

WATER QUALITY IMPACT EVALUATION (WQIE) CHECKLIST

Florida Department of Transportation

District 1

SR 31 PD&E Study

Limits of Project: SR 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to SR 78 (Bayshore Road)

Lee County, Florida

Financial Management Number: 441942-1-22-01

ETDM Number: 14359

Date: 4/4/2023

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.

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Authorized Signature

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Print/Type Name

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Title

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Address

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Address

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Seal

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
**WATER QUALITY IMPACT EVALUATION CHECKLIST**

650-050-37  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT  
08/22

**PART 1: PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Name:	SR 31 From SR 80 (Palm Beach Blvd.) to SR 78 (Bayshore Road) PD&E Study
County:	Lee
FM Number:	441942-1-22-01
Federal Aid Project No:	N/A
Brief Project Description:	The improvements consist of widening the existing two-lane roadway to a six-lane urban facility and a new bridge, for a project length of approximately 1.47 miles and intersection improvements with SR 80.

**PART 2: DETERMINATION OF WQIE SCOPE**

Does project discharge to surface or ground water?  Yes  No

Does project alter the drainage system?  Yes  No

Is the project located within a permitted MS4?  Yes  No

Name: Lee County Florida (Permit No. FLS000035)

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: Caloosahatchee River

Water Management District: SFWMD

Environmental Look Around meeting date: 5/21/2019

*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 shown in Part 2, Chapter 11 of the PD&E Manual

Other Aquifer?  Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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: N/A

#### **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.

No OFW OR Aquatic Preserves - FDEP website

## 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: [Click here to enter a date.](#)  
*Attach the concurrence letter*

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Evaluator Name (print): Scott Garth, P.E.

Title: Drainage Lead

Signature: Scott A. Garth

Date: 3/21/2023

**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
Caloosahatchee River	Group 3/ Caloosahatchee	3240C	III			Yes	Yes	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients	BMAP

\* 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)	Contact and Title	Date Contacted	Follow-up Required (Y/N)	Comments
Caloosahatchee River	SFWMD, Laura Layman, Environmental Section Leader, llayman@sfwmd.gov	9/13/2019	No	Project is not located within an OFW.
Caloosahatchee River	FDEP, Nicole Morgan, Nicole.Morgan@FloridaDEP.gov	3/21/2023	No	BMAP
Caloosahatchee River	Lee County, Luis Molina, Engineering Manager, molinalr@leegov.com	8/13/2020	No	

## **APPENDIX**

**Figure 1 – FDOT Drainage Methodology Meeting Minutes**

**Figure 2 – SFWMD Pre Application Meeting Minutes**

**Figure 3 – Lee County Regional Opportunities  
Correspondence**

# APPENDIX 1

## FDOT Drainage Methodology Meeting Minutes





**PRINCIPALS**

Lawrence L. Smith, Jr.  
Wayne D. Chalifoux  
Donaldson K. Barton, Jr.  
Glenn J. Lusink  
Jon S. Meadows  
Mark D. Prochak  
Mark E. Puckett

**DRAINAGE METHODOLOGY MEETING MINUTES**

**SR 31 PD&E STUDY  
FROM SR 80 (PALM BEACH BOULEVARD) TO SR 78 (BAY SHORE ROAD)  
441942-1-22-01**

May 21, 2019 at 2:30 PM  
FDOT District 1 Headquarters

A drainage methodology meeting was held on 5/21/19 at 2:30 PM in Conference Room 244 at the FDOT District 1 Office. The purpose of the meeting was to confirm the drainage approach to support the proposed widening and bridge replacement.

**Attendees:**

- Brent Setchell
- Sergio Figueroa
- Patrick Bateman
- Ken Kniel
- Scott Garth

DRMP provided an agenda and aerial showing two proposed alignments (see attached). Proposed is a 2 to 6 lane widening and bridge replacement over the Caloosahatchee River. The 2 alignments are a western alignment around the west side of the marina and an existing alignment. There are constraints on the existing alignment including FGT and the marina.

DRMP suggested no floodplain compensation due to the tidal nature of the area. DRMP provided the 2011 SFWMD pre-application minutes for the previous PD&E study. DRMP will need to confirm tidal vs. freshwater floodplain limits depending on where the impacts are located. This exercise will also determine if any attenuation is required.

