



An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)
SUNCOM 628-4150 TDD only 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)
On the Internet at: WaterMatters.org

Bartow Service Office
170 Century Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700
(863) 534-1448 or
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Service Office
78 Sarasota Center Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9770
(941) 377-3722 or
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Service Office
7601 Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759
(813) 985-7481 or
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

July 23, 2024

FWC - Public Access Services Office-Planning and Design
Attn: Katherine Burke
620 S. Meridian St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Subject: **Notice of Intended Agency Action - Approval
Environmental Resource General Permit**

Project Name: Bullfrog Creek Culvert Replacment
App ID/Permit No: 897279 / 47047868.000
County: Hillsborough
Expiration Date: June 24, 2029
Sec/Twp/Rge: S25/T31S/R19E

Dear Permittee(s):

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has completed its review of the application for Environmental Resource Permit. Based upon a review of the information you have submitted, the District hereby gives notice of its intended approval of the application.

The File of Record associated with this application can be viewed at <http://www18.swfwmd.state.fl.us/erp/erp/search/ERPSearch.aspx> and is also available for inspection Monday through Friday, except for District holidays, from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. at the District's Tampa Service Office, 7601 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida 33637.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the application or any other information, please contact the Environmental Resource Permit Bureau in the Tampa Service Office.

Sincerely,

David Kramer, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Environmental Resource Permit Bureau
Regulation Division

cc: Mitchell Mason P.E., CHW
Becki Sabis



An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)
SUNCOM 628-4150 TDD only 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)
On the Internet at: WaterMatters.org

Bartow Service Office
170 Century Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700
(863) 534-1448 or
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Service Office
78 Sarasota Center Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9770
(941) 377-3722 or
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Service Office
7601 Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759
(813) 985-7481 or
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

July 23, 2024

FWC - Public Access Services Office-Planning and Design
Attn: Katherine Burke
620 S. Meridian St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Subject: **Notice of Agency Action - Approval
Environmental Resource General Permit**

Project Name: Bullfrog Creek Culvert Replacment
App ID/Permit No: 897279 / 47047868.000
County: Hillsborough
Expiration Date: June 24, 2029
Sec/Twp/Rge: S25/T31S/R19E

Dear Permittee(s):

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) is in receipt of your application for the Environmental Resource Permit. Based upon a review of the information you submitted, the application is approved.

Please refer to the attached Notice of Rights to determine any legal rights you may have concerning the District's agency action on the permit application described in this letter.

If approved construction plans are part of the permit, construction must be in accordance with these plans. These drawings are available for viewing or downloading through the District's Application and Permit Search Tools located at www.WaterMatters.org/permits.

The District's action in this matter only becomes closed to future legal challenges from members of the public if such persons have been properly notified of the District's action and no person objects to the District's action within the prescribed period of time following the notification. The District does not publish notices of agency action. If you wish to limit the time within which a person who does not receive actual written notice from the District may request an administrative hearing regarding this action, you are strongly encouraged to publish, at your own expense, a notice of agency action in the legal advertisement section of a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties where the activity will occur. Publishing notice of agency action will close the window for filing a petition for hearing. Legal requirements and instructions for publishing notices of agency action, as well as a noticing form that can be used, are available from the District's website at www.WaterMatters.org/permits/noticing. If you publish notice of agency action, a copy of the affidavit of publication provided by the newspaper should be sent to the District's Tampa Service Office for retention in this permit's File of Record.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your permit or any other information, please contact the Environmental Resource Permit Bureau in the Tampa Service Office.

Sincerely,

David Kramer, P.E.
Bureau Chief
Environmental Resource Permit Bureau
Regulation Division

Enclosures: Rule 62-330.443 F.A.C., F.A.C.
Exhibit A
Notice of Authorization to Commence Construction
Notice of Rights
cc: Mitchell Mason P.E., CHW
Becki Sabis

Specific Condition(s): Rule 62-330.443 F.A.C., F.A.C.

