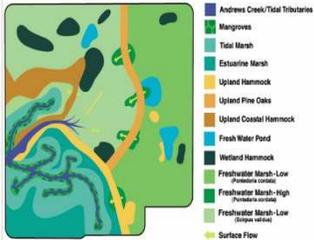


# MITIGATION BANKING

Services



**BIRKITT**  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES, INC.



Birkitt Environmental Services, Inc. (Birkitt) is a leader in developing mitigation banks throughout the state of Florida by using state of the art, innovative approaches to the permitting process. We can provide environmentally based solutions for landowners with revenue-producing uses for their land. Conservation easements, wetlands mitigation banks, protected wildlife species banks, and other conservation measures can be utilized to optimize revenue generation. Notably, Birkitt has designed and permitted a 7,000 acre site in north central Florida, the San Pedro Bay Mitigation Bank, and is now assisting in implementation and monitoring of the site. Additionally, Birkitt has experience as a bank developer of the Tampa Bay Mitigation Bank (TBMB), a 161 acre mitigation bank in Hillsborough County. Birkitt professionals provide a full range of mitigation bank services, including initial feasibility analysis including financial feasibility and preparation of a pro forma and prospective Return on Investment, design, permitting with federal, state and local agencies, construction oversight, permit compliance, and long-term monitoring and maintenance.

## **Key Mitigation Bank Services Include:**

### **Feasibility Study**

- Mitigation Service Area
- Technical Feasibility
- Permitting Feasibility
- Credit Assessment
- Costs to Develop
- Market Demand
- Credit Value
- *Pro Forma*, Including Projected Annual Return on Investment

### **Regulatory Coordination/Permitting**

- Pre-Application Prospectus and Coordination
- Mitigation Value-Maximizing Design
- Federal Interagency Review Team Coordination
- Mitigation Banking Instrument
- State and Federal Permits
- Local Government Approval

### **Construction Oversight**

- Selection and oversight of qualified contractors
- Adaptive management

### **Compliance, Monitoring and Sales**

- Permit Compliance
- Long-Term Management
- Credit Releases and Sales

*people and nature*

110 S. Edison Ave. Tampa, Florida 33606 813-259-1085 [www.birkitt.com](http://www.birkitt.com)

# MITIGATION BANKING

## Project Experience

### ***Tampa Bay Mitigation Bank***

Birkitt provided key environmental and permitting services for the development of the 161-acre Tampa Bay Mitigation Bank (TBMB). The Tampa Bay Estuary Program and SWFWMD's SWIM program identified the TBMB site as a key location for providing significant ecological and water quality benefits to Cockroach Bay and the Tampa Bay region. Estuarine forested and herbaceous habitats, freshwater wetlands, wetland hammock, and freshwater ponds as well as native upland habitat are being created, restored, enhanced and preserved. Hydrologic restoration of Andrews Creek is included. Birkitt also provided project management, construction oversight, marketing and credit sales services for the project including design of wetlands restoration and creation area, planting scheme, and coordination with federal and state regulatory agencies. Credit sales are on-going. ***The TBMB was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Future of the Region Award by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. The bank was also the recipient of the "Distinguished Project" award at the Annual Sun Coast Dinner and Awards Banquet.***

### ***San Pedro Bay Mitigation Bank Design & Permitting***

Birkitt was responsible for project management of a team that included hydrologists, geologists, archeologists, engineers, and biologists for this project. Services encompassed environmental assessments, wetland restoration design, and permitting negotiations for development of a 7000-acre mitigation bank in San Pedro Bay, Taylor County, Florida. Tasks included preparation of permit applications and negotiations with state and federal agencies using WRAP analysis for establishment of mitigation credits. Activities included modeling and design of wetland restoration plans, development of success criteria, monitoring of hydrologic and vegetative restoration components, and agency negotiations. Restoration design components include installation of ditch blocks and low water crossings for hydrologic restoration and removal of planted pines for vegetative restoration of the site. All permits have been issued, construction has been completed, and credits are being sold. Hydrological and vegetation monitoring is on-going.

### ***Osprey Unit Mitigation Bank***

Birkitt is providing environmental and mitigation bank consulting services for the proposed Osprey Unit Mitigation Bank (OUMB) located in Polk County, FL. The Bank site contains a mosaic of upland, forested wetland, and herbaceous wetland habitats, a natural lake and borrow lakes. OUMB is located within an area designated by the State as the Conservation Core district of the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern. The Bank is proposed to provide freshwater compensatory mitigation credits to both public and private entities within the proposed Oklawaha and Palatlahaha River Mitigation Service Area (MSA). Birkitt has developed a plan to both preserve and enhance approximately 225 acres of existing freshwater forested wetlands and 80 acres of existing freshwater herbaceous wetlands. In addition, 163 acres of borrow lakes will be enhanced as well as 42.6 herbaceous wetlands created, and 60.9 acres of upland pasture planted as native upland buffers. A revised prospectus has been prepared and submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and permitting with the Southwest Florida Water Management District is underway.

### ***Corbett Mitigation Bank***

Birkitt provided concept development, permit application preparation, and agency coordination for a unique mitigation bank proposed at the Corbett Wildlife Management Area (Corbett) in South Florida. The project was proposed as a public/private partnership for a mitigation bank involving large-scale (over 50,000 acres) preservation and enhancement via nuisance and exotic removal. The goal of the project was to provide environmental enhancement, transfer of ownership of access rights and mineral interests, and other benefits to the FWC. Birkitt provided preliminary pro forma data for bank development. Detailed vegetation monitoring, habitat assessment, and management plan development was completed throughout the WMA.

### ***Multiple Mitigation Bank Feasibility Studies, Confidential Clients – Florida***

Birkitt has performed multiple feasibility analyses for proposed mitigation banks in Florida including an assessment of permitting and technical constraints. Duties have included research of applicable state and federal regulations and analysis of mitigation bank market, potential service area, credit valuation and preparation of pro forma documents.