



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1992

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

4. Project/Program Description

Our goal is to restore the critical Homosassa spring shed habitat and Outstanding Waterway by removing filamentous algae and decaying benthic detrital material, then replanting Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV). The project will increase water clarity, oxygen levels, and habitat for fish and other wildlife, including the manatee.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds State Agency contacted?

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

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

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)	4,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	4,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	3,500,000	1635A	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? 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?

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



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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 outreach/education to be administered by HRRP. Oversight of the project as it relates to the DEP contract requirements. Public outreach/education aimed at directing information about the project to the media, local government, state agencies, citizens, schools and other stakeholders	100,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Contractor providing vacuum removal of detrital material, planting SAV, install cages as needed, provide monitoring and maintenance services for one year post cleaning/planting. A separate contractor providing an independent biological survey to confirm that the vacuum cleaning is acceptable for plant survival as well as confirm or deny project success through fish & micro invertebrates, SAV & water quality comparison unrestored versus restored areas	3,900,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,000,000

12. Program Performance

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

Homosassa River is a first magnitude spring and designated Outstanding Florida Waterway which is identified as a priority waterbody by SWIM. It is listed as impaired for nutrients & filamentous algae by FDEP & USEPA. The goal is to restore water quality through removal of algal detrital material and planting SAV

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

Contractor will provide vacuum removal of algal detrital material, planting SAV, install cages as needed to protect SAV, then monitor and maintain restored areas for one year post cleaning & planting

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

Improvements proposed by this project to improve water quality via the restoration process will improve as well as maintain conditions for tourism in this area, which is one of the largest economic drivers in the region.

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

The serves to maintain and improve recreation and tourism, which supports local citizens of Homosassa, Citrus County, and the State of Florida at large as this would have a tremendous impact on the fishing industry, hotels, restaurants, boating, providing an economic impact as well as overall optimal environmental experience

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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Water clarity >20ft river wide and >60ft at the Springs
Coverage of SAV >70%
Coverage of invasive aquatic vegetation including filamentous algae <10%

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.

NA



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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?

In progress

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

35%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

01/01/2024