



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2447

1. Project Title 2. Senate Sponsor 3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Partnership with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program, and Walton County to start up an oyster gardening program and to construct sub-tidal oyster reefs. Oysters are both ecologically and economically important along the Gulf Coast of Florida and the United States. Creating oyster habitat will provide opportunity of the oyster population to increase in the Choctawhatchee Bay as well as provide habitat for other sport fish including Red Drum and Spotted Sea trout. The project will also include water quality collection and mapping of water quality, oyster reefs, living shorelines, etc.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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 2022-2023	500,000	100%

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.

Walton County allocated the following federal assistance with related to the COVID-19 pandemic:
Coronavirus Relief Funds = \$12,924,820
CARES Act = \$580,769
ARP Funds = \$14,387,423.00
These funds were used for COVID-19 related items, HUD, SHIP, Supervisory of Election, water and sewer infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure and education related items for disadvantage populations as authorized by the State and Federal guidelines.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Walton County will partner with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance and the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program to start an oyster gardening program in the Choctawhatchee Bay including the construction of subtidal oyster reefs, water quality sampling, and a GIS mapping project to include information on water quality, oyster reefs, living shorelines, etc. in the Choctawhatchee Bay. The project will aid in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster in the Choctawhatchee Bay.	500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The purpose of this project is to aid in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster in the Choctawhatchee Bay.

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

Initiation of an Oyster gardening program including the construction of subtidal oyster reefs, water quality sampling, and GIS mapping of the water quality information, oyster reefs, living shorelines, etc. for the access of the public and government entities.

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

The proposed project will aid in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster in the Choctawhatchee Bay providing water quality improvements and recreational fishing opportunities.

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

All citizens and visitors of Walton and Okaloosa Counties, Florida

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



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be measured?

Completion of this project will provide aide in the recovery of the Eastern Oyster population in the Choctawhatchee Bay and provide publicly accessible information on the Choctawhatchee Bay. The outcome will be measured by number of reefs and public access sites created.

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?

If Walton County fails to meet the deliverables to this appropriation all funds will be returned to the state.

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.

Walton County Board of County Commissioners



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Local Funding Initiative Request

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LFIR # 2447

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