

# WATER QUALITY IMPACT EVALUATION CHECKLIST

## PART 1: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name:	Fort Hamer Road and Bridge (Bridge #134123)
County:	Manatee
FM Number:	452775-3-22-01
Federal Aid Project No:	Not Applicable.
Brief Project Description:	The project involves the widening of the existing two-lane, undivided Fort Hamer Road to four lanes from Upper Manatee River Road to US 301, approximately four (4) miles, within unincorporated Manatee County.

## PART 2: DETERMINATION OF WQIE SCOPE

Does project discharge to surface or groundwater?  **Yes**  No

Does project alter the drainage system?  **Yes**  No

Is the project located within a permitted MS4?  **Yes**  No

Name: **Manatee County and Co Permittees (Permit ID: FLS000036)**

If the answers to the questions above are no, complete the applicable sections of Part 3 and 4, and then check Box A in Part 5.

## PART 3: PROJECT BASIN AND RECEIVING WATER CHARACTERISTICS

### Surface Water

Receiving water names: **Manatee River**

Water Management District: **Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)**

Environmental Look Around meeting date: 2 / 27 / 2024

Attach meeting minutes/notes to the checklist.

Water Control District Name(s) (list all that apply): **N/A**

### Groundwater

Sole Source Aquifer (SSA)?  Yes  **No** Name \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, complete Part 5, D and complete SSA Checklist from EPA website ([Figure 11-1](#))

Other Aquifer?  **Yes**  No Name **Surficial Aquifer** \_\_\_\_\_

Springs vents?  Yes  **No** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Well head protection area?  Yes  **No** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Groundwater recharge?  Yes  **No** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Notify District Drainage Engineer if karst conditions are expected or if a higher level of treatment may be needed due to a project being located within a WBID verified as Impaired in accordance with Chapter 62-303, F.A.C.

Date of notification: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ - No karst conditions identified.

#### **PART 4: WATER QUALITY CRITERIA**

List all WBIDs and all parameters for which a WBID has been verified impaired, or has a TMDL in **Table 1**. This information should be updated during each re-evaluation as required.

Note: If BMAP or RAP has been identified in **Table 1**, **Table 2** must also be completed. *Attach notes or minutes from all coordination meetings identified in Table 2.*

EST recommendations confirmed with agencies?  Yes  No

BMAP Stakeholders contacted?  Yes  No

TMDL program contacted?  Yes  No

RAP Stakeholders contacted?  Yes  No

Regional water quality projects identified in the ELA?  Yes  No

If yes, describe:

Potential direct effects associated with project construction and/or operation identified?  Yes  No


If yes, describe:

Discuss any other relevant information related to water quality including Regulatory Agency Water Quality Requirements.

**PART 5: WQIE DOCUMENTATION**

- A. No involvement with water quality.
- B. No water quality regulatory requirements apply.
- C. Water quality regulatory requirements apply to this project (provide Evaluator’s information below). Water quality and stormwater issues will be mitigated through compliance with the design requirements of authorized regulatory agencies.
- D. EPA Ground/Drinking Water Branch review required.  Yes  No  
Concurrence received?  Yes  No  
If Yes, Date of EPA Concurrence: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (Attach the concurrence letter)

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.

Evaluator Name (print): Tori Bacheler	
Title: Environmental Scientist	
Signature: 	Date: 5/29/2024

**Table 1: Water Quality Criteria**

Receiving Waterbody Name (list all that apply)	FDEP Group Number / Name	WBID(s) Numbers	Classification (I,II,III,IIIL,IV,V)	Special Designations*	NNC limits**	Verified Impaired (Y/N)	TMDL (Y/N)	Pollutants of concern	BMAP, RA Plan or SSAC
Manatee River	2 / Tampa Bay Tributaries	1810, 1819, 1848B, 1874	Class III	Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), MS4	Estuaries	Yes	No	Dissolved Oxygen, Fecal Coliform, Chlorophyll-a, Enterococci	Tampa Bay Estuary RAP

\* ONRW, OFW, Aquatic Preserve, Wild and Scenic River, Special Water, SWIM Area, Local Comp Plan, MS4 Area, Other

\*\* Lakes, Spring vents, Streams, Estuaries

Note: If BMAP or RAP has been identified in Table 1, Table 2 must also be completed.

