

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WATER QUALITY IMPACT EVALUATION CHECKLIST

650-050-37
 ENVIRONMENTAL
 MANAGEMENT
 08/22

PART 1: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name:	I-75 PD&E From North of SR 200 to South of SR 326
County:	Marion
FM Number:	
Federal Aid Project No:	452074-1-22-01
Brief Project Description:	FDOT is conducting a PD&E for proposed operational improvements to the I-75 corridor in the City of Ocala and Marion County, Florida. These interim improvements were identified as part of Phase 1 of a master planning effort for the I-75 corridor between Florida's Turnpike and County Road 234. The operational improvements being evaluated by this PD&E Study include construction of auxiliary lanes between interchanges for an eight-mile segment of I-75 between S.R. 200 and S.R. 326.

PART 2: DETERMINATION OF WQIE SCOPE

Does project discharge to surface or ground water? Yes No

Does project alter the drainage system? Yes No

Is the project located within a permitted MS4? Yes No
 Name: FDOT District Five Phase II MS4

If the answers to the questions above are no, complete the applicable sections of Part 3 and 4, and then check Box A in Part 5.

PART 3: PROJECT BASIN AND RECEIVING WATER CHARACTERISTICS

Surface Water

Receiving water names: Silver River Drain and Ocklawaha Watershed

Water Management District: SJRWMD

Environmental Look Around meeting date: 12/15/2023
Attach meeting minutes/notes to the checklist.

Water Control District Name(s) (list all that apply): N/A

Groundwater

Sole Source Aquifer (SSA)? Yes No
 Name _____

If yes, complete Part 5, D and complete SSA Checklist shown in Part 2, Chapter 11 of the PD&E Manual

Other Aquifer? Yes No

Name _____

Springs vents? Yes No

Name _____

Well head protection area? Yes No

Name _____

Groundwater recharge? Yes No

Name _____

Notify District Drainage Engineer if karst conditions are expected or if a higher level of treatment may be needed due to a project being located within a WBID verified as Impaired in accordance with Chapter 62-303, F.A.C.

Date of notification: 12/18/2023

PART 4: WATER QUALITY CRITERIA

List all WBIDs and all parameters for which a WBID has been verified impaired, or has a TMDL in [Table 1](#). This information should be updated during each re-evaluation as required.

Note: If BMAP or RAP has been identified in [Table 1](#), [Table 2](#) must also be completed. Attach notes or minutes from all coordination meetings identified in [Table 2](#).

EST recommendations confirmed with agencies? Yes No

BMAP Stakeholders contacted? Yes No

A meeting with stakeholders directly associated with the project limits was held on December 15, 2023. See attached ELA meeting minutes. All runoff is to be infiltrated in dry retention systems, so no formal contact was made with any stakeholders outside the project area.

TMDL program contacted? Yes No

RAP Stakeholders contacted? Yes No

Regional water quality projects identified in the ELA? Yes No

If yes, describe:

Potential direct effects associated with project construction and/or operation identified? Yes No

If yes, describe:

Discuss any other relevant information related to water quality including Regulatory Agency Water Quality Requirements.

Due to the presence of Sensitive Karst Area (SKA), dry retention ponds are the selected method of stormwater management for the project. Existing drainage patterns will be maintained as much as possible in the proposed condition. Volumetric pond sizing calculations have been performed for the 25 year – 96 hour event (SJRWMD) and the 100 year – 10 day event. The calculations assume full containment of the controlling storm (typically the 100 year). FDOT has requested that ponds be conservatively sized to accommodate a “full build-out” condition of 90% ROW impervious, where possible; thus, for those basins a buffer has been added to bring the calculated pavement width to 270 ft. For the remaining basins, ponds are sized based on the currently proposed auxiliary lanes. Ponds are sized for full containment of the 100 year volume associated with runoff calculated for this amount of impervious surface within the corridor. The project corridor lies on the western boundary of the Silver Springs BMAP. There will be no direct discharge, nor was WBID 2772B assigned a TMDL target, thus no supplemental criteria will be required.