1. A general permit is granted to the Florida Department of Transportation, counties, and municipalities to conduct the activities described below:
 - (a) For existing maintained roadways and causeways, the alteration, placement, replacement, removal, modification, or maintenance of bridges or bridge culverts and approaches where the combined total of dredging and filling, both temporary and permanent, in wetlands and other surface waters does not exceed 0.5 acre. The total work conducted under notices of intent to use this general permit shall result in the creation of no more than 0.5 acre of new overwater structure for any bridge crossing, including parallel spans, and no new structure area over waters within federally designated critical habitat of Johnson's seagrass (*Halophila johnsonii*).
 - (b) Channel clearing and shaping, not to exceed a combined total of 0.5 acre of dredging and filling in wetlands and other surface waters, to facilitate maximum hydraulic efficiency of the structures detailed in paragraph (a), above, where the spoil material is used on an upland portion of the project or is deposited on a self-contained, upland spoil site. Escape of spoil material or water from the spoil deposition area into wetlands or other surface waters is prohibited.
2. This general permit shall be subject to the following specific conditions:
 - (a) No dredging of access or work channels is authorized by this general permit;
 - (b) Temporary fill roads shall not be constructed waterward of mean high water or ordinary high water;
 - (c) All fill placed in wetlands, other than fill on which a bridge or approach is constructed, shall be regraded to the original wetland elevations and revegetated with native wetland species endemic to adjoining, undisturbed wetlands, within seven days of completion of construction. Within "clear zones," revegetation shall be with native herbaceous species endemic to adjoining, undisturbed wetlands. During the five-year period following the initial planting or restoration of the site, these areas shall be maintained to ensure planted or naturally recruited native wetland species are surviving and growing, and that the areal coverage of exotic and invasive species constitutes less than 10% areal coverage;
 - (d) Hydraulic openings of bridges shall be sufficient to prevent downstream scour, increased downstream water velocities, and increased flood elevations on the property of others;
 - (e) Minimum horizontal and vertical navigational clearances on bridges over navigable waters of the United States shall be established in accordance with procedures outlined in Chapter 2 of the U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Administration Manual, COMDTINST M16590.5C, (March 26, 2004), incorporated by reference herein (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03150>), a copy of which may be obtained from the Agency, as described in subsection 62-330.010(5), F.A.C., and in no circumstance shall placement or replacement of a bridge result in a reduction of horizontal and vertical navigational clearances;
 - (f) Replacement or modification of a bridge that includes changes in the configuration of the bridge and fill areas due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or meeting current construction codes or safety standards are authorized under this permit. Any connecting road expansion or alteration associated with such replacement or modification must be authorized by a separate general or individual permit under chapter 62-330, F.A.C., as applicable, before the start of construction; and
 - (g) This general permit does not authorize the construction of additional travel lanes for motorized vehicles, except that any single-lane bridge may be widened to two travel lanes, provided the bridge widening does not exceed that reasonably necessary to match the existing travel lane alignment of a two-lane road. This permit does not authorize new corridors or roadway connections where there is no existing structure over wetlands or waterway.

Rulemaking Authority 373.026(7), 373.043, 373.118(1), 373.406(5), 373.4131, 373.414(9), 373.418, 403.805(1) FS. Law Implemented 373.118(1), 373.406(5), 373.413, 373.4131, 373.414(9), 373.416, 373.418, 373.419, 403.814(1) FS. History—New 10-3-95, Amended 10-1-07, Formerly 62-341.443, Amended 10-1-13, 6-1-18.

EXHIBIT A

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

The following general permit conditions are binding upon the permittee and are enforceable under Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S. These conditions do not apply to the general permit for stormwater management systems under Section 403.814(12), F.S.

1. The general permit is valid only for the specific activity indicated. Any deviation from the specified activity and the conditions for undertaking that activity shall constitute a violation of the permit and may subject the permittee to enforcement action and revocation of the permit under Chapter 373, F.S.
2. The general permit does not eliminate the necessity to obtain any required federal, state, local and special district authorizations prior to the start of any construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal or abandonment authorized by this permit; and it does not authorize any violation of any other applicable federal, state, local, or special district laws (including, but not limited to those governing the "take" of listed species).
3. The general permit does not convey to the permittee or create in the permittee any property right, or any interest in real property, nor does it authorize any entrance upon or activities on property which is not owned or controlled by the permittee, or convey any rights or privileges other than those specified in the general permit.
4. The general permit does not relieve the permittee from liability and penalties when the permitted activity causes harm or injury to: human health or welfare; animal, plant or aquatic life; or property. It does not allow the permittee to cause pollution that violates state water quality standards.
5. Section 253.77, F.S., provides that a person may not commence any excavation, construction, or other activity involving the use of state-owned or other lands of the state, the title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund without obtaining the required consent, lease, easement, or other form of authorization authorizing the proposed use. Therefore, the permittee is responsible for obtaining any necessary authorizations from the Board of Trustees prior to commencing activity on state-owned lands.
6. The authorization to conduct activities under a general permit may be modified, suspended or revoked in accordance with Chapter 120, F.S., and Section 373.429, F.S.
7. The general permit is not transferable to a new third party. To be used by a different permittee, a new notice to use a general permit must be submitted in accordance with rule 62-330.402, F.A.C. Activities constructed in accordance with the terms and conditions of a general permit are automatically authorized to be operated and maintained by the permittee and subsequent owners in accordance with subsection 62-330.340(1), F.A.C. Any person holding the general permit, persons working under this general permit, and owners of land while work is conducted under the general permit shall remain liable for any corrective actions that may be required as a result of any permit violations prior to sale, conveyance, or other transfer of ownership or control of the permitted project, activity, or the real property at which the permitted project or activity is located.
8. Upon reasonable notice to the permittee, Agency staff with proper identification shall have permission to enter, inspect, sample and test the permitted system to ensure conformity with the plans and specifications approved by the general permit.
9. The permittee shall maintain any permitted project or activity in accordance with the plans submitted to the Agency and authorized in the general permit.
10. A permittee's right to conduct a specific activity under the general permit is authorized for a duration of five years.
11. Activities shall be conducted in a manner that does not cause or contribute to violations of state water quality standards. Performance-based erosion and sediment control best management practices shall be implemented and maintained immediately prior to, during, and after construction as needed to stabilize all disturbed areas, including other measures specified in the permit to prevent adverse impacts to the water resources and adjacent lands. Erosion and sediment control measures shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the *State of Florida*

