

Tropical Environmental Consultants

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3900 Mannix Dr. #118

Naples, Florida. 34114

"Striving for balance between human use and the environment" since 1983

239-455-6232

-INFORMAL WETLAND DETERMINATION (STEP 1)-

FIELD INSPECTION AND DATA REPORT

For questions regarding wetland delineation procedures, the need for special permits, or to obtain agency verification of the findings and conclusions presented herein prior to site planning or development, please contact TEC

Site PID#: 41347640001

Acres: 1.17 County: Collier

Address: XXX, NAPLES FL 34117

Subdivision/legal: GOLDEN GATE EST UNIT 88 S 75FT OF N 150FT OF TR 101 OR 1127 PG 1367

Report authorized to (CLIENT¹): (BUYER) Aidan Zmenak

Agent: NOT AUTHORIZED

Inspection date: 31 OCTOBER 2023

Inspected by: Asher Williams

Prior agency history identified: ☒ NO ☐ YES:

REGULATORY SUMMARY

This report is a 'Step 1' informal wetland survey. Prior to construction, the recommended next step is: ☐ Step 2 ☐ ERP (wetland) permit ☐ Formal Determination ☐ Listed Species Survey ☒ Other/TBD-see notes

Tropical Environmental Consultants identified 0.00 acres of wetland² habitat within the study site excluding perennial surface waters, i.e. canals, lakes, ponds. That portion which is not deemed as wetland, or is comprised of other surface waters, is upland as depicted on the accompanying map found within this report. All findings and conclusions presented herein are informal and non-binding, subject to agency review and verification. For questions regarding wetland delineation procedures, the need for special permits, or to obtain agency verification of the findings and conclusions presented herein prior to site planning or development, please contact TEC for further assistance.

Will State (FDEP/WMD) permits or approvals be required to address the presence of wetland habitat within the site? ☐ YES (ERP permit) N/A Anticipated permitting time-frame (months) ☒ NO ☐ UNDETERMINED

Will Federal (USACE/EPA) permits or approvals be required to address the presence of wetland habitat within the site? ☐ YES (dredge and fill permit) N/A Anticipated permitting time-frame (months) ☒ NO ☐ UNDETERMINED

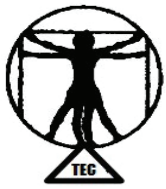
Were listed species (or evidence thereof) observed on site³? ☐ YES ☒ NO

Local county or city municipalities may require a permit prior to any mechanical actions or land alteration conducted within a property, regardless of the type, location, or scope. TEC recommends obtaining a verification of these findings with the State, as well as reviewing local rules and regulations with the development/environmental services department of the city or county of jurisdiction prior to ANY site work.

¹ All findings are the sole property of TEC, and the client named above, and may not be released to un-authorized third parties.

² The wetland delineation provided in this report was conducted per Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Ch.62-340 of the F.A.C.), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (1987 Wetland Delineation Manual-GACPRS) criteria and is subject to agency verification.

³ TEC did not conduct a listed species survey during completion of this report and therefore does not indicate whether listed species are absent from the site.



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BUILDING SUITABILITY SUMMARY

Further explanation of each corresponding question is provided within the "Question Detail" sheet at the conclusion of this report.

Q1	Shall a state FDEP/SWFMD and/or federal environmental resource permit authorizing for wetland impacts be required for this property? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A- Upland
Q2	If present, is the on-site wetland isolated, contiguous, or undetermined per State definition? <input type="checkbox"/> Isolated <input type="checkbox"/> Contiguous <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined (may connect offsite) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A- Upland
Q3	Will compensatory mitigation likely be required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES COMMENTS: NOT APPLICABLE
Q4	If wetlands are impacted, what is the functional <u>quality</u> (UMAM/WRAP/ETC) of the wetland resource, and thus the relative cost of mitigation for these areas? <input type="checkbox"/> VERY HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/> LOW <input type="checkbox"/> VERY LOW <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A- Upland
Q5	If wetlands are found on site, what is the anticipated seasonal high water (SHW) elevation during a typical rainy-season, and for how long will near-ground water levels persist? MAJORITY OF SITE N/A inches <input type="checkbox"/> above <input type="checkbox"/> below ground N/A weeks/year. MINORITY OF SITE N/A inches <input type="checkbox"/> above <input type="checkbox"/> below ground N/A weeks/year.
Q6	Is limestone located near (6" +/-) or above the surface of the lot? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Q7	Will the property potentially qualify for a reduction of the assessed value, and therefore the taxable value, by local county Property Appraiser due to the presence of wetlands on-site? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES
Q8	Are exotic-nuisance plant species prolific throughout the lot? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES
Q9	During completion of the field visit, did TEC biologists witness the presence or evidence of protected (listed) animal species? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES

