

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Fiscal Policy

BILL: CS/CS/SB 1288

INTRODUCER: Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government;
Environment and Natural Resources Committee; and Senator Harrell

SUBJECT: Waterbody Designations/Andrew “Red” Harris Spoil Island

DATE: February 17, 2026 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Carroll</u>	<u>Rogers</u>	<u>EN</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Reagan</u>	<u>Betta</u>	<u>AEG</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3.	<u>Carroll</u>	<u>Siples</u>	<u>FP</u>	<u>Pre-meeting</u>

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/CS/SB 1288 designates Shoal S13 in Jupiter Sound as the Andrew “Red” Harris Spoil Island and directs the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to erect suitable markers denoting the shoal’s designation.

The bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the DEP for the cost of erecting the markers denoting the shoal’s designation. This cost can be absorbed through existing resources. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Andrew “Red” Harris

Andrew “Red” Harris was born and raised in the Town of Jupiter, Florida.¹ In 2011 he earned a degree in risk management and insurance from Florida State University and started his own group insurance brokerage agency. Outside of his work in insurance, Harris was an avid

¹ Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, *Obituary for Andrew “Red” Harris*, <https://www.taylorandmodeenflorida.com/obituaries/Andrew-Harris-35976/#!/Obituary> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

outdoorsman and sportsman who excelled at basketball, golf, scuba diving, free diving, wake surfing, skiing, and snowboarding.²

Andrew Harris was tragically killed in a boating accident in 2014. He is survived by his parents, his brother, and his sister. He is remembered as an extremely generous and caring son, brother, and friend.³

Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation

The Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation was founded in 2014 in honor of Andrew “Red” Harris and his love of fishing and diving.⁴ The Foundation focuses on building artificial reefs in Palm Beach County.⁵ As of 2023, the Foundation had built mile-long artificial reef trails offshore of the towns of Jupiter and Juno Beach and deployed 42 barge-loads of artificial reef material.⁶

The Foundation has also donated 15 seven-foot-tall artificial reef structures to the Blue Heron Bridge Snorkel Trail at Phil Foster Park in Riviera Beach, FL, as well as a 17-foot-tall replica of the Jupiter Lighthouse, pictured on the right, which is located on the Jupiter artificial reef trail.⁷

The Foundation is also the primary supporter of a project to restore three mangrove islands in the Jupiter Narrows area near the Village of Tequesta.⁸ The mangrove island closest to Cato’s Bridge in Tequesta is the island that this bill will designate the Andrew “Red” Harris Shoal.



Shoal S13

Shoal S13 is a spoil island near Cato’s Bridge in the Village of Tequesta, FL. Spoil islands are manmade islands typically created as a byproduct of channel dredging.⁹ The dredge material is

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation, *History*, <https://andrewredharrisfoundation.org/history/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026); The Guy Harvey Foundation, *An Unexpected Expert*, <https://guyharveyfoundation.org/issues/an-unexpected-expert/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

⁵ Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation, *What We Do*, <https://andrewredharrisfoundation.org/what-we-do/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

