

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****1. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION**A. Re-evaluation Type: Design ChangeB. Original approved Environmental Document:**Document Type:** Type 2 CE**Date of Approval:** 10/22/2019**Project Numbers:**

13854

431821-1-22-01

N/A

ETDM (if applicable)

Financial Management

Federal-Aid

Project Name: I-275 FROM N OF MLK BLVD TO N OF BEARSS AVE**Project Location:** FDOT District 7 (Hillsborough County)**Project Limits:** North of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to north of Bearss AvenueC. Prior Re-evaluation(s):

FM Number	Type				Date District Approved	Date Lead Agency Consultation	Date Lead Agency Approved (if applicable)
	PE	DC	ROW	CON			
431821-2-52-01	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	01/27/2021		02/03/2021
Description of Approval: OEM approved.							

D. Project or project segment(s) being evaluated

FAP Number	FM Number	Project/ Segment Name	Project/ Segment Location	Type				Project/ Segment Letting Type	Funding
				PE	DC	ROW	CON		
D721-012-B	431821-2-52-01	I-275 (SR 93) FROM N OF MLK TO N OF HILLSBOROUGH AVE	District 7 - HILLSBOROUGH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Design Build	Federal

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Office of Environmental Management (OEM) approved a Type 2 Categorical Exclusion (CE) on October 22, 2019, for capacity and operational improvements along 7.7 miles (mi) of Interstate 275 (I-275)/(State Road [SR] 93) from north of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (MLK Boulevard) (SR 574) to north of Bearss Avenue (SR 678/County Road [CR] 582) in Hillsborough County, Florida (Work Program Item Segment (WPIS) 431821-1). The Type 2 CE (approved October 22, 2019) included widening I-275 (SR 93) from an existing six-lane divided interstate to an eight-lane divided interstate.

A Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1 I-275 was approved February 3, 2021. Construction is underway to construct an additional lane for one mile in each direction along I-275 from north of Dr. Martin

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

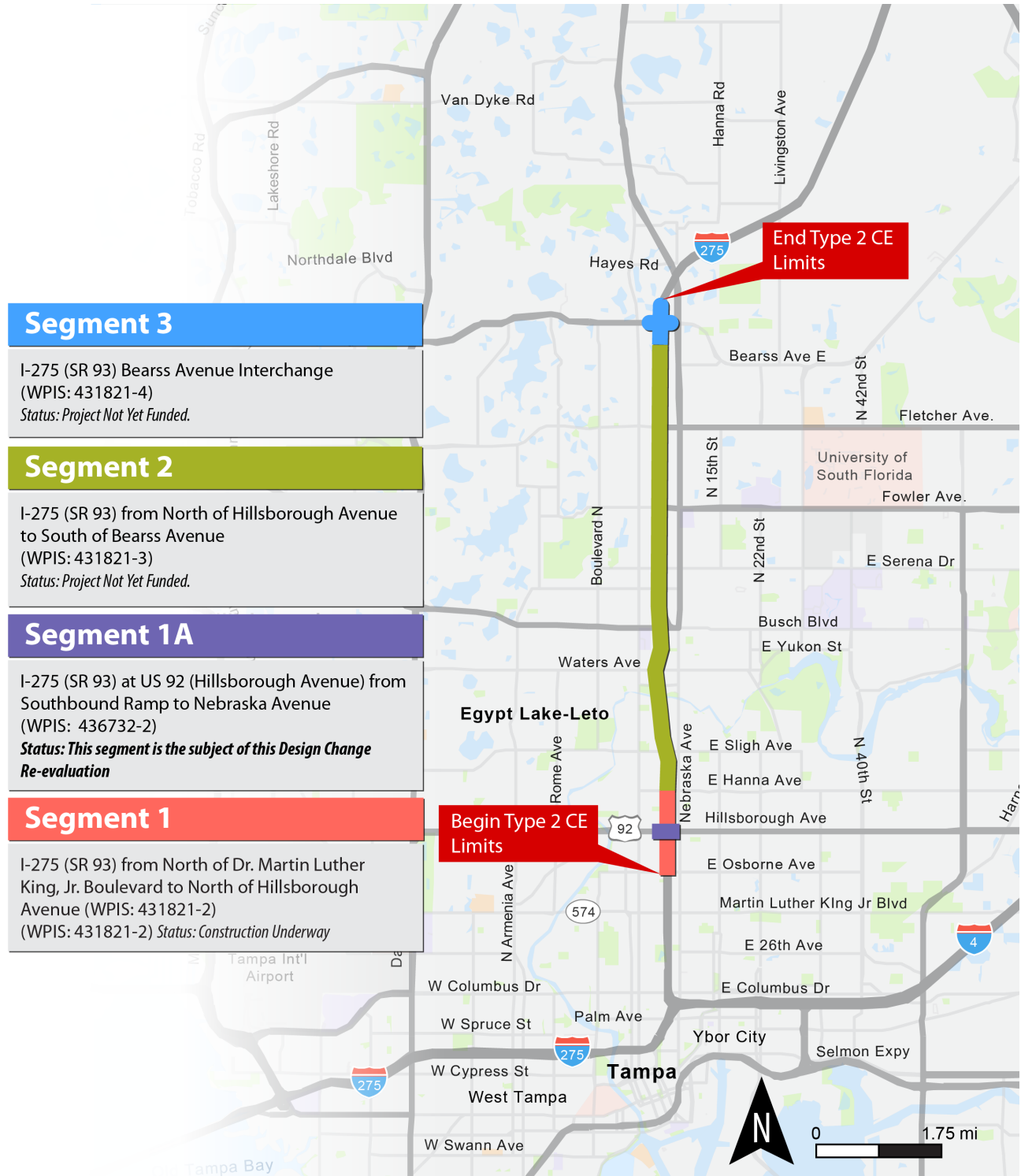
Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to north of Hillsborough Avenue.

