IRL COUNCIL
STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This meeting is open to the public

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

The order of items appearing on the agenda is subject to change during the meeting and is at the discretion of the presiding officer. Anyone wishing to speak on any item is requested to complete a speaker's card.

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
2. **Introductions** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
3. **Agenda Revisions** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   Note any known changes and inquire if any members have suggested revisions.
4. **Minutes Approval** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   Requested Action: Approval of Minutes from the STEM meeting on May 9, 2023.
5. **Public Comment**
6. **Water Quality Reports**
   a. Northern IRL (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, SJRWMD)
   b. Southern IRL (Dr. Melanie Parker, SFWMD)
7. **Presentation**
   "Impacts of Glyphosate on Seagrass Growth and Nutrient Cycling; Informing Aquaculture and Restoration Efforts to Improve Outcomes" (Dr. Austin Fox, Florida Institute of Technology).
8. **Old Business**
   None
9. **New Business**
   a. FY 2024 EPA BIL Workplan (Daniel Kolodny) **BIL Workplan**
      Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors approve the FY 2024 EPA BIL Workplan and authorize staff to submit the plan to EPA.
   b. FY 2024 and FY 2025 Request for Proposals (RFPs) (Duane De Freese) **RFPs**
      Requested Action: Motion to authorize staff to develop and release RFPs for the FY 2025 time frame, review and rank proposals and return to the Management Conference for funding approval.

c. FY 2023 Final Budget Amendment (Daniel Kolodny) **2023-04**
Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors approve the Amendment to the FY 2023 Final Budget by Resolution 2023-04, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

d. FY 2024 Final Budget Amendment (Daniel Kolodny) **2023-05**
Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors approve the Amendment to the FY 2024 Final Budget by Resolution 2023-05, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

e. Resolution in support of the South Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District proposing hydrologic reconnection of the Central and South Florida Flood Control Project. (Duane De Freese) **Resolution**
Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors approve a resolution in support of the hydrologic reconnection of the Central and South Florida Flood Control Project.

10. IRLNEP Staff Reports

a. Communications Update (IRLNEP Team)
- Website, Information Technology, and Social Media (KJ Ayres-Guerra)
- Northern IRL Community Engagement (Jessy Wayles)
- Central IRL Community Engagement (Heather Stapleton)
- Southern IRL Community Engagement (Caleta Scott)

b. IRL Project Update (Daniel Kolodny)

c. Executive Director Report (Duane De Freese) - End of Year Milestones: Looking Ahead to FY 2024.

11. Final Comments (Committee, Staff, Public)

12. Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, at 1:30 p.m.
Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

13. Adjourn

NOTE: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes (2014).

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 48 hours before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Erin Bergman at (314) 347-5854. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice). For more information, you may contact: Erin Bergman, IRL Council, 1235 Main St, Sebastian, FL 32958, (314) 347-5854, or by email at bergman@irlcouncil.org.

IRL COUNCIL
STEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting of

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

1:30 PM

Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

Attendance: Kyle Bartow, Erin Cartmill, Hyun Jung Cho, David Cox, Bob Day, TJ Fridrich, Frank Golan, Dennis Hanisak, Chuck Jacoby, Dan Macchiarella, Dale McGinnis, Rich Paperno, Melanie Parker, Valerie Paul, Mitch Roffer, Leesa Souto, Wendy Swindell, Linda Walters, Edie Widder, Kelly Young

Guests: Emily Ralston, Jeff Eble, Melissa Meisenburg, Stacy Cecil, Ashley Lingwood, Elizabeth Kelly, Paul Sacks, Tyler Dean, Lauren Hall, Doug Scheidt, Tom Price, Kai Rains, Edgar Guerron-Orejuela, Maegan Wettlaufer, Kelly McGee, Virginia Barker, Tess Sailor-Tynes

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   The meeting was called to order by Chuck Jacoby at 1:35 p.m. who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Introductions** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   Chuck Jacoby led roundtable introductions, including new members and guests.
3. **Agenda Revisions** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   No agenda revisions were brought forward.
4. **Minutes Approval** (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, Chair)
   Minutes of February 7, 2023.

   Requested Action: Approval of Minutes from the STEM meeting on February 7, 2023

   MOTION WAS MADE BY MITCH ROFFER TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 7, 2023. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOB DAY. MOTION PASSED.
5. **Public Comment**
   None
6. **Water Quality Reports**
   a. Northern IRL (Dr. Chuck Jacoby, SJWMD)
      Dr. Jacoby reported this quarter's six continuous data sondes did not report any significant figures, as there were no weather events to note. Salinity levels remained normal, but temperatures did experience some typical winter dips. Chlorophyll levels in the central lagoon were relatively low, while the Cocoa area showed a short-lived increase. Dissolved oxygen levels remained at an acceptable level throughout the entire quarter. 700 camera drops indicated some seagrass recovery.

   b. Southern IRL (Dr. Melanie Parker SFWMD)

      Dr. Parker reported recent heavy rains caused the Tidal Basin to experience the highest freshwater inflows to the IRL, while Lake Okeechobee's releases took place from January 21 to

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April 14. The past few weeks have seen a slight decrease in salinity levels at all three monitoring sites, but they have remained within the optimal range since December 2022. As usual, the juvenile oyster (spat) recruitment rates were low from November 2022 to March 2023 but started increasing in April, indicating the beginning of the spawning season. Live oyster densities have been stable over the past two years, with an increase in densities from April 2022 to April 2023. Sincere gratitude to Lauren Hall of SJRWMD for sharing the seagrass maps and data. Since 2009, there has been an overall loss of 25% of seagrass in the SFWMD portion of the IRL, with a decrease of about 9% in acreage from 2019 to 2021. This month, SJRWMD will conduct a large-scale seagrass monitoring effort, dividing the southern IRL into six segments with about 30 randomly selected stations each. The measurements will include percent cover, canopy height, and water quality.

7. Presentations

Update on How Knowledge of Land Use Can Inform Water Quality Restoration in the IRL
(Dr. Kai Rains and Edgar Guerron-Orejuela, University of South Florida).

Dr. Kai Rains presented a restoration prioritization tool that can effectively indicate changes in land use. This tool is designed to assist in the identification of targets for restoration, preservation, and mitigation. It can also set queries and is easily expandable to include additional screening layers and data. The goal is to align the tool with stakeholder needs and regional priorities, thereby making it simpler for local governments to identify and target areas to conserve. Attendees discussed the possibility of expanding the tool's focus beyond wetlands to include septic to sewer prioritization, highlighting the tool's versatility. The presentation was well-received and ignited a dialogue among the participants.

IRL Monitoring Plan
(Dr. Dennis Hanisak, FAU-Harbor Branch)
In the presentation, Dr. Dennis Hanisak outlined the IRLNEP Monitoring Plan to establish a comprehensive monitoring network aligned with the Vital Sign categories of Water Quality, Healthy Habitats, and Living Resources as outlined in the CCMP. The plan considers existing resources, identifies data gaps, and addresses emerging needs while providing actionable recommendations.

8. IRL Seagrass Restoration Next Steps
(Panel Discussion with Dr. Chuck Jacoby, SJRWMD; Dr. Dennis Hanisak, FAU-Harbor Branch; Tess Sailor-Tynes, Marine Discovery Center)

Dialogue among the panelists included an explanation of closed vs open systems of seagrass nurseries, the ability to obtain and supply sustainable doner material, creating healthy habitats and the need to develop supportable technology. Sharing data, successes and failures was deemed crucial. Group discussions among members included topics of fragmentation, the use of drones, sediment quality, and creating a seagrass task force.

9. Old Business
None

10. New Business

a. One Lagoon Monitoring Plan Final Draft (EPA Concurrence Document) (Duane De Freese)
[One Lagoon Monitoring Plan Draft]

Dr. Duane De Freese expressed his gratitude to Dennis Hanisak, David Heuberger, and their team for their outstanding work in completing the contract project. The plan underwent a thorough peer review process, resulting in six valuable recommendations and the identification of gaps. The capability to update monitoring maps was also noted.

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Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors adopt the One Lagoon Monitoring Plan and authorize staff to submit the plan to EPA for review and certification. If revisions are requested by EPA, the IRL Council Board of Directors authorizes staff to make recommended changes and finalize the document.

MOTION WAS MADE BY BOB DAY TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE ONE LAGOON MONITORING PLAN AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SUBMIT THE PLAN TO EPA FOR REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION. IF REVISIONS ARE REQUESTED BY EPA, THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZES STAFF TO MAKE RECOMMENDED CHANGES AND FINALIZE THE DOCUMENT. MOTION SECONDED BY WENDY SWINDELL. MOTION PASSED.

b. Long-term strategy for use of BIL Funds (EPA Required Document) (Duane De Freese)

Dr. Duane De Freese outlined the methods employed to create the Priority Communities classification for the IRL Watershed included in the strategy. These methods involved the use of various tools and documents, including detailed maps. The directed RFP is under development and it is anticipated to be issued in early 2024.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors adopt the long-term strategy for use of BIL funds and authorize staff to submit the strategy to EPA for review and certification. The EPA deadline is on or before June 1, 2023. If revisions are requested by EPA, the IRL Council Board of Directors authorizes staff to make recommended changes, finalize the document, and resubmit to EPA.

MOTION WAS MADE BY LINDA WALTERS TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR USE OF BIL FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SUBMIT THE STRATEGY TO EPA FOR REVIEW AND CERTIFICATION. THE EPA DEADLINE IS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2023. IF REVISIONS ARE REQUESTED BY EPA, THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZES STAFF TO MAKE RECOMMENDED CHANGES, FINALIZE THE TH DOCUMENT, AND RESUBMIT TO EPA. MOTION SECONDED BY BOB DAY. MOTION PASSED.

c. FY 2024 Final Budget (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Dan Kolodny noted some minor modifications, including an increase in administrative services to accommodate the extra workload undertaken by Special Services District due to an uptick in IRLNEP staffing. SDS negotiated a higher interest rate on behalf of the IRL Council.