**Table 2: Regulatory Agencies/Stakeholders Contacted**

Receiving Water Name (list all that apply)	Agency's Contact and Title	Date Contacted	Follow-up Required (Y/N)	Comments
<i>Manatee River</i>	<i>Tampa Bay Estuary Program - Ed Sherwood, Executive Director (info@tbep.org)</i>	<i>5/16/2024</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Comments received 5/17/2024 (see attached)</i>
<i>Manatee River</i>	<i>Manatee County</i>	<i>2/27/2024</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Virtual ELA meeting held with County staff to discuss Hidden Harbor Park</i>

Browne, Rick

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From: Browne, Rick  
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:18 PM  
To: Browne, Rick  
Subject: FW: Ft Hamer Rd PD&E

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From: Ed Sherwood <[esherwood@tbep.org](mailto:esherwood@tbep.org)>  
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 3:25 PM  
To: Schooley, Cris <[Cris.Schooley@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Cris.Schooley@kimley-horn.com)>  
Cc: Maya Burke <[mburke@tbep.org](mailto:mburke@tbep.org)>; Carly Jones <[cjones@tbep.org](mailto:cjones@tbep.org)>  
Subject: Re: Ft Hamer Rd PD&E

You don't often get email from [esherwood@tbep.org](mailto:esherwood@tbep.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Chris,

Thanks for reaching out to us in regards to this project. Here are some responses to your questions:

- Does TBEP have any active or planned projects in the upper Manatee River?
  - At this time we do not have any active projects, but our TBEP Policy Board will be considering funding to support a habitat restoration project at a site between I-75 and Ft. Hammer Rd. in the future.
  - TBEP is also engaged with Manatee County in pursuing potential oyster restoration opportunities throughout the Manatee River, but no specific sites have been identified, as of yet.
- Does TBEP have any concerns about this bridge project's impact on TBEP plans or projects?
  - TBEP has established 2030 protection and restoration targets for a variety of critical coastal habitats in the estuary (e.g. see: <https://tbep.org/habitat-master-plan-update/>). Any effects on achieving these goals, especially for priority, vulnerable habitats like oligohaline salt marshes identified in the Plan, would be a concern.
  - See my response below regarding stormwater-generated nutrient loads in relation to the Tampa Bay Reasonable Assurance Plan.
- Does TBEP have any ideas on how this project can improve water quality?
  - Abating and/or increasing treatment for any additional nutrient, trash or other pollutant sources generated from increasing imperviousness along the footprint of the project should be a high priority, especially given the project's location within the Tampa Bay Reasonable Assurance Plan's limits.

Happy to discuss these items further, if needed.

Best regards,  
Ed

On Fri, May 17, 2024 at 8:36 AM Carlisle Jones <[cjones@tbep.org](mailto:cjones@tbep.org)> wrote:

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schooley, Cris" <[Cris.Schooley@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Cris.Schooley@kimley-horn.com)>  
Date: May 16, 2024 at 6:00:35 PM EDT  
To: [info@tbep.org](mailto:info@tbep.org)  
Subject: Ft Hamer Rd PD&E

To Whom It May Concern:

Manatee County is studying widening the existing Fort Hamer Road bridge over the Manatee River, which is within the Tampa Bay Estuary Reasonable Assurance Plan limits. We would like to get your feedback on:

- Does TBEP have any active or planned projects in the upper Manatee River?
- Does TBEP have any concerns about this bridge project's impact on TBEP plans or projects?
- Does TBEP have any ideas on how this project can improve water quality?

For Fort Hamer Road project information please visit the website:

<https://forthamerroad.com/>

Regards,

**Cris Schooley, PE, AICP**

**Kimley-Horn** | 200 South Orange Ave., Suite 600, Orlando, FL 32801

Direct: 407 768 3227 | Mobile: 407 334 2912

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Ed Sherwood  
Executive Director  
Tampa Bay Estuary Program  
263 13th Ave. South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
O: (727)893-2765  
F: (727)893-2767  
[eshewood@tbep.org](mailto:eshewood@tbep.org)  
<https://tbep.org>

A partnership for a healthy bay.

