

Ann B. Shortelle, Ph.D., Executive Director

4049 Reid Street • P.O. Box 1429 • Palatka, FL 32178-1429 • 386-329-4500 On the internet at www.sjrwmd.com.

July 16, 2018

Mr. Fred Schneider, PE County Engineer Lake County Engineering Division P.O. Box 7800 Tavares, FL 32778

Dear Mr. Schneider,

The St Johns River Water Management District owns and manages the Lake Norris Conservation Area (LNCA). Our management of the LNCA is directed by Florida Statutes, District policy, Florida Administrative Code 40 C-9 and the Governing Board approved management plan for the property, a copy of which can be found at this location https://www.sjrwmd.com/static/lands/management/plans/2009_Lake_Norris_CA.pdf

Many of the management activities we perform require the use of equipment that exceed the load limits recently placed on Lake Norris Road and Hart Ranch Road. By way of this letter, I am asking your approval to exceed those limits for the following activities which are associated with managing the LNCA or other District owned and managed lands.

Activity/Purpose	Contractor or District staff	Will this activity use Hart Ranch or Lake Norris Road	Vehicle Type	# of loads	Estimated Annual Frequency
Prescribed burning or wildfire suppression	District Staff	Both	Dozer Transport	2	10
Mowing	Contractor	Both	Truck and Trailer	2	26
Logging /	Contractor	Lake Norris	Semi-type logging truck	24	Once per every 5-10 years
Sand removal for use only on District lands	Either	Hart Ranch Road	Dump Truck	10	8
Roadwork/maintenance	Either	Both	Road tractor with lowboy hauling excavator, dozer, front end loader, motor grader. Dump truck delivering rock for roads	4	2
Mulch Mowing	Either	Both	Truck and trailer or Transport with posi- track mulcher	2	Every 2-5 years

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In case of emergencies like wildfires or tropical storms, there may be other activities which I cannot anticipate. It would be our intention to inform you of those activities via phone or email as soon as is possible.

Please consider the activities I have described and let me know what permitting or documentation is necessary to enable SJRWMD to complete these necessary activities without conflicting with the newly established load limits.

We have suspended all our activities that will exceed the limits including mowing and maintenance of roads and trails until we have documentation of your approval/permitting of these activities. Our Office of General Counsel has notified the owners of the three private inholdings, and the cattle lessee that utilize the Districts roads for their personal use, that the SJRWMD is unable to maintain the existing roads until we obtain permission for heavy equipment use from Lake County.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (386) 329-4399.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Miller, Chief

Bureau of Land Resources.