update roads and road names, to incorporate previously issued Letters of Map Revision, and to reflect updated topographic information.

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 FEET
300 0 300 600 METERS

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0135F

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 135 OF 330

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, CITY OF	120290	0135	F
LONGWOOD, CITY OF	120292	0135	F
SEMINOLE COUNTY	120289	0135	F

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12117C0135F

MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

Federal Emergency Management Agency

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The **community map repository** should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain more detailed information in areas where **Base Flood Elevations** (BFEs) and/or **floodways** have been determined, users are encouraged to consult the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data and/or Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report that accompanies this FIRM. Users should be aware that BFEs shown on the FIRM represent rounded whole-foot elevations. These BFEs are intended for flood insurance rating purposes only and should not be used as the sole source of flood elevation information. Accordingly, flood elevation data presented in the FIS report should be utilized in conjunction with the FIRM for purposes of construction and/or floodplain management.

Coastal Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) shown on this map apply only landward of 0.0' North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood elevations are also provided in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction. Elevations shown in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table should be used for construction and/or floodplain management purposes when they are higher than the elevations shown on this FIRM.

Boundaries of the **floodways** were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by **flood control structures**. Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study report for information on flood control structures for this jurisdiction.

The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was Transverse Mercator State Plane Florida East FIPS 0901. The **horizontal datum** was NAD83 HARN, GRS1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or State Plane Coordinate System used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

Flood elevations on this map are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same **vertical datum**. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/ or contact the National Geodetic Survey at the following address:

NGS Information Services
NOAA, N/NGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3, #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282
(301) 713-3242

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Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by Brevard County and the Florida Division of Emergency Management. The ortho photography is dated 2009.

This map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables in the Flood Insurance Study report (which contains authoritative hydraulic data) may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on this map.

Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after this map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

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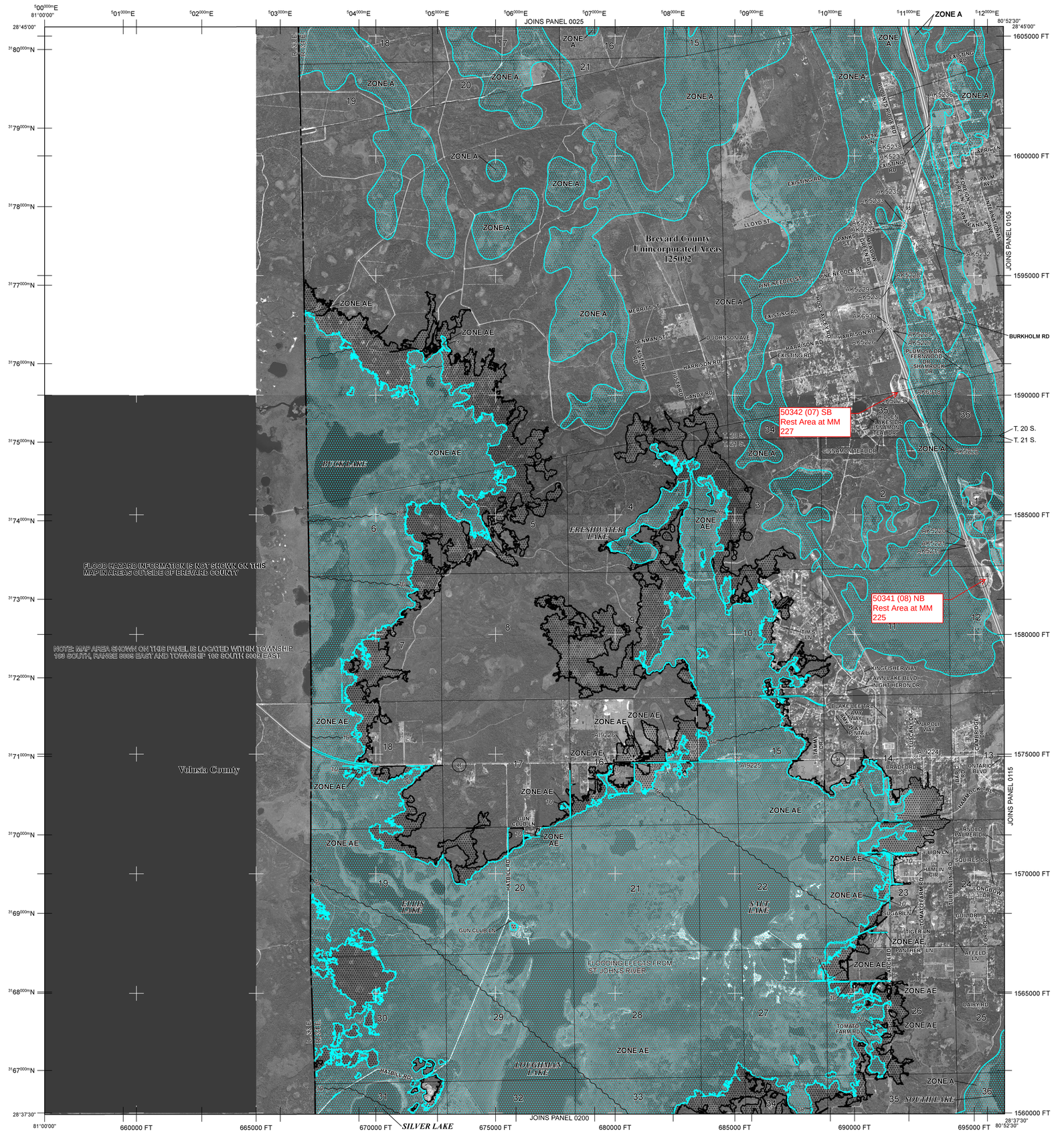
The **"profile base lines"** depicted on this map represent the hydraulic modeling baselines that match the flood profiles in the FIS report. As a result of improved topographic data, the "profile base line", in some cases, may deviate significantly from the channel centerline or appear outside the SFHA.



LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD

The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The Special Flood Hazard Area is the area subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. Areas of Special Flood Hazard include Zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V, and VE. The Base Flood Elevation is the water-surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood.

ZONE A No Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AH Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually areas of ponding); Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE AO Flood depths of 1 to 3 feet (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain); average depths determined. For areas of alluvial fan flooding, velocities also determined.

ZONE AR Special Flood Hazard Area formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.

ZONE A99 Areas to be protected from 1% annual chance flood event by a Federal flood protection system under construction; no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

ZONE D Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

- 1% annual chance floodplain boundary
- 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary
- Floodway boundary
- Zone D boundary
- CBRS and OPA boundary
- Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths, or flood velocities
- 513 — Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
- (EL 987) — Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

* Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- A — A — Cross section line
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- 6000000 FT — 5000-foot grid values: Florida State Plane coordinate system, East Zone (FIPSZONE = 901), Transverse Mercator projection
- DX5510 — Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
- M1.5 — River Mile

MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories List on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
April 3, 1989

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL
March 17, 2014 - to update corporate limits, to add Special Flood Hazard Areas, to change Special Flood Hazard Areas, to update roads and road names, to reflect updated topographic information, to incorporate previously issued Letters of Map Revision, and to change zone designations.