PART 5: WQIE DOCUMENTATION

- A. No involvement with water quality
- B. No water quality regulatory requirements apply.
- C. Water quality regulatory requirements apply to this project (provide Evaluator’s information below). Water quality and stormwater issues will be mitigated through compliance with the design requirements of authorized regulatory agencies.
- D. EPA Ground/Drinking Water Branch review required. Yes No
Concurrence received? Yes No
If Yes, Date of EPA Concurrence: [Click here to enter a date.](#)
Attach the concurrence letter

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

Evaluator Name (print):

Title:

Signature:

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

Table 1: Water Quality Criteria

Receiving Waterbody Name (list all that apply)	FDEP Group Number / Name	WBID(s) Numbers	Classification (I,II,III,IIIL,IV,V)	Special Designations*	NNC limits**	Verified Impaired (Y/N)	TMDL (Y/N)	Pollutants of concern	BMAP, RA Plan or SSAC
Silver River Drain	Ocklawaha	2772B	3F			No	No	N/A	BMAP

* ONRW, OFW, Aquatic Preserve, Wild and Scenic River, Special Water, SWIM Area, Local Comp Plan, MS4 Area, Other

** Lakes, Spring vents, Streams, Estuaries

Note: If BMAP or RAP has been identified in [Table 1](#), [Table 2](#) must also be completed.

Table 2: REGULATORY Agencies/Stakeholders Contacted

Receiving Water Name (list all that apply)	Contact and Title	Date Contacted	Follow-up Required (Y/N)	Comments
Silver River Drain	SJRWMD - Michelle Reiber, Bureau Chief	12/15/2023	Yes	Permitting will be required
Silver River Drain	SWFWMD - Chris Kuzlo, Chief Professional Eng.	12/15/2023	No	SJRWMD is expected to lead permitting
Silver River Drain	FDEP - Adele Mills, Environmental Specialist	12/15/2023	No	
Silver River Drain	City of Ocala - Oscar Tovar, Deputy City Eng.	12/15/2023	No	
Silver River Drain	Marion County - Tracy Straub, County Eng.	12/15/2023	No	
Silver River Drain	FDOT - District 5 - Casey Lyon, Environmental Mgr.	12/15/2023	Yes	Owner

AGENDA

Project: I-75 Auxiliary Lane PD&E Study (FPID: 443624-5)

Subject: Environmental Look Around

Date: December 15, 2023

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees: David Graeber – FDOT Project Manager North Project
Steven Waterston – HDR Project Manager
Micheal Holt – PGA, North Project Drainage Lead
Steven Schnell – HDR
Stephen Browning – FDOT Project Manager South Project
Scott Golden – Volkert Project Manager
John Palm – Volkert Deputy Project Manager
Miranda Glass – Volkert, South Project Drainage Lead
Ferrell Hickson – FDOT District Drainage Engineer
Efren Riveria – FDOT Drainage
Gregory Lesick – FDOT Environmental Permitting
Casey Lyon – FDOT Environmental Manager
Jennifer Fengren Cappelletti – FDOT Environmental Permitting
Chris Kuzlo – Chief Professional Engineer, SWFWMD
Albert A Gagne – SWFWMD
Michelle Reiber – SJRWMD
Adele Mills – FDEP
Laurie Dolan – Environmental Specialist, FDEP Cross Florida Greenway
Mary Jensen – Marion County, Transportation Engineer
Doug Hinton – Marion County, Deputy County Engineer
Tracy Straub – Marion County
Bradley Arnold – Sumter County, County Administrator
Matthew Tadlock – Sumter County
Thomas McLendon – Mott MacDonald, South Project Drainage Sub
Arthur Hooks – Volkert
Aayushi Vagadia – PGA

1. Attendee Introductions

2. Project Presentation (provided via attachment)—Stephen Browning, Michael Holt, Miranda Glass

- **ELA Purpose**
 - Discussed purpose of this ELA is to look for opportunities for joint stormwater management projects with agencies, stakeholders, or ongoing adjacent projects.
- **Project Introduction**
 - Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for proposed operational improvements to the I-75 corridor in Marion County.
 - Includes construction of auxiliary lanes between interchanges for an eight-mile segment of I-75 between S.R. 200 and S.R. 326.
 - 22 miles from South of S.R. 44 to S.R. 200
- **Existing Drainage Conditions (breakdown by Sumter vs. Marion)**
 - Primarily closed basins.
 - Primarily closed collection/conveyance systems.
 - Treatment within the R/W via linear treatment swales and/or in-field ponds at the interchanges.
- **Proposed Drainage Conditions (breakdown by Sumter vs. Marion)**
 - Maintain the existing drainage patterns, cross drains, and outfall locations as much as possible.
 - Provide treatment volume for the proposed additional impervious, not all ROW area.
 - Three pond alternatives within each basin.
 - North Project - Alternatives designed for full containment of the 100 year/10 day storm volume.
 - South Project - Alternatives designed for volume attenuation of the 100 year/10 day storm volume.
 - Dry ponds preferred where feasible in all basins.
- **Related Projects (breakdown by Sumter vs. Marion)**
 - Marion Oaks Manor
 - NW 49th/35th Street
 - SW 49th Avenue (Marion Oaks Trail to SW 95th)
 - N 44th Avenue (SR 40 to NW 11th Street)
 - NW 35th Street to SR 326
 - SW 44th Avenue (SR 200 to W 20th and SW 20th to SR 40)
 - 49th Street Interchange
- **Opportunities for Joint or Regional Stormwater Management Facilities (breakdown by Sumter vs. Marion)**

