

Table 2 Essential Fish Habitat Areas in the Study Area

Estuarine Areas (Caloosahatchee River Estuary and St. Lucie Estuary)	Estuarine Emergent Vegetation
	Estuarine shrub/scrub (mangrove)
	Seagrass
	Intertidal flats
	Estuarine Water Column
	Algae

Source: South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, 1998

In conformance with the 1996 amendment to the MSFCMA, the information provided in this EA will comprise the required EFH assessment. This EA will be coordinated with the NMFS Habitat Conservation Division and initiate consultation under the MSFCMA.

3.6 WATER QUALITY

Waters of Lake Okeechobee have been designated by the State of Florida as Class I Waters, suitable for potable water supplies, and Class III, recreation, propagation and maintenance of a health, well-balanced population of fish and wildlife

3.7 WATER SUPPLY

Lake Okeechobee supplies water for agricultural irrigation, municipalities, industry, Everglades National Park, regional groundwater control and for salinity control. The Caloosahatchee River (C-43) serves as a water supply for Lee County and the city of Ft. Myers.

3.8 HAZARDOUS, TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE

A preliminary assessment indicated no evidence of hazardous, toxic or radioactive waste (HTRW) affecting this action.

3.9 AIR QUALITY

No significant sources of air quality pollutants are located in the Lake Okeechobee and Waterway vicinity.