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

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MAP SCALE 1" = 2000'

1,000 0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 FEET
600 0 600 1,200 METERS

NFIP
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0100G

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 100 OF 825

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
BREVARD COUNTY	125092	0100	G

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12009C0100G

MAP REVISED
MARCH 17, 2014

Federal Emergency Management Agency

NOTES TO USERS

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The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was Transverse Mercator State Plane Florida East FIPS 0901. The **horizontal datum** was NAD83 HARN, GRS1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or State Plane Coordinate System used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

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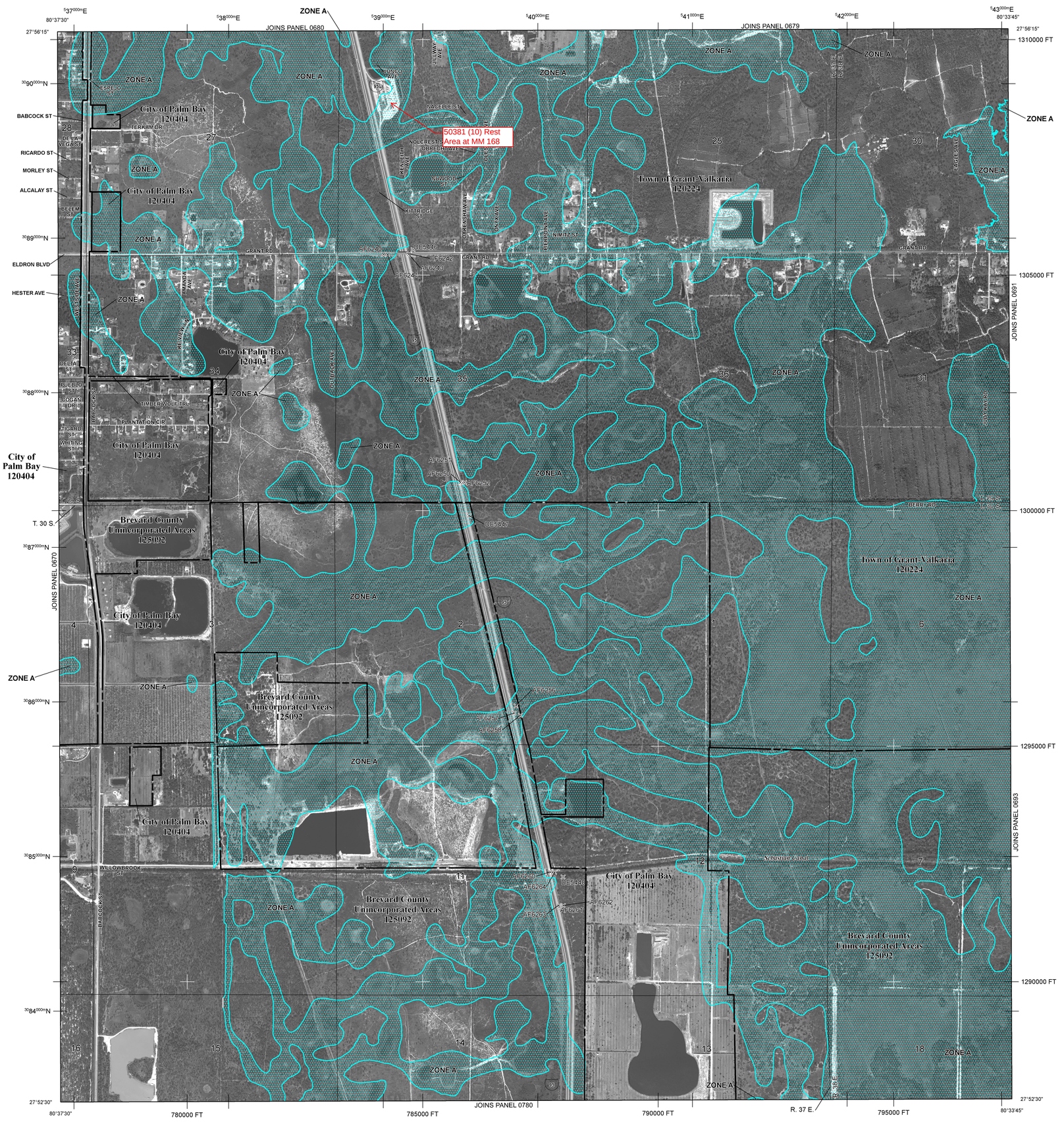

LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS SUBJECT TO INUNDATION BY THE 1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD

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ZONE AE Base Flood Elevations determined.

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ZONE V Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.

ZONE VE Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

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COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

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- 513 — Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
- (EL 987) — Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

* Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- Cross section line
- Transect line
- 97°07'30", 32°22'30" — Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), Western Hemisphere
- 4275000mE — 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17
- 6000000 FT — 5000-foot grid values: Florida State Plane coordinate system, East Zone (FIPSZONE = 901), Transverse Mercator projection
- DX5510 — Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
- M1.5 — River Mile

MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories List on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
April 3, 1989

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL
March 17, 2014 - to update corporate limits, to add Special Flood Hazard Areas, to change Special Flood Hazard Areas, to update roads and road names, to reflect updated topographic information, to incorporate previously issued Letters of Map Revision, and to change zone designations.

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MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 FEET
300 0 300 600 METERS

NFIP
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0690G

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 690 OF 825

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
BREVARD COUNTY	125092	0690	G
GRANT-VALKARIA, TOWN OF	120224	0690	G
PALM BAY, CITY OF	120404	0690	G

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER 12009C0690G

MAP REVISED MARCH 17, 2014

Federal Emergency Management Agency

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LEGEND

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ZONE V	Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); no Base Flood Elevations determined.
ZONE VE	Coastal flood zone with velocity hazard (wave action); Base Flood Elevations determined.

FLOODWAY AREAS IN ZONE AE

The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

OTHER FLOOD AREAS

ZONE X	Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood; areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance flood.

OTHER AREAS

ZONE X	Areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.
ZONE D	Areas in which flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) AREAS

OTHERWISE PROTECTED AREAS (OPAs)

CBRS areas and OPAs are normally located within or adjacent to Special Flood Hazard Areas.

- 1% annual chance floodplain boundary
- 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary
- Floodway boundary
- Zone D boundary
- CBRS and OPA boundary
- Boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Area Zones and boundary dividing Special Flood Hazard Areas of different Base Flood Elevations, flood depths, or flood velocities
- 513 — Base Flood Elevation line and value; elevation in feet*
- (EL 987) — Base Flood Elevation value where uniform within zone; elevation in feet*

* Referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- A — A — Cross section line
- 23 — 23 — Transect line
- 97°07'30", 32°22'30" — Geographic coordinates referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), Western Hemisphere
- 4275000mE — 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17
- 6000000 FT — 5000-foot grid values: Florida State Plane coordinate system, East Zone (FIPSZONE = 901), Transverse Mercator projection
- DX5510 — Bench mark (see explanation in Notes to Users section of this FIRM panel)
- M1.5 — River Mile

MAP REPOSITORIES
Refer to Map Repositories List on Map Index

EFFECTIVE DATE OF COUNTYWIDE
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
April 3, 1989

EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF REVISION(S) TO THIS PANEL
March 17, 2014 - to update corporate limits, to add Special Flood Hazard Areas, to change Special Flood Hazard Areas, to update roads and road names, to reflect updated topographic information, to incorporate previously issued Letters of Map Revision, and to change zone designations.

For community map revision history prior to countywide mapping, refer to the Community Map History table located in the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 FEET
300 0 300 600 METERS

NFIP
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0680G

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 680 OF 825

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
BREVARD COUNTY	125092	0680	G
GRANT-VALKARIA, TOWN OF	120224	0680	G
MALABAR, TOWN OF	120024	0680	G
PALM BAY, CITY OF	120404	0680	G

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER 12009C0680G

MAP REVISED MARCH 17, 2014

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Appendix B:
Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11" x 17" or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Taking" of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. "Take" is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of $25,000 for civil violations and up to $50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A <u>LIVE</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A <u>DEAD</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.

2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.

3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).

2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.

3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.

STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRUCK PARKING SYSTEM

Environmental Evaluation Report

December 2015

Project Limits:

Districtwide Weigh Stations

Hillsborough County, Florida

FPID: 438096-1-52-01

Florida Department of Transportation
District Seven
11201 North Malcolm McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PROJECT

650-050-13
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
11/15

Financial Management No. 438096-1-52-01

Federal Aid No. _____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

Districtwide Weigh Stations, Hillsborough County

Statewide Commercial Vehicle Truck Parking System which will install sensors in existing truck parking spaces at rest areas along I-95 and I-4 and connect the systems to existing ITS infrastructure. The systems will relay information about available truck parking at the rest areas to Regional TMCs. This information will be conveyed to drivers through roadside Variable Message Signs ahead of the rest areas.

This project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 C.F.R. 771.117 and per Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October, 2015:

- ☒ A Type 1 Categorical Exclusion per ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d) _____ as determined on 1/14/16
- ☐ A Type 2 Categorical Exclusion approved on _____

The final environmental document for this project was a (check one):

- ☐ A Finding of No Significant Impact under 23 C.F.R. 771.121 approved on _____
- ☐ A Record of Decision under 23 C.F.R. 771.127 approved on _____

A reevaluation in accordance with 23 C.F.R. 771.129 was (check one):

- ☐ Approved on _____
- ☐ Not required.

for RR

Signature: _____ Date: 1/15/16

Robin Rhinesmith
Env. Administrator

JOSEPH A FEASTER

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

Financial Management No. 438096-1
FAP No. _____
CE Number: ☒(c) 21 or ☐(d)_____

Project Description (include project title, limits, and brief description of the proposed scope of work):

Districtwide Weigh Stations(2), I-4, Hillsborough County

Statewide Commercial Vehicle Truck Parking System which will install sensors in existing truck parking spaces at rest area along I-95 & I-4 and connect the systems to existing ITS infrastructure. The systems will relay information about available truck parking at the rest areas to Regional TMC's. This information will be conveyed to drivers through roadside Variable Message Signs ahead of the rest areas.

Note: The criteria below also consider the conditions listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e) for the CEs described in 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (27) and (28).

		YES	NO
1	Will the action cause major adverse impacts on travel patterns, planned growth, land use for the area or access control?	☐	☒
2	Will the action cause adverse impacts to air, noise or water quality?	☐	☒
3	Will the action cause wetland impacts that would require an individual Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 U.S.C. § 1344 and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	☐	☒
4	Will the action cause impacts to navigation that would require an individual U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Bridge Permit?	☐	☒
5	Will the action cause impacts greater than minimal floodplain encroachments, which will affect flood heights or base floodplain limits?	☐	☒
6	Will the action require construction in, across, or adjacent to a river designated as a component of, or proposed for inclusion in, the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers (for 23 CFR 771.117 (c)(26), (27) and (28)?	☐	☒
7	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) "no involvement," (2) "no effect", or (3) with concurrence from US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service, as appropriate, a "may affect but not likely to adversely affect" determination concerning impacts to endangered and threatened species and/or their critical habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)-(d)?	☐	☒
8	Will the action require more than minor amounts of right-of-way and result in any residential or non-residential displacements?	☐	☒
9	Will the action impact any properties protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303? [NOTE: If it has been determined that Section 4(f) is not applicable in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and Part 2, Chapter 13 of the PD&E Manual then the answer to this question is no.]	☐	☒

TYPE 1 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST

		YES	NO
10	Will the action result in a determination other than, (1) no involvement, (2) "no effect," or (3) "no adverse effect" regarding properties protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act?	☐	☒
11	Does the action have known contamination sites which would have more than a minimal impact to design, and right-of-way or construction activities once assessed as described in Part 2, Chapter 22, Contamination Impacts of the PD&E Manual, and can't be avoided or remediated?	☐	☒
12	Will the action have substantial controversy on environmental grounds?	☐	☒

IMPORTANT: If all answers are **No**, the project is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion and this checklist will be the NEPA document. If the answer to any of these questions is **Yes**, follow the Minor Categorical Exclusion Determination Key and coordinate with FHWA as appropriate.

This project has been evaluated and has been determined to meet the conditions as set forth in Florida's Programmatic Agreement for Categorical Exclusions effective October 2015, as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

Signature: _____ Date: 1/15/16

District Environmental Administrator or designee

for RR Robin Rhinesmith Joseph A. Feaster

The following is a list of any supporting activities (e.g., field reviews, as appropriate, etc.), reports, or technical studies that were prepared and are included in the project file that were necessary to support the conclusions reached on the checklist.

- ___
- Desktop Rvw, including HNTB Environmental Evaluation Report
- Field Review
- Based on the Review and prior meeting agreements on similar jobs, it appears the project qualifies as a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion.

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Appendices

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Central Office proposes a statewide commercial vehicle truck parking system along Florida's interstates. This project will be delivered in two phases to provide full statewide public facility coverage of Florida's Interstate System. Phase I, which received an Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Project grant, will cover I-95 and I-4 and will be deployed first. Phase II will follow and complete the statewide deployment encompassing I-75 and I-10 public facilities.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Florida's Interstates are an essential economic link to the rest of the United States and for internal Florida trade. The corridors facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and enhance economic vitality. As they travel the nation's highways, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are faced with a number of operational and regulatory challenges including hours-of-service limitations, limited availability of parking at public and privately operated rest facilities, pressure resulting from just-in-time delivery schedules, and severe congestion in many urban areas and/or major truck corridors. These issues also impact the general motoring public, agencies that maintain and operate the transportation infrastructure, and private business, in terms of the safety, operational and economic implications they pose.

FDOT and its partners are providing an innovative program to achieve this strategic objective through the use of advanced technologies.

This project will provide reliable, real-time information about commercial vehicle availability to dispatchers and commercial vehicle drivers to allow for educated decisions to be made about parking at welcome centers, rest areas and weigh stations. At the rest areas and welcome centers along limited access facilities, a wireless presence detection system will be installed to monitor truck parking availability. At the weigh stations, vehicle classification equipment will be utilized to monitor the ingress and egress of vehicles at the facility. Both systems will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via the existing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) infrastructure with Sunguide(r) Software performing the necessary algorithms to determine the number of available parking spaces. This information will be conveyed to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

This Environmental Evaluation Memorandum addresses environmentally sensitive areas within the Phase I sites of the proposed project. A separate Environmental Evaluation Memorandum will address the environmental sensitive areas within the Phase II sites along I-75 and I-10 when design and construction funding becomes available.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

Truck parking on Florida's Interstate roadways can overflow onto rest area ramps, freeway ramps and shoulders, and adjacent roads. This overflow creates safety concerns for other motorists and for the commercial vehicle operators along the corridor. Expansion of the rest areas to accommodate the need for more truck parking is costly. Rather than building more parking spaces, FDOT has undertaken a project to evaluate if existing spaces along the corridor can be more efficiently utilized through better communication of parking availability to the trucking community. Identifying available parking that provides safe alternatives for the overflow and communicating that information to commercial vehicle operators are the primary needs to be addressed by this project.

The functions of FDOT's Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) are:

- Enhance highway safety by providing timely and reliable truck parking information
- Provide a sustainable and scalable truck parking solution
- Provide a secure solution that protects user privacy and data
- Maximize user acceptance of the system for truck parking decisions.

The TPAS will include capabilities to measure truck parking availability at public rest areas and weigh stations. FDOT will be responsible for collecting truck parking availability information at the public rest areas, welcome centers and weigh stations. Truck parking availability information will be shown on Dynamic Message Signs, and the information will be disseminated over the Internet, via a smart phone application and/or dedicated FDOT website.

2.0 EXISTING FACILITY & PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Two weigh stations are located within the FDOT District 7 jurisdictional boundaries. Both weigh stations are located along I-4, between North Kingsway Road and McIntosh Road within Hillsborough County, Florida. The weigh stations are accessible via ramps from the eastbound (EB) or westbound (WB) traffic lanes of I-4.

