



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Little Wekiva River Headwaters Land Acquisition

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Randolph Bracy

3. **Date of Submission:** 01/22/2018

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Acquisition of the lands identified in the Wekiva Study Area as specified in s. 369.316, F.S., and the lands associated with the headwaters of the Little Wekiva River.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?  
Department of Environmental Protection

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
500,000	4,500,000	5,000,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	0	0.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 5,000,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

- Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)
- What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- Complete the following Worksheet.



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<b>FY:</b>	<b>Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18</b> (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
<b>Column:</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Funds Description:</b>	<b>Prior Year Recurring Funds *</b>	<b>Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *</b>	<b>Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)</b>
<b>Input Amounts:</b>			

### 10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

No

### 11. Program Performance:

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

To acquire a 60 acre parcel that is located at the headwaters of the Little Wekiva River. Of the 60 acres, approximately 10 acres is active wetlands necessary for aquifer recharge. This parcel is in immediate danger of being clear cut for development. The alteration of hydrology will affect parcels down river including those adjacent to the Little Wekiva River along Markham Woods Road in Lake Mary, Florida.

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

Once the 60 acres is purchased, the parcel will be turned into a nature park to educate low-income children in the surrounding neighborhoods about the necessity of wetlands, how they function, how they replenish the drinking water for the state, how they serve as habitat for many endangered and threatened species. Catwalks will be installed around the wetlands for viewing and peaceful reflection.

#### c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Paths and catwalk construction.	500,000



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Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Purchase 60 acres of conservation land	4,500,000
TOTAL		5,000,000

**d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

These wetland headwaters of the Little Wekiva and the Wekiva Rivers are critically important to maintaining the water quality of the Wekiva River and to recharging Wekiva Springs, the Wekiva aquifer, and springshed per scientific findings by state and local agencies. Direct services provided to citizens through the purchase of the Little Wekiva River headwaters include 1) the ability to improve and maintain the water quality of the critically important Little Wekiva River 2) ensuring the existence of one of the few last remaining green corridor habitats utilized by many species of Florida wildlife that people enjoy viewing, 3) protecting groundwater and aquifer recharge water that is critically important to Central Florida citizens, all of whom rely upon the Floridan Aquifer.

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

The target population includes residents in the Little Wekiva River Basin, the Wekiva Springshed, and the Wekiva Study Area which constitutes over 500,000 individuals and also includes several financially disadvantaged minority neighborhoods that will be served by this project. These minority neighborhoods will be severely negatively impacted if the Little Wekiva River Headwaters and its wetlands are not purchased and protected.

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

These Wekiva headwaters are a critically important component of the Wekiva River Basin and Springshed which provides groundwater to the Wekiva springshed and recharges Wekiva Springs and the Floridan aquifer in Central Florida. Per the state, these headwaters are a site where the aquifer recharge areas are most vulnerable and vulnerable. The expected benefit of this project is that the purchase of these Wekiva headwaters will ensure the continued provision of critically significant amounts of water that maintain the water quality of the federally and state protected Wekiva River. They are also sites that replenish Wekiva River groundwater supply and recharge the Floridan aquifer. The educational benefit to the children from low-income neighborhoods surrounding the parcel is immense. This nature park will provide the solace for children



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necessary to develop interaction with their community and see that they themselves are part of an interwoven ecosystem.

- g. 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 in the contract?**

Financials penalties for non-performance at 2% of the contract per day.

- 12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

Foundry Partners, LLC

- 13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. Name:** Dr. Wanda Jones
- b. Organization:** Save the Wekiva River and Headwaters, Inc.
- c. Email:** sciencetutor18@gmail.com
- d. Phone Number:** (407)727-5264

- 14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. Organization:** Save the Wekiva River and Headwaters, Inc.
- b. County:** Orange
- c. Organization Type:**
  - ☐ For Profit
  - ☒ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
  - ☐ Local Entity
  - ☐ University or College
  - ☐ Other (Please specify)
- d. Contact Name:** Dr. Wanda Jones
- e. E-mail Address:** sciencetutor18@gmail.com
- f. Phone Number:** (407)727-5264

- 15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.**

- a. Name:** None
- b. Firm:** None
- c. Email:**
- d. Phone Number:**

- 16. Have you applied for alternative state funding?**

- ☐ Wastewater Revolving Loan
- ☐ Drinking Water Revolving Loan



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☐ Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant

☐ Other (Please describe)

☒ N/A

### 17. 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

### 18. What is the status of construction?

Has not been started.

### 19. What percentage of construction has been completed?

0%

### 20. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

Would take approximately one year to design and build.