

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS 4400 PGA BOULEVARD, SUITE 500 PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA 33410

April 5, 2012

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

Regulatory Division Palm Beach Gardens Section

Please note there was an error in the April 4, 2012, Letter of Permission Coordination Letter. The error has been corrected below. The additions are shown with an underline and deletions with strikethrough. The attachments are not included in this letter because no changes were made to the drawings.

## Letter of Permission Coordination Letter Permit Application No. SAJ-1995-02889(LP-KDS)

<u>TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: This district has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403) as described below:

<u>APPLICANT</u>: North River Shores Property Owner's Association Attn: Hal Halliburton P.O. Box 3154 Stuart, Florida 34995

<u>WATERWAY & LOCATION</u>: The project is located in the St. Lucie River and adjacent canals in the North River Shores residential community, adjacent to 309 East Ocean Avenue, Lantana (Section 3, Township 45 South, Range 43 East), in <u>Martin County</u> (Sections 30 and 31, Township 37 south, Range <u>41 east</u>) Palm Beach County, Florida. The project site is located in Manatee Critical Habitat.

Directions to the site are as follows: From Interstate 95 take exit 101: Kanner Highway. Head east on Kanner Highway. Turn left on U.S. Highway 1. Turn left onto NW Fork Road. Turn right onto Pine Lake Drive. The project is located in the canals between NW Harbor Place, NW Fork Road, and NW River Trail. Take Interstate 95 to exit 61: Lantana Road. Head East on Lantana Road. Turn right on U.S. 1. Turn left on East Ocean Avenue. Olde Village Pointe Condominium will be on the left.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE:	Latitude	26.5848° North
	Longitude	80.0489° West

<u>PROPOSED WORK</u>: The applicant is proposing to maintenance dredge 980 cubic yards of sediment from the: (a) the entrance channels of Citadel Bay Channel (Dredge Areas 1 and 3) and North Shore Harbor Channel (Dredge Area 7); (b) four shoal areas located within Half Mile Lake (Dredge Area 4, 5, and 6); and (c) one shoal area near the entrance channel of Citadel Bay (Dredge Area 2) to a maximum depth of 5 feet below mean low water using a barge mounted hydraulic dredge. The dredged material will be transported to three vacant lots (Spoil Sites 1 and 2) to dry and be used as fill. Any remaining dredged material will be spread over the North River Shores Park.

<u>EXISTING CONDITIONS</u>: The project sites are canals directly connected to the St. Lucie River, surrounded by a residential community. Approximately, 4,400 cubic yards of sediment was dredged

from Nosaw Harbor Channel, North Shore Harbor Channel, Citadel Bay Channel, Half Mile Channel, and Santa Lucia Cove Channel in 1995 (SAJ-1995-02889(LP-TA)). The existing water depths range from 3 feet to 2 feet Mean Low Water. A resource survey performed on 2 April 2012, by Jerner and Associates, Inc., the substrate consists of fine silt sediment. No seagrass species were observed.

<u>ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has determined the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). Use of *The Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, and the State of Florida Effect Determination Key for the Manatee in Florida*, (the Key) dated March 2011, resulted in the following sequential determination: A > B > C > G > H > I > N > O > P paragraph 4 "may affect, not likely to adversely affect," no further consultation required. The applicant will be required to comply with the standard manatee conditions for in-water work.

The Corps has determined the project will not affect any other listed species or adversely affect any species designated critical habitat.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH): This notice initiates consultation on EFH as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996. According to a seagrass survey conducted by Jerner and Associates on April 1, 2012, the proposal would impact approximately 27,005 square feet unvegetated sand and silt bottom. The substrate is utilized by various life stages of penaeid shrimp complex, reef fish, stone crab, spiny lobster, migratory/pelagic fish, and snapper/grouper complex. The Corps initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or Federally managed fisheries within the South Atlantic Region. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

<u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: Review of information provided by the applicant indicates that no registered properties, or properties listed as eligible or inclusion therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished.

This project is being evaluated for possible issuance pursuant to a letter of permission. Comments regarding the application should be submitted in writing to the District Engineer at the above address within 15 days from the date of this notice.

If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact Krista Sabin at the letterhead address, by electronic mail at Krista.D.Sabin@usace.army.mil, or by telephone at 561-472-3518.

The decision whether to issue or deny this permit application will be based on the information received from this coordination and the evaluation of the probable impact to the associated wetlands. This is based on an analysis of the applicant's avoidance and minimization efforts for the project, as well as any compensatory mitigation proposed.

Krista Sabin Project Manager