



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1956

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Funding to plant a minimum of 10 million native Florida hard clams (*mercenaria campacheinsis*) and additionally perform husbandry for 3 years with annual survivability accounting. When the clam bed has matured to self-sustainability after 3 years, all netting and foreign materials will be removed. Benefits are restoration of native clams which will filter 5 gallons per day of nutrient from seawater thus promoting sea-grass growth. Additionally, they will provide coastal stabilization and a juvenile marine nursery. Also, it will provide much needed jobs for financially distressed local clam farmers due to red tide. It is also a tool for red tide and other nuisance algae mitigation. Farmers to be paid on a contract basis after completion and inspection of work. Funding will also supply much needed work to local clam farmers who have dropped to less than 20% usage of existing State submerged lease sites mostly due to red tide closures for harvesting.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,070,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,070,000</b>

**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)	1,070,000	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 2022-2023</b>	<b>1,070,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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



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No

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	FWC contracted services for project oversight.	70,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	clam seed from hatchery, nursery, netting, supplies, direct boat expense, inspections	600,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	contracted farmer labor	400,000
<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>1,070,000</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

The restorative planting of native Florida clams that have been depleted by over-fishing in the 20th century, will be a tool to reduce the overabundance of nutrient in the water thereby enhancing marine life and mitigating nuisance algae. Also, expanding the number of farmers and use of existing commercial State leases is a goal.

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

Local clam farmers will plant and maintain native clam bed until maturity.

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

Nuisance algae will be reduced providing a cleaner and more health body of water.

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

All residents that use the Charlotte Harbor estuary for recreation or commercial reasons.

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

A reduction in nuisance algae and a growth in farmers and use of commercial clam leases. Survivability and re-population growth to be evaluated annually along with commercial plantings and harvest.

**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?**

Subcontracted farmers will be paid a prescribed amount upon successful completion of various tasks.



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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.

The Farmer Members of the SW FLORIDA SHELLFISH ASSOCIATION



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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) State Government

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