All government correspondence is subject to the public records law.

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## Hidden Harbor Park Coordination

**SUBJECT:** Ft. Hamer Road PD&E Study, from Upper Manatee River Road to US-301 County Project No. 6054767 and 6054768; Manatee County PD&E FPID No. 452775-3-22-01; ETDM 14536 Design FPID No. 452852-1 and 452856-1

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday 2/27/2024

**MEETING TIME:** 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

**LOCATION:** TEAMS Meeting (click link in meeting invite)

### 1) Introductions

### 2) PD&E Update

- a) Last Hidden Harbor Park (HHP) coordination meeting was Oct. 27, 2023
- b) Advanced Notification of federal and state agencies was distributed Nov. 20, 2023. Agency comments received Jan. 23, 2024.
- c) Alternatives Public Information Meeting held on Jan. 25, 2024. Notifications included notification that “In accordance with Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, Manatee County is seeking comments concerning the effects of the project on the activities, features, and attributes of Fort Hamer Park.” Public Comment period ended Feb. 12, 2024.
- d) We are refining the Preferred Alternative PD&E concept and want to ensure consistency with the future HHP plans.

### 3) HHP Update

- a) Any changes since our meeting Oct. 27, 2023? ***Sherri Swanson sent the latest map titled “Multi-Use Boundaries Map”***
- b) Can we document that ~4 acres of future wetland mitigation is reserved for the Ft Hamer Road Bridge widening project, for use if mitigation credits are not available for purchase? ***Sherri is working towards a mitigation bank, or possible ROMA, shown on the map as a dark polygon. The road project can utilize the mitigation as long as the timing works out. We will proceed assuming the on-site mitigation will be available, and if not, we will purchase credits.***
- c) Any comments on the Ft Hamer Road/Bridge project approach to ponds and access? ***It looks like the access road shown comes very close to the planned HHP wetland mitigation area. Sherri will provide the shape file so that the PD&E study concept can align the access road to avoid it. The trails shown on the previous HHP maps were conceptual and can be rearranged to accommodate the PD&E study improvements. Sherri will check to see if there are newer plans for on-site trails.***



4) Next Steps

- a) County selects the Preferred Alternative for PD&E study
- b) Kimley-Horn documents impacts of the Preferred Alternative
- c) Letter is sent to Park Administrator notifying about the potential Section 4(f) impacts (Molly White, Director of the Sports and Leisure Services?)

5) New Action Items

Action Item	Person Responsible	Due Date	Notes	Status
<i>Check on latest HHP trail projects</i>	<i>Sherri Swanson/MC</i>			
<i>Send latest HHP wetland mitigation shapes</i>	<i>Sherri Swanson/MC</i>		<i>Sent Feb. 28, 2024</i>	<i>Completed</i>
<i>Update Ft Hamer Road concept with access road, pond, and trail</i>	<i>Cris Schooley/KHA</i>			

