



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1143

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI) is a multi-agency partnership formed in 2000 with the single purpose of seeking out funding assistance for projects that would improve and protect the natural resources within the first federally designated Wild and Scenic River in the State of Florida. LRPI focuses on stormwater discharge and hydrologic improvements, along with septic to sewer conversions and habitat restoration projects designed to improve and protect the natural resources within the watershed. Revitalizing this important water body provides long-term environmental, recreational and economic benefits to the region. Each State dollar is matched at the local level on a minimum 50:50 cost share basis, with over \$46 million in State funds having been effectively utilized for watershed restoration projects since its inception.

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

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	75,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	283,500
Total State Funds Requested	358,500

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	358,500	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	358,500	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	717,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:**

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	985,255	2500	No

9. **Is future-year 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.**
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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

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

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

By 7/1/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2027

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

County and municipal funding

11. 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.

As a partner of the LRP Initiative, Palm Beach County serves as the requester, and FDEP receives the funds. Owners to receive appropriations if awarded by way of this request include the Town of Jupiter, Palm Beach County and the South Indian River Water Control District.

12. 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		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Easement mapping	75,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction costs for capital projects including habitat restoration and storm water system improvements.	283,500
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		358,500

13. Program Performance

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



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Funds requested will support capital construction efforts designed to improve water and habitat quality within the Loxahatchee River and its watershed. Agency partners of LRPI Initiative, consisting of local government and water control representatives, as well as representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District, ranked the proposed projects based on priority need and beneficial impacts to the river.

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

Projects include storm water system improvements to reduce runoff and sediment loading into the Loxahatchee River and its tributaries, as well as fire management for habitat restoration. Funds will be utilized primarily for capital costs associated with the various projects, with a small percentage utilized to contract consulting and engineering services to support the mapping efforts.

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

Direct and secondary improvements to water quality, habitat quality and sediment quality within the watershed and surrounding urban environment.

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

The target population served by this effort and associated projects includes the residents and numerous visitors of both Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

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

Benefits will include the reduction of nutrient and sediment loading into the Loxahatchee River and its tributaries, along with fire management for the existing natural systems within the watershed. Methodologies to measure expected benefits of these efforts include water quality and biological monitoring.

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 in the contract?

None. LRPI has a years-long, documented track record of success related to performance measures and deliverables associated with funds appropriated to support these efforts. Through this program's minimum 50:50 match commitment from participants, over \$46 million in State funds and local funds have been dedicated to restoring the river.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply



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a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.

17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?

- Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- Resilient Florida Grant Program
- Wastewater Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- 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?



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Ready

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0%

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2027

22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

23. 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 **Ext.**

24. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.