

By the Committee on Environmental Protection and
Representatives Dockery, Putnam, Constantine and Alexander

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to land management costs;
3 amending s. 259.032, F.S., relating to the
4 Conservation and Recreation Lands Program;
5 providing additional requirements for land
6 management plans; modifying categories of land
7 management needs; requiring land management
8 agencies to demonstrate contributions to
9 performance measures; creating s. 259.037,
10 F.S.; creating the Land Management Uniform
11 Accounting Council; providing membership;
12 providing duties and responsibilities relating
13 to review and categorization of land management
14 activities, needs, and costs; providing for
15 accounting procedures; requiring reports;
16 providing an effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19

20 Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (10) and
21 paragraph (c) of subsection (11) of section 259.032, Florida
22 Statutes, are amended to read:

23 259.032 Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund;
24 purpose.--

25 (10)

26 (e) Individual management plans shall conform to the
27 appropriate policies and guidelines of the state land
28 management plan and shall include, but not be limited to:

29 1. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were
30 acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in s. 253.034,
31 and the statutory authority for such use or uses.

1 2. Key management activities necessary to preserve and
2 protect natural resources and restore habitat, and for
3 controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, and
4 for prescribed fire and other appropriate resource management
5 activities.

6 3. A specific description of how the managing agency
7 plans to identify, locate, protect, and preserve, or otherwise
8 use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.

9 4. A priority schedule for conducting management
10 activities, based on the purposes for which the lands were
11 acquired and on the categories adopted by the Land Management
12 Uniform Accounting Council pursuant to s. 259.037.

13 5. A cost estimate for conducting priority management
14 activities, to include recommendations for cost-effective
15 methods of accomplishing those activities, based on the
16 categories adopted by the Land Management Uniform Accounting
17 Council pursuant to s. 259.037.

18 6. A cost estimate for conducting other management
19 activities which would enhance the natural resource value or
20 public recreation value for which the lands were acquired,
21 based on the categories adopted by the Land Management Uniform
22 Accounting Council pursuant to s. 259.037. The cost estimate
23 shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of
24 accomplishing those activities.

25 7. A determination of the public uses and public
26 access that would be consistent with the purposes for which
27 the lands were acquired.

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29 By July 1 of each year, each governmental agency, including
30 the water management districts, and each private entity
31 designated to manage lands shall report to the Secretary of

1 Environmental Protection on the progress of funding, staffing,
2 and resource management of every project for which the agency
3 or entity is responsible.

4 (11)

5 (c) Due to limited resources for management of
6 state-owned lands and the possible deterioration to the
7 natural resource values and capital investments on state lands
8 through inadequate management of lands,in requesting funds
9 provided for in paragraph (b), state agencies shall prioritize
10 for immediate, intermediate, and long-term management of all
11 acquisitions pursuant to this chapter and for associated
12 contractual services. When prioritizing management
13 activities, agencies shall consider routine and special
14 one-time management needs.~~The managing agencies shall~~
15 recognize the following categories of land management needs:

16 1. Immediate land management needs, within 1 to 2
17 years, to prevent the threat of significant loss of natural
18 resource values or significant increases in repair costs to
19 capital facilities.

20 2. Intermediate land management needs, within 3 to 4
21 years, to prevent the threat of loss of natural resource
22 values or the increase in repair costs to capital facilities.

23 3. Long-term land management needs, within 5 to 6
24 years, to prevent the eventual threat of loss of natural
25 resource values or the increase in repair costs to capital
26 facilities.