The conclusions presented herein are based on TEC staff interpretation of the rules and procedures set forth by the regulating agencies contemporaneous with the inspection date. The type of environmental resource permit(s) deemed required (if any) is based upon the anticipated impact footprint for a 2,000 sq. ft. residence and associated structures (unless otherwise noted). An environmental resource permit (ERP), approved variance, or exemption is ALWAYS required when impacting wetlands. Local building departments may accept this report as part of a complete building permit application, however this does not exempt you from the need for additional State/Federal permits or approvals should environmental resources be impacted in fact (please refer to "Question Detail" page Q1 for more information). For State verification please contact TEC, FDEP 239-344-5600, or SFWMD 239-338-2929.

SUMMARY NOTES: The property consists entirely of Uplands. Wetland vegetation is present on the parcel in various locations, and closely abut the property, but no areas were found to meet the criteria defined in FAC 62-340 within the site. No permits associated with wetlands impacts will be required for development of the parcel.



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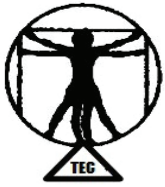
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Site Documentation Photographs- Upland





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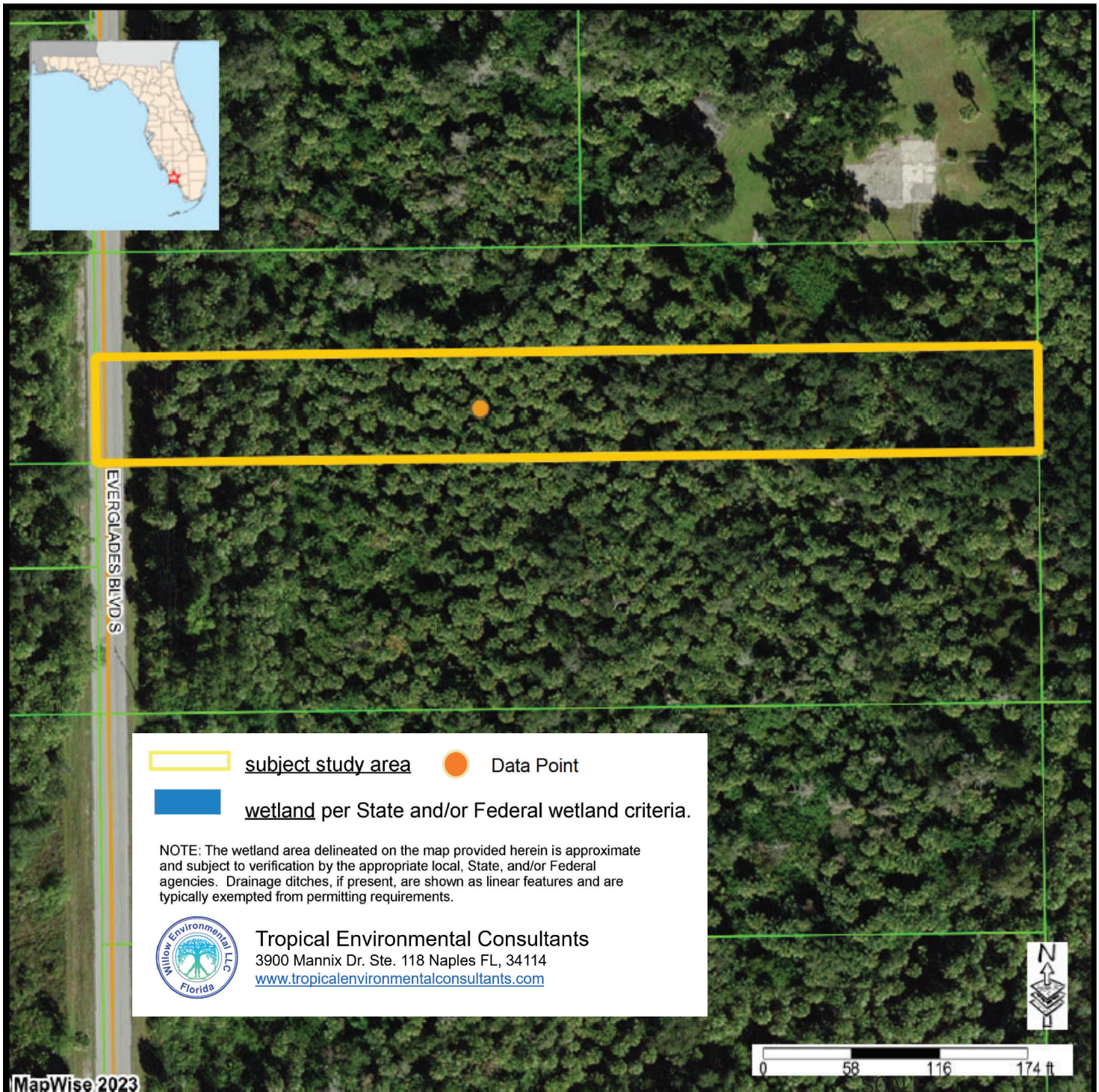
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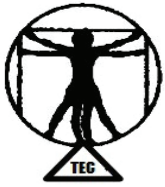
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Upland-Wetland Determination Map