For the pond siting, there are numerous pond site opportunities with each alignment. DRMP suggested the Lee Civic Center as a potential joint use pond. FDOT was also receptive to compensating treatment. FDOT indicated there are no known regional opportunities (the SWFWMD C-143 reservoir is too far to the east). FDOT suggested we check with Cathy Olson of Lee County to confirm any other regional opportunities. DRMP also suggested that the large FPL parcel to the west may be an opportunity, but FDOT indicated it may too far to the west.

The SR 80 intersection will be a continuous flow intersection (CFI) and will likely displace the existing linear treatment ponds along SR 80. FDOT indicated the linear ponds are already maxed out, therefore another stormwater management approach may be needed to handle the SR 80 intersection improvements. It may be possible to pipe the intersection to a new pond to the north along SR 31.

DRMP will provide a LHR, PSR and a BHR. The drainage will include 45% design on the approved alternative. This is being done to finalize any r/w needs for the project.

The BDR will need to include a constructability review.

Exploration of  
Regional  
Opportunities

**OFFICES**

Boca Raton, Florida  
Cary, North Carolina  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Chipley, Florida  
Fort Myers, Florida  
Gainesville, Florida  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Lakeland, Florida  
Melbourne, Florida  
Mooresville, North Carolina  
Orlando, Florida  
Panama City, Florida  
Pensacola, Florida  
Stockbridge, Georgia  
Tallahassee, Florida  
Tampa, Florida



DRMP can piggyback on a monthly SFWMD pre-application meeting. The meeting can be done via Skype if desired. DRMP to coordinate with Nicole Monies prior to the meeting to set a date and agenda. Note the next meeting is July 24, 2019.

**Action Items:**

1. DRMP to contact Lee County for potential regional opportunities.
2. DRMP to review and confirm tidal vs. freshwater limits
3. DRMP to coordinate with Nicole Monies on a future SFWMD Preapplication Meeting

Cc: Attendees (agenda and aerial)  
Xavier Pagan

**PRINCIPALS**

Lawrence L. Smith, Jr.  
Wayne D. Chalifoux  
Donaldson K. Barton, Jr.  
Glenn J. Lusink  
Jon S. Meadows  
Mark D. Prochak  
Mark E. Puckett

**DRMP Job #: 18-0080.000**

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**DRAINAGE METHODOLOGY MEETING**

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**SR 31 PD&E STUDY  
FROM SR 80 (PALM BEACH BOULEVARD) TO SR 78 (BAY SHORE ROAD)  
441942-1-22-01  
May 21, 2019 at 2:30 PM  
FDOT District 1 Headquarters**

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**I. Existing Conditions**

- a. Floodplain
- b. Wetlands
- c. Existing Permits (SR 31; SR 80)
- d. Adjacent Projects
- e. Previous Reports
- f. WBIDS/Impairments
- g. 2 Cross Drains

**II. Proposed Improvements**

- a. Widening 2 to 6 lanes
- b. Potential alignments
- c. Ponds
- d. ELA
- e. SFWMD Pre Application Meeting
- f. Bridge Replacement

**III. Deliverables**

- a. LHR
- b. PSR
- c. BHR
- d. 45% Drainage Design

**IV. Schedule**

**OFFICES**

Boca Raton, Florida  
Cary, North Carolina  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Chipley, Florida  
Fort Myers, Florida  
Gainesville, Florida  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Lakeland, Florida  
Melbourne, Florida  
 Mooresville, North Carolina  
Orlando, Florida  
Panama City, Florida  
Pensacola, Florida  
Stockbridge, Georgia  
Tallahassee, Florida  
Tampa, Florida

# APPENDIX 2

## SFWMD Pre Application Meeting Minutes



**PRINCIPALS**

Lawrence L. Smith, Jr.  
 Wayne D. Chalifoux  
 Donaldson K. Barton, Jr.  
 Glenn J. Lusink  
 Jon S. Meadows  
 Mark D. Prochak  
 Mark E. Puckett

**SFWMD PRE APPLICATION MEETING MINUTES**

**SR 31 PD&E STUDY  
 FROM SR 80 (PALM BEACH BOULEVARD) TO SR 78 (BAY SHORE ROAD)  
 441942-1-22-01**

September 13, 2019 at 10:30 AM  
 SFWMD Ft. Myers

A Pre- Application meeting was held on 09/13/19 at 10:30 AM in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room at the SFWMD Ft Myers Office. The purpose of the meeting was to confirm the drainage approach to support the proposed widening and bridge replacement. Below is a list of attendees and a summary of the meeting.

