



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1703

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Tsala Apopka chain-of-lake is the largest freshwater system in Citrus County. It covers approximately 22,000 acres and includes 15 lakes. The primary goal is to reduce floating tussocks and remove bottom sediment (along with nitrogen and phosphorus) that has increased since the addition of flow controls on each of the three pools (Hernando, Inverness, and Floral City). This is the beginning of a 15 year plan to restore all 15 lakes in the chain. The end result will improve fisheries habitat and improve access for recreational users.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	4,248,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	4,248,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	4,248,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	2,000	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	4,250,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

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.

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

No



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

11. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Project administration/accounting/public information to be administered by TOO FAR Water and Natural Resources Foundation. Permit fees payable to the FL Dept of Environmental Protection and The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.	500,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contractor providing sediment and harvesting services.	3,748,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,248,000

12. Program Performance

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

A diagnostic survey conducted in 2008, commissioned by the FWC, revealed that the chain-of-lakes suffered from increased sediment and excess vegetation. The survey recommended removal of approximately 21 million cubic yards of muck and tussocks from the 15 lakes which would effectively increase their water storage capacity by approximately 4 billion gallons. Removal of excess could improve filtration to the aquifer. This project will improve fisheries and increase recreational usage.

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

Use of a harvester and track hoe to remove excess vegetation and sediment.

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

The tourism industry is one of the largest economic drivers in this region. If the lake continue to suffer from increased sediment and tussocks, this could potentially cause a collapse of the local economy. Improvements proposed by this project will help to improve and maintain conditions for which residents and regional, national, and international visitors have come to expect.

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

Citrus county, specifically Inverness, Hernando, and Floral City will be the main benefactors of the positive economic impact of the local tourism industry. This project is expected to create some local short term jobs and advantages for the local community as workers will require work supplies, lodging, food, and entertainment. The impact will also be state wide as the area is often visited by state, national and international tourists who plan a multitude of tourism activities while visiting Citrus County.

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



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An unobstructed waterway for increased recreation.
Increased ability to store water during dry seasons (approx. 4,000,000 gals.)
Removal of floating tussocks
Removal of muck to sand bottom
Removal of dead trees
Removal of nitrogen and phosphorus contained in the sediment

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?

Loss of funding

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.

TOO FAR Water and Natural Resource Foundation, Inc.



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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



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Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

17. 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

18. 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

19. What is the status of construction?

0%

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/16/2036