



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3384

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project by the Treasure Coast Wildlife Center will help complete a new Nature Center and begin renovations of an existing building for interactive education. Previously damaged by tornadoes during Hurricane Milton, the funding will help close the fiscal gap and enable the completion of the construction and renovation of our Education Center. Once finished, the facility will open to the public, offering a diverse range of educational programs and interactive exhibits. These programs will be designed to engage children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities, ensuring broad accessibility and impactful learning opportunities.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	200,000
Total State Funds Requested	200,000

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)	200,000	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 2025-2026	200,000	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		

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?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

05/01/2026

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

Community and local support as well as private partnership support.

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.

Treasure Coast Wildlife Hospital Inc., a 501(c)(3)

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	Professional and construction costs relating to the landscaping, associated renovation of existing infrastructure, & buildings for the Treasure Coast Wildlife Education Center. These costs will also include costs for interactive educational & technology elements and furniture, fixtures & equipment for the TCW Education Center.	200,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		200,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The Education Center will be a dynamic educational facility offering interactive experiences aimed at deepening the understanding of native Florida wildlife. Its purpose is to engage and inspire individuals to take an active role in conserving our vital natural resources. Serving as the central hub for learning, the Center will provide residents and visitors with comprehensive education about the local flora and fauna.

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

The Treasure Coast Wildlife Center will provide valuable benefits to the local community by offering public access to the Education Center during operational hours, including weekends. Visitors will have the opportunity to engage with a wealth of information on native inland wildlife species and environmental conservation, fostering a deeper understanding of the region's natural resources.

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

The Treasure Coast Wildlife Center will host organized events, festivals, workshops, and presentations that showcase cultural celebrations and traditions, incorporating environmental themes. It will also partner with local institutions to create joint exhibits to explore the interplay of culture and environment, with local institutions to create joint exhibits to explore the interplay of culture and environment.

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

The residents of the Treasure Coast, all of Florida and all visitors to Florida.

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

The benefit will be greater education to the public at large, but namely preschool students, grade school students, high school students, and university students. The success will be measured by the quality of events hosted at the new Education Center.

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?

Returning the funds to the State of Florida.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?

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):

Hurricane Milton

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

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

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



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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):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

18. 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.**

19. Lobbyist Contact Information



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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.