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors review and adopt the Final Budget for FY 2024 by Resolution 2023-02, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

MOTION WAS MADE BY WENDY SWINDELL TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FY 2024 BY RESOLUTION 2023-02, PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LINDA WALTERS. MOTION PASSED.

d. Small Grants (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Kathy Hill shared that 19 proposals were submitted. Nine scored 70 or higher. One proposal eligible for an award was withdrawn; this allowed five proposals to be awarded within the budgeted amount. During the meeting, the funding of the three proposals that scored above 70 was discussed, as well as one proposal that scored 69.9. The CAC supported funding all four proposals and recommended them to the BOD.

Requested Actions: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept IRLNEP Management Conference recommendations, approve the final ranked list of proposals, and fund the top proposals contingent and consistent with available funds and budgetary authority. Authorize staff to negotiate and enter into contract agreements with those applicants.

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MOTION MADE BY BOB DAY TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT IRLNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS, APPROVE THE FINAL RANKED LIST OF PROPOSALS AND FUND THE TOP PROPOSALS CONTINGENT AND CONSISTENT WITH AVAILABLE FUNDS AND BUDGETARY AUTHORITY. AUTHORIZE STAFF TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH THOSE APPLICANTS. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LESSA SOUTO. MOTION PASSED.

e. Resolution to support East Central Florida Regional Planning Council in seeking funding from the Military Installation Resilience Review Program. (Duane De Freese)

Requested Action: Motion to recommend that the IRL Council Board of Directors accept the STEM Committee recommendations to adopt Resolution 2023-03, supporting ECFRPC's efforts to seek funding from the MIRRP and other coastal resilience initiatives.

MOTION WAS MADE BY LINDA WALTERS TO RECOMMEND THAT THE IRL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACCEPT THE STEM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-03, SUPPORTING ECFRPC'S EFFORTS TO SEEK FUNDING FROM THE MIRRP AND OTHER COASTAL RESILIENCE INITIATIVES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WENDY SWINDELL. MOTION PASSED.

11. IRLNEP Staff Reports

a. Community Engagement Report (Kathy Hill)

Ms. Kathy Hill reported a significant increase in social media engagement thanks to the efforts of the three Community Engagement Coordinators. Brevard County has been ranked highly with cities with the most engagement, based on the metrics. Facebook followers are largely individuals aged 45 and above, while Instagram followers are mostly under 45 years old.

b. Information Technology and Data Science Update (KJ Ayres)

Ms. KJ Ayres-Guerra discussed the completed Maps & Database for Equity Plan to identify priority communities in the IRL watershed. A standard for publishing all Metadata has been established. Past Project Information has been organized and posted. The ArcGIS Online Data Hub has been successfully developed, and multiple datasets have been integrated. Future tasks will include Internal & External Project Map, an editorial in ECO – Environmental, Coastal & Offshore Magazine, and reorganizing the website.

c. IRL Project Update (Daniel Kolodny)

Mr. Daniel Kolodny reported that the end of Quarter 2 of FY 2023 had 49 CCMP Projects/Activities in progress. Additionally, there was one CCMP Project pending, but no projects were completed during the quarter.

d. Executive Director Report (Duane De Freese)

Dr. Duane De Freese reported the EDC Space Coast feasibility study has gained significant momentum and support. The Florida Legislative budget has been released, and it includes funding requests for various projects aimed at improving the Indian River Lagoon. Ms. Kathy Hill and Mr. Dan Kolodny recently represented the IRLNEP in Washington, D.C. at the EPA Transformational Coastal Management Event. Ms. Hill delivered a presentation and participated in a panel discussion. Both the House and Senate Appropriation letters have been submitted with bipartisan support seeking funding for NEPs. Although the IRLNEP did not receive the NOAA funding grant, the proposal was ranked in the highest tier. An analysis of the project funding breakdown was presented, and it has been determined that future proposals should align with NOAA's traditional historic priorities, which focus on designated habitats.

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12. Final Comments (Committee, Staff, Public)

Dr. De Freese thanked members of the STEM Advisory Committee for their support while dealing with health issues.

13. Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.
Up the Creek Farms, 3590 Valkaria Road, Grant-Valkaria, FL 32950

14. Adjourn

Chuck Jacoby adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

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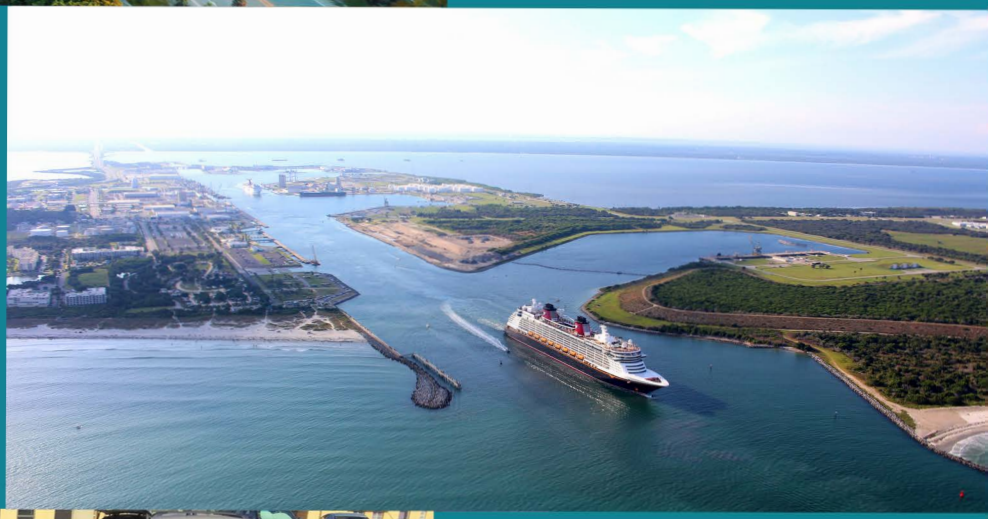
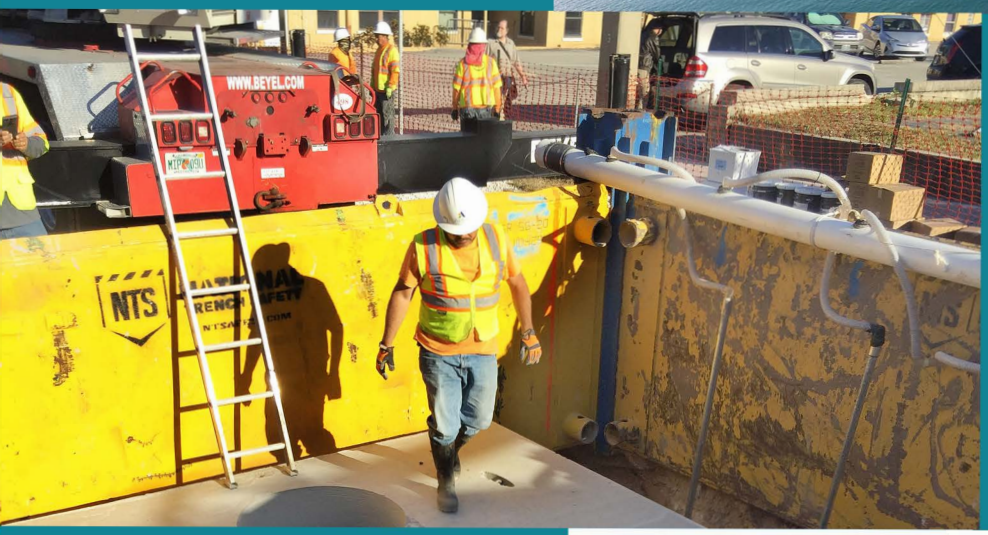
Infrastructure

Investment





Jobs

2024 Work Plan Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

ONE LAGOON
ONE COMMUNITY. ONE VOICE
INDIAN RIVER LAGOON
NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program
1235 Main Street
Sebastian, FL 32958
IRLCouncil.com

The Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program is a partnership whose members work to improve the water quality and ecological integrity of the 156-mile long estuary on Florida's east coast. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated the lagoon as an "Estuary of National Significance" in April 1990 and included the lagoon in the National Estuary Program in 1991. The IRLNEP is sponsored by the IRL Council, which was established in February 2015 as an independent special district of Florida.

FY 2024 EPA BIL Work Plan Table of Contents:

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Section A.1 General Information Reporting Requirements

A.1. Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP Goals for Fiscal Year 2024 are based on 32 Vital Signs identified in the One Lagoon CCMP - "*Looking Ahead to 2030*". See Figure 1 below. The CCMP was certified on July 23, 2019 and adopted by the IRL Council on August 9, 2019. This FY 2024 work plan has been developed in full alignment with the 2019 CCMP and the purpose of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law (BIL).

Figure 1. IRL Vital Signs aligning with the "One Lagoon – One Community – One Voice" Mission.

IRL Health Concern Levels

Each IRL Vital Sign was ranked by the IRLNEP Management Conference members and members of the public based on one of four levels of ecosystem health concern. These levels provide general guidance for prioritizing project funding and implementation. However, the IRLNEP strives to implement program activities that advance action plan recommendations within each Vital Sign. Levels are shown below:

LEVEL 1: CRITICAL – Condition threatens immediate and long-term prognosis for lagoon health. Indicators are unfavorable. Trend is negative. Immediate and aggressive intervention is urgently needed to stop and reverse trend.

LEVEL 2: SERIOUS – Condition threatens long-term prognosis for lagoon health. Trend is unfavorable or uncertain. Favorable outcome is not expected without strategic intervention and long-term stewardship.

LEVEL 3: UNDETERMINED – Insufficient knowledge is available to inform decision-making and resource management for the Vital Sign. Research needs to be identified, funded, and applied to resource management.

LEVEL 4: STABLE OR IMPROVING TREND – Vital Sign is stable or trending towards improvement. Continued intervention is needed. Long-term stewardship efforts are expected to deliver favorable outcomes.

THE FOLLOWING VITAL SIGN ACTIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WITH FY 2024 BIL FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE EPA (*See note at end of section). FY 2024 BIL Work Plan activities requesting EPA BIL funds represent 5 IRL Vital Signs and 7 Vital Sign action recommendations.

ONE LAGOON

Habitats

IRL Vital Sign: Seagrasses (Level 1 – Critical)

Actions:

Seagrass-1: Implement a program of protection, restoration, and management activities.

Seagrass-2: Ensure that monitoring, mapping, and modeling are coordinated lagoon-wide.

