



Resilient Environment Department

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING DIVISION

1 North University Drive, Mailbox 201, Plantation, Florida 33324 • 954-519-1483 • FAX 954-519-1412

April 13, 2023

Town of Southwest Ranches
Attention: Mr. Rod Ley, Town City Engineer
13400 Griffin Road
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330
E-mail: Rley@southwestranches.org

**Re: Wetland Jurisdictional Determination – SOUTHWEST MEADOWS SANCTUARY 178-175 B PARCEL B (PARK)
13400 GRIFFIN RD, Southwest Ranches
Folio No. 504029120020
File No. WD2303-006**

Dear Applicant:

The referenced site, outlined in teal on the attached aerial photograph, was visited by the Broward County Resilient Environment Department (RED) on Tuesday, March 28, 2023. During that visit it was determined that the site **does contain County jurisdictional wetlands**. The approximate limits of these wetlands are indicated in hatching on the enclosed aerial photograph. If an exact line is desired, you may elect to arrange a joint site inspection with your surveyor present.

Based on the above determination, any construction which involves dredging or filling in the wetlands will require an **Environmental Resource License**. Additional construction activities such as excavation of a new lake or canal, regulated under Article XI of the Natural Resource Protection Code, may also require a license. Additionally, this letter does not constitute a waiver of review by the Development Management Division of the Urban Planning and Redevelopment Department prior to clearing and grubbing. The applicant is encouraged to contact RED at the earliest convenient time to discuss licensing requirements.

This determination was made according to the Natural Resource Protection Code definition of **Regulated Aquatic and Wetland Resources** and Section 27-334(e) which utilizes the State approved wetland delineation methodology outlined in chapter 62-340 F.A.C. and ratified by the State Legislature pursuant to Section 373.421 Florida Statutes. In the event of a conflict with a formal delineation conducted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the South Florida Water Management District pursuant to 62-340 F.A.C. the determination of said Agency will be the controlling delineation. This determination is valid for a period of no more than two (2) years from the date of this letter. The issuance of this letter is a **final agency determination**. A person with a substantial interest may file a petition to request review of, or to intervene in a review of, a final administrative determination, subject to the provisions of Section 27-14, Broward County Code of Ordinances.

Broward County Board of County Commissioners

Mark D. Bogen • Lamar P. Fisher • Beam Furr • Steve Geller • Robert McKinzie • Nan H. Rich • Hazelle P. Rogers • Tim Ryan • Michael Udine
www.broward.org

**SOUTHWEST MEADOWS SANCTUARY 178-175 B PARCEL B (PARK)
WD2303-006**

Please be advised that this determination is specific to Broward County's Natural Resource Protection Code and is conducted pursuant to the State-approved delineation methodology. The identified wetland area may also be jurisdictional to other Federal and/or State regulatory agencies [i.e. US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE), and South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) or Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)] and additional approval[s] may be necessary. For more information you may contact the local regulatory office[s] for each entity via the contact information below:

USACOE via email at SAJ-RD-S@usace.army.mil or telephone at (561) 472-3504,
FDEP via email at Southeast.District@dep.state.fl.us or telephone at (561) 681-6600
SFWMD via email at bconmy@sfwmd.gov or telephone at (561) 682-6736

Please feel free to contact me by e-mail at mdecker@broward.org or by phone at (954) 519-1205 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

MICHELLE DECKER, M.S.


ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT COORDINATOR

Resilient Environment Department

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING DIVISION

Enc: Wetland Map
27-14 Variance and Administrative Review Procedures

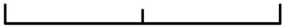

cc: Linda Sunderland (via e-mail)
Danielle Sattelberger, FDEP (via e-mail)
Barb Conmy and Morgan Reins, SFWMD (via e-mail)
Alisa Zarbo, USACOE (via e-mail)

Legend
 AWR.Wetlands_noDER
 PRESRVTYPE
 CONF
 Wetland

Project Location



SOUTHWEST MEADOWS SANCTUARY
 178-175 B PARCEL B (PARK)
 WD2303-006
 504029120020

0 0.02 0.04 Miles

 Date: 4/13/2023
 User Name: MDECKER


Sec. 27-14. Administrative review of EPGMD determinations.

