

Appendix 7A-3: Permitted Conditions Annual Reports for Acceler8 Projects

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INTRODUCTION

404 PERMITS

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 established the Section 404 Regulatory Program. Under this act, it is unlawful to discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States without first receiving authorization, usually a permit, from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless the discharge is covered under an exemption. The term “waters of the United States” defines the extent of geographic jurisdiction of the Section 404 program. The term includes such waters as rivers, lakes, streams, tidal waters, and most wetlands. A discharge of dredged or fill material involves the physical placement of soil, sand, gravel, dredged material, or other such materials into the waters of the United States.

1502 PERMITS

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Regulation Act (CERPRA) was enacted by the Florida legislature [(Chapter 373.1502, Florida Statutes (F.S.)] for the purpose of providing efficient and effective permitting of CERP project components. CERPRA permits are in lieu of all other permits required in Chapters 373 and 403, F.S., except for permits that are under any delegated authority.

REPORTING

Annually, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or District) is required to submit to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) reports regarding:

- Discussion of project status
- Conclusions regarding project success
- Problems encountered during the reporting period
- Actions taken to address the problems encountered

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For the Fiscal Year 2007 (FY2007) CERP Annual Report, this appendix presents the annual 1502 permit reports to the FDEP for:

- Prairie Canal Phase I
- Everglades Agricultural Area Seepage Canal
- C-44 Troup Indiantown Canal Water Control District Canal Reconfiguration
- Picayune Strand Restoration Project Road Removal

Table 1 provides additional detail on the 404 and 1502 permits.

Table 1. Annual 404 and 1502 permits and special conditions requiring reporting.

404 PERMITS		
PROJECT NAME	PERMIT NUMBER	SPECIAL CONDITIONS WHICH REQUIRE ANNUAL REPORTING
Picayune Strand Restoration Project Road Removal	SAJ-2005-6598 (IP-TKW)	1, 7f, 7g, 9g
Everglades Agricultural Area A-1 Reservoir	SAJ-2005-53 (IP-TKW)	1, 7a
1502 PERMITS		
Everglades Agricultural Area A-1 Reservoir Construction	0242172-003-EM	18
Prairie Canal – Phase 1 Construction and Operation	0221670-001-GL	16
C-44 Reservoir/Constructed Wetland Buffer Project	0254895-003-EM	29
Picayune Strand Restoration Project Road Removal	0221670-005-GL	17

BACKGROUND – ANNUAL REPORTS

PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT - PRAIRIE CANAL PHASE I

The District is required to submit an annual report to the FDEP detailing the progress of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project - Prairie Canal Phase I Project. In addition to the permit number and name of the permit administrator, the annual report contains, at a minimum, the following information; the project name, permit number, discussion of project status, and conclusions regarding project success, problems encountered during the period covered, and actions taken to address problems encountered. The report also provides a discussion of the results obtained from the District's monitoring plan (Document No. 3 of the permit, which is incorporated by reference in this appendix). The annual reporting requirements under this permit are being incorporated into the South Florida Environmental Report (SFER) and submitted to the FDEP no later than March 1 of each year. If additional reporting modifications are required, then the permittee may request a modification of the annual report submission date to coincide with other reporting requirements and time periods needed for data acquisition and analysis. The reports are required to be submitted on an annual basis for a period of five years after the completion of construction. At that time the permittee and the FDEP will meet to determine if further reporting is required.

EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA 1A RESERVOIR - SEEPAGE CANAL

The District is required to submit an annual report to the FDEP detailing the progress of the Everglades Agricultural Area 1A Reservoir – Seepage Canal Project. In addition to the permit number and name of the permit administrator, the annual report contains, at a minimum, the following information; the project name, permit number, discussion of project status, and conclusions regarding project success, problems encountered during the period covered, and actions taken to address problems encountered. The annual reporting requirements under this permit is being incorporated into the SFER and submitted to the FDEP no later than March 1 of each year. If additional reporting modifications are required, then the permittee may request a modification of the annual report submission date, and upon approval by the FDEP, the permittee may modify the annual report submission date to coincide with other reporting requirements and time periods needed for data acquisition and analysis.

