

THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, Florida 32333

APPROVAL OF REGIONAL MITIGATION PLAN MODIFICATION

Pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes (F.S.), the Northwest Florida Water Management District (District), has approved a modification to the Northwest Florida Umbrella, Watershed-based, Regional Mitigation Plan (Umbrella Plan) for Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) impacts identified in the FDOT environmental impact inventory submitted pursuant to §373.4137, F.S.

BACKGROUND

§373.4137, F.S., requires the District, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (COE), the FDOT and other appropriate federal state and local governments, and other interested parties, to develop and approve regional mitigation plan for the mitigation needs of the FDOT. Through consultation, the District's Umbrella Plan was designed and evaluated to meet the mitigation requirements of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, and 33 U. S. C. § 1344.

This modification to the Umbrella Plan reflects COE acceptance of implementing mitigation for the US 98 Wakulla River Bridge Replacement at the Shuler Property – UWRMP 5.6.4. To compensate for functional wetland losses associated with this impact, 4.92 UMAM credits will be deducted from the Shuler project credit ledger.

A copy of the Umbrella Plan may be accessed online at <http://nwfwmdwetlands.com> or may be obtained from Ron Bartel (ron.bartel@nwfwmd.state.fl.us), Resource Management Division, Northwest Florida Water Management District, 81 Water Management Drive, Havana, FL 32333-4712.

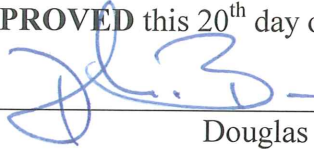
The District concludes, as of the date of this approval, that the Umbrella Plan complies with the mitigation requirements of Chapter 373, F.S., and 33 U.S.C. §1344.

In accordance with §373.4137 (7), upon approval by the governing board of the water management district or its designee, the mitigation plan shall be deemed to satisfy the mitigation requirements of §373.4137, F.S., for impacts specifically identified in the FDOT environmental impact inventory and any other mitigation requirements imposed by local, regional, and state agencies for these same impacts. The approval of the governing board of the water management district or its designee shall authorize the activities proposed in the mitigation plan, and no other state, regional or local permit or approval shall be necessary.

In accordance with §373.4137 (8), approval of the plan and any amendment does not eliminate the need for FDOT to meet the permitting requirement to reduce or eliminate impacts of the transportation projects, nor does it change any other permitting criteria for those

transportation projects. This approval only addresses mitigation requirements for the specified road projects. It does not grant or imply that the specified projects satisfy any other permitting requirements under Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S., or rules adopted there under.

APPROVED this 20th day of November, 2009



Douglas E. Barr, Executive Director
Northwest Florida Water Management District
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, Florida 32333

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF GADSDEN

Nov. 20, 2009 Robin K. Tucker

Date

