

**THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT, AND THE STATE OF  
FLORIDA EFFECT DETERMINATION KEY FOR THE MANATEE IN FLORIDA  
July 2005**

**Purpose and background of the key**

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to improve the review of permit applications by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Project Managers in the Regulatory Division regarding the potential effects of proposed projects on the endangered West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) in Florida, and by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or its authorized designee or Water Management District, for evaluating projects under the State Programmatic General Permit (SPGP) and any Regional General Permits that may be issued to the above agencies. Such guidance is contained in the following dichotomous key. The key applies to permit applications for in-water activities such as, but not limited to: (1) maintenance dredging (<50,000 cy) (**new dredging is excluded from use of this key**), placement of fill material for shoreline stabilization, and construction/placement of other in-water structures as well as (2) construction of docks, marinas, boat ramps, boat slips, dry storage or any other watercraft access structures or facilities. At a certain step in the key, the user is referred to graphics depicting manatee areas with inadequate protection, important manatee areas, and/or areas with protective measures in place. The maps can be downloaded from the Corps' web page at <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/permit> or at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) web page at <http://www.Myfwc.com>. We intend to utilize the most recent depiction of these areas, so should these areas be modified by statute, rule, ordinance and/or other legal mandate or authorization, we will modify the graphical depictions accordingly. These areas may be shaded or otherwise differentiated for identification on the maps. Shading depicted on land areas is simply a product of the graphics; except for those land areas within the Corps' scope of analysis, only the waterways within the shaded areas are considered relevant to the application of the key for the purposes of evaluating permit applications for activities mentioned in (1) and (2) above.

***Explanatory footnotes are provided in the key and must be closely followed whenever encountered.***

**Scope of the key**

This key should only be used in the review of permit applications for effect determinations on manatees and should not be used for other listed species or for other aquatic resources such as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). (Corps Project Managers should ensure that consideration of the project's effects on any other listed species and/or on EFH is performed independently.) This key may be used to evaluate applications for all types of permits (individual permits, letters of permission, nationwide permits, and regional general permits) issued by the Corps. The final effect determination will be based on the project location and description; the potential effects to manatees, manatee habitat, and/or manatee critical habitat; and any measures (such as project components, standard construction precautions, or special conditions included in the permit) to avoid or minimize effects to manatees or manatee critical habitat. Projects that key to a "may affect" determination equate to "likely to adversely affect" situations, and those projects should

not be processed under the SPGP. For all “may affect” determinations, Corps Project Managers should request the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to initiate formal consultation on the manatee. Projects that provide new access for watercraft and key to “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” may or may not need to be reviewed individually by the Service, depending on whether the project is for single-family or multi-slip facilities. All applications for new multi-slip facilities in other than Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, or Franklin counties or in the lower Florida Keys south of the Seven-mile Bridge should be processed by the Corps since consultation with the Service is required.

**MANATEE KEY**  
**Florida<sup>1</sup>**  
**July 2005**

**The key is not designed to be used by the Corps' Planning Division in making their effect determinations for civil works projects or by the Corps' Regulatory Division for making their effect determinations for projects of the same relative scope as civil works projects. Additionally, this key is not to be used to evaluate projects proposing new dredging. These types of activities must be evaluated by the Corps independently of the key.**

- A. Project is not located in waters accessible to manatees and does not directly or indirectly affect manatees (see Glossary).....*No effect*  
  