- Identified known City of Ocala ponds along SW 42nd St for consideration of available volume or expansion/retrofit potential
- Requested information regarding potential developments or Future Capital Improvements planned

3. Open Discussion (referencing attached Google Earth kmz)

○ Brad Arnold

- Historic Community of Royal – not recognized boundary in County’s comprehensive plan/nor regulatory boundary – do not have to curtail design to
- Ponds South of SR 42. Property is zoned industrial, and County is reaching out to owners (Werner Trucking) regarding joint ponds

○ Tracy Straub

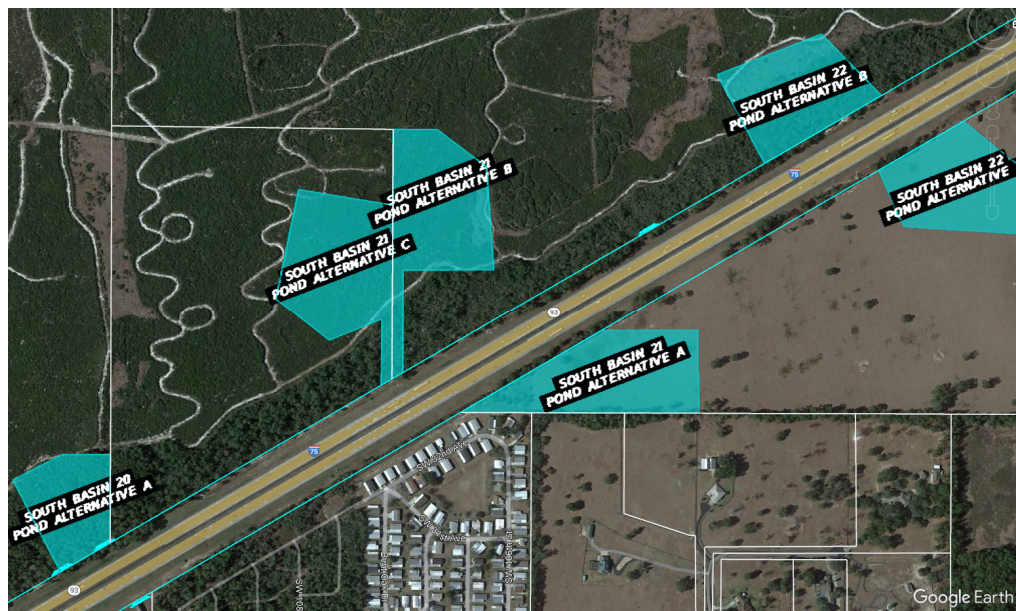
- Joint Pond (approaching 42nd and SR 200) as parallel County 49th project has identified ponds in this area, particularly around Basin 31, Alternatives A & B.



- New roadway right-of-way will clip pond (road is platted) Coordinate w/ Engineers. County discussing right-of-way with property owners. Have parcel sketches in hand (have ROW from Cul-de-sac to south already secured). Also parcels to north is new multifamily development in final stages of design. Parcel to south is to be commercial development. Need further coordination with County/FDOT/Stakeholders. FDOT ROW will reach back out to County. County to share alignment with FDOT.