Seagrass-3: Fund innovative pilot projects and partnerships. BIL funding provided a historic opportunity for the IRLNEP to provide annually recurring seed funding for infrastructure improvements over the next 5 years to build/expand a lagoon-wide network of seagrass nurseries and restoration centers to respond to the catastrophic loss of seagrasses as a result of HABs.

ONE VOICE

Communicate, Collaborate, Coordinate, Innovate

IRL Vital Sign: Monitoring and Sharing Data (Level 2 - Serious)

Action:

Monitoring-2: Monitor IRL indicators at appropriate spatial and temporal scales to understand the status and trends associated with key indicators of the system's health.

IRL Vital Sign: Citizen Engagement and Education (Level 2 - Serious)
Action:
Communicate-1: Facilitate implementation of the IRL CCMP consistent with "One Lagoon – One Community – One Voice" mission.

ONE COMMUNITY
Healthy Communities

IRL Vital Sign: Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Level 3 – Undetermined)
Action:
Distinctive Communities-3: For Environmental Justice Communities, identify the unique challenges and opportunities along the lagoon for underrepresented communities.

IRL Vital Sign: Climate Ready Estuary (Level 2 – Serious)
Action:
Climate Ready Estuary-2: Identify opportunities to integrate infrastructure RESILIENCE into community planning.

*NOTE: All IRL CCMP vital signs are eligible for the Priority Communities CCMP Implementation Activity of this Workplan but have not been more narrowly defined due to projects not yet having been identified through a completed competitive Request for Proposal process.

SECTION A.2 Work Plan Programs and Specific Sub Award information FY 2024

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Vital Sign and Priority	IRLNEP CCMP Core Elements/Sub-Element	Program Title and Abstract	BIL Funding 2023	Partner Leverage	Total Program Cost	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date/Completion Date
1	Multiple TBD through a competitive RFP targeted to priority communities as defined in the IRLNEP Equity Strategy	All CCMP Vital signs are eligible	Program Implementation and Reporting (Outreach and Public Education); Ecosystem Status and Trends (Research, Restoration, Assessment and Monitoring, Reporting)	**Priority Communities CCMP Implementation**. Through a competitive RFP process, it is anticipated that multiple awards will be given to organizations for projects that benefit priority communities and that also implement the IRLNEP CCMP.	$ 360,800.00	TBD	TBD	To be determined. All projects deliverables will benefit priority communities as defined in the IRLNEP Equity Strategy.	10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024
2	Diversity of Thought, Inc	Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious), Priority Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	Program Implementation and Reporting (Outreach and Public Education)	**Priority Community Engagement and Equity Consulting.** This is a multi year service contract specifically for expanding the IRLNEP's engagement and collaboration with priority communities to build relationships and partnerships on how the NEP can best assist these communities in addressing their needs that also align with the CCMP.	$ 49,000.00	$ -	$ -	• trainings and workshops for all staff and management conference members. • long term strategy with SMART goals. • list of all new partnerships and stakeholders engaged. • minimum of three (3) community workshops. • development of a task force to address equity issues and to review priority community proposals. • priority community outreach strategy guide.	10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024
3	Sea and Shoreline, LLC; Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch; Florida Oceanographic Society; Brevard Zoo; Marine Discovery Center	Seagrass (Critical), Climate Ready Estuary (Serious), Priority Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	Program Implementation and Reporting (Outreach and Public Education); Ecosystem Status and Trends (Research, Restoration, Assessment and Monitoring, Reporting)	**Building Lagoon-wide Capacity for Seagrass Recovery Through Infrastructure Investments.** This is year 3 of a 5-year commitment to build capacity among the IRL seagrass restoration Community of Practice through 5 years of recurring investments in infrastructure, equipment and personnel for land-based or in-lagoon seagrass nurseries that can support expanded plant cultivation for large-scale restoration projects as well as support the associated research needed to better understand seagrass ecophysiology and cultivation.	$ 500,000.00	$ -	$ 500,000.00	• Construction drawings of any proposed facility construction. • As-builts of the constructed proposed facility. • Quantification of nursery plants produced. • Monitoring results and any other scientific research results as part of nursery production and/or planting events.	10/1/2023 - 9/30/2024
				Total BIL Funds	**$ 909,800.00**				
				Total IRL Council Local Cost Share Funds					
				Total IRLNEP Partner Match		**$ -**			
				Total Project Cost			**TBD**		

A.3 Program Staff and Their Respective Position Responsibilities

Executive Director, Duane E. De Freese, Ph.D.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Administrator for the IRLNEP with primary responsibility for effective, efficient, fiscally responsible and transparent delivery of all aspects of the IRLNEP hosted by the IRL Council.
- Serves as Senior Scientist for the IRLNEP, with oversight for CCMP implementation, coordination and revision via program office activities and management conference engagement.
- Supervises IRL Council staff managing projects, education and outreach activities, and program administration.
- Develops and updates the program's finance strategy and for developing sustainable funding sources from governmental and private sources.
- Establishes, maintains and elevates the position of the IRLNEP to increase the commitment to, and investment in, Indian River Lagoon restoration and stewardship.
- Serves as the principal intergovernmental and community spokesperson for the IRL Council and IRLNEP, including liaison with local, state and federal elected officials.

Deputy Director and Chief Communications Officer, Kathleen Hill

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Supports all activities of the Executive Director, including serving as Deputy Director representing the IRL Council, as needed.
- Provides comprehensive administrative and program management support for the IRL Council/IRLNEP office.
- Supervises staff and the management, direction and message alignment for all internal and external communications, community engagement activities and brand development activities.
- Provides IRLNEP Management Conference coordination and acts as IRL Council/IRLNEP liaison to committees, task forces and volunteers.
- Assists Executive Director with intergovernmental affairs and community outreach. Meets with and participates in various community advisory boards and committees relevant to the IRLNEP and CCMP.

Chief Operating Officer, Daniel Kolodny

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversees all aspects of the day-to-day operations of the IRL Council and IRLNEP.
- Supervises IRLNEP project management and program operations.
- Serves as IRL Council HR manager, in coordination with legal counsel.
- Oversees compliance with IRL Council policies and procedures.
- Serves as budget director, coordinating support for budget development and compliance, grant administration and liaison with financial service consultants and independent auditors.
- Official public records custodian.
- Coordinates Board support on matters outside the ED realm.
- Works directly with legal counsel for all aspects of Sunshine and ADA compliance.
- USGC Licensed captain for all field activities on the IRLNEP vessel.

Administrative Coordinator, Erin Bergman

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provides administrative services associated with the IRLNEP Management Conference, including meeting, committee and event coordination, meeting notes and minutes, and internal communications.
- Assists the Chief Operating Officer (COO) with maintaining and organizing public records; project management, organizes and manages all information submitted to the IRLNEP One-Drive.
- Manages the IRLNEP Small Grants Program; serves as first point of contact for invoices from contractors, tracks and organizes invoices for the COO.
- Organizes and maintains IRL Council and IRLNEP files; conducts research as needed from files, legal and technical documents to obtain data relevant to specific questions or problems; reviews source materials for articles, manuals, confidential findings, or speeches.
- Prepares reports and presentations for meetings, individuals and the public regarding matters pertaining to programs or operations.

GIS/IT Data Scientist, Kirsten Ayres-Guerra

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Performs a variety of GIS-based tasks for the IRLNEP including production of maps, story maps, project databases, etc.
- Works with program partners to determine needs for GIS-based applications and assets and develops resources to meet these needs.
- Manages and supervises all GIS data, including, but not limited to, development and creation of an IRLNEP GIS data hub; security administration; installation and configuration of software; maintenance and updating of software.
- Development and administration of enterprise databases; design and creation of new databases; controls data access; provides data analysis as needed; data modeling and optimization; and makes recommendations related to performance and efficiency of data storage.
- Maintains and provides technical support for development of the IRLNEP website.
- Create story maps, web applications, surveys and updates to website as needed.
- Writes reports for both technical and public-facing audiences.

Community Engagement Coordinator (North Region), Jessy Wayles

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provides services in Volusia County south through approximately Cocoa in Brevard County.
- Provides support to enhance and strengthen long-term partnerships; develops programs and materials to meet identified needs; develops new partnerships with community members and organizations.
- Represents the IRLNEP at public meetings of local governments and agencies, provides information and follow-up materials as needed; promotes availability of IRLNEP services to partners (i.e., technology transfer, grant writing, GIS services, etc.); serves on committees and work groups.
- Organizes and facilitates workshops and meetings; gives public presentations and provides community outreach.
- Expands the social media capacity of the Program and assists in the development of social media campaign strategies, content and video creation, and development of print and web materials.

Community Engagement Coordinator (Central Region), Heather Stapleton

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provides services from approximately Rockledge in Brevard County south through Indian River County.
- Provides support to enhance and strengthen long-term partnerships; develops programs and materials to meet identified needs; develops new partnerships with community members and organizations.
- Represents the IRLNEP at public meetings of local governments and agencies, provides information and follow-up materials as needed; promotes availability of IRLNEP services to partners (i.e., technology transfer, grant writing, GIS services, etc.); serves on committees and work groups.
- Organizes and facilitates workshops and meetings; gives public presentations and provides community outreach.
- Expands the social media capacity of the Program and assists in the development of social media campaign strategies, content and video creation, and development of print and web materials.

Community Engagement Coordinator (South Region), Caleta Scott

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provides services in St. Lucie and Martin Counties.
- Provides support to enhance and strengthen long-term partnerships; develops programs and materials to meet identified needs; develops new partnerships with community members and organizations.
- Represents the IRLNEP at public meetings of local governments and agencies, provides information and follow-up materials as needed; promotes availability of IRLNEP services to partners (i.e., technology transfer, grant writing, GIS services, etc.); serves on committees and work groups.
- Organizes and facilitates workshops and meetings; gives public presentations and provides community outreach.
- Expands the social media capacity of the Program and assists in the development of social media campaign strategies, content and video creation, and development of print and web materials.

Section B.1 Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program FY 2024 BIL Work Plan

FY2024 BIL Outputs and Outcomes

Outputs:

- Implement the strategic IRLNEP Outputs (deliverables) identified in the IRL One Lagoon Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan: "*Looking Ahead to 2030*" (adopted August 2019) and FY 2024 Work Plan Proposal.