(approximate- subject to agency verification)





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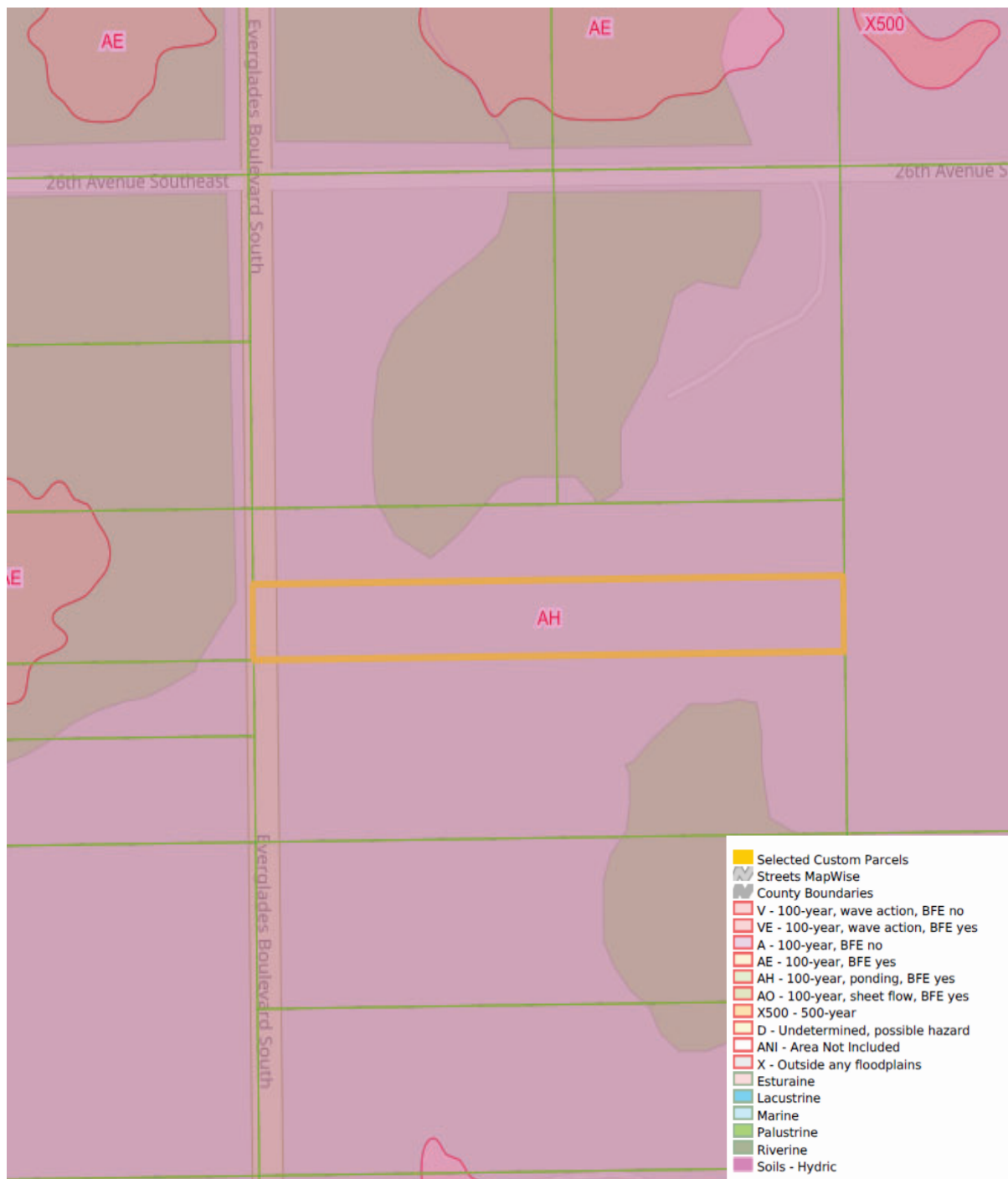
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National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)/ Hydric Soils (NRCS)/ Flood Zone Map (FEMA)



Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. Data Form

1. Date: SEE RPT
2. Staff Present: SEE RPT
3. Form recorder(s): SEE RPT

4. County: SEE RPT
5. Site Name: SEE RPT
Tracking #:

6. Point ID: SEE RPT
GPS Coordinates:

7. Distances and bearings from fixed objects (if no GPS):

8. Current condition of described point:
☐ Authorized or legal condition
☐ Unauthorized or illegal condition

9. Work type:
☒ Identification
☐ Delineation

Point status:
☐ Wetland
☐ Non-Wetland Surface Water
☒ Upland

10. Vegetative Stratum §62-340.400: Using §62-340.400, F.A.C. with reasonable scientific judgment, select the appropriate vegetative stratum. (Do not include FAC species when determining 10% minimum areal extent.)