Erosion and Sediment Control Designer and Reviewer Manual (Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Florida Department of Transportation June 2007), available at <https://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-04227>, and the *Florida Stormwater Erosion and Sedimentation Control Inspector's Manual (Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Nonpoint Source Management Section, Tallahassee, Florida, July 2008)*, available at http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/Stormwater_Training_Docs/erosion-inspectors-manual.pdf.

12. Unless otherwise specified in the general permit, temporary vehicular access within wetlands during construction shall be performed using vehicles generating minimum ground pressure to minimize rutting and other environmental impacts. Within forested wetlands, the permittee shall choose alignments that minimize the destruction of mature wetland trees to the greatest extent practicable. When needed to prevent rutting or soil compaction, access vehicles shall be operated on wooden, composite, metal, or other non-earthen construction mats. In all cases, access in wetlands shall comply with the following:
 - a. Access within forested wetlands shall not include the cutting or clearing of any native wetland tree having a diameter four inches or greater at breast height;
 - b. The maximum width of the construction access area shall be limited to 15 feet;
 - c. All mats shall be removed as soon as practicable after equipment has completed passage through, or work has been completed, at any location along the alignment of the project, but in no case longer than seven days after equipment has completed work or passage through that location; and
 - d. Areas disturbed for access shall be restored to natural grades immediately after the maintenance or repair is completed.
13. Barges or other work vessels used to conduct in-water activities shall be operated in a manner that prevents unauthorized dredging, water quality violations, and damage to submerged aquatic communities.
14. The construction, alteration, or use of the authorized project shall not adversely impede navigation or create a navigational hazard in the water body.
15. Except where specifically authorized in the general permit, activities must not:
 - a. Impound or obstruct existing water flow, cause adverse impacts to existing surface water storage and conveyance capabilities, or otherwise cause adverse water quantity or flooding impacts to receiving water and adjacent lands; or
 - b. Cause an adverse impact to the maintenance of surface or ground water levels or surface water flows established pursuant to Section 373.042, F.S., or a Works of the District established pursuant to Section 373.086, F.S.
16. If prehistoric or historic artifacts, such as pottery or ceramics, projectile points, stone tools, dugout canoes, metal implements, historic building materials, or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American, early European or American settlement are encountered at any time within the project site area, the permitted project shall cease all activities involving subsurface disturbance in the vicinity of the discovery. The permittee or other designee shall immediately contact the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Compliance and Review Section (DHR), at (850) 245-6333, as well as the appropriate permitting agency office. Project activities shall not resume without verbal or written authorization from the Division of Historical Resources. If unmarked human remains are encountered, all work shall stop immediately and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, F.S.
17. The activity must be capable, based on generally accepted engineering and scientific principles, of being performed and of functioning as proposed, and must comply with any applicable District special basin and geographic area criteria.
18. The permittee shall comply with the following when performing work within waters accessible to federally- or state-

listed aquatic species, such as manatees, marine turtles, smalltooth sawfish, and Gulf sturgeon:

- a. All vessels associated with the project shall operate at "Idle Speed/No Wake" at all times while in the work area and where the draft of the vessels provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. All vessels will follow routes of deep water whenever possible.
 - b. All deployed siltation or turbidity barriers shall be properly secured, monitored, and maintained to prevent entanglement or entrapment of listed species.
 - c. All in-water activities, including vessel operation, must be shut down if a listed species comes within 50 feet of the work area. Activities shall not resume until the animal(s) has moved beyond a 50-foot radius of the in-water work, or until 30 minutes elapses since the last sighting within 50 feet. Animals must not be herded away or harassed into leaving. All on-site project personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of listed species.
 - d. Any listed species that is killed or injured by work associated with activities performed shall be reported immediately to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Hotline at 1(888)404-3922 and ImperiledSpecies@myFWC.com.
 - e. Whenever there is a spill or frac-out of drilling fluid into waters accessible to the above species during a directional drilling operation, the FWC shall be notified at ImperiledSpecies@myfwc.com with details of the event within 24 hours following detection of the spill or frac-out.
19. The permittee shall hold and save the Agency harmless from any and all damages, claims, or liabilities which may arise by reason of the construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal, abandonment or use of any activity authorized by the general permit.
 20. The permittee shall immediately notify the Agency in writing of any submitted information that is discovered to be inaccurate.