- Specific Work Plan Outputs for FY 2024

  BIL Funding – at least 3 projects/activities identified through competitive RFP or RFQ process. 1 Project is to be procured through a competitive RFP to be released in the spring of 2024.

  1. Priority Community Engagement and Equity Consulting ($49,000). This is a multi-year service contract specifically for expanding the IRLNEP's engagement and collaboration with priority communities to build relationships and partnerships on how the NEP can best assist these communities in addressing their needs that also align with the CCMP.
  2. Building Capacity for Lagoon-Wide Seagrass Recovery Through Infrastructure Investments ($500,000). FY 2024 funding is the third of a 5-year commitment of IRLNEP BIL funds to 5 organizations identified through a competitive RFQ process.
     - Establish a network of 5 seagrass nurseries to supply plant stock to support large-scale seagrass restoration with a goal to accelerate the timeline of seagrass recovery in the IRL.
     - Support scientific research, monitoring, training and creation of a Community of Practice for seagrass restoration throughout the IRL.
     - Enhance communication, coordination, and activities among multiple stakeholders to ensure that a stable supply chain is established to achieve overall seagrass restoration and recovery goals.
     - Engage private-sector partners in the initiative.
  3. Priority Communities CCMP Implementation ($360,800). FY2024 funding will go to competitively selected projects that implement the IRLNEP CCMP within or that benefit priority communities as identified in the IRLNEP Equity Strategy.

- Provide CCMP implementation direction and oversight with CCMP alignment for all budgeting/project/contract management activities.

- Produce and distribute the IRLNEP Annual Report to communicate program progress and provide a high-level of accountability and transparency for use of public funds.

Outcomes

- Align IRLNEP outputs and outcomes closely with the BIL guidance and the 32 vital signs for IRL health identified in the CCMP: "Looking Ahead to 2030".

- Implementation of EPA priorities for BIL Funds which include clean water-healthy estuary, resilience to climate change, and benefits reaching priority communities.

- Specific Work Plan Outcomes for FY 2024
    - Engagement of volunteers from priority communities to participate in the installation and monitoring of seagrasses.
    - Engagement of individuals from priority communities to collaborate and identify projects that benefit the communities and implement the IRLNEP CCMP.
    - An increase in passive recreational opportunities, Indian River Lagoon education, and improved natural areas.
    - Reduction of nutrients entering the system.
    - Increased habitat for lagoon species.
    - Increased resiliency to climate change.
    - Accelerated recovery of seagrass acreage.

- Implement One Lagoon actions to improve and protect water quality, natural habitats, and living resources through infrastructure improvements, capacity building and/or the creation of jobs.

- Implement One Community actions that contribute to healthy, sustainable and resilient communities.

- Implement One Voice actions that improve communication, collaboration and coordination.

- Fund project activities among IRL stakeholders and partners that promote and implement the 10 “Rs” for ecosystem recovery: Research - Remove - Reduce - Restore - Rebuild - Report - Resilience – Responsibility - Resolve.

- Promote innovation and transformational thinking, investment and action.

- Provide technical and program support to partners and stakeholders.

Section B.2 Proposed New and On-Going Project Reporting Requirements

Activity 1 (New)

CCMP Work Plan Vital Sign and Actions:

- *All CCMP Vital Signs are eligible.*

Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious Concern)

Communicate-1: Facilitate implementation of the IRL CCMP consistent with "One Lagoon – One Community – One Voice" mission.

Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined Concern)

Distinctive Communities-3: For Environmental Justice Communities, identify the unique challenges and opportunities along the lagoon for underrepresented communities.

Project/Activity Name:

Priority Communities CCMP Implementation

Project Activity Purpose and Description:

Through a competitive RFP process, it is anticipated that multiple awards will be given to organizations for projects that benefit priority communities and that also implement the IRLNEP CCMP. Individual project descriptions are to be determined. The IRLNEP anticipates, projects like septic to sewer conversions, stormwater treatment areas, trash-free water clean-up projects, climate resiliency planning and implementation, and habitat restoration.

Budget:

$360,800 BIL

Outcomes:

Short-term Outcome: Direct benefits to priority communities to address a need that also aligns with the CCMP.

Medium-term Outcome: Increased collaboration and engagement with priority communities in IRL issues.

Long-term Outcome: An increased reduction of pollutants to the IRL, and increased awareness by priority communities of IRL issues, and increased positive behavior changes to lessen IRL impacts.

Changes (+/-) in Pressure Targets: The current trend is negative with increased HAB occurrences, intensities, and duration, especially in Banana River Lagoon.

BIL Priorities:

1. *Accelerate and more extensively implement CCMPs. This project is only one year but leverages additional resources.*
2. *Ensure that benefits reach disadvantaged communities. This project directly benefits a community that fits the definition of a disadvantaged community through the five-factor Demographic Index.*
3. *Leverage additional resources.*

Activity 2 (New)

CCMP Work Plan Vital Sign and Actions:

Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious Concern)

Communicate-1: Facilitate implementation of the IRL CCMP consistent with "One Lagoon – One Community – One Voice" mission.

Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined Concern)

Distinctive Communities-3: For Environmental Justice Communities, identify the unique challenges and opportunities along the lagoon for underrepresented communities.

Project/Activity Name:

Priority Community Engagement and Equity Consulting

Project Activity Purpose and Description:

Priority Community Engagement and Equity Consulting. This is a multi-year service contract specifically for expanding the IRLNEP's engagement and collaboration with priority communities to build relationships and partnerships on how the NEP can best assist these communities in addressing their needs that also align with the CCMP.

Budget:

$49,000 BIL

Outcomes:

Short-term Outcome: Increased collaboration and engagement with priority communities in IRL issues.

Medium-term Outcome: A culture of equity in all IRLNEP programs.

Long-term Outcome: An increased reduction of pollutants to the IRL, and increased awareness of IRL issues, and increased positive behavior changes to lessen IRL impacts.

Changes (+/-) in Pressure Targets: The current trend is negative with increased HAB occurrences, intensities, and duration, in the Northern IRL, Banana River Lagoon, and Mosquito Lagoon.

BIL Priorities:

1. *Accelerate and more extensively implement CCMPs. This project helps facilitate the Justice40 initiative.*
2. *Ensure that benefits reach disadvantaged communities. The consultant has extensive contacts with priority communities to facilitate relationship building with the IRLNEP and priority communities.*

Activity 3 (On-Going)

CCMP Work Plan Vital Sign and Actions:

Seagrasses (Critical Concern)

Seagrass-1: Implement a program of protection, restoration, and management activities.

Seagrass-2: Ensure that monitoring, mapping, and modeling are coordinated lagoon-wide.

Seagrass-3: Fund innovative pilot projects and partnerships.

Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined Concern)

Distinctive Communities-3: For Environmental Justice Communities, identify the unique challenges and opportunities along the lagoon for underrepresented communities.

Climate Ready Estuary (Serious Concern)

Climate Ready Estuary-2: Identify opportunities to integrate infrastructure RESILIENCE into community planning.

Project/Activity Name:

Building Lagoon-wide Capacity for Seagrass Recovery Through Infrastructure Investments.

Project Activity Purpose and Description:

This is year 3 of a 5-year commitment to build capacity among the IRL seagrass restoration Community of Practice through 5 years of recurring investments in infrastructure, equipment and personnel for land-based or in-lagoon seagrass nurseries that can support expanded plant cultivation for large-scale restoration projects as well as support the associated research needed to better understand seagrass ecophysiology and cultivation.

Budget:

$500,000 BIL

Outcomes:

Short-term Outcome: Expanded capacity for seagrass cultivation.

Medium-term Outcome: A IRLNEP stockpile of seagrass available for restoration efforts regionally. Knowledge about best practices and genetic variability for seagrass restoration.

Long-term Outcome: A shorter time frame for recovery of the historic seagrass habitat lost since 2009.

Changes (+/-) in Pressure Targets: The current trend is negative with increased HAB occurrences, intensities, and duration, in the Northern IRL, Banana River Lagoon, and Mosquito Lagoon and loss of seagrass coverage and acreage.

BIL Implementation Information:

1. *Accelerate and more extensively implement CCMPs. This activity will extend over the 5-year timeframe of the BIL funding. To properly build capacity for seagrass restoration at a transformative level, multi-years of funding is needed. Seagrass is a critical health concern vital sign in the CCMP.*
2. *Ensure that benefits reach disadvantaged communities. This project directly benefits a disadvantaged community by engaging a workforce from an underserved and underrepresented community.*
3. *Build the adaptive capacity of ecosystems and communities. Seagrass is an important part of climate resilience. Seagrass helps stabilize sediment and absorb wave energy as well as sequester nutrients and carbon in them.*

Section C. Completed Major Projects/Activities
Previous Year(s) Reporting

C.1 Summary: IRLNEP BIL Projects from Previous Years

Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program Projects/Activities funded by EPA BIL Funds.

This is the third workplan submission for the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law (BIL) funding. There are three accomplishments from the FY2022 Workplan to report at the time of submission for this workplan since they were not ready for reporting at time of submission of the FY2023 Workplan. Those projects are listed below. All projects as part of the FY2022 and FY2023 BIL Workplan are in progress. The IRLNEP will also be reporting on BIL activities in our Annual Business Plan, our Annual Reports and in NEPORT. EPA BIL Work Plans, and the IRLNEP Annual Business Plans and Annual Reports will be posted on the IRLNEP web site at www.onelagoon.org.

Project(s) Completed from the FY 2022 BIL Workplan:

1. **Activity 1: Connect to Protect Septic to Sewer Nutrient Removal Program Year 2.**
    - BIL funds allocated - $100,000 | Spent - $100,000.
    - Priority Community Benefits: No
    - Completed in partnership with Martin County.
    - Key Outputs (Deliverables):
        - 150 homes were converted from septic systems to centralized sewer through an incentive program of $1,000 from the NEP.
        - An estimated 4,050 lbs./yr. of Total Nitrogen (TN) and 27 lbs./yr. of Total Phosphorous (TP) are removed from entering the Indian River Lagoon.
    - Outcomes:
        - Short-term benefit: Septic tank removal will reduce the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and fecal coliform that leach into the IRL.
        - Medium-term benefit: Reduction in nutrient contribution decreases the potential for harmful algae blooms and massive fish kills.
        - Long-term benefit: Project will reduce contribution to nutrient-related algal growth, improve water clarity, support seagrass photosynthesis and increase habitat and lagoon health.

