

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SOUTHEASTERN STATES DISTRICT OFFICE
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) FORM

ES-020-2014 -JFO
-0574

Case/Project No.: FL-ES-057954

PROJECT NAME: Nonexclusive Easement (BOT File No. 500237316, Easement No. 41565)

TECHNICAL REVIEW:

(I)	Program	Reviewer	Signature	Date
	Air Quality	Brian Kennedy, Physical Scientist	<i>Victoria P. Craft</i>	4-17-15
	ACEC	Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist	<i>Faye Winters</i>	4-17-15
	Botanical including T & E Spp.	Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist	<i>Faye Winters</i>	4-17-15
	Communications (Dispatch)			
	Cultural/Paleontology	John M. Sullivan, Archeologist	<i>John M. Sullivan</i>	4-20-15
	Energy Policy			
	Environmental Justice			
	Farmlands (Prime & Unique)			
	Fire Management			
	Floodplain			
	Hazardous Material	Brian Kennedy, Physical Scientist	<i>Victoria P. Craft</i>	4-17-15
	Invasive & Non-Native Species	Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist	<i>Faye Winters</i>	4-17-15
	Lands/Realty	Vicki Craft, Realty Specialist	<i>Victoria P. Craft</i>	4-17-2015
	Land Law Examiner			
	Law Enforcement			
	Minerals			
	Native American Religious Concerns	John M. Sullivan, Archeologist	<i>John M. Sullivan</i>	4-20-15
	Operations			
	Range Management			
	Recreation			
	Soils	Brian Kennedy, Physical Scientist		
	Surface Protection			
	Visual Resources			
	Water Rights			
	Water Quality (Surface & Ground)	Brian Kennedy, Physical Scientist	<i>Victoria P. Craft</i>	4-17-15
	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Brian Kennedy, Physical Scientist	<i>Victoria P. Craft</i>	4-17-15
	Wild & Scenic Rivers			
	Wilderness			
	Wild Horses/Burros			
	Wildlife including T & E Spp.	Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist	<i>Faye Winters</i>	4-17-15

Prepared by: *Victoria P. Craft*
Victoria Craft, Realty Specialist

Date: 4-17-2015

Reviewed by: *Alicia McCarty*
Acting NEPA Coordinator

Date: 4/22/15

Reviewed by: *Faye Winters*
Assistant District Manager (ADM), Natural Resources

Date: 4/22/15

Name of Project: Nonexclusive Easement (BOT File No. 500237316, Easement No. 41565)

Number: ES-020-2014-0074JFO

Case File No.: FL-ES-057954

Location (legal description): A parcel of sovereignty submerged land in Section 31, Township 40 South, Range 43 East, in Intracoastal Waterway, Palm Beach County, Tallahassee Meridian Florida

Applicant: United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Project Description: The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States Office (ESO) has an essential need to secure an easement from the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection on sovereignty submerged lands near the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA) near lot 17.

An easement is needed in support of the proposed shoreline stabilization efforts that would occur at JILONA near lot 17. Shoreline stabilization of Lot 17 is in the design and permitting phase. A proposed design submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for permitting included stabilizing the high bluffs with a tiered sheet-pile system with vinyl walls and terraces, planted with native vegetation. A submerged steel sheet-pile toe-wall with back fill will create a perched shoreline to serve as a stable foundation for the breakwaters and create shallow water habitat for sea grass recruitment. Emergent limestone breakwaters along the shoreline would lessen wave/tidal energy and provide additional fisheries habitat. Gaps between the breakwaters would facilitate manatee access into the protected shallow-water habitat. A rock revetment to be located at the southernmost tip of the project area, installed submerged sheet pile to support backfill, elevate the submerged shoreline landward of the proposed submerged sheet pile by filling of surface waters with fill material, and construct a three-tiered sheet wall system to stabilize upland bank, and establish a marsh community and an optional mangrove community along the project's shoreline.

Categorical Exclusion Reference: Categorical Exclusion reference is 516 DM 11.5 E(16).

Required Stipulations: None

Compliance and Monitoring Responsibility: None

Decision:

BLM has determined that the proposal conforms to the land use plan, is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria, and that it will not involve any significant adverse environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review. The proposed action will be implemented subject to the stipulations within the authorizing easement document.

Approved by: Bruce Dawson
Bruce Dawson
Southeastern States District Office

Date: 4/22/2015

CX Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation		
The proposed categorical exclusion action will:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety. Rationale: There should be no significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. Rationale: None of these resources are present.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. Rationale: No highly controversial effects or unresolved conflicts would occur.		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. Rationale: There are no unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. Rationale: No precedent would be established.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. Rationale: There would be no cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office. Rationale: No such properties would be affected.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species. Rationale: There should be no impact on species listed or proposed for listing, or their habitat.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. Rationale: No laws would be violated.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). Rationale: No disproportionate adverse effects would be expected.		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007). Rationale: There would be no effect on Indian sacred sites.		X
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112). Rationale: This project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species due to implementation of standard preventative measures.		X