27 ~~1. Lands which are low-need tracts, requiring basic~~
28 ~~resource management and protection, such as state reserves,~~
29 ~~state preserves, state forests, and wildlife management areas.~~
30 ~~These lands generally are open to the public but have no more~~
31 ~~than minimum facilities development.~~

1 ~~2. Lands which are moderate-need tracts, requiring~~
2 ~~more than basic resource management and protection, such as~~
3 ~~state parks and state recreation areas. These lands generally~~
4 ~~have extra restoration or protection needs, higher~~
5 ~~concentrations of public use, or more highly developed~~
6 ~~facilities.~~

7 ~~3. Lands which are high-need tracts, with identified~~
8 ~~needs requiring unique site-specific resource management and~~
9 ~~protection. These lands generally are sites with historic~~
10 ~~significance, unique natural features, or very high intensity~~
11 ~~public use, or sites that require extra funds to stabilize or~~
12 ~~protect resources, such as lands with heavy infestations of~~
13 ~~nonnative, invasive plants.~~

14
15 In evaluating the management funding needs of lands based on
16 the above categories, the lead land managing agencies shall
17 include in their considerations the impacts of, and needs
18 created or addressed by, multiple-use management strategies.
19 Land management agencies shall demonstrate how land management
20 activities are contributing to meeting of performance measures
21 developed pursuant to s. 259.0345(7)(c).

22 Section 2. Section 259.037, Florida Statutes, is
23 created to read:

24 259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council.--

25 (1) The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council is
26 created within the Department of Environmental Protection and
27 shall consist of the director of the Division of State Lands,
28 the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, the
29 director of the Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas,
30 and the director of the Office of Greenways and Trails of the
31 Department of Environmental Protection; the director of the

1 Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and
2 Consumer Services; the executive director of the Fish and
3 Wildlife Conservation Commission; and the director of the
4 Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, or
5 their respective designees. Each state agency represented on
6 the council shall have one vote. The chair of the council
7 shall rotate annually in the foregoing order of state
8 agencies. The agency of the representative serving as chair
9 of the council shall provide staff support for the council.
10 The Division of State Lands shall serve as the recipient of
11 and repository for the council's documents. The council shall
12 meet initially by May 20, 2000, and thereafter at the request
13 of the chair.

14 (2) The Auditor General and the director of the Office
15 of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or
16 their designees, shall advise the council to ensure that
17 appropriate accounting procedures are utilized and that a
18 uniform method of collecting and reporting accurate costs of
19 land management activities are created and can be used by all
20 agencies.

21 (3) The council shall, by June 20, 2000, review
22 current land management practices and group closely related
23 land management activities and needs into categories. All
24 land management activities and costs must be assigned to a
25 specific category, and any single activity or cost may not be
26 assigned to more than one category. Administrative costs,
27 such as planning or training, shall be segregated from other
28 management activities. Specific management activities and
29 costs must be grouped, at a minimum, within the following
30 categories:

31 (a) Resource management.

1 (b) Administration.

2 (c) New facility construction.

3 (d) Facility maintenance.

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5 Upon adoption of a complete list of land management categories
6 by the council, agencies assigned to manage conservation or
7 recreation lands shall, on July 1, 2000, begin to account for
8 land management costs in accordance with the category to which
9 an expenditure is assigned.

10 (4) The council shall provide its adopted list of land
11 management categories to the Governor, the Board of Trustees
12 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the President of the
13 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
14 Acquisition and Restoration Council by July 1, 2000.

15 (5) The council shall report agencies' expenditures
16 pursuant to the adopted categories to the President of the
17 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
18 annually, beginning July 1, 2001. The council shall also
19 provide this report to the Acquisition and Restoration Council
20 for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s.
21 259.105.

22 (6) Should the council determine that the list of land
23 management categories needs to be revised, it shall meet upon
24 the call of the chair.

25 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
26 law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides additional requirements for land management plans for lands acquired under the Conservation and Recreation Lands Program. Modifies categories of land management needs for purposes of allocation of resources. Requires land management agencies to demonstrate land management activity contributions to meeting performance measures. Creates the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council to review current land management practices under the program and categorize land management activities, needs, and costs. Provides for uniform procedures for cost accounting and reporting. Requires annual reports of land management agencies' expenditures beginning July 1, 2001.