

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

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March 2, 2020

Jeff Cole, County Manager Lake County Board of County Commissioners 315 West Main Street P.O. Box 7800

Tavares, FL 32778

Via email: jcole@lakecountyfl.gov

RE: Blackwater Creek Wetlands Mitigation, LLC Haul Permit Application

Dear Jeff,

I am sending this letter to follow up on our conversation last week. I understand the County believes that the St. Johns River Water Management District (District) has applied for a haul permit related to removal of stockpiled sand at the Lake Norris Conservation Area.

The District has obtained a copy and reviewed the haul permit application dated February 14, 2020. This application was submitted by Blackwater Creek Mitigation, LLC (Blackwater Creek) without the District's knowledge or opportunity to review. Although Blackwater Creek Mitigation has the right to remove sand from the property under an agreement with the District, the District has not applied for a haul permit, authorized Blackwater Creek to act on the District's behalf as the owner of the property, or consented to being a party to an application.

The District has asked Blackwater Creek to withdraw the pending application.

Sincerely,

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

CC: Melanie Marsh

Daniel Davis

JACKSONVILLE