



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1332

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

4. Project/Program Description

Sykes Creek Phase 2 comprises about 90 of the 120 acres of muck smothering submerged land adjacent to the Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary. Phase 1 successfully removed approximately 76,500 of over 500,000 cubic yards of muck in the area. Phase 2 environmental dredging will reduce the annual nitrogen flux by roughly 29,000 pounds & phosphorus flux by approximately 1,500 pounds. FY25-26 Appropriations would be used to environmentally dredge roughly 50,000 cubic yards of organic muck from Sykes Creek in the Banana River. This will increase oxygen, reduce algae blooms, fish kills and the accumulation of toxic hydrogen sulfide, as well as help to preserve healthy, adjacent sediments that provide habitat for marine life and promote ecosystem services like coupled nitrification-denitrification to mitigate excess nitrogen.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,324,000
Total State Funds Requested	4,324,000

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)	4,324,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	4,324,000	50%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	8,648,000	100%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	4,324,002	0478	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

In lieu of Legislative Appropriations, the Brevard County Save Our Indian River Lagoon funds would be used to leverage FDEP water quality grants.



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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?

04/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

04/01/2032

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

The Brevard County Save Our Indian River Lagoon funds would be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project, leverage FDEP water quality grants, and fund upland projects to reduce the sources of new muck to reduce maintenance costs.

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.

N/A - Does not pertain to environmental demucking of state submerged lands.

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		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction and construction oversight. Data collection and permitting are complete. Land has been purchased for a Dredge Material Management Area and site preparation is nearly complete. Phase 2 construction is anticipated to begin in April 2025 and anticipated to take up to 7 years, however only 50% match for 1 year of work is requested in this application.	4,324,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		4,324,000

13. Program Performance

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



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This project will help remove accumulations of decaying muck from the Sykes Creek area of the Indian River Lagoon, building upon successful environmental dredging of 76,500 cubic yards during Phase 1. The entire project area has over 500,000 cubic yards of decaying muck, and Phase 2 targets a project area of approximately 90 acres of submerged land adjacent to the Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary. The requested FY 25-26 funds would be used to dredge roughly 50,000 cubic yards of muck, reducing the annual flux by approximately 5,500 lbs/yr of nitrogen & roughly 300 lbs/yr of phosphorus. This will improve overall water quality, increase dissolved oxygen levels, mitigate harmful algal blooms, prevent fish kills, and reduce the accumulation of toxic hydrogen sulfide. The project will protect adjacent sediments that provide critical habitat for marine life & and promote ecosystem services to mitigate excess nitrogen pollution.

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

Environmental dredging of muck and dewatering of the dredged slurry. The solids may be used as a soil amendment on agricultural lands distant from the Indian River Lagoon.

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

Restoration of healthy sediments for seagrass, marine habitat and to promote ecosystem services like coupled nitrification-denitrification; reduced turbidity, total suspended solids, nutrient release, sulfuric acid and sediment oxygen demand; improved water clarity, water quality, light penetration, and dissolved oxygen levels; decreased potential and severity for algal blooms and fish kills.

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

The entire population of Brevard County (~660,000), plus tourists engaging in lagoon-dependent activities, as well as local and state economic sectors tied to the health of the Indian River Lagoon.

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

The expected benefit of this project is the reduction of nutrient input, turbidity, and total suspended solids from muck in the Indian River Lagoon as well as preventing the degrading of nearby healthy, sandy sediments. Muck area, volume and associated nutrient content removed from the lagoon will be measured in acres, cubic yards and tons. Dredging the entire Phase 2 project area is estimated to reduce annual nitrogen and phosphorous flux by approximately 29,000 pounds and approximately 1,500 pounds, respectively. Removal of the muck solids will remove about 1,900,000 pounds of nitrogen. Water quality improvements (nutrient concentrations, water clarity, turbidity, total suspended solids, light penetration, dissolved oxygen, and bloom levels) will be recorded using pre- and post-project monitoring data from stations located near the project and operated by SJRWMD or Florida Tech.

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?

Past performance should be taken into account by bill sponsors. Brevard County continues to meet its deliverables, however there could be a penalty of non-payment until contractual obligations are met.

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



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

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



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Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)

N/A

19. What is the status of construction?

Dredging permits acquired; DMMA land purchased with site preparation underway.

20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

~5% of Phase II

21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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



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d. Phone Number

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