SEAGRASS LITERATURE SURVEY

by

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SUBJECT: Transmittal of Technical Report D-78-4

TO: All Report Recipients

1. The technical report transmitted herewith represents the results of one of the research efforts (work units) under Task 4E (Aquatic Habitat Development) of the Corps of Engineers' Dredged Material Research Program (DMRP). Task 4E is a part of the Habitat Development Project of the DMRP and is concerned with the development, testing, and evaluation of the environmental, economic, and engineering feasibility of using dredged material as a substrate for aquatic habitat development.

2. This work unit (4E01) represents the results of an investigation designed to develop an extensive bibliography on seagrasses. A thorough search of pertinent published and unpublished documents through mid-1977 was accomplished. Particular subject areas relating to seagrasses included anatomy, ecology, morphology, taxonomy, physiology, substrate selectivity, productivity, colonization, propagation, and tolerance to disturbance. A review of the literature, although apparently voluminous, reveals that the natural history of seagrasses is poorly understood.

3. Limitations of time and priority prevented thorough exploration of the aquatic habitat development alternative within the DMRP. Work Unit 4E01 is one of only two work units within Task 4E. The other work unit, 4E02, presents the results of a small-scale seagrass propagation study at Port St. Joe, Florida. This literature survey provided a necessary first step in the evolution of a new research area. The pilot field study established initial feasibility. These research items indicate that habitat development on submerged dredged material disposal sites is promising, but virtually untested.

JOHN L. CANNON
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Commander and Director
## SEAGRASS LITERATURE SURVEY

### ABSTRACT
An extensive review of the literature pertaining to seagrasses was accomplished through a search of published literature and unpublished documents up to mid 1977. Broad scientific subject areas that relate to seagrasses such as anatomy, ecology, morphology, taxonomy, and physiology were considered together with more specific factors such as substrate selectivity, water quality, productivity, colonization, effect of physical energy (waves, tidal (Continued))
20. Abstract (Continued).

currents, sediment transport), propagation, and tolerance to disturbance. The bibliography is divided into two main reference sections consisting of a bibliographic citations section and a keyword index section. Also, two supplementary reference sections consisting of an author index section and a source index section appear as appendices in microfiche form.