



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1510

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

This initiative will support ecosystem sustainability and resilience. Restoring sea grass meadows & clam populations will result in improved water quality, reduced algal blooms, and healthier habitats for commercial and recreational fisheries in the Tampa Bay, Sarasota Bay and Charlotte Harbor estuaries. The health of these habitats is not only for the ecosystem services they provide, but for the economic impact that results from Florida's tourism. This project will be initiated and planted in year one and studied in years 2-5 to demonstrate effectiveness of clams and sea grass mitigation.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	450,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,050,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,500,000	14%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	15,000,000	86%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023</b>	<b>17,500,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future 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.**

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

**11. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Printing, computer equipment, travel, events, stationary	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Scientific review: regular investigation of population and growth, clams & sea grass.	400,000
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Printing, computer equipment, travel, events, stationary	20,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Website, Media consultants (10,000x 5 years ); onsite farmers/tenders (40,000 x 5 years)	250,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Planting Sea grass and clams in three estuaries	1,780,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,500,000</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

A 5 year, science based demonstration project within our three national estuaries, Tampa Bay, Sarasota Bay and Charlotte Harbor Bay to restore them and grow the coastal economies. Funding will aid in restoring 650 acres of seagrass into denuded areas, create 30 high density clam restoration sites and monitor the primary and secondary benefits of the initiative.

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

Restoring clam populations and seagrass meadows to improve water quality, reduce algal blooms and provide healthier habitats for commercial and recreational fisheries.

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

Create avenues for traditionally commercial fishing communities to become more involved with environmental restoration. Develop economic growth by providing healthy estuaries which will generate jobs, clean water and provide even more plentiful local seafood.

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

Florida residents & visitors to Florida; Fisherman, Aquaculture

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



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The outcome will be clean water which support economic growth. Seagrass and clam restoration areas will be monitored for a three year period to document the success of the plantings. A time zero and annual report will be generated from monitoring events. During each monitoring event, a biologist will measure density/cover and expansion rates of the seagrass restoration areas. The 10mm size clam populations, once planted, will be cover-netted, a proven technique to reduce predation, with the nets being changed out 4-10 times per year for purposes of controlling biofouling and net mesh size adaptation.

**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 the contract?**

Usual penalties will apply.

**13. 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.**

State waters in three estuaries: Tampa Bay, Sarasota Bay and Charlotte Harbor Bay.



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#### 14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 15. 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

#### 16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number