DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

AUG 2 6 2008

Mr. Dave Hankla, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
North Florida Field Office
7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200
Jacksonville, Florida 32256-7517

Dear Mr. Hankla:

In accordance with regulations pertaining to the National Environmental Policy Act (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 1501.6), I am formally inviting your agency to become a cooperating agency for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Flagler County, Shoreline Protection Feasibility Study. A copy of the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS and a Plan View map of the study area are enclosed. Additional information can be obtained from the following website: http://planning.saj.usace.army.mil/envdocs/envdocsb.htm#Flagler-County.

Please note that cooperating agency status involves actions and responsibilities beyond that normally associated with a commenting or permitting agency. We request that your role include the following: (1) designate a Point of Contact representing your agency on the Project Delivery Team for this action; (2) provide early review and comment on the EIS and Feasibility Study; and (3) participate in the Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM), the Alternative Formulation Briefing (AFB), the public meeting on the Draft EIS, and periodic project meetings and teleconferences.

The conduct of the FSM and AFB and the formulation of the project, alternatives, and mitigation will be in accordance with Engineer Regulation ER 1105-2-100 (http://www.usace.army.mil/publications/eng-regs) and will fully consider a range of environmental, economic, and social factors. As a cooperating agency, you must fully consider the views, needs, and benefits of competing interests.

No cooperating agency will have "veto" over the selection of the project plan, alternatives, or mitigation measures. Under your status as a commenting agency, you may recommend actions not ultimately adopted or implemented by the lead agency. You may also impose requirements to the extent allowed under your legal authority as a permitting agency. Conflict with the lead agency may be resolved through mediation, placing a dissenting opinion in the EIS, withdrawing your cooperating agency status, or the Lead agency pursuing an EIS without you as a cooperating agency. For additional information see the enclosed "Rights and Responsibilities of Lead and Cooperating Agencies" (Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations, Council on Environmental Quality, 1981). Additional information on Cooperating Agencies can be found at http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs.

Please indicate whether you accept this invitation to become a cooperating agency (as described above) within 30 days of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kenneth Dugger at 904-232-1686 or Ms. Catherine Brooks at 904 232-2130.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Summa
Acting Chief, Environmental Branch

Enclosures