☒ Canopy (Min. 10% areal extent)
☐ Subcanopy (Min. 10% areal extent)
☐ Groundcover (No min. areal extent)
☐ Vegetation Absent (skip to #14)
☐ Evaluation Impossible (skip to #14)
Why?

11. Plant List §62-340.200(2),(6),(16), §62-340.400, §62-340.450, F.A.C.:
As is under current conditions, without considering RSJ¹ or the legality of any alterations:

Areal extent estimator:

Select and identify plants in an area just large enough to represent and classify the plant community at the described point. Do not extend into different communities or hydrologic conditions.

1. Record the scientific name (binomial) and status of each plant species necessary to identify/delineate and classify the plant community in the selected area.

2. Record the percent areal extent in the canopy, subcanopy, and groundcover columns for each species.

3. For each species present in the stratum selected in #10, transfer the numbers from only that stratum's column into the appropriate status columns.

#	Binomial of Observed Species	Status	Canopy	Subcanopy	Groundcover	Upland	Facultative	Fac. Wet	Obligate
1.									
2.	Schinus terebinthifolia BRAZ. PEPPER*	F		5					
3.	Sabal palmetto SABLE PALM	F	65				65		
4.	Nephrolepis exaltata	U			95				
5.	Psychotria nervosa	F			2				
6.									
7.									
8.									
9.									
10.									
11.									
12.									
13.									
14.									
15.									
16.									
17.									
18.									
19.									
20.									
Percent areal extent totals for the stratum selected in question 10									

12. In the stratum selected in #10: What is the % areal extent of Obligate plants?
What is the % areal extent of Upland plants?
Is the areal extent of Obligate plants greater than that of Upland plants?
☐ Yes
☐ No

13. In the stratum selected in #10: What is the total % areal extent of Obligate & Facultative Wet plants combined?
What is the total % areal extent of Obligate, Facultative Wet, & Upland plants combined?
What is the percentage of OBL + FACW in relation to all plants, excluding FAC? ($\frac{OBL+FACW}{OBL+FACW+UPL}$)

Form 62-330.201(1) - Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. Data Form Incorporated by reference in subsection 62-330.201(1), F.A.C. (effective date) Page 1 of 6

Point ID/Location: SEE RPT					Soil describer: SEE RPT
14. LRR/MLRA U		Textures: Peat, Mucky Peat, Muck, Mucky Mineral (S or F), Sand, Fine, Marl			
15. Is a soil profile evaluation possible? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If no, why? (If No, skip to #18)					
16. Soil Description: As is under current conditions, without considering RSJ ¹ or the legality of any alterations Soil surface, or 0 inch depth for purposes of Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. is the muck or mineral surface (whether natural or fill)					
Horizon	beginning to ending Depth (inches)	Matrix Texture	moist condition Matrix Hue Value/ Chroma	for sandy matrix horizons w/ value ≤ 3: % Organic Coating	- Describe soil features: DA (areas darker than matrix), LA (areas lighter than matrix), RC (redox concentrations): Record in moist condition hue value/chroma ; % volume in horizon ; boundaries (sharp/clear/diffuse); shape (rounded/linear/angular). - OB (organic bodies): Record texture (muck or mucky mineral), % volume in horizon . - H₂S (hydrogen sulfide odor): Indicate shallowest depth where detected - Note if horizon is Physically Mixed (PM) , Nonsoil (any material not listed in "Textures" above), or Fill and describe.
1	0-5	S	10YR 5/1		DA 10YR 3/1 15% round clear
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