2. **Activity 2: Septic to Sewer Conversion Along the Elkcam Waterway.**
    - BIL funds allocated - $100,000 | Spent - $100,000
    - Priority Community Benefits: No
    - Completed in partnership with the City of Port Saint Lucie.
    - Key Outputs (Deliverables):
        - 34 homes were converted from septic systems to centralized sewer where 50% of the costs were covered by funding from the NEP.
        - An estimated 208 lbs./yr. of TN is removed from entering the Indian River Lagoon.

- Outcomes:
    - Short-term benefits: Enhanced community understanding in Elkcam area; initial nutrient reductions.
    - Medium-term benefits: Incentivizing the conversion of 34 residential septic systems in the Elkcam Hot Spot area; significant nutrient reductions; better Indian River Lagoon protection.
    - Long-term benefits: Fewer algal blooms; habitat improvements; restoration of Indian River Lagoon biological diversity to a stable and resilient state

3. **Activity 6: Restoration of Clam Populations in the Indian River Lagoon for Water Quality Improvement Year 3.**
    - BIL funds allocated - $45,000 | Spent - $45,556.87 (covers under budget amount for Activity 5)
    - Priority Community Benefits: No
    - Completed in partnership with the University of Florida.
    - Key Outputs (Deliverables):
        - Spawn the broodstock (multiple times) and rear larvae to field transplant ('seed') size at the Whitney Laboratory's research shellfish hatchery and land-based nursery and commercial partner facilities (Premium Seafoods Inc and Seaventures) for the purpose of repatriating targeted clams to the IRL and hastening system recovery.
        - 2-3 million clams out-planted at 3 new sites as well as supplementing the existing 5 sites.
        - New collaborative relationships with agencies, groups and the public via targeted information release on social and news media outlets and organized scientific working group meetings.
    - Outcomes:
        - Short-term Outcomes: This project will initiate activities that are directly aimed at supporting shellfish restoration, which is a valuable IRL management technique that is primarily focused on Eastern oysters but has broader utility. By targeting resistant genotypes with stress resistant physiological tolerances, and repatriating these clam varieties in large numbers, restoration success will increase. This project also engages a combination of public and private partners in proactive efforts to improve water quality in the IRL.
        - Medium-term Outcomes: Positive performance of stress resistant clams will inform a significant effort to repatriate these shellfish to the IRL and ultimately support the effort to restore healthy seagrasses. The outcome of this work will be to legitimize and prove efficacy of the approach as well as, provide managers and decision makers with appropriate science to back implementation and expenditures in this effort. The timeframe for this outcome is 2-3 years.
        - Long-term Outcomes: It is anticipated this work will provide the foundation for restoring shellfish populations in the IRL. The impacts

are far-reaching and include improvements to the reliability and feasibility of utilizing filter-feeders to restore water quality, and to reestablish clam populations for potential future recreational harvesting of wild clams. The benefits are not limited to aquaculture by any means. This work may set the stage for utilizing shellfish population enhancement methods to restore water quality in impaired waters and facilitate the recovery of seagrass habitat (a scenario that has been realized in Tampa Bay already). Aiding native shellfish populations to overcome hurdles such as low reproductive success caused by diminished brood stock and reduced ability for synchronous spawning can have significant positive effects on ecosystem health due to increased water filtration and nutrient retention. Perhaps most importantly, we foresee a tremendous benefit to the local economy of the five counties that share the IRL by increased recreational activities that will stem from a healthier lagoon. The expected timeline for these outcomes is 3-5yrs.

Section C.2 Prior BIL Work Plan Projects

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
1	City of Fort Pierce	Stormwater (Critical); Impaired Waters (Critical); Trash Free Waters (Serious); Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL priority); Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious)	**Moore's Creek Distinctive Communities Project:** This project calls for the installation of a series of watershed trash traps to be installed at two sections of Moore's Creek where large amounts of trash from stormwater runoff, trail users, and the surrounding residential communities, lands in the watershed and ultimately flows towards and into the Indian River Lagoon. The netting attached to each trash trap would continuously capture debris immediately as the debris flows through the culverts, preventing further travel through the watershed. Once the nets fill, they would be emptied by the City's Public Works Department and the trash would be properly discarded. This project would immediately improve the aesthetics of the Creek's waters and the surrounding community and would ward off hundreds of pounds of trash from ever reaching the IRL.	$ 106,500.00	- Site locations and boundaries identified. - Design considerations and permit needs; water quality improvement needs/objectives. - Finalized design report. - An operation and maintenance report documenting activities performed and a final assessment of trash removed monthly.	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	This project has been withdrawn by the project partner. A workplan amendment will be necessary to reallocate these funds to other projects/activities.
2	Bethune-Cookman University	Seagrass (Critical); Monitoring and Data Sharing (Serious), Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	**IRL Seagrass Restoration using Mosquito Control Impoundment**. This proposed project will (1) establish a population of a native seagrass species *Ruppia maritima* in a mosquito impoundment; (2) monitor the restored impoundment to assess its character as a natural seagrass nursery and a source for IRL seagrass re-colonization and succession; and (3) develop and share protocol of guide and strategy toward IRL seagrass restoration using impoundment hydrology and Ruppia phenology. Success measures will be made through estimating production of reproductive shoots, flowers, seeds from the transplants as well as expansion of the transplanted area along the seasonal hydrologic regime.	$ 32,500.00	(1) Restoration of seagrass in the mosquito control impoundment A total of 4,000 mechanical planting units will be installed on 0.5-meter (~20 in.) centers in the impoundment. The total restoration area will be around 11,000 sq. ft. Once rooted and mature, the transplants will establish a seagrass source population for IRL (2) Protocol and Technical transfer: This proposed restoration method employs unique natures of seasonal impoundment hydrology and biology of *Ruppia maritima* . A protocol of the technique using Ruppia and impoundments will be developed and published both electronically and in prints, which will be also shared through a workshop, invited lectures, conference presentations, and a journal publication.	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	Behind schedule. A pump failure in the impoundment and permitting delays have pushed back the planting portion of this project. New completion date scheduled for September 30, 2024.

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
3	The Manatee Observation and Education Center	Seagrass (Critical); Monitoring and Data Sharing (Serious); Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority); Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious)	**Manatee Observation and Education Center Seagrass Restoration Project.** This project aims to restore approximately one acre of seagrass to Moores Creek, a tributary to the IRL, and enhance an additional 0.5 acres of adjacent seagrass community. The project also aims to examine the effectiveness of several cost-effective seagrass restoration methods to assist in the design and scalability of large-scale seagrass restoration projects in the IRL. These methods include supplemental planting, bioturbation control, and a sediment amending growth enhancement (SAGE) treatment.	$ 39,875.00	1. The restoration of one acre of seagrass habitat in Moores Creek, a tributary to the IRL. 2. An increase in biomass of seagrass communities found adjacent to the project site. 3. Data demonstrating the effectiveness of three cost-effective seagrass restoration/ biomass enhancement techniques that can be replicable in large-scale restoration efforts. 4. Data analyzing changes in manatee visitation frequency and behavior before, during, and after seagrass restoration in Moore's Creek.	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	On schedule.
4	St. Lucie County	Stormwater (Critical), Impaired Waters (Critical); Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority), Climate Ready Estuary (Serious, BIL Priority)	**Sheraton Stormwater Treatment Area**. This project phase is to engineer, permit, and design a water quality improvement project along the C25 Canal in St. Lucie County. The County recently purchased 9-acres along the C25 and in conjunction with previously purchased lands will construct a 16-acre linear STA feature along the canal. The future project's footprint could become larger than 16-acres as the possibility of tying in the County-owned Sheraton Preserve also exists. This project will have multiple benefits to the IRL and its local constituents. Most importantly, the project will play a role in improving water quality entering the IRL from the C25. Currently untreated runoff from local communities such as Sheraton Plaza and Harmony Heights will be held and treated before discharging downstream. A proposed pump system would also provide an avenue to collect nutrient laden agricultural waters originating from the western part of the County during dry seasons. The project will also provide a benefit to the local underserved communities as most presently have no drainage or water quality infrastructure. Overall, this project will result in less flooding, passive recreational opportunities, Indian River Lagoon education, and improved natural areas.	$ 100,000.00	- Engineered, designed, and permitted 16–20-acre STA/water quality project. - Estimated nutrient reductions to IRL: 1,132.2 lb./yr. nitrogen and 178.697 lb./yr. phosphorus	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	Behind schedule. The agreement was not executed until January 2023. The new completion date in January 31, 2024.

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
5	IRLNEP	Seagrass (Critical), Filter Feeders (Serious), Living Shorelines (Serious), Emergency Preparation and Response (Serious), Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined)	**IRLNEP Vessel for Restoration Support Activities**. This project will support purchase of a suitable vessel for the IRLNEP to perform restoration support to project partners throughout the Indian River Lagoon. This includes shuttling volunteers to work sites, moving supplies to project sites, performing monitoring activities, and other activities as appropriate. The vessel could also be used for educational tours, and emergency response scenarios as appropriate.	$ 60,000.00	- Contract or agreement for purchase. - photos of vessel. - list of restoration events supported. (this deliverable will continue for the life of the vessel) - estimate of volunteers or citizens engaged. (this deliverable will continue for the life of the vessel)	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	On schedule.
6	UCF	Filter Feeders (Serious), Citizen Engagement and Education (Serious), Commercial and Recreational Fisheries (Serious), Monitoring and Data Sharing (Serious), Living Shorelines (Serious), Science, Technology, and Innovation (Undetermined), Climate Ready Estuary (Serous, BIL Priority), Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	**Charge on: Habitat Restoration in Mosquito Lagoon, Florida**. This project will greatly improve water quality (reduce nutrients, increase clarity) and increase resiliency of IRL to sea level rise and storm surge through habitat restoration of 6 (0.25-acre footprint) oyster reefs and 600 feet of eroded shoreline in Mosquito Lagoon (ML) using only non-plastic, biodegradable materials. Both efforts will co-locate urgently needed seagrass (Halodule wrightii) restoration based on successful pilot studies plus natural recruitment recorded in April 2022 associated with 2021 restoration. UCF's highly successful, community-based, and partner-driven restoration and long-term (15 yr.) monitoring efforts will continue; oyster restoration has run continuously since 2007 and living shoreline stabilization since 2010. Marine Discovery Center (MDC) has engaged 4,300+ volunteers on the Shuck & Share Oyster Recycling Program since 2014 and has diverted over 700,000 lbs. of shell from landfills.	$ 70,925.00	Deliverable 1: 6 restored oyster reefs (0.25-acre footprint) in ML using BESE™ biodegradable mesh with recycled oyster shell attached with stainless wire or pH-balanced cement/jute patties. 0.1-acre co-located seagrass restoration. Deliverable 2: 600 linear feet of living shoreline in ML with cement/jute-based volcano shaped breakwaters or steel mesh bags filled with recycled shell specifically designed for IRL. 0.5-acre co-located seagrass restoration. Deliverable 3: Recycle 90,000 pounds of oyster shell through the Shuck & Share Program. Deliverable 4: A minimum of 20 community restoration preparation events and 10 deployment events. Deliverable 5: Quarterly and final reports to IRLNEP with project progress and pre- and post-monitoring results.	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	Behind schedule. Due to the execution of a contract and the time needed to prepare materials and deploy the materials, it was decided mutually to implement the project in FY2024. The new completion date is September 30, 2024.