C44 – TROUP INDIANTOWN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT CANAL RECONFIGURATION

The District is required to submit an annual report to the FDEP detailing the progress of the C-44 – Troup Indiantown Water Control District Canal Reconfiguration Project. In addition to the permit number and name of the permit administrator, the annual report contains, at a minimum, the following information; the project name, permit number, discussion of project status, and conclusions regarding project success, problems encountered during the period covered, and actions taken to address problems encountered. The annual reporting requirements under this permit is being incorporated into SFER and submitted to the FDEP no later than March 1 of each year. If additional reporting modifications are required, then the permittee may request a modification of the annual report submission date, and upon approval by the FDEP, the permittee

may modify the annual report submission date to coincide with other reporting requirements and time periods needed for data acquisition and analysis.

PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT - ROAD REMOVAL

The District is required to submit an annual report to the FDEP detailing the progress of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project – Road Removal Project. In addition to the permit number and name of the permit administrator, the annual report contains, at a minimum, the following information; the project name, permit number, discussion of project status, and conclusions regarding project success, problems encountered during the period covered, and actions taken to address problems encountered. The report also provides a discussion of the results obtained from the District's monitoring plan (Document No. 3). The annual reporting requirements under this permit is being incorporated into the SFER and submitted to the FDEP no later than March 1 of each year. If additional reporting modifications are required, then the permittee may request a modification of the annual report submission date, and upon approval by the FDEP, the permittee may modify the annual report submission date to coincide with other reporting requirements and time periods needed for data acquisition and analysis. The reports are required to be submitted on an annual basis for a period of five years after the completion of construction. At that time the permittee and the FDEP will meet to determine if further reporting is required.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The annual reports for the foregoing projects are presented in Appendix 7A-1 of this volume.

PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT - PRAIRIE CANAL PHASE I

Permit No. 0221670-001-GL

Permit Title: Picayune Strand Restoration Project - Prairie Canal Phase I

Permit Administrator: Acceler8

Permit Number: 0221670-001-GL

Special Condition: 16

Issue Date: October 28, 2005

Expiration Date: October 28, 2010

Report Prepared By: Steve Moore

Report Reviewed By: Chip Eitel

Status

The Prairie Canal is one of four major canals that are to be abandoned and backfilled as part of the Picayune Strand Restoration Project. The permitted project includes plugging of seven miles of canal, installing culverts under Stewart Blvd. and Janes Scenic Drive, and removal of approximately 20 miles of roadways adjacent to the south end of the canal. The first portion of the project was completed in 2004 and filled the upper 2 miles of canal. The most recent portion

of the project backfilled approximately 5 miles of the southern end of the canal with earthen plugs and the remainder of existing spoils. Work also consisted of clearing and grubbing along this reach of the Prairie Canal and installation of reinforced concrete pipe culverts at seven locations along Stewart Blvd. and Janes Scenic Drive. The road removal was completed in August 2007 as part of the removal of all 65 miles of roads between Prairie and Merritt Canals. The canal and culvert work was started on August 14, 2006, and completed on May 4, 2007. The project was built according to the permitted plans with no deviations except that the four culverts under Janes Scenic Drive were shortened under a field direction in order to minimize impacts to existing vegetation and habitat.

Conclusions Regarding Success

The culverts are performing as expected by equalizing water depths on both sides of the road and allowing water flow. Canal plugging has shown increases in surface and ground water levels.

Problems Encountered

No problems were encountered during construction of the project.

Actions to Address Problems

None needed.

EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA 1A RESERVOIR – SEEPAGE CANAL

Permit No. 0242172-003-EM (CERPRA)

Permit Title: Everglades Agricultural Area 1A Reservoir - Seepage Canal

Permit Administrator: Everglades Restoration Resource Area

Permit Number: 0242172-003-EM (CERPRA)

Special Condition: 14

Issue Date: April 28, 2006

Expiration Date: April 28, 2011

Report Prepared By: Steve Moore

Report Reviewed By: Shawn Waldeck, P.E.; Richard Bartlett, P.E.

Status

The goals and objectives of the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) A-1 Reservoir are to (1) capture, move, and store agricultural stormwater runoff and regulatory releases from Lake Okeechobee; (2) provide sufficient water for environmental and agricultural demands; and (3) improve operational flexibility within the EAA. The EAA A-1 Reservoir Seepage Canal Project is the first phase of the EAA A-1 Reservoir Project. Construction of the seepage canal will provide material for embankment construction in future phases and an effective feature to manage seepage upon completion of the reservoir project.