17. Hydric Soil Field Indicators: If present, check all Hydric Soil Field Indicators satisfied and specify their beginning and ending depths						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Texture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandy Texture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fine Texture	Indicator Present	Begin Depth	End Depth	
<input type="checkbox"/> (A1) Histosol*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S4) Sandy Gleyed Matrix*	<input type="checkbox"/> (F2) Loamy Gleyed Matrix*				
<input type="checkbox"/> (A2) Histic Epipedon*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S5) Sandy Redox	<input type="checkbox"/> (F3) Depleted Matrix	1.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A3) Black Histic*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S6) Stripped Matrix	<input type="checkbox"/> (F6) Redox Dark Surface	2.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A4) Hydrogen Sulfide*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S7) Dark Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> (F7) Depleted Dark Surface	3.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A5) Stratified Layers*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S8) Polyvalue Below Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> (F8) Redox Depression	4.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A6) Organic Bodies	<input type="checkbox"/> (S9) Thin Dark Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> (F10) Marl	5.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A7) 5cm Mucky Mineral*	<input type="checkbox"/> (S12) Barrier Islands 1cm Muck	<input type="checkbox"/> (F12) Iron-Manganese Masses	6.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A8) Muck Presence*		<input type="checkbox"/> (F13) Umbric Surface				
<input type="checkbox"/> (A9) 1cm Muck*		<input type="checkbox"/> (F22) Very Shallow Dark Surface				
<input type="checkbox"/> (A11) Depleted Below Dark Surface	* = Stand-alone D Test - both hydric soil and hydrologic indicator		To combine layers/indicators to meet thickness requirements, see NRCS Hydric Soils Technical Note 4.			
<input type="checkbox"/> (A12) Thick Dark Surface						

18. Excluding organic horizons, is any nonsoil horizon present at or within the uppermost 12 inches of the ground surface?
☐ Yes (e.g. bedrock, rock outcrop, limestone fill, gravel, etc) ☒ No ☐ Soil profile or site inaccessible

19. Is one or more hydric soil field indicators present? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Inconclusive (e.g., evaluation to 12+ inches impeded by disturbance, water, nonsoil, no site access, etc.)
If no or inconclusive, is the soil hydric as determined by other NRCS methods?
☐ Yes ← Which method(s)? ☐ No ☐ Inconclusive ← Why?
(e.g., hydric soil definition, HSTS², indicator present at drier elevation, indicator would be present but for disturbance)

20. Is the depth of the soil profile 20 inches or greater from the soil surface? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If no, depth of soil profile is: 5 inches Why?
(e.g., root refusal, nonsoil, water table, loose sand, heavy texture, compaction, weather conditions, inspection interrupted)

21. Observed height or depth of standing water from **soil** surface: _____ inches ☐ Above ☐ Below ☒ Not Observed

Point ID/Location: _____

26. C Test Wetland Criteria §62-340.300(2)(c), F.A.C.

As is under current conditions, without considering RSJ¹ or the legality of any alterations:

- a) Per §62-340.300(2)(c), F.A.C. is the described point Pine Flatwoods or Improved Pasture, or does it have drained soils? ☐ Yes ☐ No **If yes, select which of the following are met, then skip to #26d**
☐ Pine Flatwoods ☐ Improved Pasture ☐ Drained Soils
***Pine Flatwoods** must have flat terrain, a monotypic or mixed canopy of long leaf pine or slash pine, and a ground cover dominated by saw palmetto with other species that are NOT obligate or facultative wet. **Improved Pasture** means areas where the dominant native plant community has been replaced with planted or natural recruitment of herbaceous species which are NOT obligate or facultative wet species and which have been actively maintained for livestock through mechanical means or grazing. **Drained Soils** are those in which permanent alterations, excluding mechanical pumping, preclude the formation of hydric soils.*
- b) Are the soils at the described point saline sands (salt flats-tidal flats), **or** have they been **field verified** by NRCS's Keys to Soil Taxonomy (4th ed. 1990) as Umbraqualfs, Sulfaquents, Hydraquents, Humaquepts, Histosols (except Folists), Argiaquolls, or Umbraquults? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- c) Do the soils at the described point have a NRCS hydric soil field indicator (see #17), **and** is the point located within a map unit named or designated by the NRCS as frequently flooded, depressional, or water?
Map Unit: _____ ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Inconclusive ← Why? _____ (skip to #27a)
- d) Are the C Test criteria met per §62-340.300(2)(c), F.A.C. at the described point? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Note: If no to 26a and yes to either 26b or 26c, C Test criteria are met)
- e) Are there any **alterations or conditions** affecting reliable application of the C Test such that the Altered Sites Test is more appropriate? ☐ Yes ☒ No

27. D Test Wetland Criteria §62-340.300(2)(d), F.A.C.

As is under current conditions, without considering RSJ¹ or the legality of any alterations:

- a) Is the soil hydric as verified by a NRCS hydric soil field indicator? (See #17)
☐ Yes ☒ No (skip to #27d) ☐ Inconclusive ← Why? _____ (skip to #28)
- b) Does any NRCS hydric soil field indicator begin **at the soil surface or** are any of the following indicators present: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A7, A8, A9, S4, F2? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, then hydrologic indicator §62-340.500(8) or (11) is met)
- c) Is one or more of the hydrologic indicators in §62-340.500, F.A.C. present at the described point? (See #23) ☐ Yes ☐ No
- d) Are the D Test criteria met per §62-340.300(2)(d), F.A.C. at the described point? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Note: If yes to 27a and yes to either 27b or 27c, D Test criteria may be met)
- e) Are there any **alterations or conditions** affecting reliable application of the D Test such that the Altered Sites Test is more appropriate? ☐ Yes ☒ No