**Attendees:**

- Brian Rose- SFWMD
- Melissa Roberts- SFWMD
- Laura Layman- SFWMD
- Brent Setchell- FDOT
- Nicole Monies- FDOT
- Ken Kniel -DRMP
- Jim Sheets- DRMP
- Scott Garth- DRMP

1. DRMP provided an agenda, sign in sheet and aerial showing two proposed alignments (see attached). Proposed is a 2 to 6 lane widening and bridge replacement over the Caloosahatchee River. The 2 alignments are a western alignment around the west side of the marina and an existing alignment. There are constraints on the existing alignment including FGT and the marina. SFWMD noted the western alignment appears to have more environmental impacts.

2. DRMP suggested no floodplain compensation or attenuation due to the tidal nature of the area and that the ponds be sized for treatment only. DRMP presented the FEMA FIRM which shows elevation 7 to the Franklin Lock. SFWMD asked that DRMP will need to confirm the tidal vs. freshwater floodplain limits. SFWMD suggested looking deeper into the December 2018 Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for supporting documentation.

3. The location of the proposed pond sites will determine if any attenuation is required. The key for attenuation is showing no downstream adverse impacts to private properties. SFWMD referenced the SFWMD allowable discharge rates document and determined the discharge rate limitation is east of the Franklin Lock and therefore does not apply to this project.

4. For the pond siting, there are numerous pond site opportunities with each alignment. DRMP suggested the Lee Civic Center as a potential joint use pond. SFWMD stated that the Lee Civic Center (LCC) may not be able to support additional water coming into their system. LCC has minimal vertical storage. DRMP also suggested compensating treatment will be included as a stormwater management

Exploration of  
 Regional  
 Opportunities

**OFFICES**

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 Cary, North Carolina  
 Charlotte, North Carolina  
 Chipley, Florida  
 Fort Myers, Florida  
 Gainesville, Florida  
 Jacksonville, Florida  
 Lakeland, Florida  
 Melbourne, Florida  
 Mooresville, North Carolina  
 Orlando, Florida  
 Panama City, Florida  
 Pensacola, Florida  
 Stockbridge, Georgia  
 Tallahassee, Florida  
 Tampa, Florida



Exploration of  
Regional  
Opportunities

alternative. FDOT asked if there are any known regional opportunities. SFWMD suggested we check with Billy Jacoby of Lee County. SFWMD mentioned that Babcock Ranch recently purchased the property NE of the existing bridge. SFWMD has also received some new wetland delineation permits near the marina that may be of use.

5. The SR 80 intersection will be improved and will likely displace the existing linear treatment ponds along SR 80. It may be possible to pipe the intersection to a new pond to the north along SR 31.
6. The TMDL on the Caloosahatchee River will require pollutant loading calculations with focus on Nitrogen as the primary impairment.
7. The project is not located within an OFW. The OFW is located approximately 20 miles west of the project limits. Therefore, SFWMD agreed and additional 50% treatment would not be required.
8. Wetland impacts are anticipated for each alignment. SFWMD agreed that Little Pine Island Mitigation Bank could be used to offset wetland impacts.
9. The existing bridge is likely to be demolished.
10. SFWMD was receptive to the Contractor providing a temporary sediment and erosion control plan.
11. A mixing zone for water quality may be requested with the Individual permit application.
12. SFWMD suggested coordination with USACE and Coast Guard be a priority.
13. The anticipated permit will be an Individual with a fee of \$7500.

**Action Items:**

1. DRMP to contact Lee County for potential regional opportunities.
2. DRMP to review and confirm tidal vs. freshwater limits
3. DRMP to prepare a Pond Siting Report and conceptual drainage plan based on the attached criteria.

Cc: Attendees (agenda, sign-in sheet and aerial)  
Xavier Pagan

# APPENDIX 3

## Lee County Regional Opportunities Correspondence



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**From:** Molina, Luis <LMolina@leegov.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2020 8:41 AM  
**To:** Scott Garth <SGarth@drmp.com>  
**Cc:** Olson, Cathy <COLson@leegov.com>  
**Subject:** RE: SR 31 PD&E study

Scott,

I don't know of any pond opportunities in the vicinity of your project. For future reference, below the locations (yellow dashed lines) identified in our flood mitigation masterplan. Most of the projects involves a combination of improved conveyance and ponds for storage.



