

By the Committee on Natural Resources

312-2005-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to land management costs;  
3           amending s. 259.032, F.S.; creating additional  
4           requirements for land management plans;  
5           modifying land management needs categories;  
6           creating s. 259.037, F.S.; creating the Land  
7           Management Uniform Accounting Council;  
8           providing duties and responsibilities;  
9           providing for reports; providing an effective  
10          date.

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

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

17           259.032 Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund;  
18 purpose.--

19           (10)

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

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

26           2. Key management activities necessary to preserve and  
27 protect natural resources and restore habitat, and for  
28 controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, and  
29 for prescribed fire and other appropriate resource management  
30 activities.

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

4           4. A priority schedule for conducting management  
5 activities, based on the purposes for which the lands were  
6 acquired based upon categories adopted by the Land Management  
7 Uniform Accounting Council pursuant to s. 259.037.

8           5. A cost estimate for conducting priority management  
9 activities, to include recommendations for cost-effective  
10 methods of accomplishing those activities based upon  
11 categories adopted by the Land Management Uniform Accounting  
12 Council pursuant to s. 259.037.

13           6. A cost estimate for conducting other management  
14 activities which would enhance the natural resource value or  
15 public recreation value for which the lands were acquired  
16 based upon categories adopted by the Land Management Uniform  
17 Accounting Council pursuant to s. 259.037. The cost estimate  
18 shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of  
19 accomplishing those activities.

20           7. A determination of the public uses and public  
21 access that would be consistent with the purposes for which  
22 the lands were acquired.

23           (11)

24           (c) Due to limited resources for management of  
25 state-owned lands and the need to provide for visitor access,  
26 recreational opportunities, the preservation of cultural  
27 resources, and the protection and enhancement of natural  
28 resources, as well as to prevent the possible deterioration of  
29 the natural resource values and capital investments on state  
30 lands through inadequate management of lands, in requesting  
31 funds provided for in paragraph (b) state agencies shall

1 prioritize for immediate, intermediate, and long-term  
2 management of all acquisitions pursuant to this chapter and  
3 for associated contractual services. When prioritizing  
4 management activities, agencies shall consider routine and  
5 special one-time management needs. The managing agencies  
6 shall recognize the following categories of land management  
7 needs:

8 1. Land management needs that are immediate needs (0-2  
9 years) to prevent the threat of significant loss of natural  
10 resource values and significant increases in repair costs to  
11 capital facilities. Managing agencies shall also consider, at  
12 a minimum, the need to provide for visitor access,  
13 recreational opportunities, the preservation of cultural  
14 resources, and the protection and enhancement of natural  
15 resources.

16 2. Land management needs that are intermediate needs  
17 (3-4 years) to prevent the threat of loss of natural resource  
18 values and the increase in repair costs to capital facilities.  
19 Managing agencies shall also consider, at a minimum, the need  
20 to provide for visitor access, recreational opportunities, the  
21 preservation of cultural resources, and the protection and  
22 enhancement of natural resources.

23 3. Land management needs that are long-term needs (5-6  
24 years) to prevent the eventual threat of loss of natural  
25 resource values and the increase in repair costs to capital  
26 facilities. Managing agencies shall also consider, at a  
27 minimum, the need to provide for visitor access, recreational  
28 opportunities, the preservation of cultural resources, and the  
29 protection and enhancement of natural resources.

30 ~~1. Lands which are low-need tracts, requiring basic~~  
31 ~~resource management and protection, such as state reserves,~~

1 ~~state preserves, state forests, and wildlife management areas.~~  
2 ~~These lands generally are open to the public but have no more~~  
3 ~~than minimum facilities development.~~

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

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

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

25 Section 2. Section 259.037, Florida Statutes, is  
26 created to read:

27 259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council.--

28 (1) The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council is  
29 created within the Department of Environmental Protection and  
30 shall consist of the director of the Division of State Lands,  
31 the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, the

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

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

24       (3) The council shall, by January 1, 2001, review  
25 current land management practices and group closely related  
26 land management activities and needs into categories. All  
27 land management activities and costs must be assigned to a  
28 specific category, and any single activity or cost may not be  
29 assigned to more than one category. Administrative costs such  
30 as planning or training shall be segregated from other  
31 management activities. Specific management activities and

1 costs must be grouped, at a minimum, within the following  
2 categories:

- 3 (a) Resource management;  
4 (b) Administration;  
5 (c) Capital improvements; and  
6 (d) Visitor services and recreation.

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8 Upon adoption of a complete list of land management categories  
9 by the council, agencies assigned to manage conservation or  
10 recreation lands shall, on January 1, 2001, begin to account  
11 for land management costs in accordance with the category to  
12 which an expenditure is assigned.

13 (4) The council shall provide its adopted list of land  
14 management categories to the Governor, the Board of Trustees  
15 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the President of the  
16 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
17 Acquisition and Restoration Council by January 1, 2001.

18 (5) If the council determines that the list of land  
19 management categories needs to be revised, the council shall  
20 meet upon the call of its chairperson.

21 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming  
22 law.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
Senate Bill 384

Provisions revising the payments in lieu of taxes programs of the CARL and Water Management district programs have been deleted from this bill. Also deleted from this bill are the repeal of provisions that will repeal the allocation of Preservation 2000 allocations effective October 1, 2000. The repeal of s. 259.101(9)(f)1., (g) and (h) have also been deleted, as have provisions providing for retroactive payments in lieu of taxes.

Provisions relating to the Land Management Uniform Cost Accounting Council (council) have been revised to include a requirement that the Auditor General and the director of the Office Of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability or their designees advise the council to ensure that appropriate accounting procedures are utilized and that a uniform method of collecting and reporting accurate costs of land management activities is created and can be used by all agencies. The council members must begin to account for land management costs in accordance with adopted categories by January 1, 2001.

The bill now amends s. 259.032, F.S., to require that land management plans report costs based on categories developed by the council, and that managing agencies request management funding based on immediate, intermediate, and long range needs. The needs to be addressed must prevent the threat of loss of natural resources values and the increase in repair costs to capital facilities, as well as at a minimum, provide for visitor access, recreational opportunities, the preservation of cultural resources, and the protection and enhancement of natural resources. Existing requirements that agencies request funds based on low, high, and moderate need tracts are deleted.