



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1954

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Funding from the State is twofold. It would allow Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center to (1) better understand impacts of harmful algal blooms, disease, and foraging location on marine wildlife across the Western Atlantic (2) increase number of cleanups, further analyze pounds of trash removed, and evaluate the impacts of plastic debris and contaminants on wildlife. Activities and services of the first project will be (1) document biotoxins in tissues of green sea turtles in Florida (2) document disease prevalence in loggerhead turtles across Florida, and (3) compare disease prevalence, health, and migration patterns of loggerheads and leatherbacks nesting in Florida. The major goals of the second project are to (1) conduct beach cleanups, (2) conduct underwater cleanups of piers in Florida, and (3) trash & marine debris collecting, sorting, and analysis.

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

**State Agency contacted?**  No

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	249,779
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>249,779</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	249,779	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</b>	<b>249,779</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20	0	249,779		No

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

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

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

Foundation grants and contributions from individual donors.



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

Yes

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

Yes, a PPP loan in the amount of \$513,900.00.

**11. 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	Salaries and benefits are included for the Director of Research and the Conservation Manager, the leads on these projects. A total of 20% FTE for the Director of Research and 30% FTE for the Conservation Manager are requested.	36,657
Other Salary and Benefits	Salary and benefits for other full-time staff (Senior Manager of Research and Data) that will be assisting with these projects are included. 20% FTE is requested for the Senior Manager of Research and Data and the Conservation Field Assistant.	27,868
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Subcontracts for associated collaborators at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute-Florida Atlantic University are included.	3,849
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Costs associated with these projects include underwater/beach cleanup/pollution prevention/other field sampling supplies, contaminant and biotoxin analysis, disease analyses, health analyses, publication fees, expendables, shipping costs, etc. Large equipment is also included here (ATVs, satellite tags, GPS units, dive compressor, plasticizers, computer, signage, and chemical imaging system). Indirect costs of 5-10% are also included here.	181,405
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<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>249,779</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

The specific purpose for these requested funds is to improve upon the health and cleanliness of Florida's beaches and waterways through rigorous beach and underwater cleanups and evaluation of the health of Florida's charismatic wildlife in regards to plastic pollution, harmful algal blooms, disease, and foraging location.

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

The activities and services to be provided are (1) expanding science-based nationally recognized debris removal and sorting to better identify up stream sources and ultimately reducing debris in and around Florida's coastal ecosystems, (2) keeping critical tourism beaches cleaner, (3) keeping critical sea turtle nesting beaches cleaner, (4) engaging corporations, school children, policy makers, and influencers to engage in keeping Florida's beaches cleaner, and (5) leverage Florida's wildlife to serve as indicators of ocean health to better understand the impacts of plastic pollution, Florida's algal blooms, disease, and foraging location on wildlife and ecosystems.

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



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This project will not only help to keep Florida beaches clear of trash and debris, but aims to create innovative long-term solutions to ocean pollution in order to help keep Florida reefs, beaches, and wildlife healthy for generations to come. The resulting data from the wildlife health research projects can be used to improve management decisions and support protection measures in Florida's coastal areas, as healthy wildlife species are direct indicators of coastal and ocean health. These projects will aid in boosting the community by increasing or maintaining tourism in the state of Florida.

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

The target population served by this project are coastal communities, residents, tourists, and wildlife in the state of Florida. By keeping the beaches and the coastal environment clean, tourism will continue to thrive in Florida and locals and tourists alike will be able to enjoy pristine beaches and reefs long into the future. These projects will benefit thousands of local residents, tourists, and beach-goers.

**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 direct removal of fishing line and other trash from the marine environment and the development of long-term pollution prevention initiatives to prevent debris from entering the ocean and potentially harming marine life. Through these results, we will seize the opportunities to educate the public regarding the impacts of plastic pollution, contaminants, harmful algal bloom toxins, and disease on sea turtle health through tangible displays, media contacts, and scientific communication/publication. Measures of the realized value include improvements in ecosystem and species protection and management policies, as well as shifts in scientific and public thinking brought about by these results. The outcome will be measured by pounds of debris removed from the marine environment monthly or yearly by this project, miles of fishing line removed during underwater cleanups, the number of beach cleanups held yearly, and peer-reviewed scientific publications.

**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?**

Penalties will include repayment of funds.

**13. 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.**

No



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#### 14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 15. 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

#### 16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number