Project is located in waters accessible to manatees **or** directly or indirectly affects manatees ..... B
- B. Project consists of one or more of the following activities, all of which are *May affect*:
  - 1. blasting or other detonation activity for channel deepening and/or widening, geotechnical surveys or exploration, bridge removal, movies, military shows, special events, etc.;
  - 2. installation of structures which could restrict or act as a barrier to manatees;
  - 3. changes to warm water discharges from industrial sites, power plants, or natural springs or artesian wells (but only if the proposed change in discharge requires a Corps permit to accomplish the work);
  - 4. installation of new culverts and/or maintenance or modification of existing culverts (where the culverts are in waters accessible, or potentially accessible, to manatees);
  - 5. creation of new slips or change in use of existing slips to accommodate docking for repeat use vessels, *e.g.*, water taxis, tour boats, gambling boats, rental boats, loading/unloading of watercraft, etc;
  - 6. dredging and seawall repair at power plants frequented by manatees;
  - 7. creation or expansion of canals, basins or other artificial shoreline and/or the connection of such features to navigable waters of the U.S.;
  - 8. installation of temporary docking utilized for special events such as boat races, boat shows, military shows, etc. .... *May affect*  
Project is other than the activities listed above..... C
- C. Project is located in an Important Manatee Area (see Glossary and Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>)..... D  
  
Project is not located in an Important Manatee Area (see Glossary and Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>)..... E
- D. Project is for in-water activity other than: 1) a single-family dock facility (new or maintenance), 2) maintenance (repair or rehabilitation) of currently serviceable multi-slip facilities, and/or 3) residential shoreline stabilization (new or maintenance); or is any type of in-water activity located within the Crystal River or Blue Waters Sanctuary  
  
..... *May affect*

- Project is not for any type of in-water activity; or if an in-water activity, is 1) a single-family dock facility (new or maintenance); 2) maintenance (repair or rehabilitation) of currently serviceable multi-slip facilities; and/or 3) residential shoreline stabilization (new or maintenance) not located within the Crystal River or Blue Waters Manatee Sanctuary .....S
- E. Project provides new<sup>3</sup> access for watercraft (*e.g.*, docks or piers, marinas, boat ramps, boat lifts, pilings, floats, floating docks, floating vessel platforms, boat slips, dry storage, mooring buoys, or other watercraft access) or improves an existing access to allow increased watercraft usage.....F
- Project does not provide new<sup>3</sup> access for watercraft, *e.g.*, maintenance dredging (<50,000 cy), bulkheads, seawalls, riprap, boardwalks and/or the maintenance (repair or rehabilitation) of currently serviceable watercraft access structures provided all of the following are met: (1) the number of slips is not increased; (2) the size of the vessels able to utilize the facility is not increased; (3) the number of existing slips is not in question; and (4) the improvements to the existing watercraft access structure do not result in increased watercraft usage.....S
- F. Project is located in an Area of Inadequate Protection (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>).....*May affect*
- Project is not located in Area of Inadequate Protection (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>) .....G
- G. Project is for a single-family dock facility (see Glossary).....S
- Project is for a multi-slip facility (see Glossary) .....H
- H. Project is located in one of the counties currently required to have a State-approved Manatee Protection Plan (MPP), but which may or may not have one in place: BREVARD, BROWARD, CITRUS, COLLIER, DUVAL, INDIAN RIVER, LEE, MARTIN, MIAMI-DADE, ST. LUCIE, SARASOTA, PALM BEACH, VOLUSIA ..... I
- Project is located in one of the counties not currently required to have a State-approved MPP ..... J
- I. Project is located in one of the above counties which has a State-approved MPP in place: BREVARD, CITRUS<sup>4</sup>, COLLIER, DUVAL, INDIAN RIVER, LEE, MARTIN, MIAMI-DADE, ST. LUCIE, SARASOTA, VOLUSIA ..... Q
- Project is located in one of the above counties which does not have a State-approved MPP in place; however, manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are in place: BROWARD, PALM BEACH ..... R
- J. Project is located in one of the counties not currently required to have a State-approved MPP and where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are in place in some areas of the county (CHARLOTTE, FLAGLER, HERNANDO, HILLSBOROUGH, LAKE, LEVY, MANATEE, PINELLAS, PUTNAM, ST. JOHNS, SEMINOLE) or where there is a voluntary, State-approved MPP in place (CLAY) ..... K
- Project is not located in one of the above counties.....N
- K. Project is located in CHARLOTTE, HILLSBOROUGH, MANATEE or PINELLAS..... L
- Project is located in CLAY, FLAGLER, HERNANDO, LAKE, LEVY, PUTNAM, ST. JOHNS or SEMINOLE ..... M
- L. Project is located CHARLOTTE, HILLSBOROUGH, MANATEE or PINELLAS County in areas where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are in place **and** the number of slips does not exceed the residential dock density threshold (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>) .....S
- Project is located in CHARLOTTE, HILLSBOROUGH, MANATEE or PINELLAS County in areas where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are not in place **or** if located in areas where

manatee protection measures are in place, the number of slips exceeds the residential dock density threshold (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>).....*May affect*