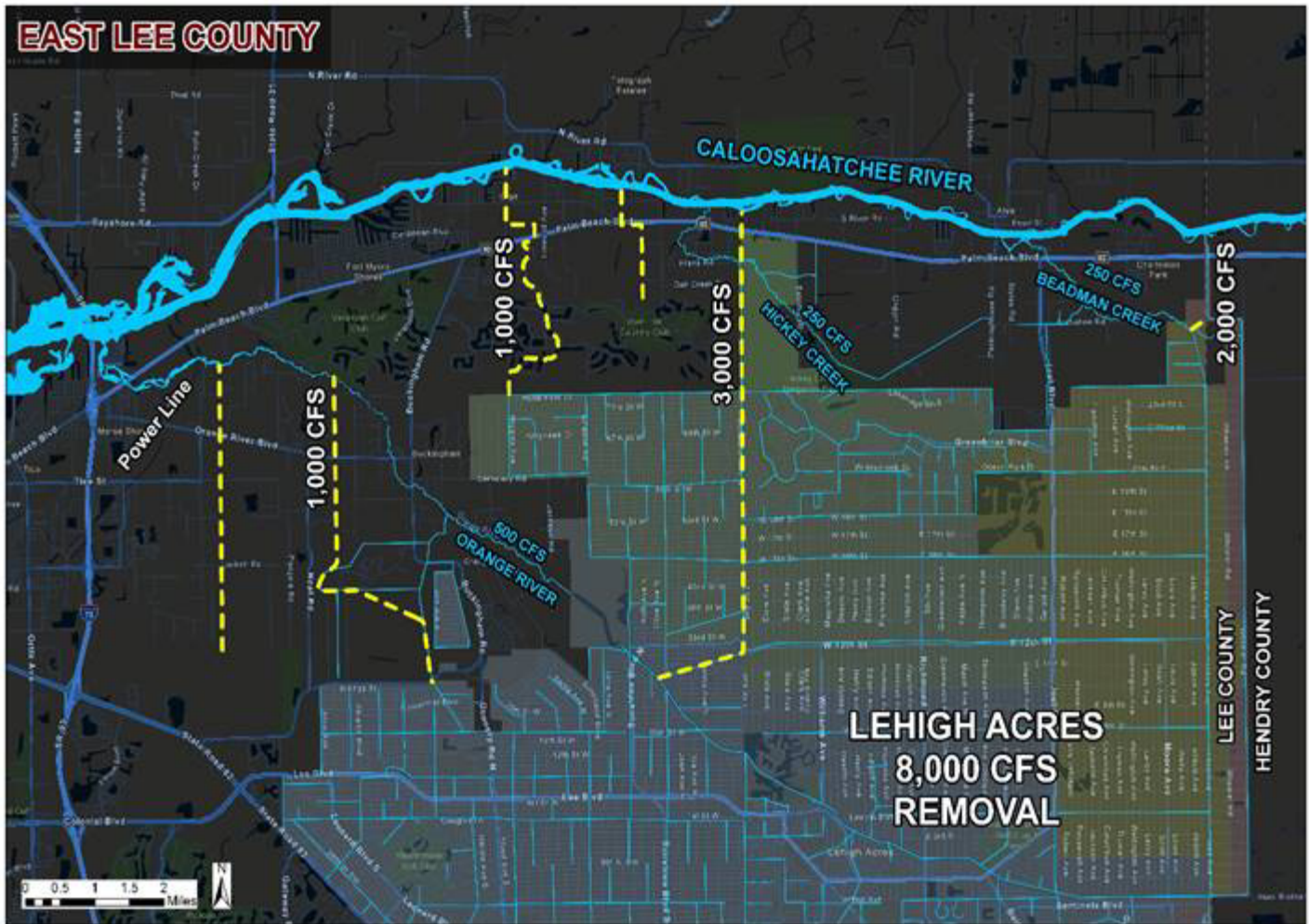


Figure 1: East Lee County Removal

Regards,

Luis Molina, P.G., P.E.  
 Engineering Manager I  
 Division of Natural Resources  
 P: 239-533-8132  
 C: 239-822-7823  
 F: 239-485-8408

email: [molinalr@leegov.com](mailto:molinalr@leegov.com)

Website: <https://www.leegov.com/naturalresources>

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**From:** Scott Garth <[SGarth@drmp.com](mailto:SGarth@drmp.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 1:09 PM  
**To:** Molina, Luis <[LMolina@leegov.com](mailto:LMolina@leegov.com)>  
**Cc:** Olson, Cathy <[COLson@leegov.com](mailto:COLson@leegov.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SR 31 PD&E study

