



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2505

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Weedon Island Salt Marsh Habitat Restoration Project is a pilot project of the enhancement of 42 acres of mosquito ditches. The Project involves spoil mound removal, nuisance vegetative species removal and de-silting, dredging or filling of ditches for hydrology/water quality improvements. The Project will create 5.8 acres of new mangrove wetland habitat that will promote recruitment and growth of black mangroves, enhance hydrology, and provide foraging habitat and refugia for fish, wading birds, and small prey species.

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	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	34%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	500,000	33%
Other	500,000	33%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,500,000	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.

Eligible programs, services, and projects

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

August 2023

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

August 2024

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.

Pinellas County Government

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	The county construction division will be providing all support during the construction phase of the project.	440,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	The consultant will be providing bid assistance, construction support and as-builts.	60,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Restoration of 42 acres of mosquito ditches through the mechanical removal of spoil mounds and hydrology improvements including dredging or de-silting of impounded ditches in areas of stagnant water and to facilitate sheet flow of tidal waters. The project will create 5.8 acres of new mangrove wetland habitat that will promote recruitment and growth of new mangrove wetland habitat that will promote recruitment and growth of black mangroves. De-silting ditches with excess sediment will contribute to the hydrological enhancements of the project and will affect 3.0 acres of existing ditches. The restoration of tidal sheet flow and removal of spoil mounds will enhance existing and create additional black mangrove habitat, and provide foraging habitat and refugia for fish, wading birds, and small prey species.

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

Mechanical removal of spoil mounds, dredging, filling and de-silting of selected mosquito ditches, clearing and grubbing of vegetation and replanting of native species on selected areas throughout the restoration site.

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

The public will be updated on the progress of the project throughout process.

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

The general population

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

This pilot project is expected to create 5.8 acres of new mangrove wetland habitat. Removal of the spoil mounds is expected to help eliminate nuisance vegetative species and provide habitat for native species. Vegetation transects will be established throughout the site. If successful, remaining 24 spoil mound units (~1000 acres) of the Preserve will be restored using this same method.

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?

Return of State Funds

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)
- Local Entity



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- 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

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify) SWFWMD Grant
- N/A

19. 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

20. What is the status of construction?

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?



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08/30/2024