Figure 1 shows a location map of the FDOT District 7 Hillsborough County weigh stations.

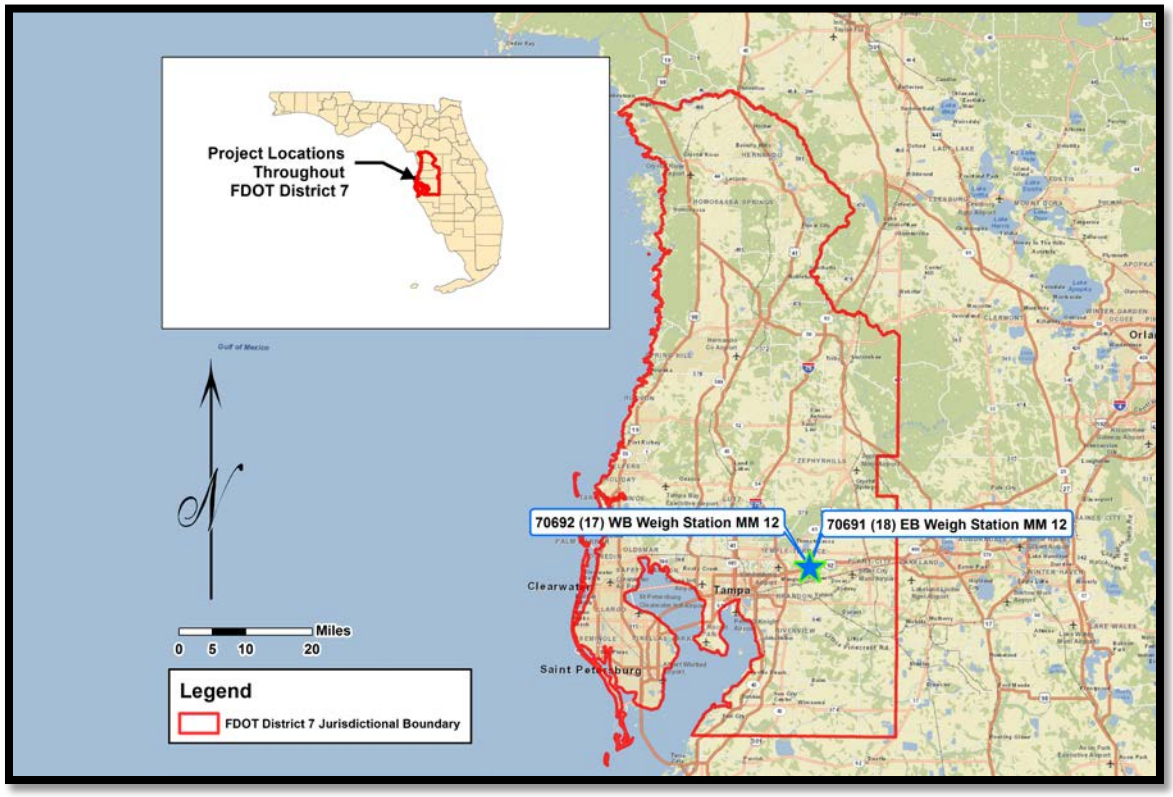


Figure 1: FDOT District 7 Location Map

2.1 Existing Conditions

Both Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at Mile Marker (MM) 12 and Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12 are located just east of the I-75 interchange in Hillsborough County, Florida, where land cover typically portrays a disturbed signature of current and future development as well as pockets of low-lying marshy terrain. Both weigh stations geologically feature medium fine sand and silt, and are accompanied by on-site dry retention stormwater management facilities.

Figure 2 shows an aerial of Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at MM 12 and Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12.

Figure 2: Aerial of Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at MM 12 and Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12

2.2 Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will deliver dependable, real-time information to both commercial vehicle dispatchers and approaching commercial vehicle drivers to aid in refining the driver's decision-making in regards to parking at approaching rest areas or weigh stations. Wireless presence detection systems (sensors) will be installed within existing paved truck parking spaces at the two weigh stations. The system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed via open trench or directional bore within the existing FDOT right-of-way (ROW). The proposed ITS installations and will be connected to existing ITS infrastructure to convey information to the commercial vehicle operators through roadside Variable Message Signs, the Florida 511 application, as well as third party data feeds.

3.0 EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Survey Methodology

Literature reviews and database searches of the project study area were conducted in an effort to identify environmentally sensitive regions within the project area.

Literature review consisted of the following information:

- Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM), Environmental Screening Tool (EST) databases
- 1989 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Hillsborough County Soil Survey
- 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook, Fourth Edition
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- 1979 FWS Classification System of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.)
- Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) World Imagery
- 2008 South Florida Water Management District Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Eagle Nest Database Locator
- USFWS Consultation Areas
- USFWS Wood Stork Rookeries and Core Foraging Area
- Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL)

Although this project was not processed through FDOT's ETDM EST, the EST was used as primary source of information to screen this project. The EST as well as various other Geographic Information System (GIS) and literature reviews were used to perform a desktop analysis of the proposed project.

3.2 Existing Land Use

FLUCFCS 810 - Transportation

The EB and WB weigh stations are surrounded by forested oak-dominated upland communities, agriculture, freshwater shrub/emergent wetlands, and medium density residential. Adjacent to the I-4 corridor, between the interstate and the weigh stations, are dry retention ponds, which facilitate the weigh station's drainage. These stormwater facilities appear to be well maintained and actively mowed (Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) No. 43011899.007). The sites consist of access roads from EB and WB I-4, truck parking, with one administration/enforcement building and one inspection building per site. The undeveloped portions of the sites are sodded, mowed and maintained grasses.

FLUCFCS 641 – Freshwater Marshes

A portion of an emergent wetland is located within the FDOT ROW, east of the WB Weigh Station 70692 (17) at MM 12, along the north side of I-4. This wetland is dominated by shrub and herbaceous hydrophytic vegetation. Any design that proposes conduit installations within the limits of this wetland system will require determination of the jurisdictional boundaries of

wetlands and surface waters, mitigation needs and permits from SWFMWD and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulating work in, on or over wetlands and surface waters.

Figure 3 shows the classified general land uses of Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12 and Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at MM 12.