The EAA A-1 Reservoir Seepage Canal Project consists of constructing a seepage canal along the eastern, northern, and northwestern portion of the reservoir project site; excavation of borrow pits within the interior of the project footprint; and the excavation of an interior borrow canal. Construction activities associated with the project include the stripping of muck, blasting and removal of cap rock, dewatering, and the excavation of earthen materials. Excavated material is being strategically placed upon the stripped cap rock to allow for optimum drying in preparation for future embankment construction.

Construction of the Seepage Canal began on December 12, 2006. To date, 36,061 linear feet of the Seepage Canal have been excavated, primarily along the western, northern and eastern boundaries of the project.

The project is being built with no deviations from the permitted plans and is progressing towards completion with no major problems encountered. The seepage canal is approximately 61 percent complete, with approximately 23,000 linear feet remaining to be excavated. Project completion for the Seepage Canal Component, is anticipated in summer 2008.

Blasting along US 27 began on August 13, 2007. Due to the proximity of the seepage canal to US 27 the Florida Department of Transportation required the contractor to temporarily close US 27 in both directions daily during the blasting operations. The contractor has successfully managed the maintenance of the traffic plan since August and continually reviews the blasting plans and procedures to avoid problems.

Problems Encountered

No significant problems have been encountered during construction of the project.

Actions to Address Problems

None needed.

C-44 – TROUP INDIANTOWN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT CANAL TEMPORARY RECONFIGURATION

CERPRA Permit No. 0254895-003-EM

Permit Title: C44 – Troup Indiantown Water Control District (TIWCD) Canal Temporary Reconfiguration

Permit Administrator: Acceler8

Permit Number: 0254895-003-EM (CERPRA)

Special Condition: 14

Issue Date: September 27, 2006

Expiration Date: September 27, 2011

Report Prepared By: Steve Moore and Aaron Zambo (Contractor)

Report Reviewed By: Sue Ray, P.E.

Status

The C-44 Reservoir and Constructed Wetland Buffer Project (C-44 Project) encompasses approximately 9,000 acres within the Troup Indiantown Water Control District (TIWCD) service area. The operation of the C-44 Project will not require irrigation or drainage services from TIWCD. However, the C-44 Project requires a portion of TIWCD's irrigation and drainage system to be removed from service, as well as its main irrigation pump station. To maintain service to the remaining acres within the TIWCD service area, modifications to the TIWCD's system were required. The Reconfiguration of TIWCD facilities consists of the installation of pumps, both temporary and permanent installations, and modifications to a drainage canal north of the Minute Maid Road Bridge.

The initial portions of the temporary Reconfiguration of TIWCD including testing were started on October 30, 2006, and completed on June 15, 2007. This portion of the C-44 Project was built according to the permitted plans with no deviations. The remaining portions of the temporary Reconfiguration of TIWCD are intended to be constructed during the main construction of the C-44 Project (Permit No. 0254895-003-EM).

Additionally, the entire 12,000-acre C-44 Project site has been cleared of citrus trees and those trees were all piled and burned as of September 2007. The C-44 Test Cell Program completed operations in June 2007.

Conclusions Regarding Success

The temporary pump systems operational capabilities were evaluated through a series of testing cycles that verified the ability to provide the existing level of service to the TIWCD system during construction of the C-44 Project.

Problems Encountered

No specific problems that deviated from the permitted plans were encountered.

Actions to Address Problems

None needed.

PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT - ROAD REMOVAL**Permit No. 0221670-005-GL**

Permit Title: Picayune Strand Restoration Project – Road Removal Phase I

Permit Administrator: Acceler8

Permit Number: 0221670-005-GL

Special Condition: 16

Issue Date: October 28, 2005

Expiration Date: October 28, 2010

Report Prepared By: Steve Moore

Report Reviewed By: Chip Eitel

Status

Removal of existing roadways in Picayune Strand is a major component of the restoration effort for the Picayune Strand Project. The permitted project includes removal and regrading of approximately 270 miles of roadways including their associated ditches and spoil piles. The work is being performed in four phases. Phase I includes all roads between Merritt and Prairie Canals and consist of approximately 65 miles of roads. Work on this phase began in October 2006 and was completed in August 2007. The project was built according to the permitted plans with no deviations.

Conclusions Regarding Success

Visual observations since completion indicate that the road removal has resulted in an increase in surface water retention.

Problems Encountered

Dry conditions and associated burning bans caused some delays in vegetation disposal for the contractor.

Actions to Address Problems

A one-month extension of the original contract was granted.