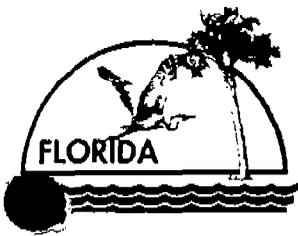


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LETTER REGARDING THE STATUS OF THREATENED SPECIES AT CONSTRUCTION
AREA OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS 6 AND 7 NS MAYPORT FL
6/28/1995
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Lawton Chiles
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

NAVSTA Mayport Administrative Record
Document Index Number

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Twin Towers Building
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Virginia B. Wetherell
Secretary

June 28, 1995

Ms. Cheryl Mitchell
Staff Civil Engineers Department
Naval Station
Mayport, FL 32228-0067

RE: Status of threatened species *Opuntia stricta* at construction area of SWMU 6 and 7,
NAVASTA Mayport

Dear Cheryl:

In response to your question regarding steps the Navy should take regarding stands of *Opuntia stricta* (prickly pear cactus) presently growing where construction is scheduled, I spoke to Don Wood, Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission. Mr. Wood indicated that *Opuntia* is a Florida-listed threatened species and the landowner can determine the proper manner of disposition. Naturally, I would hope that the Navy would choose to protect the plants to the greatest degree possible, including limiting the disturbance and relocation of some or all of the plants.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any additional questions or require further clarification, please contact me at (904) 488-3935.

Sincerely,

James H. Cason
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Jay Bassett, EPA Region IV, Atlanta
John Mitchell, FDEP Natural Resource Trustee

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