



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3413

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funding to implement a statewide "coastal corridor" program to construct artificial reefs and other marine habitat support structures to improve Florida's offshore fisheries.

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	730,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	25,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	25,730,000

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)	25,730,000	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	25,730,000	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.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction



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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?

1.31.26

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

TBD

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

Portion of operating costs included within FWC's annual budget. Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida will fund its portion of ongoing operations via private donations and other funds.

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.

Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida

12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project manager	95,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Three staff members	322,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses, equipment, and supplies	313,000
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	Permanently connect, protect and restore the Florida Coastal Corridor through conservation efforts.	25,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		25,730,000

13. Program Performance

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

Creation of a statewide network of marine fish habitat support structures to improve coastal waters and boost Florida's fishing and diving economy.

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

In partnership with the FWC, identifying and prioritizing artificial reef sites (many of which are already permitted), identifying the most appropriate technologies, and working with vendors to create and install these structures.

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



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This program supports Florida's \$14 billion/year fishing and diving economy and will provide much-needed habitat while our coral reefs and other natural marine ecosystems are being restored over coming decades.

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

Divers and anglers are directly served. This will boost local coastal economies and will help ensure Florida remains widely recognized as the fishing and boating capital of the world.

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

Success will be measured by the number of habitat support structures that are created around the state and the consequent increase in marine species abundance and economic activity.

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 are being considered beyond withholding payment for inadequate performance by vendors.

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):

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#:

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



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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

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.