This Design Change Re-evaluation is for WPIS 436732-2 Design Segment 1A, which is I-275 (SR 93) at US 92 (Hillsborough Avenue) from the southbound ramp to Nebraska Avenue. The project is located primarily within the limits of WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1 but was not included in the Construction Advertisement. Changes include constructing the I-275 Northbound off-ramps to Westbound Hillsborough Avenue and reconfiguring/signalizing the intersections on Hillsborough Avenue with I-275 by repurposing lanes in each direction and/or extending the turn lanes to/from the ramps. Additionally, minor operational improvements to Hillsborough Avenue from southbound ramp to Nebraska Avenue are included in this project.

Status of Design Segments within the Original Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study Limits (**Figure 1**)

- **Segment 1** - I-275 (SR 93) from North of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to North of Hillsborough Avenue (WPIS: 431821-2) *Status: Construction Underway*
- **Segment 1A** - I-275 (SR 93) at US 92 (Hillsborough Avenue) from Southbound Ramp to Nebraska Avenue (WPIS: 436732-2) ***Status: This segment is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation.***
- **Segment 2** - I-275 (SR 93) from North of Hillsborough Avenue to South of Bearss Avenue (WPIS: 431821-3) *Status: Project Not Yet Funded.*
- **Segment 3** - I-275 (SR 93) Bearss Avenue Interchange (WPIS: 431821-4) *Status: Project Not Yet Funded.*

RE-EVALUATION FORM



I-275

from North of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to North of Hillsborough Avenue

WPIS: 431821-2

at Hillsborough Avenue from I-275 Southbound Ramp to Nebraska Avenue

WPIS: 436732-2 – Design Change Re-evaluation

Figure 1: Project Location Map

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****3. CHANGES IN APPLICABLE LAW OR REGULATION**

Are there changes in federal or state laws, rules, regulations, or guidance that require consideration since the date of the original Environmental Document or subsequent Re-evaluation(s)? No

4. EVALUATION OF MAJOR DESIGN CHANGES AND REVISED DESIGN CRITERIA

Are there major design changes, including but not limited to changes in the alignment(s), typical section(s), drainage/stormwater requirements, design control and criteria, or temporary road or bridge? Yes

The Concept Development Plan (CDP) (February 2022) for WPIS 436732-2 Segment 1A was reviewed and compared to the Phase III plans (October 2020) for the previously approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1, and the changes are summarized below.