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
7	Sea and Shoreline, LLC; Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch; Florida Oceanographic Society; Brevard Zoo; Marine Discovery Center	Seagrass (Critical), Climate Ready Estuary (Serious), Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	**Building Lagoon-wide Capacity for Seagrass Recovery Through Infrastructure Investments.** This is year 2 of a 5-year commitment to build capacity among the IRL seagrass restoration community of practice through 5 years of recurring investments in infrastructure, equipment and personnel for land-based or in-lagoon seagrass nurseries that can support expanded plant cultivation for large-scale restoration projects as well as support the associated research needed to better understand seagrass ecophysiology and cultivation.	$ 500,000.00	• Construction drawings of any proposed facility construction. • As-builts of the constructed proposed facility. • Quantification of nursery plants produced. • Monitoring results and any other scientific research results as part of nursery production and/or planting events.	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023	Behind schedule. Most of the FY2022 funds have not been fully expended by the subawardees. New completion date expected September 30, 2024.

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
Activity	**Project Partners**	**CCMP Action Plan & Priority**	**Project Title and Abstract**	**BIL Funding FY 2022**	**Project Deliverables**	**Project Start Date / Completion Date**	**Project Status**
3	Brevard County	Wastewater (Critical), Impaired Waters (Critical)	**The Micco Sewer Line Extension.** After a new 1.4 mile force main of gravity line is installed, each of the 22 properties will initiate the septic to sewer conversion. This project was selected due to (a) its proximity to the Central IRL and (b) significant number of commercial properties, including marinas, within the project area that contribute large amounts of nutrients to the Central IRL through septic drain field contributions to groundwater. The short-term benefits of the Micco Project will result in the immediate elimination of 1,493 lbs.-TN/year to the Central IRL which is approximately 0.26% of the Stormwater Allocation of the TMDL for the Central Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan.	$100,000.00	• Approximately 1.4 miles of force main will be installed along U.S. 1 in Micco, FL adjacent to the Indian River Lagoon. Along with the force main, a new lift station and approximately 22 grinder pumps and lateral lines will be installed at developed properties within the project area.	10/1/2019 - 12/31/2022	Behind schedule due to delays in contracting. Construction is in progress and a new completion date is September 30, 2024.
4	Indian River County	Wastewater (Critical), Impaired Waters (Critical)	**The North Sebastian-Phase 2 Septic to Sewer Project.** The project area is adjacent to the mouth of the St. Sebastian River (WBID 5003D1), a major tributary of the IRL. The project is shovel-ready. The project location contains a total of 201 parcels consisting of both residential and non-residential properties currently served by septic systems. Approximately 90% of these properties are already developed.	$100,000.00	• The project will construct a gravity sewer system consisting of approximately 15,400 linear feet of sewer main, approximately 54 manholes and a County-owned and operated lift station. Construction of a water main will coincide with the sewer main.	10/1/2020 - 12/31/2022	Behind schedule due to construction delays. New completion date is December 31, 2023.

Activity	Project Partners	CCMP Action Plan & Priority	Project Title and Abstract	BIL Funding FY 2023	Project Deliverables	Project Start Date / Completion Date	Project Status
7	Sea and Shoreline, LLC; Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch; Florida Oceanographic Society; Brevard Zoo; Marine Discovery Center	Seagrass (Critical), Climate Ready Estuary (Serious), Distinctive Lagoon Communities (Undetermined, BIL Priority)	**Building Lagoon-wide Capacity for Seagrass Recovery Through Infrastructure Investments.** The desired outcome of this RFQ and funding opportunity is to build capacity among the IRL seagrass restoration Community of Practice through 5 years of recurring investments in infrastructure, equipment and personnel for land-based or in-lagoon seagrass nurseries that can support expanded plant cultivation for large-scale restoration projects as well as support the associated research needed to better understand seagrass ecophysiology and cultivation.		• Construction Drawings of any proposed facility construction. • As-builts of the constructed proposed facility. • Quantification of nursery plants produced. • Monitoring results and any other scientific research results as part of nursery production and/or planting events.	10/1/2021-9/30/2022	Behind Schedule. Contracts were not completed until June 2023. New expected completion date is September 30, 2024.

Total $ 1,109,800.00

2024 and 2025 RFP Review and Discussion

FY2025 Water Quality Restoration

- Projected amount – up to $450,000
  - FY2024 amount - $450,000
- 3 criteria
  1. Must align with the water quality portion of the CCMP (Impaired waters, stormwater, wastewater, hydrology, legacy loads, atmospheric deposition, and/or contaminants of concern). Priority given to 3 critical vital signs (wastewater, stormwater, Impaired Waters)
  2. Must reduce or remove excess nutrients and other contaminants from land-based or legacy sources.
  3. Must quantify reductions.
- Additional criteria
  1. IF Design and Engineering:
     1. Must complete 100% plans and secure permits by end of 12-month period.
  2. IF construction:
     1. Reasonable assurance to be completed in 12-month period.
     2. Pilot projects must provide sufficient documentation that completion will deliver one or more of the following outcomes: enhanced effectiveness and efficiency that would transform lagoon-wide restoration practices; significant reduction of costs without sacrificing performance; and/or beneficial uses for waste streams that improve long-term sustainability.

FY2025 Water Quality Restoration

- Other considerations:
  - Large, complex, multi-agency projects that require multiple years of funding will be considered. Proposals must align with the priorities above and the following additional considerations:
    - Phased, multi-year projects requesting a final year of funding must provide evidence that one year of funding will assure project completion.
    - Proposals requesting the first year of funding for a phased, multi-year, multi-agency project must demonstrate and document:
      1. An urgent need to initiate the project for this funding cycle.
      2. A strategic pathway to project completion with definitive milestones and all funding sources identified and/or secured. If future years funding commitments are not identified or secured, applicant must demonstrate quantitative benefits from the phase 1 portion of the project.
      3. An ability to complete the first phase of work in 12 months with no expectation for the need for no-cost extensions.
- Match – 50%
- IRLNEP staff suggestions: no change

FY2025 Habitat Restoration

- Projected amount – up to $150,000
  - FY2024 amount - $100,000
- 2 criteria
  1. Must align with the habitats portion of the CCMP (seagrasses, filter feeders, living shorelines, wetlands, spoil islands, land conservation, and connected waters). Priority given to 1 critical vital sign (seagrasses)
  2. Must document site selection criteria and success criteria.
- Additional criteria
  1. IF filter feeder:
     1. must use non-plastic materials unless consistent with guidelines provided by permitting agencies.
  2. IF Design and Engineering:
     1. Must complete 100% plans and secure permits.

FY2025 Habitat Restoration

- Other considerations:
  - Habitat inventory and assessment projects that fill gaps in current assessments and/or complete a lagoon-wide habitat inventory and assessment to guide future restoration projects.
  - Innovative, high-risk/high-reward, pilot-scale project proposals are encouraged.
  - Large, complex, multi-agency projects that require multiple years of funding will be considered.
- Match 50%
- IRLNEP staff suggestions: Proposal must document that the project team has adequate expertise to successfully implement and complete the project.

FY2025 Community-Based Habitat Restoration

- Projected amount – up to $150,000
  - FY2024 amount - $100,000
- 4 criteria
  1. Must align with at least one Water Quality or Habitats vital sign the CCMP AND one vital sign from the One Community or One Voice sections. Priority given to 6 critical vital signs (Impaired Waters, stormwater, wastewater, seagrasses, harmful algal blooms, CCMP financing and implementation)
  2. Must have assessment of community contribution (# of volunteers, hours, and value).
  3. Must document site selection criteria and success criteria.
  4. Secured all permits at time of submission.

FY2025 Community-Based Habitat Restoration

- Match 25%
- IRLNEP staff suggestions:
  1. Include living resources portion of vital signs in criteria 1.
  2. Permit requirement at time of submission not mandatory but preferred.

FY2025 Science and Innovation

- Projected amount - $100,000
  - FY2024 amount - $100,000
- 1 criteria
  1. Must align with the science and technology innovation vital sign and one other CCMP vital sign. Priority given to 6 critical vital signs (Impaired Waters, stormwater, wastewater, seagrasses, harmful algal blooms, CCMP financing and implementation).
- Match – 25%
- IRLNEP staff suggestions:
  - Project must document application and pathway to enhance resource management decision(s).
  - Change priority vital signs from the critical vital signs to gaps in knowledge identified in the CCMP and/or the One Lagoon Monitoring Plan for any vital sign.

FY2024 and FY2025 Priority Communities

- Projected amount - $418,300 FY2024, $360,800 FY2025
- criteria
    1. Benefits of a project must inure to a priority community as defined in the IRLNEP Long Term BIL strategy approved by USEPA on June 20, 2023.
    2. Must align with IRLNEP CCMP.
    3. Other considerations/criteria to be determined by task force.
- Match – not required
- IRLNEP staff suggestion: none at this time.

