

Via e-mail: loxrivercomments@usace.army.mil

May 1, 2019

Dr. Ann Hodgson U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Jacksonville District P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Re: Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project / Pal-Mar Water Control District Comments

Dear Dr. Hodgson:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors for the Pal-Mar Water Control District (Pal-Mar WCD) we are providing the following comments from the draft Integrated Project Implementation Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project. This Project will affect lands located within Pal-Mar WCD and as such it is our duty to protect land owners within the District. The primary area within Pal-Mar WCD affected by this Plan, are privately owned lands west of Seminole Pratt Whitney Road. Preliminary comments on the Plan are as follows:

- 1. Rising water levels within Pal-Mar WCD will have the potential to impact private lands held west of Seminole Pratt Whitney Road. Presently, land owners are complaining about high water levels west of Seminole Pratt Whitney Road which appear to be caused by weirs recently installed as part of the Culpepper Ranch Restoration Project.
- 2. Detailed modeling of the system starting at the Cypress Creek structure going upstream, (west) through the Ranch Colony Canal and westward past Seminole Pratt Whitney Road in order to evaluate impacts, if any, to privately owned lands west of Seminole Pratt Whitney Road.

Since a Board meeting has not been held during the comment period, the District would request being able to provide additional comments following the next Pal-Mar Water Control District Board meeting in June.

Letter to USACOE Page 2 of 2 May 1, 2019

We appreciate this opportunity to provide you with these comments. We look forward to working with you as the Plan develops. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call at (561) 439-7807.

Very Truly Yours,

Pal-Mar Water Control District

Robert W. Higgins, P.E.

District Engineer

RWH/ts 08-20

cc: Pal-Mar WCD Board Members
Michael McElligott, District Manager
Mary Viator Esq., District Attorney