M. Project is located in CLAY County, is consistent with the State-approved MPP and has been verified by a FWC or county review **or** is located in FLAGLER, HERNANDO, LAKE, LEVY, PUTNAM, ST. JOHNS or SEMINOLE County in areas where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are in place **or** if located in areas where manatee protection measures are not in place in those counties, the number of slips does not exceed the residential dock density threshold (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>).....S

Project is located in CLAY County, **but** is not consistent with the State-approved MPP **or** is located in FLAGLER, HERNANDO, LAKE, LEVY, PUTNAM, ST. JOHNS or SEMINOLE County in areas where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are not in place **and** the number of slips exceeds the residential dock density threshold (see Accompanying Maps<sup>2</sup>).....*May affect*

N. Project is located in one of the counties not required to have a State-approved MPP and where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are not currently needed: BAY, DIXIE, ESCAMBIA, FRANKLIN, GULF, HENDRY, JEFFERSON, MARION, MONROE (south of the Seven-mile Bridge), NASSAU, OKALOOSA, OKEECHOBEE, SANTA ROSA, TAYLOR, WAKULLA, WALTON .....S

Project is not located in one of the above counties.....O

O. Project is located in one of the counties not required to have a State-approved MPP and where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are currently needed, but are not in place: GLADES, MONROE (north of the Seven-mile Bridge), PASCO.....P

Project is not located in one of the above counties.....*Review location under couplet A again*

P. Project is located in GLADES, MONROE (north of the Seven-mile Bridge) or PASCO County and the number of slips does not exceed the residential dock density threshold .....S

Project is located in GLADES, MONROE (north of the Seven-mile Bridge) or PASCO County and the number of slips exceeds the residential dock density threshold .....*May affect*

Q. Project has been developed or has been modified to be consistent with a State-approved MPP, which has been verified by a FWC or county review, or the number of slips is below the MPP threshold .....S

Project has not been reviewed by the FWC or the county, **or** has been reviewed by the FWC or the county **and** the FWC or the county has determined that the project is not consistent with the State-approved MPP.....*May affect*

R. The number of slips does not exceed the residential dock density threshold .....S

The number of slips exceeds the residential dock density threshold.....*May affect*

S. Project will have beneficial, insignificant, discountable<sup>5</sup> or no effects to submerged aquatic vegetation, emergent vegetation, mangrove or designated critical habitat ..... T

Project will adversely affect submerged aquatic vegetation, emergent vegetation, mangrove<sup>6</sup> or designated critical habitat.....*May affect*

T. Applicant **elects** to follow standard manatee conditions for in-water work<sup>7</sup> and requirements, as appropriate for the proposed activity, prescribed on the maps<sup>2</sup> ..... U

Applicant **does not elect** to follow standard manatee conditions for in-water work<sup>7</sup> and appropriate requirements prescribed on the maps<sup>2</sup> .....*May affect*

U. If project is for any type of new<sup>3</sup> multi-slip facility, and is located in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, or Franklin county, or in the lower Florida Keys south of the Seven-mile Bridge, the determination of “*May affect, not likely to adversely affect*” is appropriate<sup>8</sup> and no further consultation with the Service is necessary.

