APPENDIX C

Public and Agency Project Comments

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ADDITIONAL OFFSHORE BORROW AREAS –
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA SHORE PROTECTION PROJECT AND
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA COASTAL STORM RISK
MANAGEMENT PROJECT
(SOUTH PONTE VEDRA BEACH AND VILANO BEACH REACHES)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT

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Table 1. Summary of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (Corps) responses to comments received during the agency and public review and comment period of the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and draft Environmental Assessment Additional Offshore Borrow Areas – St. Johns County, Florida Shore Protection Project and St. Johns County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project (South Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach Reaches).

#	Commenter	Comment	Response
1	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	The FWC has no initial questions or concerns regarding the proposed plans and will provide recommended conditions for listed species and habitat protection to the state regulatory agency during the state permitting process for this project.	Thank you for your comment. We look forward to working with you through the permitting process.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people.

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February 18, 2022

Darren J. Pecora
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Coastal Section, Environmental Branch Planning and Policy Division
701 San Marco Boulevard
Jacksonville, Florida 32207
Nathan.Bonnano@FloridaDEP.gov

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the use of additional offshore borrow areas for the St. Johns County, Florida (SJC) Shore Protection Project (SPP) (St. Augustine Beach) and SJC, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Project (South Ponte Vedra and Vilano Beach).

Dear Mr. Pecora:

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has reviewed the above referenced project newsletter and provides the following comments for your consideration in accordance with Chapter 379, Florida Statutes, and the Coastal Zone Management Act, Florida's Coastal Management Program.

The US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluates the proposed dredging of new borrow areas S-1 and N-3 for the federally authorized St. Johns County, Florida Shore Protection Project and the St. Johns County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project (South Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach Reaches) in St. Johns County, Florida (hereafter referred to as the Preferred Alternative). Beach quality material would be dredged in the Atlantic Ocean in federal waters off St. Johns County, Florida and placed within the authorized template. The potential effects of the Preferred Alternative were evaluated, and the conclusions are provided.

The FWC has no initial questions or concerns regarding the proposed plans and will provide recommended conditions for listed species and habitat protection to the state regulatory agency during the state permitting process for this project.

FWC staff appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this project and look forward to working with the applicant throughout the permitting process. If you have specific technical questions regarding the content of this letter, please contact Tyler Turner by

email at Tyler.Turner@MyFWC.com. All other inquiries may be sent to ImperiledSpecies@MyFWC.com.

Sincerely,

Tyler N. Turner, Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist IV

Imperiled Species Management Section