⁶ *Id.*

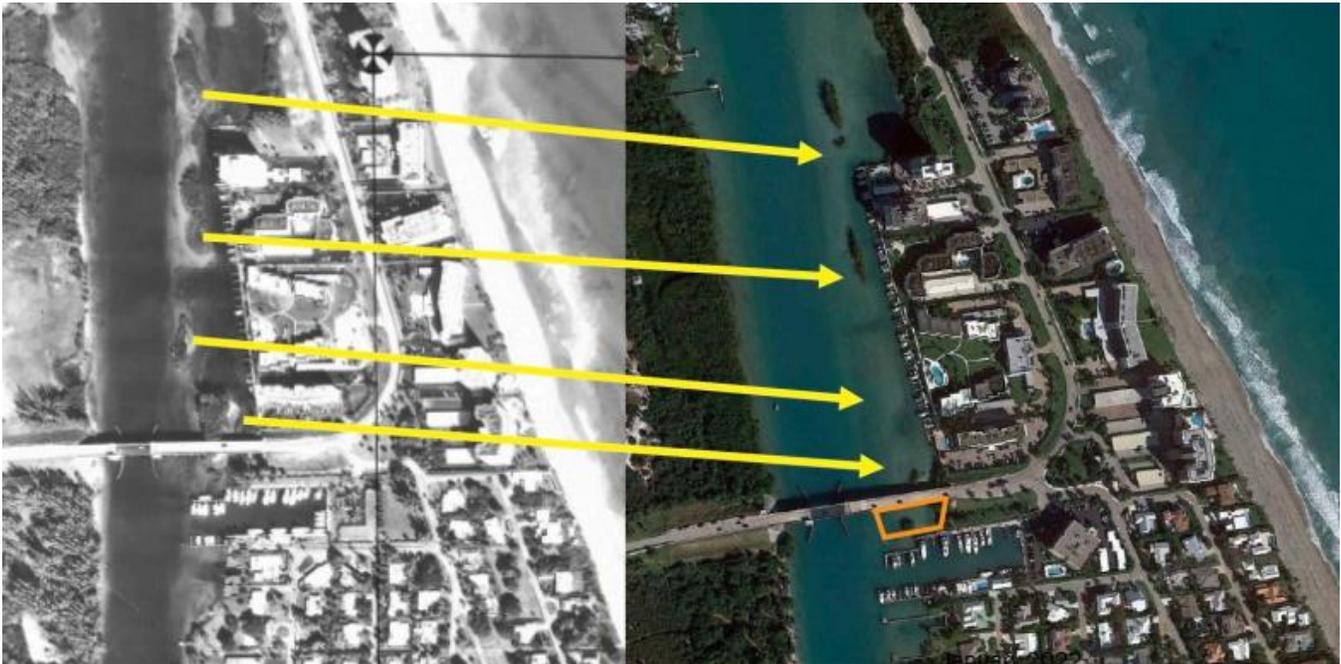
⁷ *Id.*; The Guy Harvey Foundation, *An Unexpected Expert* (showing the image on this page).

⁸ Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation, *Restoring the Mangroves Near Cato’s Bridge*, <https://andrewredharrisfoundation.org/restoring-the-mangroves-near-catos-bridge/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

⁹ Friends of the Spoil Islands, *Spoil Island Project Home*, <https://www.fosifl.org/spoil-island-project-home/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

called “spoil.” Spoil deposited in piles along the edge of channels can eventually break the surface of the water to become a spoil island.¹⁰ Spoil islands can be valuable and distinct habitats, with diverse plants and animals.¹¹

The map below shows the degradation of the spoil islands north of Cato’s Bridge from 1977 to 2022.¹² Shoal S13 is the spoil island closest to the bridge.



III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 258.603, F.S., to designate Shoal S13, a mangrove island adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway in Jupiter Sound, as the Andrew “Red” Harris Spoil Island. It directs the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to erect suitable markers to denote the Shoal S13’s designation.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, *Spoil Islands*, <https://fmel.ifas.ufl.edu/general-information/natural-habitats-at-fmel/spoil-islands/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

¹² Jupiter Narrows Conservation Alliance, *Project Summary Multi-Year Budget*, 1 (2024), available at https://andrewredharrisfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/JNCA-Project-Summary_multi-year-budget.pdf.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the DEP for the cost of erecting the markers denoting the shoal's designation. This cost can be absorbed through existing resources.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 258.603 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS/CS by Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government on February 4, 2026:

The committee substitute changes the name of the S13 mangrove island from Andrew "Red" Harris Shoal to the Andrew "Red" Harris Spoil Island.

CS by Environment and Natural Resources on January 20, 2026:

The committee substitute clarifies the location of Shoal S13. It specifies that Shoal S13 is a mangrove island adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway in Jupiter Sound.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.