Rulemaking Authority 373.026(7), 373.043, 373.118(1), 373.406(5), 373.4131, 373.414(9), 373.4145, 373.418, 403.805(1) FS. Law Implemented 373.044, 373.118(1), 373.129, 373.136, 373.406(5), 373.413, 373.4131, 373.414(9), 373.4145, 373.416, 373.422, 373.423, 373.429, 403.814(1) FS. History-New 10-3-95, Amended 10-1-07, Formerly 62-341.215, Amended 10-1-13, 6-1-18.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF
AUTHORIZATION
TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION

Bullfrog Creek Culvert Replacment

PROJECT NAME

Government

PROJECT TYPE

Hillsborough

COUNTY

S25/T31S/R19E

SEC(S)/TWP(S)/RGE(S)

FWC - Public Access Services Office-Planning and Design

PERMITTEE

APPLICATION ID/PERMIT NO: 897279 / 47047868.000

DATE ISSUED: July 23, 2024



David Kramer, P.E.

Issuing Authority

THIS NOTICE SHOULD BE CONSPICUOUSLY
DISPLAYED AT THE SITE OF THE WORK

Notice of Rights

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

1. You or any person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the District's intended or proposed action may request an administrative hearing on that action by filing a written petition in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.), Uniform Rules of Procedure Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) and District Rule 40D-1.1010, F.A.C. Unless otherwise provided by law, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 21 days of receipt of written notice of agency action. "Written notice" means either actual written notice, or newspaper publication of notice, that the District has taken or intends to take agency action. "Receipt of written notice" is deemed to be the fifth day after the date on which actual notice is deposited in the United States mail, if notice is mailed to you, or the date that actual notice is issued, if sent to you by electronic mail or delivered to you, or the date that notice is published in a newspaper, for those persons to whom the District does not provide actual notice.
2. Pursuant to Subsection 373.427(2)(c), F.S., for notices of intended or proposed agency action on a consolidated application for an environmental resource permit and use of state-owned submerged lands concurrently reviewed by the District, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 14 days of receipt of written notice.
3. Pursuant to Rule 62-532.430, F.A.C., for notices of intent to deny a well construction permit, a petition for administrative hearing must be filed with (received by) the District within 30 days of receipt of written notice of intent to deny.
4. Any person who receives written notice of an agency decision and who fails to file a written request for a hearing within 21 days of receipt or other period as required by law waives the right to request a hearing on such matters.
5. Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., to settle an administrative dispute regarding District intended or proposed action is not available prior to the filing of a petition for hearing.
6. A request or petition for administrative hearing must comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A request or petition for a hearing must: (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's intended action or proposed action, (2) state all material facts disputed by the person requesting the hearing or state that there are no material facts in dispute, and (3) otherwise comply with Rules 28-106.201 and 28-106.301, F.A.C. Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. can be viewed at www.flrules.org or at the District's website at www.WaterMatters.org/permits/rules.
7. A petition for administrative hearing is deemed filed upon receipt of the complete petition by the District Agency Clerk at the District's Tampa Service Office during normal business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding District holidays. Filings with the District Agency Clerk may be made by mail, hand-delivery or facsimile transfer (fax). The District does not accept petitions for administrative hearing by electronic mail. Mailed filings must be addressed to, and hand-delivered filings must be delivered to, the Agency Clerk, Southwest Florida Water Management District, 7601 Highway 301 North, Tampa, FL 33637-6759. Faxed filings must be transmitted to the District Agency Clerk at (813) 367-9788. Any petition not received during normal business hours shall be filed as of 8:00 a.m. on the next business day. The District's acceptance of faxed petitions for filing is subject to certain conditions set forth in the District's Statement of Agency Organization and Operation, available for viewing at www.WaterMatters.org/about.

JUDICIAL REVIEW

1. Pursuant to Sections 120.60(3) and 120.68, F.S., a party who is adversely affected by District action may seek judicial review of the District's action. Judicial review shall be sought in the Fifth District Court of Appeal or in the appellate district where a party resides or as otherwise provided by law.
2. All proceedings shall be instituted by filing an original notice of appeal with the District Agency Clerk within 30 days after the rendition of the order being appealed, and a copy of the notice of appeal, accompanied by any filing fees prescribed by law, with the clerk of the court, in accordance with Rules 9.110 and 9.190 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure (Fla. R. App. P.). Pursuant to Fla. R. App. P. 9.020(h), an order is rendered when a signed written order is filed with the clerk of the lower tribunal.