- (a) A person with a substantial interest may file a petition to request review of or to intervene in a review of a final administrative determination made pursuant to this chapter concerning:
- (1) The requirement that a facility or activity obtain a license or environmental review approval.
 - (2) Interpretations of license or environmental review approval conditions.
 - (3) Interpretations of variance conditions.
 - (4) The decision to suspend or revoke a license or environmental review approval.
 - (5) The requirement of certain license conditions.
 - (6) The issuance of a license or environmental review approval.
 - (7) The denial of a license or environmental review approval.
 - (8) The scope of a license or environmental review approval, geographic or otherwise.
 - (9) The scope of a variance, geographic or otherwise.
 - (10) The issuance of a stop work order.
 - (11) Similar final administrative determinations.

This administrative review procedure shall be the only means of review available for the above final administrative determinations by either the petitioner or the intervenor (the parties).

- (b) person may not obtain review by this procedure of:
- (1) The issuance or adjudication of or other matters involving a notice of violation or a citation.
 - (2) Internal policy decisions
- (c) A person desiring a review of a staff determination made pursuant to this Chapter shall first bring the determination to the attention of the appropriate section supervisor to attempt to resolve the matter. If a resolution cannot be reached, then the decision shall be reviewed by successive supervisory levels until the issue is resolved or reaches the level of the director or his or her designee for the final determination.
- (d) A person desiring administrative review of a final determination made by the director or the designee shall file a petition with the director for review by the hearing examiner. The petition shall be filed within ten (10) days from the rendition of the action taken or of the decision made by the director. An entity whose license or approval is being challenged shall be a party to the action.
- (e) The review shall not be heard until the provisions of subsection (f) are met. Upon motion to the hearing examiner, an insufficient petition shall be dismissed with or without leave to refile. If a petition is determined to be insufficient by the hearing examiner and the petitioner has been given leave to refile by the hearing examiner, unless otherwise ordered by the hearing examiner, the petitioner must refile within ten (10) days of the rendition of the order of dismissal or the petition will be dismissed with prejudice.

- (f) A sufficient petition for review or petition for intervention in the review shall, at a minimum, contain the following information:
- (1) The nature of the determination sought to be reviewed.
 - (2) A short, plain statement of the facts which form the subject matter upon which the determination was made as asserted by all parties of record at the time that the petition is filed; a statement of the material facts in dispute, if any. If any party is unable to state the matters in sufficient detail at the time initial petition is filed, the petition may be limited to a statement of the issues involved; and thereafter, upon timely written motion, a more definite and detailed statement shall be furnished not less than seven (7) days prior to the date set for the hearing.
 - (3) The specific determination for which the review is sought.
 - (4) The specific legal grounds upon which the parties seek review of the determination.
 - (5) A short statement of the petitioner's or the intervenor's substantial interest in the matter to be reviewed.
 - (6) The specific section of this chapter on which the decision is based, if known, and the specific section that the parties allege should control the decision, if known.
 - (7) A copy of the director's or the designee's written final determination.
 - (8) A statement of the relief requested stating precisely the action that the petitioner wants EPGMD to take with respect to the final determination.
- (g) All pleadings or other documents filed in the proceeding must be signed by a party, the party's attorney, or the party's qualified representative. The signature of a party, the party's attorney or a party's qualified representative constitutes a certificate that he or she has read the pleading or other document and that to the best of his or her knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, it is not brought for any improper purposes, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or for frivolous purpose or needless increase in the cost of litigation. If a pleading or other document is signed in violation of these requirements, the hearing examiner, upon motion or his or her own initiative, shall dismiss the matter.
- (h) A petitioner or intervenor may request an emergency hearing to stay all activities or work conducted pursuant to the challenged license or approval. Such petitioner or intervenor has the burden of proof to show by a preponderance of the evidence that the continued activities would cause substantial pollution or degradation to the environment. An emergency hearing shall be scheduled by EPGMD and be held within five (5) days of said request or as soon thereafter as possible subject to the availability of the hearing examiner. The petitioner or intervenor shall comply with the notice provisions of section 27-14(j)(2)a. and c. and section 27-14(j)(3) and (4) of this chapter.
- (i) The petition for review will not stay environmental protection activities required for the remediation or mitigation of a site or facility, the protection of the environment or the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Broward County, or the prevention of further environmental degradation. The person responsible for these activities must take all necessary steps to prevent environmental degradation and must conduct the remediation or mitigation activities required by this chapter. The director may allow these activities to be delayed until after the hearing examiner's decision by certifying to