Hillsborough Avenue (US 92) west of I-275:

Minor improvements in this area were not included in the approved Type 2 CE or the most recently approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1 but all are within the existing right of way (ROW).

- Minor median reconstruction along Hillsborough Avenue.
- Widening is proposed along the exit ramp from southbound I-275 to Hillsborough Avenue for an additional left turn lane.
- The Type 2 CE proposed adding an eastbound thru lane from west of I-275 to Miami Avenue, but this is not included in the CDP.

Hillsborough Avenue (US 92) east of I-275:

Minor improvements in this area were not included in the approved Type 2 CE or the most recently approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1 but all are within the existing ROW.

- The Type 2 CE proposed adding a westbound thru lane from North Taliaferro Avenue to Nebraska Avenue, but in the CDP the lanes were re-purposed from a thru lane to a turn lane or merge lane.
- Widening is proposed along the entrance ramp from Hillsborough Avenue to northbound I-275 in the CDP for an additional thru lane. These two lanes taper back to a one-lane on-ramp before the gore with I-275.

There is no new ROW identified in the CDP. All changes to previously approved concepts remain within the existing ROW, consistent with the approved Type 2 CE and the approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1.

An Interchange Operational Analysis Report (IOAR) Interchange Access Request (IAR) was prepared for the subject segment of this Design Change Re-evaluation. The FDOT concurred on December 20, 2022 that the improvements to the I-275 interchange at Hillsborough Avenue are Safety, Operational and Engineering (SO&E) viable.

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

All clearances have been completed for cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, and contamination. Details regarding agency coordination for these resources are discussed in Section 7 (Evaluation of Changes in Impacts) of this re-evaluation.

5. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Were there additional public involvement activities? Yes

A Construction Open House was held November 4, 2021, to share information and answer questions from property and business owners, tenants, and interested persons and organizations regarding the construction project. Communication through public engagement, including recent Community conversations with East Tampa and Tampa Heights, will continue for the duration of construction activities associated with the PD&E study limits, including the segment which is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation.

6. PROJECT or SEGMENT(S) PLANNING CONSISTENCY

Planning Consistency is not required for this re-evaluation.

7. EVALUATION OF CHANGES IN IMPACTS**a. SOCIAL & ECONOMIC**

Are there changes in impacts to the social, economic, land use, mobility, and/or aesthetic effects? No

Are there changes in right-of-way needs? No

Is there a change in anticipated relocation(s)? No

Are there changes in impacts to Prime or Unique Farmlands? N/A

b. CULTURAL

Are there changes in impacts to cultural resources pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (historic sites/districts and archaeological sites)? No

Historic Sites/Districts

Based on a review of the CDP, and additional background research conducted as part of this Design Change Re-evaluation, a Cultural Resources Desktop Analysis and Effects Determination Letter was prepared to evaluate that the additional items in the project's scope of work will result in a finding of no adverse effect on historic properties that are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The majority of the segment being advanced was included in the PD&E Study Cultural Resources Assessment Survey (CRAS) (2015); however, there were some additional items outside of the scope of work and the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the 2015 CRAS that necessitated the preparation of a Desktop Analysis and Effects Determination Letter. The additional work items along I-275 at Hillsborough Avenue are within the existing ROW.

As part of the Desktop Analysis and Effects Determination Letter, the NRHP-listed Seminole Heights Residential Historic District (8HI03294) was identified as being adjacent to but outside of the segment's APE.

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

In addition, the NRHP-eligible Seminole Heights Baptist Church at 801 E Hillsborough Avenue (8HI12470) was located at the southeast corner of this interchange but was recently demolished by new owners in 2021. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred on May 4, 2022, that the proposed project would have no adverse effect on the NRHP-listed Seminole Heights Residential Historic District (8HI3294).

Archaeological Sites

The SHPO concurred on May 4, 2022, that the segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation would have no involvement with archaeological sites. There is no change in status.