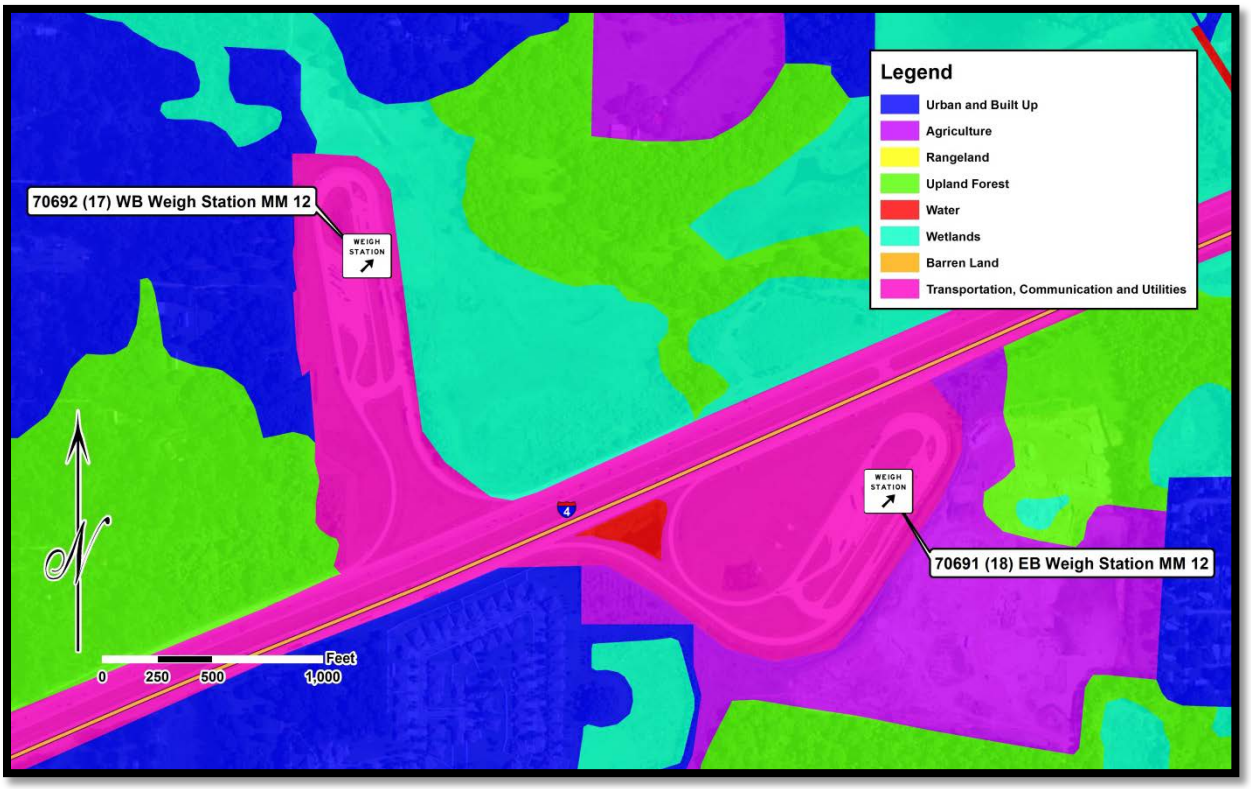


Figure 3: Existing Land Use

3.3 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

Review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) database revealed no EFH located within the project limits.

3.4 Floodplain

A portion of the weigh stations are located within special flood hazard areas subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood). The majority of the weigh stations are located within flood zone X. Flood zone X includes areas that are determined to be outside the 100-year floodplain; and therefore, have minimal flood hazards. Although a portion of the project study area is located within the limits of the 100-year flood zone, it is not anticipated that proposed improvements will have an impact on the 100-year floodplain. Appendix A is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone maps for the project limits.

3.5 Soils

The Hillsborough County soil survey from the USDA NRCS was consulted for the project vicinity and five soils were identified within the project area. According to the 2007 Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook (Fourth Edition), two of these soil types are classified as hydric soils. Although a soil may be listed as hydric within the Hydric Soils Handbook based on hydric soil criteria, many factors are considered including climate, drainage features, the inclusion of non-hydric soil types, and landscape position. The soils identified within the project area have not been field verified and hydric soil identifications will be finalized during design and permitting.

These soils names, corresponding hydrologic soil groups and soil descriptions for the Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12 and Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at MM 12 assessment area can be found below.

- Gainesville Loamy Fine Sand, 0 – 5% Slopes, (A) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as well drained. This soil group is not normally associated with prime farmlands and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on ridges of marine terraces. The typical profile of this soil includes a loamy fine sand layer that is consistent and uninterrupted at least to a depth of 80-inches. Due to the soil's drainage characteristics the expected depth to the seasonal high ground water table (SHGWT) is over 80-inches. These soils are also frequently found among upland hardwood hammock and sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.
- Basinger, Holopaw, and Samsula Soils, Depressional, (A/D) - This soil is categorized as hydric and is classified as very poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, nearly level, and is not associated with any prime farmland. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found in depressions of marine terraces and its typical profile will contain a layer of fine sand which transitions to a sandy loam layer at a depth of about 52 to 80-inches. Due to this soil group's very poorly drained features, the SHGWT can be expected at or just below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among freshwater marshes and ponds and among other sandy soils on stream terraces, flood plains, and in depressions.
- Adamsville Fine Sand, 0 – 2% Slopes, (A/D) – This soil is classified as non-hydric and is characterized as somewhat poorly drained. This soil is not normally associated with prime farmlands and its parent materials are sandy marine deposits found on flats or rises of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will commonly contain a single sand layer at least 80-inches deep and the SHGWT is expected to be 18 to 42-inches below ground level. These soils are also commonly found among south Florida flatwoods, upland hardwood hammock and sandy soils on rises or knolls of mesic uplands.
- St. Johns Fine Sand, (B/D) - This soil is classified as hydric and is characterized as poorly drained. The soil group's slope is 0 to 2%, considered to be nearly level, and is associated with farmlands of unique importance. Its parent materials are sandy marine deposits

found on flats of marine terraces. This soil's typical profile will frequently contain a homogenous fine sand layer at least 80-inches deep. The SHGWT can be expected within the first 12-inches below ground level. These soils are also frequently found among south Florida flatwoods and sandy soils on flats of mesic or hydric lowlands.

- Lake Fine Sand, 0 – 5% Slopes, (A) - This soil is classified as non-hydric and excessively drained. The soil group is associated with farmlands of unique importance and its parent materials are Eolian deposits or sandy marine deposits found on ridges and hills of marine terraces. Like the other soil groups mapped in this area, this soil group's typical profile includes an uninterrupted fine sand layer for the first 80-inches below ground level. The SHGWT is expected to be at least deeper than this fine sand layer. This soil group can also frequently be found in Longleaf Pine-Turkey Oak Hills and among other sandy soils on ridges and dunes of xeric uplands.

Figure 5 below shows the soil distribution of Weigh Station 70692 (17) WB at MM 12 and Weigh Station 70691 (18) EB at MM 12.

