



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3541

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Planting of nursery grown native submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) using methods that have previously been used on SJRWMD SAV contracts in Lake Apopka.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	2,000,000

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)	2,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	2,000,000	100%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**
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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.



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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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

August 2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

June 2025

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
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Construction oversight and deliverables management/project and phase planning	300,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Aquaculture facility lease and maintenance	400,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Aquaculture and Installation of SAV plants along with observations and adjustments	1,300,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,000,000

14. Program Performance

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

Continuation of 2 previous successful plantings that created over 48 acres of native submerged aquatic vegetation in 2 permitted locations in Lake Apopka. This funding would plant an additional 141 acres in remaining permitted areas for SAV plantings.

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



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There has been over 10 years of documented studies, past projects, and funded projects showing success of restoration of essential fish habitat. State agencies have documented decline in SAV for decades .

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

High School and college students will assist with aquaculture activities. The general public relies on a healthy Florida SAV community for fisheries and for economic resources for tourism and job creation.

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

End users of Lake Apopka including fisherman, hikers, outdoor enthusiast, wildlife, tourist

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

Monitoring of restored areas will be published in accordance with permit requirements. All data will be documented and processed for review. Benefits will be measured by tracking annual production of SAV for 2 years.

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?

The Nursery and SAV will be inspected and certified by FDACS/WMD staff prior to planting, any plants that fail certification or inspection will not be used for planting and not available as a pay item.

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**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number



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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?