FY2024 Small Grants

- Projected amount - $25,000
  - FY2024 amount - $25,000+$11,135
- 1 criteria
  1. Must align with the CCMP and be either restoration or community engagement/education based.
- Match – not required
- IRLNEP staff suggestion: no change

Scoring Process

- Proposals delivered to individual reviewers for one category only.
- Each reviewer scores each proposal separately according to scoring criteria and guidance provided by the IRLNEP.
- Scores are returned to COO for processing.
- Scores are normalized, ranked and presented to the management conference for review and approval.
- IRLNEP Staff suggestion:
  - Schedule review team meeting to discuss rankings and funding to confirm committee consensus in advance of management conference meetings.

Scoring (WQR, HR, CBR, SI)

Executive Summary

A 1-Page Project Executive Summary is provided, in proper format, and contains adequate information to explain the project.

Score 0 – 10 points using the rubric below as a guide:

Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points

Adequate: 1 – 4 points

Good: 5 – 7 points

Excellent: 8 – 10 points

A. Project Overview

Proposal is directly responsive to the restoration priorities listed herein and in the IRLNEP CCMP. Proposal provides a succinct, descriptive overview of the work being proposed, outlines the project deliverables and provides a time frame.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:

Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points

Adequate: 1 – 8 points

Good: 9 – 15 points

Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

B. Quantify Project Outputs (Deliverables)

Proposal is specific in quantifying, the deliverables and cites, as applicable, the methodology used to quantify expected outputs.

Score 0 – 10 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 4 points
Good: 5 – 7 points
Excellent: 8 – 10 points

C. Project Outcomes (Benefits to the IRL)

Proposal clearly describes and quantifies, where possible, benefits to the IRL, its tributaries, watershed, or the Halifax northern planning boundary. Project outlines the expected benefits of the work to be done over the short-, mid- and long- terms and describes other resource, infrastructure, economic or quality-of-life benefits as appropriate.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

D. Technical Merit/Justification

Proposal justifies the project's urgency and readiness; it identifies the project location and explains why the site was selected and deemed appropriate for achieving success; connections to existing or ongoing programs are explained; and there is reasonable assurance that the project can be completed in one year.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

E. Partner and Local Commitment

Proposal defines why partners were selected and clearly identifies the specific contribution(s) being made by all project partners. Proposal specifies whether the proposed project is included in any adopted local or regional management plans (stormwater master plan, BMAP, or local/regional IRL Restoration plan).

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

F. Project Readiness

If the proposal is for a Design and Engineering project (D&E), a detailed timeline is provided for D&E development and permitting, with expected milestones and dates noted.
If a construction project, proposal documents that D&E is completed, required permits are listed and the status of any required permit is noted. Proposal adequately describes project readiness to initiate work and a detailed timeline showing start/completion, milestones, dates for quarterly reports, and other major tasks are noted. **If permits are required, but have not been secured, 10 points is the maximum score for a construction proposal.**

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

G. Project Monitoring/Evaluation and Maintenance Plans

Proposal describes how project success will be evaluated or monitored and the timeline for any monitoring. Proposal notes the key points during the project where evaluation of success will take place.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

H. Project Sustainability Long Term

Proposal describes the project's plan for phasing and funding if seeking multi-year IRL Council funding, OR. If the project will continue without IRL Council funding, describes how the project will be sustained long term.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

I. Citizen Engagement/Volunteers (Community-Based Restoration only)

Proposal clearly quantifies the scope and value of the volunteers that the project will engage with. The proposal has a plan to assess knowledge, awareness, and behavior change among volunteer participants.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

J. Experience and Past Performance

Proposal clearly defines applicant expertise. Successful implementation of previous projects in the last 5 years is documented. References for funders of previous projects are provided. Proposal documents previous funding from IRL Council or IRLNEP and provides adequate explanation if a currently funded project is, or expects to, utilize a no-cost extension.

Score 0 – 20 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 8 points
Good: 9 – 15 points
Excellent: 16 – 20 points

Scoring

X is either 25% or 50% depending on RFP

Project Funding: A. Partnership and Cost Sharing

Proposal documents via letters from applicant and each partner the direct or in-kind match contribution to the project. Proposal details matching sources and amounts. Cost-share match is a minimum of X% of total project cost. Proposal includes a summary budget table showing project cost, funds requested from IRL Council, total matching funds, and match as a percentage of the overall project cost.

Score 0 – 10 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 4 points
Good: 5 – 7 points
Excellent: 8 – 10 points

Project Funding: B. Project Budget Table

Proposal contains a budget table that lists deliverables as tasks, identifies all matching funds, indirect and overhead costs and the rate(s) used to calculate them, and notes reduced indirect charges, if applicable.

Score 0 – 10 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 4 points
Good: 5 – 7 points
Excellent: 8 – 10 points

Scoring

C. Proposal Priorities and Urgency

Reviewers: Does the proposal document the project's immediate need for funding AND it addresses one of the 6 Critical Health Concern Levels (impaired waters, stormwater, wastewater, seagrasses, harmful algal blooms, and CCMP implementation and financing)?

Score 0 – 10 points using the rubric below as a guide:
Poorly presented/unresponsive: 0 points
Adequate: 1 – 4 points
Note: A project that does not address a Critical Health Vital sign cannot score above 4 points.
Good: 5 – 7 points
Excellent: 8 – 10 points

D. Proposal Value Proposition

Reviewers: Should the IRL Council/IRLNEP fund this proposal?
Point Values: If Yes = 10 points; If No = 0 points.

Scoring – Bonus (completed by NEP staff)

Does the proposal show that the project is listed in an adopted Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP), or a Reasonable Assurance Plan? **If Yes, add 2 points.**
Does the project promote coastal resilience, adaptation or implement strategies to address sea-level rise? **If Yes, add 2 points.**
Will the project support IRL communities that are underserved or underrepresented (change to Priority Community) **If Yes, add 4 points.**
Does the project protect historical, archeological or cultural assets of significance? **If Yes, add 2 points.**
Has the requesting organization ever failed to meet previous contract obligations to the IRL Council based on written documentation? **If Yes, deduct 5 points.**
Does the requesting organization have on-going projects that are past the 1-year contract deadline? **If Yes, deduct 5 points.**
Project demonstrates reduced Indirect Costs. - A minimum of 25% reduction: **1 point** - 26% – 50% reduction: **2 points** - Greater than 50% reduction: **3 points**
Project demonstrates greater than the 25% match requirement. Note that reduced Indirect Costs may NOT be used as Match. – 26% – 50%: **1 point** – 51% – 75%: **2 points** – 76% - 100%: **3 points**

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRL COUNCIL AMENDING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE 2023 FISCAL YEAR

WHEREAS, the IRL Council was created via Interlocal Agreement to carry out the goals of the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program; and

WHEREAS, the IRL Council previously amended the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 on August 5, 2022 and November 18, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the IRL Council finds it necessary and essential to amend the Budget for the 2023 Fiscal Year as set forth in this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the 2023 Fiscal Year budget amendments set forth in this Resolution serves a valid public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRL COUNCIL, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are ratified and incorporated into this resolution.

Section 2. The funds and available resources and revenues that are set out in Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference, are appropriated to provide the monies to be used to pay the necessary operating and other expenses of the IRL Council.

Section 3. Except as amended in Exhibit "A" the remainder of the Budget for the 2023 Fiscal Year remains in full force and effect.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

DONE at_____, Florida, this_____day of_____,2023.

By: _____
Chris Dzadovsky, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Joe Earman, Secretary

Approved as to legal form and sufficiency:

_____
Glen J. Torcivia
IRL Council, Legal Counsel

IRL Council
FY 2023 Amended Budget
Exhibit A

REVENUES	
Federal Section 320	$ 750,000
Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law	$ 909,800
IRL License Plate	$ 125,000
Member Contributions	$1,500,000
TOTAL REVENUES	$3,284,800
EXPENDITURES	
Other Expenditures	$4,321,160
IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA Infrastructure Work Plan, Former FY EPA Work Plans, Former FY EPA BIL Work Plans, Former FY Strategic Plans, Unplanned Contingency Reserve	
Salaries & Benefits	$ 641,963
Facilities Expenses	$ 43,500
Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications	
Administrative Costs	$ 94,998
Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development	
Administrative Services	$ 116,625
Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$5,218,246
Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	$2,691,841
Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 758,395

FY 2023 Amended Budget	Approved 11/18/2022	**FY 2023 Amended Budget**	Pending	Higher / Lower	(Notes)
REVENUES		**REVENUES**			
Federal EPA 320	$ 750,000	Federal EPA 320	$ 750,000		
IRL License Plate	$ 125,000	IRL License Plate	$ 125,000		
Member Contributions	$1,500,000	Member Contributions	$1,500,000		
Federal Infrastructure	$ 909,800	Federal Infrastructure	$ 909,800		
TOTAL REVENUES	$3,284,800	TOTAL REVENUES	$3,284,800		
EXPENDITURES		**EXPENDITURES**			
Other Expenditures	$2,956,335	Other Expenditures	$4,321,160	$1,364,825	(1)
IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA Infrastructure Work Plan, Unplanned Contingency Reserve		IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP FY2023 EPA Infrastructure Work Plan, Former FY EPA Work Plans, Former FY EPA BIL Work Plans, Former FY Strategic Plans, Unplanned Contingency Reserve			
Salaries & Benefits	$ 641,963	Salaries & Benefits	$ 641,963		
Facilities Expenses	$ 43,500	Facilities Expenses	$ 43,500		
Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications		Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications			
Administrative Costs	$ 94,998	Administrative Costs	$ 94,998		
Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development		Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development			
Administrative Services Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	$ 118,025	Administrative Services Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	$ 116,625	$1,400	(2)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 3,854,821	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$5,218,246	$1,363,425	(3)
Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0	Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0		
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	$ 1,708,705	Fund Balance Beginning of Year	$2,691,841	$983,136	(4)
Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 1,138,684	Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 758,395	$380,289	(5)

FY 2023 Amended Budget Detail (Narrative)

