



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2698

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

This project aims to restore over 1,000 acres of vulnerable mangrove and marsh wetlands in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Florida. Restoring hydrologic connectivity, promoting sportfish nursery habitats, and supporting Florida's thriving recreational fisheries, the project will enhance community resilience to sea level rise and storm events, protect critical coastal ecosystems, and bolster the local economy. Collaborating with key stakeholders, the project employs a nature-based, "green-gray" approach to address historical hydrological alterations, focusing on high-priority restoration sites, Shell Island Road and Marco Shores Lakes. Upon completion, the project will provide lasting benefits for coastal communities, essential fish species, and ecosystem health while complementing ongoing regional and state initiatives for climate adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and fisheries management.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>250,000</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)	250,000	33%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	500,000	67%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>750,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  Yes

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	250,000	1775B	No

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**  No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

None are applicable.



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

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

## 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)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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.

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	Mott MacDonald is an approved DEP contractor working within the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, where this project is located. McDonald was the contractor that successfully worked on phase 1 (planning) of this project.	250,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>250,000</b>

14. Program Performance

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



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Restoration of altered hydrology within the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is managed by DEP.

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

Design and permitting services will be completed during this phase of the hydrologic restoration project.

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

When construction is completed, citizens will benefit from restored hydrologic connectivity, which promotes sportfish nursery habitats and supports Florida's thriving recreational fisheries. The project will also enhance community resilience to sea level rise and storm events, protect critical coastal ecosystems, bolster the local economy, and provide end-point benefits to Everglades restoration work.

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

All residents and visitors to Southwest Florida will benefit from this project.

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

For this design and permitting phase, the expected outcome is a design that is permitted and shovel-ready. Measurement will occur with the finalized documents.

**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?**

Repayment of expended state funds if a final design is not completed.

**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