

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT 701 SAN MARCO BOULEVARD JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207

March 26, 2025

Planning and Policy Division Environmental Branch

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Resource Permitting Section Mr. Ryan Snyder 2295 Victoria Avenue Suite 364 Fort Myers, Florida 3390

Dear Mr. Snyder:

Please see attached an application for an Individual Environmental Resource Permit for maintenance dredging of an existing federal channel and in-water placement of dredged material adjacent to Everglades Harbor Channel, Everglades City, Collier County, Florida at coordinates N 25° 50' 7.5732", W -81° 24' 34.4052".

We propose to dredge approximately 61.06 acres of bottomlands within the center of the channel to a depth of -8 feet MLLW (with 2 feet allowable over depth to a maximum depth of 10 feet) to maintain safe and efficient vessel navigation. The dredge will meander around the channel's curves but will average approximately 60 feet in width and is approximately 8.19 miles in length. Work will occur from a barge and the volume of dredged material to be removed from the channel is estimated at approximately 90,000 cubic yards and will be placed in 124 acres of an in-water area adjacent to the channel. The in-water placement is designed to make water depths suitable for smalltooth sawfish essential habitat (Depth not to exceed -3 MLLW).

The Standard Manatee Construction Conditions for In-Water work and Sea-Turtle and Smalltooth Sawfish Construction Conditions will be followed throughout construction. Best Management Practices will be utilized throughout construction and will remain in place until any turbidity has settled and returned to background levels.

Please feel free to call us at any time with questions or comments at (904) 232-1032 or email <u>Michael.R.Strange@USACE.Army.Mil</u>.

Sincerely,

Gretchen S. Ehlinger, Ph.D. Chief, Environmental Branch

Enclosure(s)

62-330.060 F.A.C. Individual Application Form Section A 62-330.060 F.A.C. Individual Application Form Section D 62-330.060 F.A.C. Individual Application Form Section D 62-330.060 F.A.C. Individual Application Form Section F Attachment A: Location Map Attachment B: RHA Public Law 86-645 House Doc 147-86 Attachment C: Design Authentication Attachment D: Permit Plates Attachment E: NRCS Soil Map Attachment F: Environmental Impact Map Attachment G: FNAI Map Attachment H: Surface Class II Waters Map Attachment I: Sediment Compatibility Analysis Attachment J: Bathymetric Survey Attachment K: Benthic Survey

Attachment L: Adjacent Properties (within 500 feet)