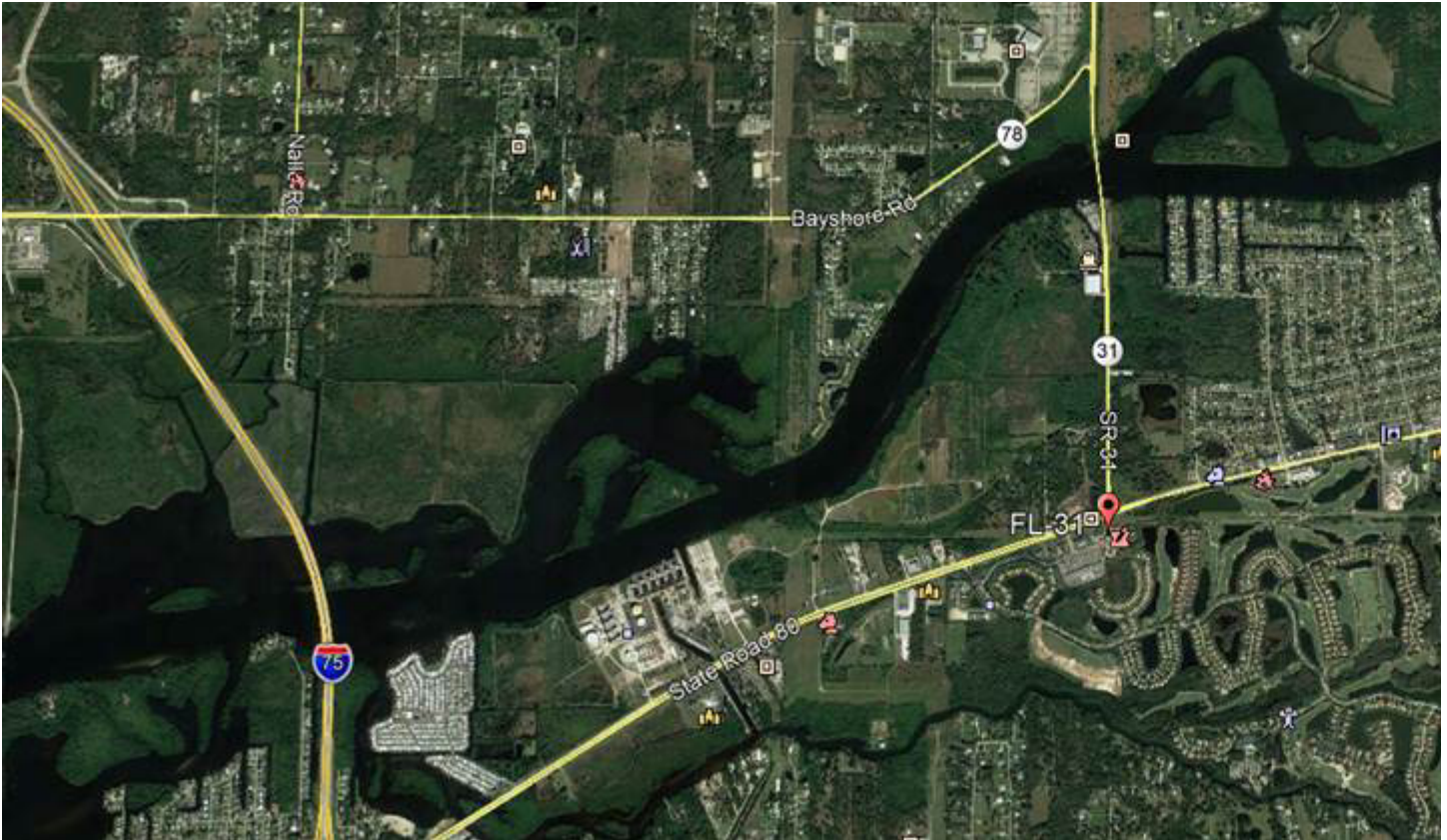
Hi Luis,

I'm working on a PD&E study for the FDOT d1 for the widening of SR 31 from SR 80 to SR 78.

Part of what we are tasked to do for the pond siting effort is to explore any regional or joint use opportunities with the local municipalities.

Do you know of any regional pond opportunities near the corridor?

Thank you for any input.



**Scott Garth, PE, LEED AP**  
**Vice President/Office Leader**

Main: 813.265.9800 | Direct: 813.321.5781 | Cell: 813.784.8105  
sgarth@drmp.com

**DRMP, Inc.**

15310 Amberly Drive, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33647



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