[1 - 436732-2-52-01 I-275 at US 92 CR Letter SHPO Concurrence 050422]

Are there changes in effects to Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act protected resources or other protected public lands? No

Are there changes in impacts to lands purchased under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act? N/A

Are there changes in impacts to recreational areas or protected lands? No

c. NATURAL

Are there changes in impacts to protected species and habitat, wetlands and other surface waters, and/or essential fish habitat? Yes

Protected Species

Per the findings of the Type 2 CE, the Wetland Evaluation and Biological Assessment Report (WEBAR) (May 2015), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) letter of concurrence (October 5, 2015), and the Natural Resources Evaluation (NRE) Addendum (October 2019), the species provided below, with their associated effect determinations, were determined to have the potential to occur in the PD&E study area:

Federally listed species:

Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) - may affect, not likely to adversely affect

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) - may affect, not likely to adversely affect

Florida Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) - no effect

West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*) - may affect, not likely to adversely affect

State listed species:

Gopher Tortoise - no adverse effect anticipated

Southeastern American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*) - no adverse effect anticipated

Florida Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis pratensis*) - no adverse effect anticipated

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) - no adverse effect anticipated

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) - no adverse effect anticipated

Tri-colored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) - no adverse effect anticipated

Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) - no adverse effect anticipated

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

Any listed plant species - no adverse effect anticipated

An approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1 determined that due to a lack of wetland or other surface water (OSW) habitat, none of the federal and state listed wetland-dependent species identified in the prior evaluations were anticipated to occur in Segment 1, and that the effect determinations remained valid. In addition, a determination was made that there was no suitable habitat for the eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*), listed in November 2020, and that Segment 1 therefore would have "no effect" on the eastern black rail.

There is no wetland or OSW habitat within the segment which is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. Although proposed to be "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" in prior documentation, there is no suitable habitat for, and therefore "no effect" anticipated to, federally listed aquatic or wetland dependent species (wood stork, West Indian manatee, eastern black rail) and "no effect anticipated" for state-listed wetland dependent species (Florida sandhill crane, little blue heron, tricolored heron, roseate spoonbill). It was determined that no suitable habitat for the Florida scrub-jay or federally protected plant species is within the subject segment of this Design Change Re-evaluation; thus, the effect determination remains "no effect" for these species. The effect determinations remain "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" for the eastern indigo snake and "no adverse effect anticipated" for the gopher tortoise, and southeastern American kestrel. No protected plant species were observed or recorded in the proposed pond sites. No osprey nests were observed during field reviews in 2018, 2019, or during design/permitting in 2020-2021. The species anticipated and effect determinations remain consistent with the approved Type 2 CE, except for wetland or aquatic dependent species, is now anticipated to have "no effect" due to a lack of habitat in the segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation.

Wetlands and Surface Waters

There are no wetlands or other surface waters identified, therefore, there are no permanent or temporary impacts anticipated, and no mitigation is anticipated to be required for this segment. This is consistent with the findings of the approved Type 2 CE, WEBAR (May 2015), the NRE Addendum (2019), and the issued permit for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1, which included the segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. There is no change in status.

Essential Fish Habitat

There is no Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) in the segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. There is no change in status.

[2 - 43182112201-CE2-D7-Effects_Determination_Key_for_Wood_Stork_2022-04-22][3 - Eastern Indigo Snake Species Key with process highlighted]

Are there changes in impacts to designated Aquatic Preserves, Coastal Barrier resources, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Nationwide Rivers Inventory Rivers, and/or Outstanding Florida Waters? N/A

Are there changes in impacts to Floodplains or Water Resources? Yes

Water Resources

The segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation will utilize the Stormwater Management Facility (SMF) identified as Pond 2 at the northeast corner of I-275 and East Hillsborough Avenue. This pond was originally permitted under Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) 25084.001. This pond will be modified for the ultimate condition and will also treat 2.53 ac of currently untreated

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

impervious surface from East Hillsborough Avenue. Final design of the modified Pond 2 will be in conformance with SWFWMD requirements and authorized under a modification of ERP 25084.001.