the hearing examiner that, by reason of facts stated in the certificate, a delay in the initiation or completion of these activities would not cause substantial environmental degradation or peril to life or property. The delay for conducting these activities may be subject to appropriate terms to ensure protection of the environment. The person responsible for these activities shall be responsible for any environmental damage or any violation of this chapter caused by the delay.

(j) Notice and Scheduling Requirements:

- (1) The hearing on the review shall be scheduled within a reasonable time. It shall be the responsibility of the petitioner to request through EPGMD that the hearing date be scheduled. It shall also be the responsibility of the petitioner to give notice in accordance with this section at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing.
 - (2) The petitioner shall give notice of the hearing by:
 - a. Giving personal notice to all proper parties; and
 - b. Publishing notice on two (2) days in a newspaper of general circulation in the county; and
 - c. Posting notice at a location determined by the Broward County Administrator's Office.
 - (3) The petitioner shall bear the cost of giving notice.
 - (4) The notice shall contain, at a minimum:
 - a. A description and location of the facility or the activity to be conducted by the petitioner; and
 - b. The time and place of the hearing.
- (k) The petitioner shall bear the cost of accurately and completely preserving all testimony and providing full or partial transcripts to all parties.
- (l) The hearing shall be a quasi-judicial hearing.
- (1) The applicant/petitioner requesting the administrative review, any intervenor/petitioner and EPGMD shall have an opportunity to respond to and to present witnesses, other evidence and argument on all issues involved, to conduct cross-examination and submit rebuttal evidence, to submit proposed findings of facts and orders, and to be represented by counsel. Members of the general public who are not intervenors as set forth in Section 27-14 of this chapter are not parties to the proceeding.
 - (2) When appropriate, the general public may be given an opportunity to present oral or written communications. If the hearing examiner proposes to consider such material, then all parties shall be given an opportunity to cross-examine, challenge or rebut it.
- (m) Denial, protest of, revocation, or suspension of a license, environmental review approval, or any other approval:
- (1) In regard to denial or protest of approval of a license and any other review of an administrative decision, notwithstanding (2) below, the petitioner shall have the burden of showing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the determination of the director was an arbitrary and/or capricious abuse of discretion, not supported by competent, substantial evidence or not in conformance with the

essential requirements of this chapter. The hearing examiner shall not substitute his or her judgment for that of EPGMD on an issue of discretion even though the hearing examiner may have reached a different conclusion based on the same facts.

- (2) In an action to revoke or suspend a valid license or approval, the burden shall be upon EPGMD to prove, by a preponderance of the evidence in an administrative hearing, the grounds for revocation or suspension. The license holder or approval recipient shall be provided notice of the hearing and a copy of the petition stating the grounds for revocation or suspension as provided in section 27-63 of this chapter. The petition shall state with specificity the acts complained of in order to allow the license holder or approval recipient an opportunity to prepare a defense. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Section 27-37 of this chapter.
- (n) Findings of fact shall be based exclusively on the evidence of record and on matters officially recognized.
 - (o) If the hearing examiner finds that the director or his or her designee has erroneously interpreted a provision and that a correct interpretation compels a particular action, he or she shall remand the case to the director or his or her designee for further action under a correct interpretation of the provision.
 - (p) The hearing examiner shall complete and submit to the director and all parties a final order consisting of his or her findings of fact and conclusions of law.
 - (q) A party to the hearing may obtain appellate review of the final order as provided by section 27-42 of this chapter.
 - (r) A petitioner or intervenor shall pay a filing fee at the time the application for review is filed. The amount of the filing fee shall be set by resolution of the Board.

(Ord. No. 2003-34, § 1, 9-23-03; Ord. No. 2005-08, § 2.03, 4-26-05)
Secs. 27-15--27-19. Reserved.