

Midnight Pass and Little Sarasota Bay Summary of Disturbed Coastal Ecosystems

Site	Disturbed Coastal Ecosystem (Name)	Nature of Disturbance	Current Water Quality Standard Non-Compliance	Exhibit	Corrective Measures
A	Little Sarasota Bay adjacent to Midnight Pass Site	Eutrophication of the Area of Little Sarasota Bay near the Midnight Pass site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chl a values exceed 11.0 Maximum State WQ Levels (indicator of eutrophication) • Nitrogen (mg/l) levels • Light Attenuation 	5 Year Avg Chl-a Monthly Avg Chl-a 2001 Average Chl-a	Pass channel connection will improve Tidal Flushing and Circulation Changes will increase by more than 100 %
B	Little Sarasota Bay adjacent to Midnight Pass Site	Light Attenuation Data for Segment 14-3	Low levels of Light Attenuation in Areas Surrounding Midnight Pass	Historical Photographs illustrating high water clarity and recent photographs documenting present conditions	Pass channel connection will improve Tidal Flushing and Circulation Changes will increase by more than 100 %
C	Little Sarasota Bay	Loss of Recreational Use for Sarasota County Residents and Tourists	Inlet Closure caused loss of recreational use for boaters and associated uses (economic loss to community, fishing losses, Gulf access)	Historic Pre-Closure Photographs and Recent Post-Closure Photographs (see RA#1 Response Attachment #7)	Increased recreational use (boating, fishing, sailing, ecotourism)
D	Little Sarasota Bay adjacent to Midnight Pass Site	Benthic Invertebrates	Loss of species, species diversity and numbers in 1983-1987 and present ecosystem	Mote Marine Laboratory Study findings of benthic invertebrate declines	A reopened Pass will provide a direct opening to the Gulf of Mexico

					that will result in stable levels of salinity and water quality conditions support greater numbers and diversity of benthic invertebrates
E	Upland Areas of Jim Neville Marine Preserve	Jim Neville Marine Preserve	Loss of wetlands, loss of habitat for bird nesting, loss of recreational use of property owned by Sarasota County; broad extent of invasive species and exotics and adverse aesthetic impacts to local area due to the high elevations of spoiled sediment from the GIWW construction and maintenance	Section 1135 Study USFWS and NMFS Opinions and USACE Feasibility Report	Remove exotics & sediments to create shallow tidal channels suitable for seagrass, vegetation for bird nesting areas and mangrove wetlands
F	Upland Areas of Palmer Point	Palmer Point	Loss of wetlands, loss of habitat for bird nesting, loss of recreational use of property owned by Sarasota County; broad extent of invasive species and exotics and adverse aesthetic impacts to local area due to the high elevations of spoiled sediment from the GIWW construction and maintenance	Section 1135 Study USFWS and NMFS Opinions and USACE Feasibility Report	Remove exotics & sediments to create shallow tidal channels suitable juvenile fish, shorebird foraging and nesting, wetlands
G	Mote Marine Laboratory Site	Exotic species	Loss of recreational use of property owned by Sarasota County; broad extent of invasive species and exotics and adverse aesthetic impacts	Site Photographs	Remove exotics & sediments to create shallow tidal channels suitable juvenile fish, shorebird foraging and nesting, wetlands
H	Old GIWW Channel	Deep GIWW Channel	Deep remnant of original GIWW prior to new alignment	Bathymetric and Habitat Maps (RAI)	Fill channel to depths that allow

	Alignment			#1Response)	for seagrass habitat
I	Blind Pass Lagoon	Fish Kills	Low levels of Dissolved Oxygen	Fish Kills	Increase flushing with the Turtle Beach Access Channel
J	Catfish Creek North Creek	Tidal Creek characterized by Disturbed Ecosystems	High Levels of Nitrogen	Exceed State Water Quality Standards	Pass channel will improve flushing and reduce nitrogen concentrations

Water Quality Standards shall mean the standards established under Chapter 62-302, F.A.C.