Floodplains

The segment that is the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation does not impact the 100-year floodplain, affect existing flood elevations or result in any new or increased adverse environmental impacts. There will be no significant change in the potential for interruption or termination of emergency service or emergency evacuation routes. There is no change in status.

d. PHYSICAL

Are there changes in Air Quality? No

What is the status of Highway Traffic Noise?

A review of the CDP found no changes to the project design since the approved Type 2 CE Final Concepts (December 4, 2020), evaluated in the Noise Study Report Addendum (NSRA) (January 2021) and the approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1. Differences between the concepts primarily consist of additional turn lanes, median reconstruction, sidewalk improvements, and pond improvements. Therefore, the results presented in the NSRA remain valid.

What is the status of Contamination?

Based on a review of the CDP compared to the approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1, there is one "High" and three "Medium" ranking sites within the limits of the subject segment of this Design Change Re-evaluation.

Contamination Sites Ranked "High"

- Mobil S-S #22 CNG (Starbucks) 502 E. Hillsborough Avenue

Contamination Sites Ranked "Medium"

- BP Central #320 501 E. Hillsborough Avenue
- Cumberland Farms (County Owned Property) 414 E. Hillsborough Avenue
- Leroy's 4x4 Auto Center (Papa Johns) 512 E. Hillsborough Avenue

A contamination clearance letter was issued September 1, 2020, for the approved Construction Advertisement Re-evaluation for WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1, which is included in the project file and covers WPIS 436732-2 Segment 1A, the subject of this Design Change Re-evaluation. The contamination clearance letter states that contamination was identified; however, its location/condition has no impact on the proposed project.

Level II sampling occurred along the subject segment of this Design Change Re-evaluation in May 2022. Based on the results of the analysis, there is no change in status.

Are there changes in impacts to Utilities and Railroads? No

Are there changes in impacts to Navigation? No

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM****8. COMMITMENT STATUS**

Are there prior commitments from the Environmental Document or previously approved re-evaluation(s)? Yes

Are there new environmental commitments? No

[\[4 - ProjectCommitmentRecordReport\]](#)

9. STATUS OF PERMITS**Federal**

None anticipated.

State

Segment	Name	Descriptor	Status	Date
431821-2-52-01	DEP or WMD Environmental Resource Permit (ERP)	Individual Level ERP 43025084.001	Obtained	02/04/2021
431821-2-52-01	DEP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit	NPDES - Obtained by Contractor prior to construction	Needed	
431821-2-52-01	DEP or WMD Environmental Resource Permit (ERP)	ERP Major Modification 43025084.002	Modified	07/29/2022

Local

None anticipated.

Other

None anticipated.

Comment/explanation if permit listed in original Environmental Document is no longer required.

All permitting needs in this re-evaluation will be met under WPIS 431821-2 Segment 1.

10. CONCLUSION

- ☒ The project has been re-evaluated pursuant to 23 CFR § 771.129. The FDOT has determined that no changes to the project affect the original decision. Therefore, the Administrative Action remains valid and the project can advance.

11. DISTRICT REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Name and title of FDOT Preparer: Robin M. Rhinesmith

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2022, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT.

OEM approval required?No , 03/14/2022 (Date of Consultation)

**RE-EVALUATION
FORM**

Robin Rhinesmith

December 28, 2022

District approving authority or designee

Date



Electronically signed within SWEPT
on December 28, 2022 8:41:31 AM EST
(electronic signature on file)

12. OEM APPROVAL

Not Applicable

13. Links to Supporting Documentation

- 1 - [43182112201-CE2-D7-436732-2-52-01_I-275_at_US_92_CR_Letter_SHPO_Concurrence_050422-2022-1220.pdf](#)
- 2 - [43182112201-CE2-D7-43182112201-CE2-D7-Effects_Determination_Key_for_Wood_Stork-2022-0423.pdf](#)
- 3 - [43182112201-CE2-D7-Letter_Service_to_Corps_Revised_Highlighted_EIS_Key_2019-1016-2019-1016.pdf](#)
- 4 - [43182112201-CE2-D7-ProjectCommitmentRecordReport-2022-1227.pdf](#)