FLORIDA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

FY 06-07 Coastal Partnership Initiative Projects

REMARKABLE COASTAL PLACES

PROJECT: *Big Bend Maritime Center*

Florida Foresight, Inc. & Wakulla County

CONTACT: Bill Lowrie

2489 Surf Road, Panacea, FL 32346

Tel: (850) 984-0661

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: Florida Foresight, Inc., in partnership with Wakulla County, will develop a long-term management structure for the Big Bend Maritime Center, which will be located in Panacea. Project tasks include 1) establish a visible community presence for the Center; 2) inaugurate a media/marketing campaign; 3) organize Center programs and events; 4) begin to collect and display artifacts; and 5) identify sponsorship, collaboration and fundraising opportunities to support the Center's long-term management goals.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

PROJECT: Coastal Community Stewardship Within Northeast Florida Conservation Lands

The Nature Conservancy & Duval County

CONTACT: Trish Gramajo

45 West Bay Street, Suite #202, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Tel: (904) 598-0004

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with Duval County, will initiate an outreach campaign to help build public awareness of the threat of invasives species in the Pumpkin Hill and Timucuan State Preserves and the Betz Tiger Point city preserve. Specific project tasks are to create and distribute an outreach brochure, recruit volunteers for invasives species eradication, purchase native plants, and develop a comprehensive assessment and restoration plan for the Betz Preserve.

PROJECT: NESTS – Neighbors Ensuring Sea Turtle Survival

Caribbean Conservation Corp. & Brevard County

CONTACT: David Godfrey

4424 N.W. 13th St., Suite A-1, Gainesville, FL 32609

Tel: (352) 373-6441

FCMP FUNDING: \$16,500

DESCRIPTION: The Caribbean Conservation Corporation, in partnership with Brevard County, will use FCMP funds to continue the NESTS program, which encourages residents to become better stewards of coastal resources (beach and dune system, coastal waterways, sea turtles and other wildlife) through a three-level certification process. Projects tasks include recruiting and coordinating local NESTS groups; organizing and mailing program materials; maintaining a registered participant database; and producing award materials. For more information on the NESTS program, visit http://www.nests-certified.org/.

PROJECT: Tampa Shoreline Restoration Initiative

Mayor's Beautification Program &; City of Tampa

CONTACT: Jennifer Sterling

P.O. Box 2104, Tampa, FL 33601

Tel: (813) 221-8733

FCMP FUNDING: \$49,373

DESCRIPTION: The Mayor's Beautification Program (MBP) and the City of Tampa will enhance and expand the effectiveness of the Tampa Shoreline Restoration Initiative (TSRI). Project tasks focus on community outreach and volunteer development, and planning and coordination activities related to the Hillsborough River Clean Up, Adopt-A-Shoreline Program, and other TSRI events. For more information on the MBP, visit www.mbptree.org.

ACCESS to COASTAL RESOURCES

PROJECT: Cocoplum Beach Park Enhancement Project

City of Marathon

CONTACT: Susie Thomas

10045-55 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050

Tel: (305) 743-0033

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: The City of Marathon will stabilize and enhance the beach dune system at Cocoplum Beach Park. The dune will be stabilized with native shrubs, grasses, vines and herbaceous plants in order to enhance the natural beach habitat, reduce erosion and provide protection for nesting and hatching marine turtles. This project also involves the design and construction of an elevated boardwalk to provide controlled access to natural areas. Educational signage will inform visitors about the natural features and the importance of coastal resources.

PROJECT: Queens Island Lagoon Access

St. Lucie County

CONTACT: Jim David

2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Tel: (772) 462-1467

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: St. Lucie County will restore a portion of Queens Island, which was recently acquired for the public. The project seeks to provide access to the Indian River Lagoon while protecting environmentally important sea grass beds, wetlands, and other plant communities. Project tasks are: 1) construct a boardwalk and fishing/observation platform to allow visitors to traverse wetlands and access the Lagoon; and 2) remove invasive exotic plants and revegetate with native species. The County will also install educational signage to inform visitors about the importance of Queens Island coastal resources.

PROJECT: Castaways Cove Beach

City of Palm Bay

CONTACT: Chad Shoultz

1050 Malabar Road SW, Palm Bay, FL 32905

Tel: (321) 953-3472

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: The City of Palm Bay will implement steps to restore Castaways Cove, where unmanaged and uncontrolled public access has degraded the cove's shorelands and other natural resources. FCMP funds will be used to 1) complete design documents for construction of a pedestrian walkway and gazebo; and 2) install picnic tables, benches, signage, security lighting, native landscaping and decorative fencing. The City's Public Works Department will remove the remaining road base of the now-closed Bay Blvd.

PROJECT: Pelican Beach Park Restroom Facility Replacement

City of Satellite Beach

CONTACT: Allen Pottery

530 Cinnamon Drive, Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Tel: (321) 777-2309

FCMP FUNDING: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: The City of Satellite Beach will replace an out-dated restroom structure that does not meet code standards at Pelican Beach Park. FCMP funds will pay part of the project costs to demolish the existing structure and construct a new masonry building built to ADA standards.

FY 06-07 Grants to State Agencies

PROJECT: John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park Habitat Mapping

DESCRIPTION: John Pennekamp state park, located in the Florida Keys, received FCMP funds to update and expand aerial photography of inshore patch reefs and seagrass beds. Protection of seagrass resources continues to be a high priority for park management, and updated photographs will assist in the evaluation of the current resource management program, including assessment of restoration priorities. Visit http://www.floridastateparks.org/pennekamp/default.cfm for more information on John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park.