(1) Increase "Other Expenditures" by $1,364,825 from $2,956,335 to $4,321,160. This increase represents the reconciling of active projects from prior FYs from the audited Fund Balance into the current budget. "OTHER EXPENDITURES" now comprises the following:

a. FY 2023 EPA Section 320 Workplan - $750,000 (no change)
b. IRL Strategic Program - $1,108,670 (decrease of $87,865)
    i. Water Quality Restoration Projects - $314,865 (no change)
    ii. Habitat Restoration Projects - $332,892 (no change)
    iii. Community Based Restoration Projects - $159,000 (no change)
    iv. Small Grants - $36,135 (Increase of $11,135)
    v. IRLNEP Technical Support of Conferences and Workshops - $25,000 (no change)
    vi. Science and Innovation eligible Projects - $220,778 (no change)
    vii. Buy Back of old version of the IRL License Plate - $20,000 (no change)
    viii. Atmospheric Deposition station construction - $0 (decrease of $50,000, switched to EPA section 320)
    ix. Diversity of Thought service contract - $0 (decrease of $49,000, switched to EPA BIL)
c. FY 2023 Infrastructure Work Plan - $909,800 (no change)
d. Prior FY Projects in Progress ($1,452,690)
    i. License Plate Projects ($11,600)
        1. Brevard County: Micco Sewer Line - $11,600
    ii. Local Cost-Share Projects ($517,187)
        1. Indian River County: North Sebastian Phase 2 Septic to Sewer - $104,018
        2. Martin County: Hobe Heights Jimmy Graham Stormwater Park - $150,000
        3. Sea & Shoreline: Tucker Cove Seagrass Restoration - $85,000
        4. City of Stuart Tressler Drive - $80,000
        5. Indian River Land Trust – Modification of Mosquito Impoundments Year 2 - $73,215
        6. Small grants FY 2022 - $24,954
    iii. EPA Section 320 Projects ($314,103)
        1. Boater's Guide - $25,000
        2. Harmful Algal Bloom Science - $4,440
        3. Grant Writing FY 2020 - $22,534
        4. Grant Writing FY 2021 - $32,191
        5. Grant Writing FY 2022 - $40,000
        6. FWC: Monitoring Improved Hydrology, Water Quality, and Mangrove Recovery in the Jensen Beach Impoundment - $23,858

7. FAU: Sampling to Assess Toxins Produced by HABs in the IRL - $21,488
8. CCMP Project Support - $48,905
9. IRLNEP: One Voice Directive - $85,687
10. EPA Travel - $10,000

iv. EPA Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law Projects ($609,800)
1. Brevard County: Micco Sewer Line - $100,000
2. Indian River County: North Sebastian Phase 2 Septic to Sewer - $100,000
3. Seagrass Nurseries - $409,800

e. Unplanned Contingency Reserve - $100,000 (no change)

(2) Decrease "Administrative Services" by $1,400 from $118,025 to $116,625. This decrease is a combination of two (2) line-item changes. "Administrative Services" now consists of the following:

a. Legal Services - $65,000 (no change)
b. Accounting Services - $31,625 (increase of $3,125)
c. Auditing – $14,500 (decrease of $4,525)
d. IT and Compliance - $5,000 (no change)
e. Legal Ads - $500 (no change)

(3) Increase "TOTAL EXPENDITURES" by $1,363,425 from $3,854,821 to $5,218,246. This increase represents the summation of the changes to "Other Expenditures", and "Administrative Services" as described in Items 1-2 above.

(4) Increase "Fund Balance Beginning of Year" by $983,136 from $1,708,705 to $2,691,841. This increase represents the FY 2022 Audited Fund Balance value.

(5) Decrease "Fund Balance End of Year" by $380,289 from $1,138,684 to $758,395. This decrease represents if all budgeted expenditures were fully expended after reconciling Audited Fund Balance to prior FY project expenditures brought into this current FY budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRL COUNCIL ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE 2024 FISCAL YEAR

WHEREAS, the IRL Council was created via Interlocal Agreement to carry out the goals of the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program; and

WHEREAS, the IRL Council held a public meeting on May 12, 2023 and adopted a Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the IRL Council finds it necessary and essential to amend the Budget for the 2024 Fiscal Year as set forth in this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the 2024 Fiscal Year budget amendments set forth in this Resolution serves a valid public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRL COUNCIL, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are ratified and incorporated into this resolution.

Section 2. The funds and available resources and revenues that are set out in Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference, are appropriated to provide the monies to be used to pay the necessary operating and other expenses of the IRL Council.

Section 3. Except as amended in Exhibit "A" the remainder of the Budget for the 2024 Fiscal Year remains in full force and effect.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

DONE at_____, Florida, this_____day of_____,2023.

By: _____
Chris Dzadovsky, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Joe Earman, Secretary

Approved as to legal form and sufficiency:

_____
Glen J. Torcivia
IRL Council, Legal Counsel

IRL Council
FY 2024 Amended Budget
Exhibit A

REVENUES	
Federal Section 320	$ 850,000
Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law	$ 909,800
IRL License Plate	$ 125,000
Member Contributions	$1,500,000
TOTAL REVENUES	$3,384,800
EXPENDITURES	
Other Expenditures	$2,497,509
IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP 2024 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP 2024 Infrastructure Work Plan, Unplanned Contingency Reserve	
Salaries & Benefits	$ 642,386
Facilities Expenses	$ 50,500
Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications	
Administrative Costs	$ 71,000
Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development	
Administrative Services	$ 123,405
Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$3,384,800
Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	$ 758,395
Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 758,395

FY 2024 Final Budget	Approved 5/12/2023	**FY 2024 Amended Budget**	Pending	Higher / Lower	(Notes)
REVENUES		**REVENUES**			
Federal EPA 320	$ 800,000	Federal EPA 320	$ 850,000		
IRL License Plate	$ 125,000	IRL License Plate	$ 125,000		
Member Contributions	$1,500,000	Member Contributions	$1,500,000		
Federal Infrastructure	$ 909,800	Federal Infrastructure	$ 909,800		
TOTAL REVENUES	$3,334,800	TOTAL REVENUES	$3,384,800	$50,000	(1)
EXPENDITURES		**EXPENDITURES**			
Other Expenditures IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP FY2024 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP FY2024 EPA Infrastructure Work Plan, Unplanned Contingency Reserve	$2,473,509	Other Expenditures IRL Council Strategic Program, IRLNEP FY2024 EPA 320 Work Plan, IRLNEP FY2024 EPA Infrastructure Work Plan, Unplanned Contingency Reserve	$2,497,509	$24,000	(2)
Salaries & Benefits	$ 642,386	Salaries & Benefits	$ 642,386		
Facilities Expenses Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications	$ 29,500	Facilities Expenses Rent, Utilities, Equipment Maintenance, Communications	$ 50,500	$21,000	(3)
Administrative Costs Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development	$ 66,000	Administrative Costs Postage, Office Supplies, Insurance, Printing, Travel, Licenses & Subscriptions, Dues, Professional Development	$ 71,000	$5,000	(4)
Administrative Services Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	$ 123,405	Administrative Services Legal, Accounting, Auditing, IT Services, Legal Ads	$ 123,405		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 3,334,800	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 3,384,800	$50,000	(5)
Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0	Agency Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0		
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	$ 0	Fund Balance Beginning of Year	$ 758,395	$758,395	(6)
Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 0	Fund Balance – End of Year	$ 758,395	$758,395	(7)

FY 2024 Amended Budget Detail (Narrative)

(1) Increase "TOTAL REVENUES" by $50,000 from $3,334,800 to $3,384,800. This increase represents the confirmation from EPA that the FY2024 NEP allocation for section 320 is $850,000.

(2) Increase "Other Expenditures" by $24,000 from $2,473,509 to $2,523,509. This increase reflects the award increase in the EPA section 320 funds to $850,000 as well as a decrease in Unplanned Contingency Reserve to cover items 3 and 4 below. Other Expenditures now consists of the following:

1. IRL Council Strategic Program - $700,000 (no change)
2. IRLNEP FY2024 EPA Workplan $850,000 (increase of $50,000) includes the following:
    a. Herbicide Impact Study (TOX 3 with SJRWMD) - $100,000 (no change)
    b. State of the Lagoon Technical Report Y5 - $76,125 (no change)
    c. Communication Support: Service contracts for web/graphics/design support, scientific and other publications, other contract support as needed, and expanded social media and support for communication intern. Includes service contracts with IDEAS, Brandt Ronat, Firefly, and O'Hara - $167,000 (increase of $50,000)
    d. Biodiversity Inventory Contract Y5 - $25,000 (no change)
    e. Atmospheric Deposition Monitoring Central Station Y5 - $30,000 (no change)
    f. North and South Atmospheric Deposition Monitoring Stations Operation and Maintenance - $60,000 (no change)
    g. 3 Community Engagement coordinators (Salary Only) - $196,875 (no change)
    h. Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring Contracts - $150,000 (no change)
    i. EPA Travel (mandatory) - $10,000 (no change)
    j. CCMP project inventory and prioritization service contract(s) - $15,000 (no change)
    k. Grant Writing Support - $20,000 (no change)
3. IRLNEP FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS LAW Workplan - $909,800 (no change)
4. Unplanned Contingency Reserve - $37,709 (decrease of $26,000)

(3) Increase "Facilities Expenses" by $21,000 from $29,500 to $50,500. This increase represents an increase in the rents and leases line item from $9,000 to $30,000. A new lease with the City of Sebastian is expected where the IRLNEP will now occupy the entire historical school building with the exception of the museum.

(4) Increase "Administrative Costs" by $5,000 from $66,000 to $71,000. This increase represents an increase in the Travel General Line item from $20,000 to $25,000. This brings travel costs in line with current FY projected expenses.

(5) Increase "Total Expenditures" by $50,000 from $3,334,800 to $3,384,800. This increase is reflective of item 2 above.

(6) Increase “Fund Balance Beginning of Year” by $758,395 from $0 to $758,395. This increase reflects the Fund Balance End of Year from FY2023.

(7) Increase “Fund Balance End of Year” by $758,395 from $0 to $758,395. This increase represents the Fund Balance expected end of year if all budget line items are fully expended.

IRL COUNCIL RESOLUTION #2023-XX

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A PROJECT BETWEEN THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AND THE ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TO RESTORE HYDRAULIC AND PHYSICAL CONNECTIONS OF THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH FLORIDA FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT THROUGH A SERIES OF INTERCONNECTED RESERVOIRS, STORMWATER TREATMENT AREAS, AND CANALS WITHIN THE FORT DRUM MARSH AREA

Completed information to follow pending approval of FDEP, SJRWMD, and SFWMD.