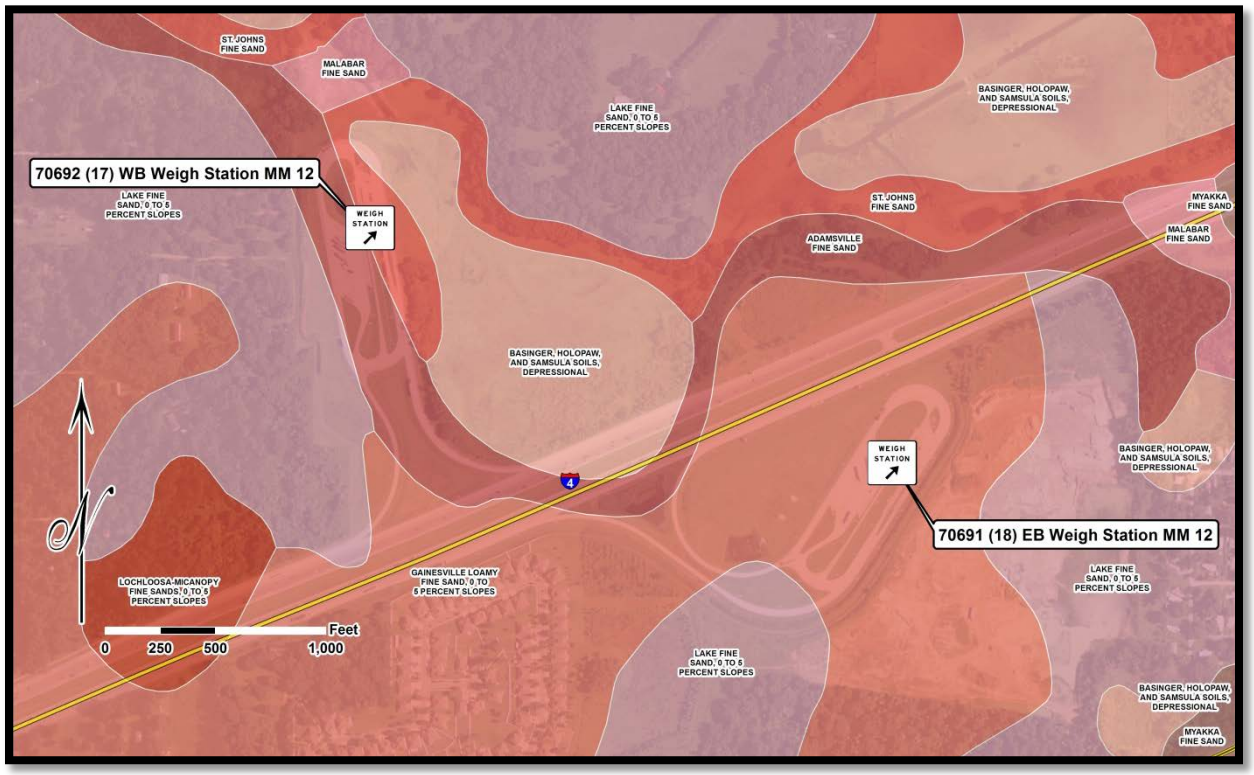


Figure 4: USDA NRCS Soil Map

3.6 Protected Species Habitat

A desktop analysis of the project area was conducted in an effort to identify the presence of federal or state protected species or their habitat within the proposed project limits. The proposed

project is located within the USFWS Consultation Area for several federally protected species. Potential habitat for state protected species exists as well. Anticipated effects of the proposed project on listed species can be found in the following descriptions.

3.6.1 Federally-Protected Species

The **Eastern Indigo Snake** (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) is listed as a threatened species by the USFWS due to loss or degradation of habitat and human intervention. The species is found in a variety of habitats including swamps, wet prairies, xeric pinelands and scrub areas. It may utilize gopher tortoise burrows for shelter during the winter and to escape the heat during the summer. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the eastern indigo snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction. Based on a desktop analysis of the project area, it was determined that this species has moderate potential of occurrence within the project. The project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the eastern indigo snake.

The **Florida Scrub-Jay** (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) is similar in size and shape to the blue jay, but the scrub-jay lacks the crest and white spotting on wings and tail. This species is listed as threatened by the USFWS. Optimal scrub-jay habitat consists of low growing, scattered scrub canopy species with patches of bare sandy soil such as those found in sand pine scrub, xeric oak scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and scrubby coastal strand habitats. In areas where these types of habitats are unavailable, Florida scrub-jays may be found in less optimal habitats such as pine flatwoods with scattered oaks. The project does not contain suitable scrub habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will have no effect on the Florida scrub jay.

The **Red-cockaded Woodpecker** (*Picoides borealis*) is protected as endangered by the USFWS and is endemic to the Southeastern United States. The red-cockaded woodpecker uses mature, living pines in which it constructs roosting and nesting holes. Cavities are excavated in mature pines, generally over 80 years old. A cluster of nests and roosts in a group of cavity trees is called a colony. The project is located within the USFWS consultation area for the red-cockaded woodpecker; however, the project does not contain suitable habitat for this species. Based on a desktop analysis, this species has a low potential of occurrence within the project study area; therefore, the project is not anticipated to affect the red-cockaded woodpecker.

The **Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) is listed as threatened by the USFWS. This wading bird species is opportunistic, utilizing various habitats including mixed hardwood swamps, man-made wetlands, sloughs, tidal creeks, and mangroves for foraging. The project is located within the wood stork core foraging area (CFA) (15-miles) of eight colonies: #611310, #615105, #615333,

Cross Creek, Cypress Creek, East Lake/Bellows Lake, L Hillsborough River/Swamp, and Lone Palm.

Figure 5 below depicts wood stork nesting colonies and CFA within the vicinity of the project study area.

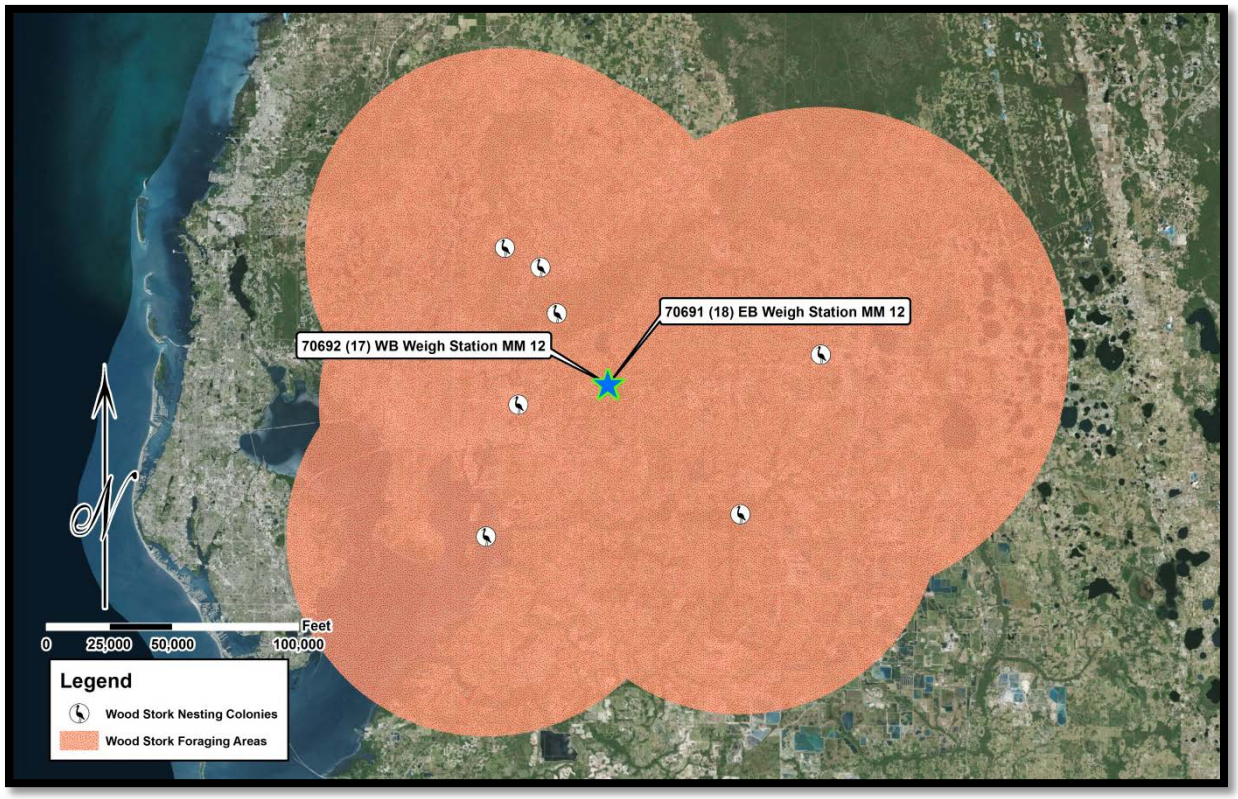


Figure 5: Wood Stork Habitats

As defined by the USFWS, Suitable Foraging Habitat (SFH) includes wetlands and surface waters which have areas of water that are relatively calm, uncluttered by dense thickets of aquatic vegetation and have permanent or seasonal water depth between two and 15-inches. A freshwater wetland is located within the FDOT ROW along the north side of I-4, east of the WB weigh station. If impacts to this wetland system occur as a result of the proposed improvements, coordination will be required with the USFWS, as well as with all permitting agencies which regulate impacts to wetlands/surface waters (SWFWMD and USACE) that have the potential to impact suitable foraging habitat of the wood stork.

