

CUDJOE KEY QUARRY ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMITTING Monroe County, FL

Cudjoe Key Quarry—located near the intersection of US Highway 1 (far left in photo) and Blimp Road at about MM 21.5 on Cudjoe Key—was purchased by Cudjoe Enterprises, Inc. in 1994. The industrially zoned rock mining operation is surrounded by wetlands that are habitat to the endangered Silver Rice Rat.

SWC was responsible for renewing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permits. Work included negotiations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (F&W) and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) to design a new mitigation plan for the property.

This plan includes removal of a fill road on adjacent property that restored natural water circulation to hundreds of acres of wetlands; and restoration of a portion of the site to surrounding wetland elevations, creating additional Silver Rice Rat habitat. The FWCC and F&W issued coordination letters strongly supporting the mitigation plan, most of which is now implemented.

SWC supervised production of CAD engineering drawings defining new mitigation and existing and future rock mining area; prepared and processed all required permit applications; and acquired ACOE, DEP and County permits. The firm supervised survey of the mitigation areas and preparation and filing of a conservation easement, monitored mitigation work for permit compliance, and is supervised removal of invasive exotic vegetation.



In addition, SWC prepared and processed a Monroe County Vested Rights application for the property, and executed a development agreement with Monroe County and Florida Department of Community Affairs to address issues regarding pit closure that relate to all the Florida Keys rock mining industry.