- Water retention planned for similar locations to the two identified pond alternatives
- **Michael Holt**
 - SJRWMD boundary covers much of the area along I-75. Which agency is lead?
- **Michelle Reiber**
 - Stated SJWMD has historically permitted much of this area. Which agency has largest amount will typically be lead. Will discuss further with FDOT and Agencies. An interagency agreement will need to be completed to allow for review of one agency for the other agency.
- **Matthew Tadlock**
 - No comment
- **Ferrell/Casey**
 - ELA meeting to do better method/ways to coordinate. Please let us know of any big developments coming. Let us know of any environmental projects coming or on shelf. FDOT can assist build/combine with this project
- **Tracy Straub**
 - Marion Flyover at south end of County being expedited. Have had discussion with consultant to facilitate sooner
 - CR 484, constrained intersection, Needs to be widened under interchange. Would like to work that into this project
 - CR 66 intersection with 49th Avenue already designed. Geometry/bridge elevation is a concern. Need further coordination with team due to tight transition
 - 49th at north end of project, County wants to partner with FDOT to expedite jobs so timing works
- **Ferrell Hickson/Casey Lyon**
 - Any project is acceptable, not just stormwater. Anything to improve water quality. Just completed septic to sewer.
- **Miranda Glass**
 - Closed basins- attenuation volumes are biggest driver for ponds. If no pond is preference by property owner, we would like to consider that option even if there's a way to provide treatment prior to letting the water go. In south, there's a large potential to work with large parcel owners. Need to have one-on-one meetings to have deeper discussion.
- **Stephen Browning/ Casey Lyon**
 - Have done similar to no ponds on Ocala National Forest. Did vegetated buffers and showed flooding would not occur in forest. They did accept the water and was permitted through SJRWMD. Do not want ponds on greenway.
- **Miranda Glass**

- In areas of TIFF, considering treatment in R/W for interim project and controlling discharge via spreader swales
 - For ultimate with 90% impervious in R/W, any biotreatment (BAM) or in ROW options during interim would be impacted but would still allow to keep greenway in naturally existing conditions
- **Laurie Doyle**
 - Mickey Thomason (not on call) but wants to preserve greenway as much as possible
 - Wants to continue further discussion for greenway absorbing all discharge
- **Scott Golden**
 - Goal is to reach resolution with sound/good options to environment. Also not flooding or while minimizing impacts to greenspace. Ponds are worse case scenario. Stephen Browning concurs
- **Adell Mills**
 - Why two ponds to northern end (Basin 21, Alternatives B & C)? Why come in so far away from interstate?



- **Miranda Glass**
 - Due to lack of elevation/groundwater/soil profiles and not impacting roadway hydraulics
- **Casey Lyon**
 - Each basin has three alternatives.
- **Miranda Glass/ Scott Golden**
 - Do have opportunity in this area to work with existing R/W. Pond sizes assume R/W not used, but analysis is ongoing. The ponds are worst case

scenario based on desktop analysis. As data is provided, design will modify as needed. Final design should be one pond and not all three alternatives.

- Keyhole area (Currently Basin 19, Alternative D) does not accommodate ultimate. Considering pond in FDOT section area to help.
- Most of the natural low storage areas within the TIITF are fully contained within the TIITF, which avoids potential for downstream impacts from a “no pond” option.
- Two lows in basin 16/17. Will try to have one pond and discharge to two low areas (minimize impact floodplain)
- **Ferrell Hickson/ Casey Lyon**
 - Let water go into natural lows and not remove trees. Keep natural habitat. No downstream impacts.
 - Prefer line easement. No restriction to property owner if DEP will accept it. Will model to show no impacts/flooding that will kill vegetation/trees.
 - Easements takes time to get through R/W. They have to go to ARC. Consultant to complete calcs to present to WMD
 - Line easements on our property do not go to ARC
- **Adell Mills ?**
 - Would prefer a “no pond” option if possible
- **Brad Arnold ?**
 - CR 475/ CR 466 design roundabout design is at 90%. In work program (LAP) already
- **Ferrell Hickson**
 - Consider all options via alternative projects
 - Money for septic to sewer – could free up funds for Cities to do more with their funds
 - Treatment Plant Retrofit
- **Tracy Straub**
 - Any new development project in/adjacent the corridor. Projects do not have to be just roadway, drainage, or treatment projects. Sumter going to go back and discuss with utilities department possible projects
- **Stephen Browning**
 - Please expedite any needs or concerns as the schedule means need to know ASAP

4. Action Items

- Provide slides of alternatives and kmz to group
- FDOT ROW will reach back out to Marion County. County to share alignment with FDOT

- Further coordination with FDOT and Agencies needed to determine lead review agency. An interagency agreement will need to be completed to allow for review of one agency for the other agency.
- Produce stormwater model that details stormwater discharge in area of greenway will not kill vegetation/trees via flooding.
- Further discussion with greenway regarding discharge of treated water to forest. Preserve as much greenway as possible.
- Work with owners/FDEP for line easements for stormwater discharge corridor
- Counties to have further discussions for projects to bring to FDOT for coordination (does not just have to be drainage projects).
- Include Melissa Parsons and Tanya McHale in future meetings to represent SJRWMD.
 - mparsons@sjrwmd.com
 - tmchale@sjrwmd.com

