

# Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2020-21

## For projects meeting the Definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: Caloosahatchee River Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Restoration

2. Date of Submission: 11/08/2019

3. House Member Sponsor: Heather Fitzenhagen

Members Copied:

### 4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes  
*If answer to 4a is "No" skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d, Col. E*
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2019-20
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request:

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2019-20 <i>(If appropriated in 2019-20 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)</i>			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2020-21 <i>(Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)</i>		
Column:	A	B	C	D	E	F
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated  <i>(Recurring plus Nonrecurring: column A + column B)</i>	Recurring Base Budget  <i>(Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)</i>	<b>Additional Nonrecurring Request</b>	<b>TOTAL Nonrecurring plus Recurring Base Funds</b>  <i>(Will equal the amount from the Recurring base in Column D plus the Additional Nonrecurring Request in Column E.)</i>
Input Amounts:		100,000	100,000		1,615,113	1,615,113

5. Are funds for this issue requested in a state agency's Legislative Budget Request submitted for FY 2020-21? No

5a. If yes, which state agency?

5b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested? Department of Environmental Protection

5c. Has the appropriate state agency for administering the funding, if the request were appropriated, been contacted? No

5d. Describe penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures which the agency should provide in its contract to administer the funding if appropriated.

If deliverables are not achieved in full monies allocated to the deliverable should be withheld.

6. Requester:

- a. Name: Brett Fitzgerald
- b. Organization: Angler Action Foundation, Inc.
- c. Email: brett@angleraction.org
- d. Phone #: (561)707-8923

7. Contact for questions about specific technical or financial details about the project:

- a. Name: Brett Fitzgerald
- b. Organization: Angler Action Foundation, Inc.
- c. Email: brett@angleraction.org
- d. Phone #: (561)707-8923

8. Is there a registered lobbyist working to secure funding for this project?

- a. Name: Edgar G. Fernandez
- b. Firm: Anfield Consulting Group
- c. Email: edgar@anfieldflorida.com
- d. Phone #: (786)255-5755

9. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

- a. Name: Angler Action Foundation, Inc.
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Lee
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Lee

10. What type of organization is the entity that will receive the funds? (Select one)

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government
- University or College
- Other (Please describe)

11. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds being requested?

This project will create 30 acres of critically important submerged vegetation meadows. The benefits of submerged vegetation meadows have been extensively researched for their importance in recreational and commercially important fisheries production, providing critically important habitat, reducing toxic algae blooms, stabilizing sediments, absorbing nutrients, and coastal resilience.

12. Provide specific details on how funds will be spent. (Select all that apply)

Spending Category	Description	Nonrecurring (Should equal 4d, Col. E) Enter "0" if request is zero for the category
Administrative Costs:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Administration	130,755
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
<input type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Environmental Monitoring, Permitting, Engineering, Reporting, Planting Nursery grown grass, Protecting grass, Maintenance of grass, Educational markers installation.	1,484,358
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
<input type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,615,113</b>

13. For the Fixed Capital Costs requested with this issue (In Question 12, category "h. Fixed Capital Outlay" was selected), what type of ownership will the facility be under when complete? (Select one correct option)

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government (e.g., police, fire or local government buildings, local roads, etc.)
- State agency owned facility (For example: college or university facility, buildings for public schools, roads in the state transportation system, etc.)
- Other (Please describe)

14. Is the project request an information technology project?

No

15. Is there any documented show of support for the requested project in the community including public hearings, letters of support, major organizational backing, or other expressions of support?

Yes

15a. Please Describe:

Support for this project has been given by the City of Ft. Myers Mayor, a Ft. Myers City Council signed resolution in 2015, and by the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program which has specifically created a technical working group to focus on the issue.

16. Has the need for the funds been documented by a study, completed by an independent 3rd party, for the area to be served?

Yes

16a. Please Describe:

The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary program's technical advisory committee has reviewed and support the need for this project. Since 2001 the SFWMD has used Tape grass as the Valued Ecosystem Component to regulate MFLs in the Caloosahatchee river.

17. Will the requested funds be used directly for services to citizens?

No

18. What benefits or outcomes will be realized by the expenditure of funds requested? (Select each Benefit/Outcome that applies)

Benefit or Outcome	Provide a specific measure of the benefit or outcome	Describe the method for measuring level of benefit
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health	Submerged plants filter and sequester nutrients that lead to HAB's.	Nutrient uptake and cycling will be studied in-situ at the restoration site for a period of three years.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health	The project will improve water quality, enhanced recreational and commercial fishing, and the tourism industry.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience	The project will improve water quality, enhanced recreational and commercial fishing, and the tourism industry.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education	The project will result in enhanced aquaculture research that is needed for large scale restoration of seagrass.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education	The project will provide a hands on educational opportunity for local schools, FGCU, and citizens.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality	Submerged aquatic vegetation provides critical nursery habitat for game fish that include snook, redfish, tarpon, and bass. Tape grass meadows are also important as a foraging sites to manatees.	Monitoring surveys will quantify habitat production in the restored areas. Nutrient and sediment sequestration will also be analyzed.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.)	The project will improve water quality and help reduce the effects of toxic algae blooms.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions	This project will filter and sequester suspended sediments transported from the Caloosahatchee River and	Sedimentation rates will be quantified by measuring sediment accumulation

	deposited into maintained navigable waterways.	in the restored areas.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity	The project will improve water quality, enhanced recreational and commercial fishing, and the tourism industry.	Restoration monitoring will be conducted to ensure the project goals and objectives are achieved.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism	Healthy seagrass meadows are vitally important to ecotourism and recreational fishing guides. Seagrass meadows provide critical habitat, forage, and shelter that are essential to wildlife.	Increases in tourism will be quantified through habitat production increases of important wildlife species. Additionally, reports will document direct recreational utilization of the project site.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities	The project will result in specific job opportunities for environmental professionals and restoration ecologists.	Based on hourly rates for professional services required the project will result in the equivalent of 9.8 new jobs over one year and support many more currently employed scientists.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency	This project will increase fisheries production, roughly 90% of all commercially derived seafood from Florida is dependent on healthy seagrass at some point in their life cycle.	Enhancement of individual's economic self sufficiency will be quantified through habitat production increases. Additionally, reports will document direct commercial utilization of the project site.
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism		
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse		
<input type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve wastewater management		

<input type="checkbox"/> Improve stormwater management		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve groundwater quality		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve drinking water quality		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve surface water quality	Submerged aquatic vegetation has been well documented to oxygenate water, sequester suspended sediments, and filter nutrients. This project will filter water coming from Lk. Okechobee and out the Caloosahatchee River.	Water quality measurements will be taken both inside and outside the project sites during each monitoring event.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe):		

19. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2020-21 from all sources of funding (Enter "0" if amount is zero):

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent of Total	Are the other sources of funds guaranteed in writing?
1. Amount Requested from the State in this Appropriations Project Request:	1,615,113	100.0%	N/A
2. Federal:	0	0.0%	No
3. State: (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column F)	0	0.0%	No
4. Local:	0	0.0%	No
5. Other:	0	0.0%	No
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,615,113</b>	<b>100%</b>	

20. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

No