3.6.2 State-Protected Species

The **Gopher Tortoise** (*Gopherus polyphemus*), **Gopher Frog** (*Lithobates capito*), **Florida Pine Snake** (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitis*), and **Florida Mouse** (*Podomys floridanus*) may potentially occur within the project areas. The gopher tortoise is currently listed as a candidate

species with the USFWS and listed as threatened by the FWC. Due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is declining in numbers. This species requires well drained and loose sandy soils for burrowing and low-growing herbs and grasses for foraging. These habitat conditions are best found in sandhill communities, although tortoises are known to use a wide variety of habitats including sand pine scrub, xeric oak hammocks, dry prairies, pine flatwoods as well as ruderal sites such as pastures. Gopher tortoise burrows are frequently used by commensal species including the Florida mouse, gopher frog and Florida pine snake, all of which are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Suitable habitat for these species may be present within the limits of the proposed improvements. Current FWC regulations require a gopher tortoise relocation permit for any ground disturbance activity occurring within 25-feet of a potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrow. Therefore, a field survey of the project study area is required prior to construction. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC or avoiding construction at a minimum of 25-feet from the burrow opening will be required. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction.

Wetland Dependent Avian Species include the little blue heron (*Egretta ceulea*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), white ibis (*Eudocimus albus*), roseate spoonbill (*Platatea ajaja*), limpkin (*Aramus* guarauna), reddish egret (*Egretta rufescens*) and tricolored heron (*Egretta tricolor*) may also be present in the project areas. These species are listed as species of special concern by the FWC. Due to the presence of a freshwater emergent wetland within the limits of the FDOT ROW adjacent to the proposed improvements, these species have a likelihood of occurrence within the project area. Coordination will be required with all permitting agencies which regulate impacts to wetlands/surface waters (SWFWMD and USACE) that also have the potential to impact protected species habitat.

3.6.3 Non-Listed Protected Species

The **Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is no longer listed as a threatened species by the USFWS but is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended. In addition, the FWC has implemented a bald eagle management plan, adopted April 2008. The bald eagle prefers riparian habitat associated with coastal areas, lake shores or rivers. It nests near water bodies which provide a dependable source of food. The locations of eagle nests throughout the state are closely monitored by the FWC each nesting season. Although no active bald eagle nests are located within the vicinity of the proposed improvements; the project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within the 660-foot of the proposed construction area, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan shall be followed.

3.6.4 Critical Habitat

The project ROW was assessed for Critical Habitat (CH) designated by Congress in 17 CFR 35.1532. Review of the USFWS's available GIS data for CH resulted in the identification of no Critical Habitats.

3.7 Cultural & Historic Resources

Based on a desktop analysis of the proposed project and vicinity, there are no documented cultural, historic and/or archaeological resources documented within the study area. A Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) was completed for I-4 Weigh in Motion Stations from I-75 (Hillsborough County, Florida) to US 27 (Polk County, Florida). No impacts to cultural, historic and/or archaeological resources are anticipated as result of the proposed improvements.

3.8 Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) is part of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 which limits the use of publicly owned lands from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state or local significance. The project site and vicinity were evaluated in an effort to determine if Section 4(f) applies. No Section 4(f) resources are located within or adjacent to the proposed improvements. The proposed project will have no involvement with Section 4(f) resources.

4.0 CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed improvements at the two weigh stations include the installation of wireless presence detection systems (sensors) within existing paved truck parking spaces to monitor available truck parking. This system will relay information to the Regional Traffic Management Centers via ITS infrastructure and Sunguide(r) Software. Proposed ITS conduit will be installed within the existing FDOT ROW via open trench or directional bore methods.

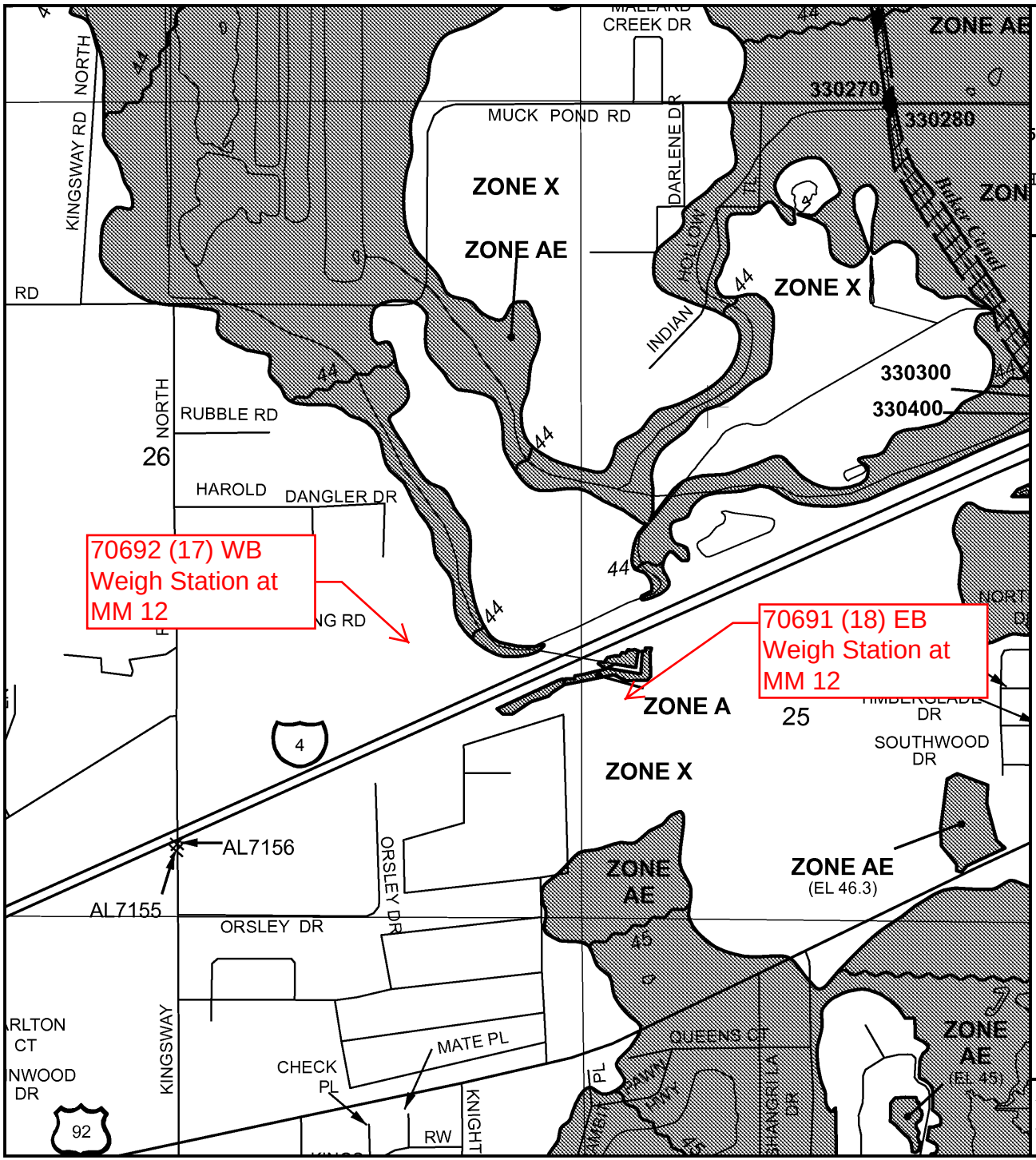
Databases searches and literature reviews were conducted to determine impacts to the environment from the proposed improvements. As a result, the following has been concluded:

- Wetland habitats are located within the limits of the FDOT ROW, east of the WB weigh Station. Pursuant to Executive Order 11990 entitled "Protection of Wetlands," (May 1977) the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) developed a policy, Preservation of the Nation's Wetlands (USDOT Order 5660.1A), dated August 24, 1978, which requires all federally authorized transportation projects to protect wetlands to the fullest extent possible. Any proposed impacts to wetland habitats will obtain all necessary permits required prior to impacting wetlands or surface waters. Determination of the jurisdictional boundaries of wetlands and surface waters in accordance with Chapter 62-

340 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C), the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (TR Y-87-1), and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Atlantic and Gulf Coast Plain Region (TR-10-20) will be required. Additionally, determining mitigation requirements for any wetland or surface water impacts that occur from the proposed improvements will be required.