If project is for a new<sup>3</sup> multi-slip facility and is located in other than Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, or Franklin county, or the lower Florida Keys south of the Seven-mile Bridge, further consultation with the Service is necessary as “*May affect, not likely to adversely affect.*”

If project is for repair or rehabilitation of a multi-slip facility and is located in an Important Manatee Area, further consultation with the Service is necessary as “*May affect, not likely to adversely affect.*”

If project is other than a new<sup>3</sup> multi-slip facility and does not provide new<sup>3</sup> access for watercraft or improve an existing access to allow increased watercraft usage and is not located in an Important Manatee Area, or if project is for a single-family dock facility or residential shoreline stabilization located anywhere other than a manatee sanctuary, the determination of “*May affect, not likely to adversely affect*” is appropriate<sup>9</sup> and no further consultation with the Service is necessary.

---

<sup>1</sup> On the St. Mary’s River, this key is only applicable to those areas that are within the geographical limits of the State of Florida.

<sup>2</sup> Maps depicting important manatee areas or speed zones may contain a reference to legally designated Federal, State or local areas having seasonal entry and/or in-water construction prohibitions. Projects proposed within these areas must address any special requirements as described on the maps and/or their accompanying text.

<sup>3</sup> New access for watercraft is the addition or improvement of structures such as but not limited to docks or piers, marinas, boat ramps, boat lifts, pilings, floats, floating docks, floating vessel platforms, boat slips, dry storage, mooring buoys, etc., that facilitates the addition of watercraft to, and/or increases watercraft usage in, waters accessible to manatees. The repair or rehabilitation of any type of currently serviceable watercraft access structure is not considered new access provided all of the following are met: (1) the number of slips is not increased; (2) the size of the vessels able to utilize the facility is not increased; (3) the number of existing slips is not in question; and (4) the improvements to the existing watercraft access structures do not result in increased watercraft usage.

<sup>4</sup> Note that the criteria in the Citrus County MPP are used only in the evaluation of docks proposed in Citrus County and that part of Levy County on the Withlacoochee River from the Lake Rousseau Dam to the river’s confluence with the Gulf of Mexico. All other proposed activities anywhere in Citrus County and in Levy County on the Withlacoochee River from the Lake Rousseau Dam to the river’s confluence with the Gulf of Mexico will be *May affect*.

<sup>5</sup> See Glossary, under “is not likely to adversely affect.”

<sup>6</sup> For dock and other piling-supported minor structures, if the applicant elects to follow the “Construction Guidelines in Florida for Minor Piling-Supported Structures Constructed in or over Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV), Marsh or Mangrove Habitat,” prepared jointly by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the National Marine Fisheries Service (August 2001) and also for those projects within the known range of Johnson’s seagrass occurrence (Sebastian Inlet to central Biscayne Bay in the lagoonal systems on the east coast of Florida), the “Key for Construction Conditions for Docks or Other Minor Structures Constructed in or over Johnson’s seagrass (*Halophila johnsonii*),” prepared jointly by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (October 2002), the reviewer should conclude that the project will not adversely affect aquatic vegetation and proceed to couplet T. For activities proposed in SAV or mangroves other than docks or other piling-supported minor structures (*e.g.*, maintenance dredging, placement of riprap, bulkheads, etc.), the Corps will need to request formal consultation on the manatee with the Service as *May affect* **and will also** request consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service for Essential Fish Habitat. Under either of the above scenarios, if any coral will be impacted, the Corps will also request consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service for the coral (Essential Fish Habitat).

<sup>7</sup> At this time, manatee construction precautions c and f are not required in the following Florida panhandle counties (Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin,) or in the lower Florida Keys south of the Seven-mile Bridge.

<sup>8</sup> By letter dated August 28, 2006, the Corps received the Service's concurrence with "*May affect, not likely to adversely affect*" determinations made pursuant to this key for any type of new multi-slip facility, located in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, or Franklin counties or in the lower Florida Keys south of the Seven-mile Bridge. Upon receipt of such a general concurrence, no further consultation with the Service for these projects is required.

