



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1896

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

4. Project/Program Description

This is requesting a match of State Funds for funds we have generated from local public sector donations to complete our second (#2) property acquisition for the Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative. We are acquiring property to protect, restore and conserve water resources in the watersheds of the Loxahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers. Our mission is to acquire those land parcels that are recognized as important but not prioritized by other government agencies, due to time horizons, costs or size. The acquired parcels will be utilized for a combination of public use for recreation, education, hydrologic restoration, and native species preservation.

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

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	450,000
Total State Funds Requested	450,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	450,000	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 2023-2024	450,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

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?



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

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

At or prior to closing.

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

Upon closing>

12. List 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 Conservation Fund is designated custodial agent for acquired property, which is currently under contract and must be closed by December 2023. The Loxa-Lucie Headwaters works with the Conservation Fund and the Guardians of Martin County [all 501(c)3] to identify properties, secure donations, develop restoration plans, identify public use, and eventually turn the properties obtained to state or local agencies. (The Loxa-Lucie Headwaters is part of the Treasured Lands Foundation, Inc.)

13. 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		0
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	Our local benefactors have donated funds for this acquisition. State matching funds will be applied to close the acquisition of parcel #2, which is our second acquisition.	450,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		450,000

14. Program Performance

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



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This parcel is in the eastern opportunity area of the Florida Wildlife Corridor, a potential contributory area to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), and in the water shed area of the Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem. The Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem contributes to the southern Indian River Lagoon Estuary System. This parcel is strategically located adjacent to parcel #1, a 138 acre parcel we acquired outright in 2021. This parcel would be valued for a conservation connection and trail-way between Atlantic Ridge and Jonathan Dickinson State Parks.

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

Acquisition and restoration of this parcel will contribute to conservation, restoration and connectivity of hydrological and natural systems.

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

Recreational, educational and tourism.

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

The adjacent cities of Port Salerno, Hobe Sound, Stuart and Tequesta, as well as Martin County unincorporated areas have a population of approximately 50,500. It is anticipated that this representative residential population would be most likely to use the recreational and educational opportunities. However, as our acquisition and projects expand tourism would add to potential users.

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

Conservation lands such as this parcel reap multiple benefits. Recreational opportunities also provide benefits to tourism; resulting in economic benefit to the local communities. Restoration of the natural hydrology improves water quality, enhances water flow and retention; reducing negative impacts of water borne pollutants and toxins, resulting in health benefits. Maintaining a healthy open space will also have a positive affect on climate change initiatives and provide habitat for native species.

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?

We have already raised \$450,000. We have a contract requiring us to close on this parcel by December 2023. We do not see any likelihood of a penalty, with a matching fund we would be able to close prior to this date.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. 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)



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- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number