- Potential habitat exists for the Eastern Indigo Snake. The most current USFWS version of the Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake (located in Appendix B) must be adhered to during construction.
- Potential habitat exists for the gopher tortoise and gopher tortoise commensal species. The most recent FWC Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines must be followed prior to construction. A field survey of the project study area and any proposed staging sites is required prior to construction to document the presence of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. If gopher tortoise burrows are identified, a relocation permit from the FWC may be required. Once design is underway and prior to construction, coordination with the FWC is required to determine if surveys and mitigation will be required.
- The project area should be resurveyed for active bald eagle nests prior to construction. If active nests are observed within 660-feet of the proposed construction area or staging sites, the FWC 2008 Bald Eagle Management Plan and USFWS 2007 Bald Eagle Monitoring Guidelines must be adhered to.

Appendix A:
FEMA Floodplain Map



MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'

500 0 1000 2000

FEET

METER

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0245H

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 245 OF 801

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY	120112	0245	H

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
12057C0245H

EFFECTIVE DATE
AUGUST 28, 2008

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Appendix B:

Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake

STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 12, 2013

The eastern indigo snake protection/education plan (Plan) below has been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Florida for use by applicants and their construction personnel. At least **30 days prior** to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office via e-mail that the Plan will be implemented as described below (North Florida Field Office: jaxregs@fws.gov; South Florida Field Office: verobeach@fws.gov; Panama City Field Office: panamacity@fws.gov). As long as the signatory of the e-mail certifies compliance with the below Plan (including use of the attached poster and brochure), no further written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS is needed and the applicant may move forward with the project.

If the applicant decides to use an eastern indigo snake protection/education plan other than the approved Plan below, written confirmation or "approval" from the USFWS that the plan is adequate must be obtained. At least 30 days prior to any clearing/land alteration activities, the applicant shall submit their unique plan for review and approval. The USFWS will respond via e-mail, typically within 30 days of receiving the plan, either concurring that the plan is adequate or requesting additional information. A concurrence e-mail from the appropriate USFWS Field Office will fulfill approval requirements.

The Plan materials should consist of: 1) a combination of posters and pamphlets (see **Poster Information** section below); and 2) verbal educational instructions to construction personnel by supervisory or management personnel before any clearing/land alteration activities are initiated (see **Pre-Construction Activities** and **During Construction Activities** sections below).

POSTER INFORMATION

Posters with the following information shall be placed at strategic locations on the construction site and along any proposed access roads (a final poster for Plan compliance, to be printed on 11" x 17" or larger paper and laminated, is attached):

DESCRIPTION: The eastern indigo snake is one of the largest non-venomous snakes in North America, with individuals often reaching up to 8 feet in length. They derive their name from the glossy, blue-black color of their scales above and uniformly slate blue below. Frequently, they have orange to coral reddish coloration in the throat area, yet some specimens have been reported to only have cream coloration on the throat. These snakes are not typically aggressive and will attempt to crawl away when disturbed. Though indigo snakes rarely bite, they should NOT be handled.

SIMILAR SNAKES: The black racer is the only other solid black snake resembling the eastern indigo snake. However, black racers have a white or cream chin, thinner bodies, and WILL BITE if handled.

LIFE HISTORY: The eastern indigo snake occurs in a wide variety of terrestrial habitat types throughout Florida. Although they have a preference for uplands, they also utilize some wetlands

and agricultural areas. Eastern indigo snakes will often seek shelter inside gopher tortoise burrows and other below- and above-ground refugia, such as other animal burrows, stumps, roots, and debris piles. Females may lay from 4 - 12 white eggs as early as April through June, with young hatching in late July through October.

PROTECTION UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW: The eastern indigo snake is classified as a Threatened species by both the USFWS and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. "Taking" of eastern indigo snakes is prohibited by the Endangered Species Act without a permit. "Take" is defined by the USFWS as an attempt to kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, capture, collect, or engage in any such conduct. Penalties include a maximum fine of $25,000 for civil violations and up to $50,000 and/or imprisonment for criminal offenses, if convicted.

Only individuals currently authorized through an issued Incidental Take Statement in association with a USFWS Biological Opinion, or by a Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by the USFWS, to handle an eastern indigo snake are allowed to do so.

IF YOU SEE A <u>LIVE</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and allow the live eastern indigo snake sufficient time to move away from the site without interference;
- Personnel must NOT attempt to touch or handle snake due to protected status.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- If the snake is located in a vicinity where continuation of the clearing or construction activities will cause harm to the snake, the activities must halt until such time that a representative of the USFWS returns the call (within one day) with further guidance as to when activities may resume.

IF YOU SEE A <u>DEAD</u> EASTERN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE SITE:

- Cease clearing activities and immediately notify supervisor or the applicant's designated agent, **and** the appropriate USFWS office, with the location information and condition of the snake.
- Take photographs of the snake, if possible, for identification and documentation purposes.
- Thoroughly soak the dead snake in water and then freeze the specimen. The appropriate wildlife agency will retrieve the dead snake.

Telephone numbers of USFWS Florida Field Offices to be contacted if a live or dead eastern indigo snake is encountered:

North Florida Field Office – (904) 731-3336
Panama City Field Office – (850) 769-0552
South Florida Field Office – (772) 562-3909

PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. The applicant or designated agent will post educational posters in the construction office and throughout the construction site, including any access roads. The posters must be clearly visible to all construction staff. A sample poster is attached.

2. Prior to the onset of construction activities, the applicant/designated agent will conduct a meeting with all construction staff (annually for multi-year projects) to discuss identification of the snake, its protected status, what to do if a snake is observed within the project area, and applicable penalties that may be imposed if state and/or federal regulations are violated. An educational brochure including color photographs of the snake will be given to each staff member in attendance and additional copies will be provided to the construction superintendent to make available in the onsite construction office (a final brochure for Plan compliance, to be printed double-sided on 8.5" x 11" paper and then properly folded, is attached). Photos of eastern indigo snakes may be accessed on USFWS and/or FWC websites.

3. Construction staff will be informed that in the event that an eastern indigo snake (live or dead) is observed on the project site during construction activities, all such activities are to cease until the established procedures are implemented according to the Plan, which includes notification of the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The contact information for the USFWS is provided on the referenced posters and brochures.

DURING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

1. During initial site clearing activities, an onsite observer may be utilized to determine whether habitat conditions suggest a reasonable probability of an eastern indigo snake sighting (example: discovery of snake sheds, tracks, lots of refugia and cavities present in the area of clearing activities, and presence of gopher tortoises and burrows).

2. If an eastern indigo snake is discovered during gopher tortoise relocation activities (i.e. burrow excavation), the USFWS shall be contacted within one business day to obtain further guidance which may result in further project consultation.

3. Periodically during construction activities, the applicant's designated agent should visit the project area to observe the condition of the posters and Plan materials, and replace them as needed. Construction personnel should be reminded of the instructions (above) as to what is expected if any eastern indigo snakes are seen.

POST CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Whether or not eastern indigo snakes are observed during construction activities, a monitoring report should be submitted to the appropriate USFWS Field Office within 60 days of project completion. The report can be sent electronically to the appropriate USFWS e-mail address listed on page one of this Plan.