<sup>9</sup> By letters dated July 12, 2005, and September 30, 2005, the Corps received the Service's concurrence with "*May affect, not likely to adversely affect*" determinations made pursuant to this key for many non-watercraft access projects and for watercraft-access projects that are single-family dock facilities, excluding those located in Areas of Inadequate Protection. Upon receipt of such a general concurrence, no further consultation with the Service for these projects is required. Additionally, by letter dated August 28, 2006, the Corps received the Service's concurrence with "*May affect, not likely to adversely affect*" determinations specifically made pursuant to "Couplet" U of the key for the repair or rehabilitation of currently serviceable multi-slip watercraft access structures provided all of the following are met: 1) the project is not located in an Important Manatee Area, 2) the number of slips is not increased; 3) the size of the vessels able to utilize the facility is not increased; 4) the number of existing slips is not in question; 5) the improvements to the existing watercraft access structures do not result in increased watercraft usage. Upon receipt of such a general concurrence, no further consultation with the Service for these projects is required.

## GLOSSARY

**Areas of inadequate protection** – Areas within counties as shown on the maps where the Service has determined that measures intended to protect manatees from the reasonable certainty of watercraft-related take are inadequate. Inadequate protection may be the result of the absence of manatee or other watercraft speed zones, insufficiency of existing speed zones, deficient speed zone signage, or the absence or insufficiency of speed zone enforcement.

**Areas with manatee protection measures in place** – Areas exist within portions of some counties where manatee protection measures (speed zones, signage, and enforcement) are in place and properly functioning to lessen adverse effects to manatees caused by watercraft.

**Critical habitat** – For listed species, this consists of: (1) the specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), on which are found those physical or biological features (constituent elements) (a) essential to the conservation of the species and (b) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the ESA, upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species. Designated critical habitats are described in 50 CFR 17 and 50 CFR 226.

**Currently serviceable** – Currently, serviceable means usable as is or with some maintenance but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.

**Direct effects** – The direct or immediate effects of the project on the species or its habitat.

**Emergent vegetation** – Rooted emergent vascular macrophytes such as, but not limited to, cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora* and *S. patens*), needle rush (*Juncus roemerianus*), swamp sawgrass (*Cladium mariscoides*), saltwort (*Batis maritima*), saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*), and glasswort (*Salicornia virginica*) found in coastal salt marsh-related habitats (tidal marsh, salt marsh, brackish marsh, coastal marsh, coastal wetlands, tidal wetlands).

**Formal consultation** – A process between the Services and a Federal agency or applicant that: (1) determines whether a proposed Federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat; (2) begins with a Federal agency's written request and submittal of a complete initiation package; and (3) concludes with the issuance of a biological opinion and incidental take statement by either of the Services. If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Services concur, in writing, that a proposed action "is not likely to adversely affect" listed species or designated critical habitat). [50 CFR 402.02, 50 CFR 402.14]

**Important manatee areas** – Areas within certain counties where increased densities of manatees occur due to the proximity of warm water discharges, freshwater discharges, natural springs and other habitat features that are attractive to manatees. These areas are heavily utilized

for feeding, transiting, mating, calving, nursing or resting as indicated by aerial survey data, mortality data and telemetry data. Some of these areas may be federally-designated refuges and sanctuaries or state-designated “seasonal no entry or no in-water construction zones.” Maps depicting important manatee areas and any accompanying text may contain a reference to these areas and their special requirements. Projects proposed within these areas must address their special requirements.

**Indirect effects** – Those effects that are caused by or will result from the proposed action and are later in time, but are still reasonably certain to occur. Examples of indirect effects include, but are not limited to, changes in water flow, water temperature, water quality (*e.g.*, salinity, pH, turbidity, nutrients, chemistry), prop dredging of seagrasses, and manatee watercraft injury and mortality. Indirect effects also include watercraft access developments in waters not currently accessible to manatees, but watercraft access can, is, or may be planned to waters accessible to manatees by the addition of a boat lift or the removal of a dike or plug.

**Informal consultation** – A process that includes all discussions and correspondence between the Services and a Federal agency or designated non-Federal representative, prior to formal consultation, to determine whether a proposed Federal action may affect listed species or critical habitat. This process allows the Federal agency to utilize the Services’ expertise to evaluate the agency’s assessment of potential effects or to suggest possible modifications to the proposed action which could avoid potentially adverse effects. If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Services concur, in writing, that a proposed action “is not likely to adversely affect” listed species or designated critical habitat). [50 CFR 402.02, 50 CFR 402.13]

**In-water activity** – Any type of activity used to construct/repair/replace any type of in-water structure or fill; the act of dredging.