28. Altered Sites Tests §62-340.300(3), F.A.C. (Legal/Authorized or Illegal/Unauthorized)

For purposes of Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. **altered** refers to any natural or man-induced condition(s) which **masks or eliminates reliable expression** of wetland indicators (i.e. hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and hydrologic indicators). **Unaltered or normal does not require a natural condition**, only an expression of wetland indicators that is sufficient to **reliably** identify or delineate the wetland using the criteria in §62-340.300, F.A.C.

Are alterations affecting normal wetland condition? ☐ Yes ☒ No (skip to #32) ☐ Evaluation Impossible (skip to #32)

29. Authorized or Legally Altered Vegetation and Soils Test Criteria §62-340.300(3)(a), F.A.C.

- a) Are there **authorized** or **legal** alterations affecting reliable expression of vegetation at the described point?
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, how? _____
- b) Are there **authorized** or **legal** alterations affecting reliable soil evaluation at the described point? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, how? _____ (If no to both 29a and 29b, skip to #30)
- c) If yes to 29a or 29b, which criteria tests are affected by the legal alterations?
☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
- d) Using the most reliable available information and reasonable scientific judgment, would the types of evidence and characteristics contemplated in §62-340.300, F.A.C. identify or delineate the described point as a wetland with cessation of the legal altering activities? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, why? _____ (If no, skip to #30)
- e) If yes to 29d, what §62-340.300, F.A.C. evidence is present now and/or will be present in the future with cessation of legal altering activities? ☐ Plants ☐ Soils ☐ Hydrologic indicators
- f) If yes to 29d, which tests would be passed with cessation of legal altering activities?
☐ Wetland Definition ☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
Why? _____

Point ID/Location: _____

30. Authorized or Legally Altered Hydrology Test Criteria §62-340.300(3)(b), F.A.C.

- a) Has wetland hydrology of the area been **legally** drained or lowered? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to #31)
If yes, how? _____
- b) Has wetland hydrology been **legally** eliminated at the described point? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to #31)
- c) If yes to 30b, using reasonable scientific judgment or §62-340.550, F.A.C., have dredging or filling activities authorized by **Part IV** of Chapter 373, F.S. **permanently eliminated** wetland hydrology at the described point such that the wetland definition cannot be met? ☐ Yes (point is upland) ☐ No (If yes, skip to #31)
*Chapter 373, F.S. Part II activities (e.g., water use permits) or other temporary hydrologic alterations (e.g., surface water pumps, drought) do **not** apply to this or any other Ch. 62-340, F.A.C. determinations.*
- d) If no to 30c, what §62-340.300, F.A.C. evidence is present now and/or will be present in the future with cessation of temporary hydrologic drainage? ☐ Plants ☐ Soils ☐ Hydrologic indicators
- e) If no to 30c, Which tests would be passed with cessation of temporary hydrologic alterations?
☐ Wetland Definition ☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
Why? _____

31. Unauthorized or Illegally Altered Sites Test Criteria §62-340.300(3)(c), F.A.C.

If the altering activity is a violation of regulatory requirements, then application of §62-340.300(3)(c), F.A.C. and all provisions of Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. are utilized to identify or delineate the wetland in a forensic manner.

This identification or delineation reflects the condition immediately prior to the unauthorized alteration.

- a) Have any **unauthorized** alterations affected the normal wetland condition at the described point? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, how? _____ (If no, skip to #32)
- b) If yes to 31a, which criteria tests are affected by the unauthorized alterations?
☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
- c) With reasonable scientific judgment is the described point a wetland, or would it have been a wetland immediately prior to the unauthorized alteration? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, why? _____ (If no, skip to #32)
- d) If yes to 31c, what §62-340.300, F.A.C. evidence is present now and/or was present immediately prior to the unauthorized alteration? ☐ Plants ☐ Soils ☐ Hydrologic indicators
- e) If yes to 31c, which tests would be passed immediately prior to the unauthorized alteration?
☐ Wetland Definition ☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
Why? _____

32. Wetland and Other Surface Water Summary §62-340.600(2)(a-e), F.A.C.:

Given **normal** expression, **cessation** of **authorized** alterations, or **immediately prior** to any **unauthorized** alterations:

