



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3299

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The proposed project will more than double the existing Nicodemus Slough project, utilizing approx. 17,000 acres to create more water storage and treatment in the Lake Okeechobee and Caloosahatchee basins. This will provide significant nutrient removal, reduce high nutrient level discharges to the Caloosahatchee River, and provide a clean source of water to supplement dry season flows to the Caloosahatchee River. The project is in permitting and will be ready for construction start in this FY.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	50,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	50,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	1,250,000	1705A	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?  Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

Operating agreements for these types of projects are typically negotiated as part of the contract for construction of the project. Other such agreements are currently funded thru state revenues.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

\$57,641- Payroll tax credits  
 \$1,900,657 loan- \$1,868,868 for labor; \$31,789 for qualified business expense

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning    
  Design    
  Construction    
  N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)? No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction? 06/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 12/31/2026

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

Lykes Bros. Inc. owns the property and is managing the PD & E for the project and will manage construction as well. It is the entity which has and will receive the state funding.

### 13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Labor and materials for construction of the project including any engineering consulting and construction management .	50,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>50,000,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

Two purposes will be served by the project, nutrient removal and water storage. By storing water and reducing nutrients, the project provides another, cleaner source of dry season releases to the Caloosahatchee to help maintain salinity balances in the downstream estuary. The capacity of the project will also significantly reduce the pressure to discharge nutrient laden water from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee River.



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**b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?**

Water will be pumped from Lake Okeechobee and stored in the impoundments in a series of cascading impoundments, and can be discharged back to Lake Okeechobee or released to the Caloosahatchee River,

**c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?**

The project will store and treat water which reduces nutrients, helps reduce the need for harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee, and provide a source of water in the dry season to help maintain proper balances in the Caloosahatchee River.

**d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?**

The human, fish, and wildlife populations in and around Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee River

**e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?**

Reduces nutrients which can produce harmful algae blooms known to have impacts on humans, fish, and wildlife. Storage amounts and nutrient reduction will vary based on rainfall and operational guidelines when the permit is issued, but both will be measured and monitored. Dry season releases will also be measured and monitored. From experience with other similar projects, there are wildlife benefits as well.

**f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?**

Non-payment for failure to meet deliverables.

**15. Requester Contact Information**

**a. First Name**  **Last Name**

**b. Organization**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**  **Ext.**

**16. Recipient Contact Information**

**a. Organization**

**b. Municipality and County**

**c. Organization Type**

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

**d. First Name**  **Last Name**



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e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

**17. Lobbyist Contact Information**

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

**Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.**

**18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?**

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify)
- N/A

**19. What is the population economic status?**

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

**20. What is the status of construction?**

**21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?**

**22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?**