**In-water structures - watercraft access structures** – Docks or piers, marinas, boat ramps, boat slips, boat lifts, floats, floating docks, pilings (depending on use), boat davits, etc.

**In-water structures - other than watercraft access structures** – Bulkheads, seawalls, riprap, groins, boardwalks, pilings (depending on use), etc.

**Is likely to adversely affect** – The appropriate finding in a biological assessment (or conclusion during informal consultation) if any adverse effect to listed species may occur as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions and the effect is not: discountable, insignificant, or beneficial (see definition of “is not likely to adversely affect”). An “is likely to adversely affect” determination requires the initiation of formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA.

**Is not likely to adversely affect** – The appropriate conclusion when effects on listed species are expected to be discountable, insignificant, or completely beneficial. **Discountable effects** are those extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects or (2) expect discountable effects to occur. **Insignificant effects** relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale

where take occurs. **Beneficial effects** are contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species.

**Manatee protection measures** – As used in the context of this key, manatee protection measures consist of legally designated and implemented speed zones, signage notifying the boating public of the presence of the speed zones, and enforcement of those speed zones by local, State, or Federal law enforcement officers. When these measures are in place and properly functioning, they serve to lessen potential adverse effects to manatees caused by watercraft.

**May affect** – The appropriate conclusion when a proposed action may pose any effects on listed species or designated critical habitat. When the Federal agency proposing the action determines that a “may affect” situation exists, then they must either request the Services to initiate formal consultation or seek written concurrence from the Services that the action “is not likely to adversely affect” listed species. **No effect** – the appropriate conclusion when the action agency determines its proposed action will not affect a listed species or designated critical habitat.

**Multi-slip facility** – Multi-slip facilities include commercial marinas, private multi-family docks, boat ramps, dry storage facilities and any other similar structures or activities that provide access to the water for multiple (greater than two) watercraft. In some instances, the Corps and the Service may elect to review multiple single-family dock facilities as a multi-slip facility.

**New access for watercraft** – The addition or improvement of structures such as but not limited to docks or piers, marinas, boat ramps, boat lifts, pilings, floats, floating docks, floating vessel platforms, boat slips, dry storage, mooring buoys, etc., that facilitates the addition of watercraft to, and/or increases watercraft usage in, waters accessible to manatees.

**Residential dock density threshold** – The residential dock density threshold is used in the evaluation of multi-slip projects and is consistent with 1 boat slip per 100 linear feet of shoreline (1:100).

**Single-family dock facility** – Single-family dock facility means a private residential dock which is used for private, recreational or leisure purposes for a detached single-family residence and which is designed to moor no more than two vessels. This also includes normal appurtenances such as boat hoists, boat shelters with open sides, stairways, walkways, mooring pilings, dolphins, etc. In some instances, the Corps and the Service may elect to review multiple single-family dock facilities as a multi-slip facility.

**Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)** – Rooted, submerged, aquatic plants such as, but not limited to, shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*), paddle grass (*Halophila decipiens*), star grass (*Halophila engelmanni*), Johnson’s seagrass (*Halophila johnsonii*), sago pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*), clasping-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton perfoliatus*), widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*), manatee grass (*Syringodium filiforme*), turtle grass (*Thalassia testudinum*), tapegrass (*Vallisneria americana*), horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*), and eel grass (*Zostera marina*).

**Watercraft access structures** – Docks or piers, marinas, boat ramps, boat slips, boat lifts, floats, floating docks, pilings, boat davits, dry storage, etc.

**Waters accessible to manatees** – Although most waters of the State of Florida are accessible to the manatee, there are some areas such as landlocked lakes that are not. There are also some weirs, salinity control structures and locks that may preclude manatees from accessing water bodies. If there is any question about accessibility, contact the Service or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.