

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director Water Resource

DATE: October 19, 2007

SUBJECT: **Approve Environmental Resource Permit Application Number 070220-9 to modify a surface water management system serving a 36.82 acre commercial-mining development known as Plumosa Pit (Lee County)**

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Environmental Resource Permit Application Number 070220-9 to modify a surface water management system serving a 36.82 acre commercial-mining development known as Plumosa Pit.

BACKGROUND

On April 6, 2000, staff issued Environmental Resource General Permit No. 36-03780-P for a 36.82 acre mining development. The permitted borrow pit (29.7 acres) was authorized to function under a zero discharge regimen with a control elevation at 14.0 ft. NGVD and an emergency outfall structure with discharge into the Kehl Canal when stages match or exceed the 25 year-3 day zero discharge elevation of 15.0 ft. NGVD. That permit expired in April 2005. A Notice of Violation was issued on February 6, 2007 for construction with an expired permit. Subsequently, Plumosa Farms applied for a permit to reauthorize the borrow pit.

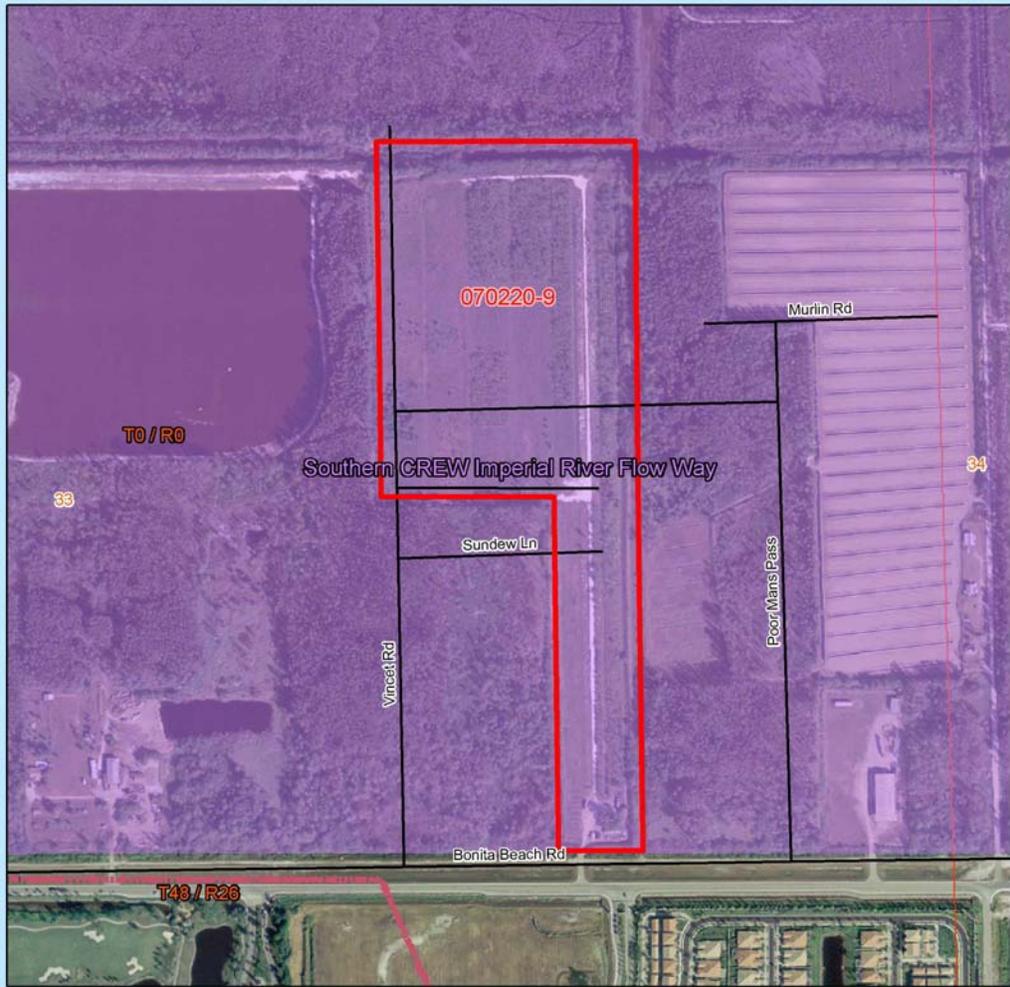
This 36.82 acre project is located north of Bonita Beach Road, east of Interstate 75, Section 33, Township 47S and Range 26E, Lee County. This project is located within the currently approved boundary of the Southern CREW/Imperial River Critical project. However, District Staff is currently revising the boundary of the Southern CREW/Imperial River Critical project to exclude approximately three half sections of land that are separated from the CREW wetlands by a canal and fill roads. This borrow pit will not be located within the revised boundary for the Southern CREW/Imperial River CERP project. The proposed project consists of the construction of a 27.4 acre lake, and an entrance road from Bonita Beach Road.

Staff is bringing this to the Governing Boards' attention since the site is located within the existing boundary of the Southern CREW/Imperial River Critical project. Environmental Resource Regulation staff coordinated review of this project with the CERP project manager who has determined that this application is not inconsistent with future restoration goals for this CERP project as currently envisioned. Once the revised boundary is approved the borrow pit will no longer be within the footprint of the CERP project and the incompatibility concern will be resolved.

Staff Contacts: **Robert M. Brown, Director, Environmental Resource Regulation Department
(561) 682-6283**

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Addition/Imperial River Flowway Critical Project (561) 686-8800 ext. 3177**

**Janet Starnes, Lead Project Manager- CERP, Southern CREW Project
Addition/Imperial River Flowway Critical Project (239)338-2929 ext. 7735**

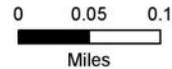


Legend

- Sections
- Township/Range
- Roads
- Canals
- 070220-9
- Critical Restoration Project



1:6000



DISCLAIMER:
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sfwmd.gov
South Florida Water Management District
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CERP Early Warning System
ERP Application Number: 070220-9