- a) With **reasonable scientific judgment** is the described point a wetland as defined in §62-340.200(19), F.A.C. and located by Ch. 62-340, F.A.C.? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, which criteria identified or delineated the wetland?
☐ Wetland Definition ☐ A Test ☐ B Test ☐ C Test ☐ D Test
If summary answers differ from answers in 25f, 25g, 26d, or 27d, why? _____
- b) Is the described point located at or within the Mean High Water Line of a tidal water body?
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ MHWL Unknown
- c) Is the described point located at or within the Ordinary High Water Line of a non-tidal natural water body or natural watercourse? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d) Is the described point located at or within the top of the bank of an artificial lake, borrow pit, canal, ditch, or other type of artificial water body or watercourse with side slopes of 1 foot vertical to 4 feet horizontal or steeper, excluding spoil banks when the canals and ditches have resulted from excavation into the ground? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e) Is the described point located at or within the Seasonal High Water Line of an artificial lake, borrow pit, canal, ditch, or other type of artificial water body or watercourse with side slopes flatter than 1 foot vertical to 4 feet horizontal or an artificial water body created by diking or impoundment above the ground? ☐ Yes ☒ No

33. Connection or Isolation of Wetland per Applicant's Handbook Vol.1 Section 2.0

If the described point is a wetland, does it have a connection via wetlands or other surface waters, or is it wholly surrounded by uplands and therefore isolated? ☐ Connected ☐ Isolated ☒ N/A (Point is not wetland)

Point ID/Location:			
34. Photographs and/or videos: Soil profile with Data Form, Soil profile close-up, Cross section(s) at 6" depth for sandy textures and/or critical depths for fine textures, Hydric soil indicators, Water table or inundation depth, Four cardinal directions of plant strata present, Hydrologic indicators (with scale as necessary), Critical plant ID (optional)			
#	Memory Card # / Metadata	Description, compass direction (if applicable)	Taken By
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			

Notes:

Helpful Definitions for Applying Ch 62-340, F.A.C.

¹**RSJ** stands for Reasonable Scientific Judgment where used throughout this Data Form (See *The Florida Wetlands Delineation Manual* pg. 2 & 12)

²**HSTS** stands for Hydric Soils Technical Standard (See NRCS Hydric Soils Technical Note 11)

Definition from §62.340.200(19) Florida Administrative Code

"Wetlands," as defined in subsection 373.019(17), F.S., means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and a duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils. Soils present in wetlands generally are classified as hydric or alluvial, or possess characteristics that are associated with reducing soil conditions. The prevalent vegetation in wetlands generally consists of facultative or obligate hydrophytic macrophytes that are typically adapted to areas having soil conditions described above. These species, due to morphological, physiological, or reproductive adaptations, have the ability to grow, reproduce or persist in aquatic environments or anaerobic soil conditions. Florida wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bayheads, bogs, cypress domes and strands, sloughs, wet prairies, riverine swamps and marshes, hydric seepage slopes, tidal marshes, mangrove swamps and other similar areas. Florida wetlands generally do not include longleaf or slash pine flatwoods with an understory dominated by saw palmetto.

Definition from §373.019(19) Florida Statutes

"Surface water" means water upon the surface of the earth, whether contained in bounds created naturally or artificially or diffused. Water from natural springs shall be classified as surface water when it exits from the spring onto the earth's surface.

Definition from §373.019(14) Florida Statutes

"Other watercourse" means any canal, ditch, or other artificial watercourse in which water usually flows in a defined bed or channel. It is not essential that the flowing be uniform or uninterrupted.

Definition from §62.340.200(15) Florida Administrative Code

"Seasonal High Water" means the elevation to which the ground and surface water can be expected to rise due to a normal wet season.

From The Florida Wetlands Delineation Manual pg. 37

Ordinary high water is that point on the slope or bank where the surface water from the water body ceases to exert a dominant influence on the character of the surrounding vegetation and soils. The OHWL frequently encompasses areas dominated by non-listed vegetation and non-hydric soils. When the OHWL is not at a wetland edge, the general view of the area may present an "upland" appearance.

Definition from §403.803(14) Florida Statutes

"Swale" means a manmade trench which:

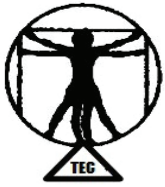
(a) Has a top width-to-depth ratio of the cross-section equal to or greater than 6:1, or side slopes equal to or greater than 3 feet horizontal to 1 foot vertical;

(b) Contains contiguous areas of standing or flowing water only following a rainfall event;

(c) Is planted with or has stabilized vegetation suitable for soil stabilization, stormwater treatment, and nutrient uptake; and

(d) Is designed to take into account the soil erodibility, soil percolation, slope, slope length, and drainage area so as to prevent erosion and reduce pollutant concentration of any discharge.

