



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2068

1. **Title of Project:** Caloosahatchee River Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Kathleen Passidomo

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/26/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The objective of this project is to create 50 acres of tape grass meadows within the Caloosahatchee River that will filter both nutrients and algae from reaching downstream waters as well as providing critically important habitat for fisheries production.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

State Agency Contacted? No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	784,533
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,830,580
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,615,113</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,615,113	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>2,615,113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2017-18		1,000,000	1606A	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 3000000

10. **Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		



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Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Administration	130,755
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Environmental monitoring, permitting, engineering, and reporting	653,778
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Planting nursery-grown seagrass, protecting seagrass, maintaining seagrass, and installing educational markers.	1,830,580
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,615,113</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

This project will create 50 acres of critically important submerged vegetation meadows in the Caloosahatchee River. The benefits of submerged vegetation meadows have been extensively researched for their importance in recreationally and commercially important fisheries production, providing critically important habitat, reducing toxic algae blooms, stabilizing sediments, absorbing nutrients, and coastal resiliency.

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

The funds will be spent on project management, cultivation and installation of 275,000 nursery-cultivated aquatic plants, protect plants with 20 aids to navigation and 1,100 herbivory exclusion cages, maintenance of the herbivory exclusion cages and plants, reporting, and scientific review.

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

N/A

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

Residents and visitors of Lee County

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

Both the local and state economy will benefit from this project. This project will have direct positive impacts to the seafood industry, eco-tourism industry, recreational boating industry, real estate industry, and the tourism industry as each of these industries are dependent on healthy habitats and clean water. The benefits of this project will be reviewed by independent scientist that will monitor changes in water quality, fisheries production, and plant expansion. Annual monitoring reports will be generated for three years documenting the success of the goals of this project.

**f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard**



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#### **penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?**

If deliverables are not achieved in full monies allocated to the project should be withheld.

#### **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.**

N/A

#### **13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Brett Fitzgerald
- b. **Organization:** Angler Action Foundation
- c. **E-mail Address:** brett@angleraction.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)707-8923

#### **14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Angler Action Foundation
- b. **County:** Lee
- 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:** Brett Fitzgerald
- e. **E-mail Address:** brett@angleraction.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (561)707-8923

#### **15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Pepper Uchino
- b. **Firm Name:** Anfield Consulting
- c. **E-mail Address:** pepper@anfieldflorida.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)727-9040