



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1125

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

4. **Project/Program Description**

To create a sustainable fresh and saltwater Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Nursery and implement regional specific plantings along with creation of SAV habitat restoration grow plots in critical areas of need (NW Florida Panhandle, Springs, Caloosahatchee River Basin, And the Indian River Lagoon, Biscayne Bay and The Florida Keys). Projected 100 acres of plants grown and planted annually within critical areas of need. The program includes public-private partnerships consisting of Universities, Corporations, and 501c3 organizations.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?     Yes     No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="5,000,000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="5000000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>100</b> %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**     Yes     No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>			

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

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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**10. 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	Construction oversight and deliverables management/project and phase planning	100,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Field staff for aquaculture facility and center maintenace	300,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Admin Expenses and site inspections	100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Aquaculture facility lease and maintenance	200,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Internships, data collection, and quality control, planted SAV maintenance and monitoring	400,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	SAV, exclusion cages, signage, education	2,000,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Installation of SAV, Exclusion cages, signage, permitting	1,900,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>5,000,000</b>



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## 11. Program Performance

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

The objective of this project is to create an aquaculture facility that can sustain annual plantings to restore critical nursery habitat and replace lost valuable natural resources. The project will also uptake nutrients and outcompete algae for nutrients.

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

Fresh and saltwater nursery grown SAV will be contract grown for restoration activities within Springs, Caloosahatchee River and Indian River Lagoon. These areas have been damaged and lost critical habitat. Small scale projects have shown success over the past 10 years in these areas. over 60 acres of plants will be planted and monitored overall.

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

The loss of statewide SAV has shown increased algae blooms and fish kills contributing to billions in lost revenue. FDEP estimates the economic value of 1 acre of seagrass to be \$20,500 per year. Local citizens will benefit from increased tourism, essential fish habitat, fish production, nutrient absorption and ecotourism.

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

The project will span and cover 3 critical areas of the state. The target population would be statewide and include tourists, given these figures it would be an estimate between 21,000,000 Floridians, and over 118,000,000 tourists.

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

The outcome of this project is to produce an ongoing aquaculture facility and nursery planting area within critical areas of the state by planting 100 acres of seagrass annually. The 100 acres of SAV usually support up to 1,800,000 fish and up to 2.6 billion small invertebrates. The improvements will be quantified by independent scientists using state approved methods.

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 in the contract?

The nursery and SAV will be inspected and certified by FDACS staff, any plants that fail certification or inspection will not be used for planting and not considered for payment.



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12. **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.**

None

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name  Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.

14. **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

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.



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

16. **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

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?**

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

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

***The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.***