Form 62-330.201(1) - Chapter 62-340, F.A.C. Data Form Incorporated by reference in subsection 62-330.201(1), F.A.C. (effective date) Page 6 of 6



Tropical Environmental Consultants

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Question Detail

Q1: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will require E.R.P's (Environmental Resource Permits) for most projects proposing to alter the topography of the land via digging, filling, building, or machine clearing. Non-regulated or exempt activities include, but are not limited to; residential construction when confined to upland habitat, alteration of man-made isolated wetlands, and agricultural impacts. Unless noted otherwise, TEC determined the project's need for an ERP permit based upon a conceptual site configuration designed to minimize environmental loss as much as practicable. *****Prior to planning or land alteration efforts, TEC recommends the applicant obtain agency verification of the findings and conclusions including, but not limited to; the location and extent of uplands and wetlands on site as presented by TEC*** Neglecting to secure agency verification may subject the applicant to otherwise avoidable compliance/enforcement/ actions in cases where an agency concludes wetlands or surface waters were in fact adversely impacted after the fact. In addition, city or county regulations typically require prior notification or permits for vegetation removal actions in both upland and wetland areas.***** Please contact TEC with questions or for further assistance with the verification or permit process.

Q2: Isolated wetlands do not flow into other wetlands or surface waters that are themselves connected to waters of the State. A wetland may connect via a man-made ditch or stream and eventually flow into the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean. Impacts to “Isolated” wetlands are generally considered minor, and wetland mitigation is often not required.

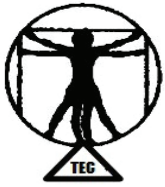
Q3: State and Federal agencies typically require wetland mitigation when a project proposes to eliminate or diminish the function of wetlands on site, and when impacts exceed 0.10 acres. Special exceptions allowing the applicant to avoid mitigation vary between the State and Federal agencies, and include, but are not limited to; property creation date, prior permit history, verification of “isolated” or “contiguous”, minimization of impact, and several other site-specific criteria. For many projects, wetland mitigation is a specific condition of the permit, and must be completed prior to construction activities. The final determination shall be made by the applicable regulatory agencies.

Q4: Mitigation-related costs increase for impacts to higher quality wetlands, and for impacts which exceed generally accepted standard square footage thresholds for the use proposed. Therefore, construction of a typical-size residence positioned within low-quality wetland habitat will be less costly to mitigate than for the same residence constructed within high-quality wetlands. Likewise, a larger home will require more mitigation than a smaller home built within the same functioning wetland. The amount of mitigation required is directly related to the 'Quality' of wetlands being impacted. The quality of wetland(s) on this site is described on page one (1).

Q5: South Florida experiences a dry and wet season, typical to tropical and sub-tropical environments. Florida's rainy season occurs May/June and runs through September/October, with surface water levels dropping several feet after October. Excessive water levels within the building footprint will likely increase the need for fill material to elevate the building/septic ground and could increase overall project costs. Additionally, standing water may contribute to reduced recreational, building, gardening, or livestock use. A local builder knowledgeable of building and engineering-related elevation requirements may assist you in understanding what additional costs may be incurred as a result of low-lying or submerged lands. These levels will occur during the latter part of the summer rainy season. Standing water is anticipated to remain at or near ground level for approximately weeks. South Florida's rainy season occurs from June/July-October.

Q6: Limestone located near the surface of the lot may require special design/construction considerations including the placement of an on-site sewage treatment system in areas of elevated limestone. A general building contractor or septic Engineer may assist you in understanding these considerations.

Q7: Contact TEC or your local property tax collector for more information regarding the valuation of wet land for property tax purposes.



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Q8: Exotic-nuisance vegetation is difficult to control in the landscape and when found in dense quantities on vacant land, can spread rapidly, and tends to decrease the value of that land to wildlife and other native plant species. For these reasons, local county regulations often require a property owner to remove non-native nuisance species prior to issuing a Certificate of Occupancy, adding additional development costs to a project. Removal of any vegetation (including exotic species) by mechanical means may require a vegetation removal permit from your local County/City building department.

Q9: Federal and State agencies provide special protections for endangered or threatened species. Additional environmental surveys and procurement of permits or verification of no negative affect may be required when altering habitat, even if listed species were not identified during completion of the informal wetland determination. It is up to the applicant via the services of an environmental consultant to ensure development actions do not adversely affect listed species. Federal agencies will conduct a review for listed species prior to the issuance of permits including permits for jurisdictional wetland impacts. Often the applicant will be responsible for providing to these agencies a species survey report during the review process.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS? NEED ASSISTANCE?
CONTACT TEC FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Thank you for allowing TEC to assist you with your
environmental project needs!**

**"Finding balance between human use and the environment" since 1983
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