

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Jacksonville GRR2 Interagency PDT Meeting

Summary: This is a recurring interagency meeting between the PDT and the agencies. The purpose of the meeting is to coordinate early, discuss the status of the study, familiarize the agencies with the study process, and address concerns throughout the study path.

Meeting Attendees:

CESAJ: Dick Powell, Mike Hollingsworth, Amanda Ellison, Phil Sylvester, Steve Conger, Steve Bratos, Lynn Zediak, Stephanie Groleau, Idris Dobbs, Samantha Borer, Wendy Weaver, Paul Stodola, Jose Bilbao, Amanda Tancreto, Brooks Moore, Steve Myers

CESAS (Savannah District): Ellie Covington

SJRWMD: John Hendrickson

JAXPORT: Joe Miller, Rob Palmer

FDEP: Roxane Dow, Guy Weeks

EPA: Eric Hughes

No representatives: USFWS, USGS, NMFS, NPS, FWC

Discussion:

Project Manager, Jason Harrah, is currently on hurricane duty in New Jersey, while he is out please contact Jose Bilbao (PM) or Samantha Borer (PTL). Jason is expected to return the week of December 3rd. He may have limited access to email.

Overview of the Study

- Engineering: Estimated project volumes for the alternatives were provided to the cost engineer. Preliminary cost estimates are anticipated in December and will be provided to economics to determine the TSP.
- Economics: Alternative model runs (HarborSym) are near complete. The outputs are being analyzed to make sure the preliminary results are sensible (i.e. the TEU moves).
- Environmental:
 - The preliminary hydrodynamic and ecological model results were presented at the public and interagency meetings. These preliminary results continue to be evaluated, and are subject to change. The main questions received to date were on the model domain. Specifically, the current modeling efforts address only the main stem of the St. Johns and Ortega Rivers. The Corps is proposing to conduct additional modeling of tributaries and salt marsh. This past week the team received water quality data from the National Park Service (NPS), which will be used to model how tributaries and salt marsh may be affected by the proposed deepening. Dr. Peterson from Southern Mississippi University was recently sub-contracted to help evaluate how deepening may affect fisheries. He is a

recognized expert in his field, and was a reviewer for the St. Johns Water Management District's water supply study.

- A draft list of mitigation options is being developed. The team plans to meet with each agency separately to go over potential mitigation options. The list is being put together in compliance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations. The team is very interested in working with agencies on ideas for potential mitigation options. Monitoring Plans will also be discussed and coordinated with the agencies.
- Preliminary model results show impacts at all the modeled alternative depths (44, 46, and 50). There may be additional overdepth in the model; therefore there may be fewer impacts at these depths than originally modeled. As the TSP is developed the team may reevaluate this. The TSP is expected in January, at that time the mitigation options and impacts will be refined. The Corps and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) are evaluating surficial aquifer salinity impacts, if any, at selected residential areas along the project length.
- Plan Formulation: The TSP is expected to be identified in January.
- Project Management: Upcoming key milestones as follows:
 - January 2013: Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP)
 - April 2013: Draft GRR and SEIS
 - May 2013: Reviews (Public, Independent External Peer Review, Agency, Policy)
 - April 2014: Chief's Report

Agency Comments

No Comments.

Next Meetings

December 3rd: Public teleconference.

February 2013 (date pending): Rock Pre-Treatment (Blasting) Public Meeting