

RIVIERA DUNES  
MARINA, COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT  
Manatee County, Florida

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT**

This project involved the design of a 120-acre development and commercial center on the north shore of the Manatee River, east of US 41 in Manatee County, Florida. Scheda's scope of services included the planning of residential and commercial areas, permitting a 400-slip marina (which included justification of wetland impacts), wetland mitigation design, and maintenance and monitoring activities. Scheda's scientists performed wildlife surveys, habitat characterizations, wetland jurisdictional determinations, and wetland mitigation design (including grading and planting plans, details, and specifications). Scheda monitored and mapped adjacent seagrass communities and obtained special permits to perform underwater blasting activities to reconstruct the navigational channels.



The underwater blasting necessitated coordination with regulatory agencies to implement a Mammal Protection Plan (MPP). Scheda scientists coordinated and implemented the MPP including the helicopter observation, land-based observers, and coordination with the Florida Marine Patrol to halt boat traffic within the river during the blasting phase. In addition, Scheda scientists monitored the aquatic communities for detrimental impacts.

Unavoidable wetland impacts were mitigated by the creation of seagrass, salt marshes, mangrove shorelines, and several areas of shallow water habitat intended to recruit submerged aquatic vegetation. All of these areas were monitored and maintained by Scheda's professional staff and were deemed successful by FDEP and released ahead of the ERP schedule.