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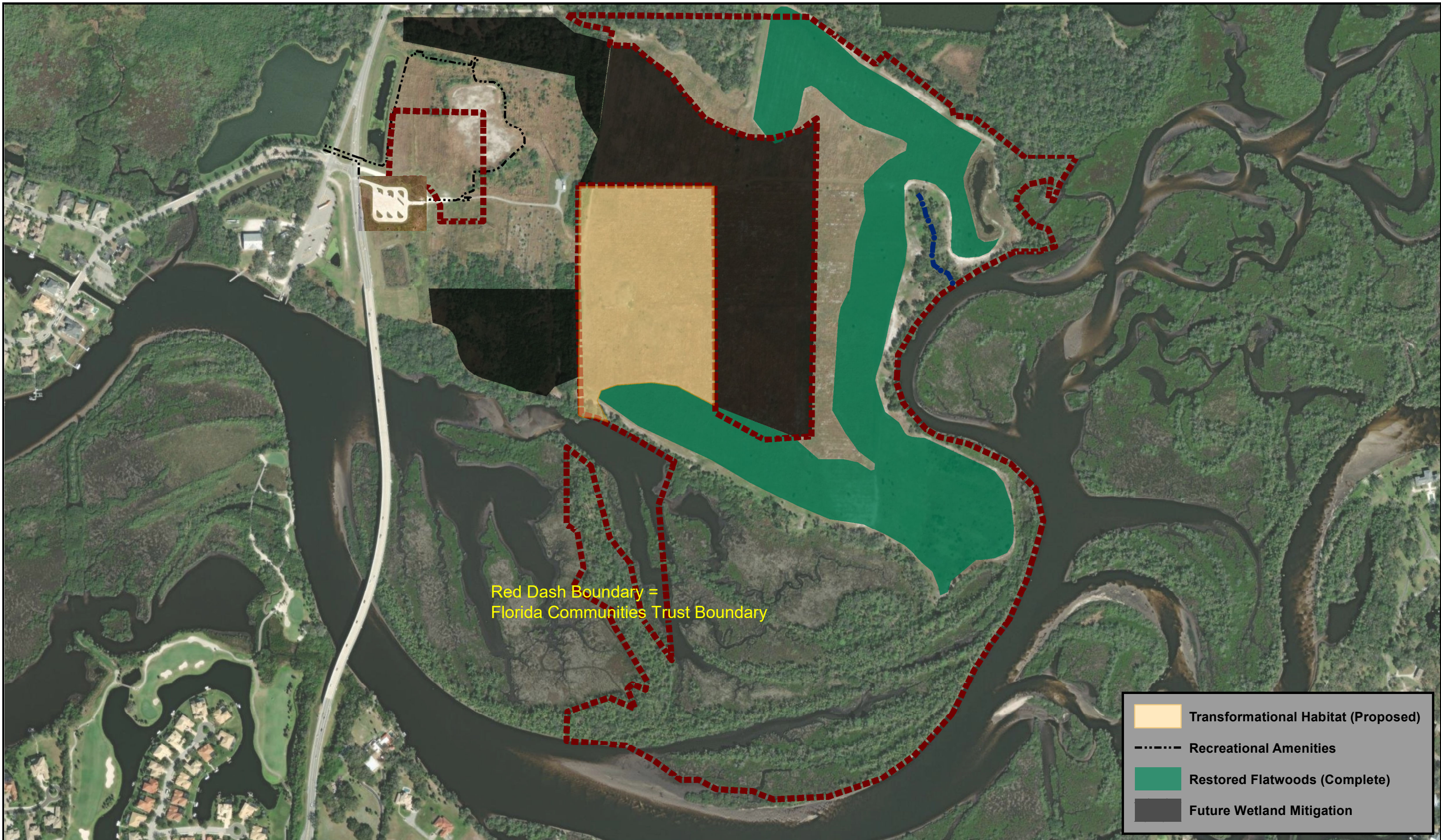
**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday 2/27/2024

**MEETING TIME:** 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

**LOCATION:** TEAMS Meeting (click link in meeting invite)

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Name	Initial	Organization	E-mail
Brandon Nichols	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Brandon.Nichols@kimley-horn.com
Cameron Jones	<b>Online</b>	Manatee	cameron.jones@mymanatee.org
Cris Schooley	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Cris.Schooley@kimley-horn.com
Jerry Varghese	<b>Online</b>	Manatee	jerry.varghese@mymanatee.org
Mason Hoke	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Mason.Hoke@kimley-horn.com
Molly Williams	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Molly.Williams@kimley-horn.com
Phil Reid	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Phil.Reid@kimley-horn.com
Ronnie VanFleet	<b>Online</b>	KHA	Ronnie.VanFleet@kimley-horn.com
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Sherri Swanson	<b>Online</b>	Manatee	sherri.swanson@mymanatee.org
Tony Russo	<b>Online</b>	Manatee	anthony.russo@mymanatee.org
Whitney Costner	<b>Online</b>	Manatee	whitney.costner@mymanatee.org



	Transformational Habitat (Proposed)
	Recreational Amenities
	Restored Flatwoods (Complete)
	Future Wetland Mitigation



**HIDDEN HARBOR PARK**  
 MANATEE COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
 ECOLOGICAL & MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

# Multi-Use Boundaries Map

1 inch = 486 feet  
 0 Feet 500