AGENCY: DEP/Division of Recreation & Parks

CONTACT: Pat Wells **FCMP FUNDING:** \$30,000

PROJECT: Florida's Museums in the Sea: Interactive Web Sites for State Underwater

Archaeological Preserves

DESCRIPTION: Florida's underwater archaeological preserves are unique and popular destinations for residents and visitors, providing significant cultural and heritage-based tourism opportunities. However, public access to these sites has always been restricted to diving and snorkeling visitors. In order to expand access to underwater preserves, the Department of State (DOS) will use FCMP funds to create interactive websites that will allow visitors to "dive" historic shipwrecks, through virtual tours that include streaming video, audio recordings, and animated computer graphics. In FY 06-07, DOS will collect digital underwater video footage from five Preserve sites; websites for the remaining six preserves will be developed in the future as funds become available. For more information on underwater archaeological preserves, visit http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/underwater/preserves/.

AGENCY: Department of State CONTACT: Dr. Roger Smith FCMP FUNDING: \$83,325

PROJECT: Geophysical Surveys & Radon Concentrations in the Woodville Karst Plain **DESCRIPTION:** The Florida Geological Survey (FGS) is investigating the dynamics of ground and surface waters in a coastal karstic watershed, and how these waters interact with the marine environment. The FGS goal is to produce a new model to realistically simulate ground water flow and transport of ground water in the karstic watershed, and has requested FCMP funds to 1) conduct a geological survey

of conduits in the Woodville Karst Plain; and 2) measure radon concentrations in ground water using the Graphical User Interface program.

AGENCY: DEP/Florida Geological Survey, Division of Resource Assessment

CONTACT: Rodney DeHan **FCMP FUNDING:** \$122,414

PROJECT: Pathogen Monitoring of a South Florida Beach

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Department of Health (DOH) in partnership with the Oceans and Human Health Center at the University of Miami Rosentiel School, is investigating sources of ocean pollution and how to develop new monitoring tools in order to make beaches safer. FCMP funds are requested for environmental monitoring of pathogens in nearshore waters and within sediments of the intertidal zone. The DOH will also analyze additional indicators (E. coli, fecal coliform and C. perfringens), plus a suite of pathogens. Results will be used to determine whether or not elevated levels of enterococci are correlated with the presence of pathogens.

AGENCY: Department of Health

CONTACT: Bart Bibler **FCMP FUNDING:** \$61,440

.....

PROJECT: Seagrass Outreach & Education, Phase II

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas will use FCMP funds to continue implementation of the statewide seagrass management plan by expanding outreach and education efforts, specifically: 1) increase awareness of the importance of seagrasses through radio and other media; 2) work with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to decrease the number of vessel groundings in order to reduce damage to seagrass beds; and 3) support and coordinate with the FWC and Monroe County to identify and document marine debris and derelict vessels in the Florida Keys.

AGENCY: DEP/Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas

CONTACT: Ivy Kelley **FCMP FUNDING:** \$42,000

PROJECT: Tampa Beach Study

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Department of Health will investigate: 1) the occurrence of microbial indicators of fecal pollution in public beach waters, 2) the source of the indicators, and 3) how local factors influence their occurrence and persistence. The overall objective of this study is to increase the understanding of the relationship of documented pathogens to indicators used in monitoring beaches. Determining the possible sources of contamination will assist in the assessment and prevention of chronic and acute beach pollution and allow pollution remediation projects to be prioritized.

AGENCY: Department of Health

CONTACT: Bart Bibler **FCMP FUNDING:** \$146,250

PROJECT: Aquatic Preserve Site Plans

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas will continue updating and enhancing management plans for its Aquatic Preserves. This management plan initiative is an essential undertaking to address the changing needs of managing 41 aquatic preserves totaling nearly five million acres of submerged lands – all designated as Outstanding Florida Waters. The proposed funding request is for the development of approximately eight to ten site plans; public workshops will be held for each site plan. For more information on Florida's aquatic preserves, go to http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/programs/aquatic.htm.

AGENCY: DEP/CAMA
CONTACT: Karen Bareford
FCMP FUNDING: \$85,000

PROJECT: Gulf Alliance Community Action Plans: A Workshop Series for Southwest Florida **DESCRIPTION:** The Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve participates in the Gulf of Mexico Alliance – an association of eight federal agencies and five Gulf states aligned to develop management strategies that protect and enhance the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico. The Alliance has developed draft Action Plans that address identified needs, however, it is important to empower local communities in completing the plans, particularly to gain local perspectives on issues, and educate and inform stakeholders on potential solutions. Rookery Bay will use FCMP funds to conduct a series of workshops and public forums that will culminate in a State of the Coast Conference. Results of the interactive workshops will be posted on a website. For more information on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, visit https://supportthegulf.org/.

AGENCY: DEP/ Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

CONTACT: Tabitha Stadler **FCMP FUNDING:** \$67,500

PROJECT: Lovers Key State Park Dune & Hammock Restoration

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Division of Recreation & Parks will use FCMP funds to restore and enhance the beach dune system at Lovers Key State Park. The Park's volunteer group, augmented by Park staff, will prepare and plant approximately ten acres with native species. On Black Island, FCMP funds will support the restoration of approximately 20 acres of maritime hammock in areas where exotic plants have recently been removed. Visit http://www.floridastateparks.org/loverskey/ParkSummary.cfm for more information on Lovers Key State Park.

AGENCY: DEP/Division of Recreation & Parks

CONTACT: Michael Hensley **FCMP FUNDING:** \$15,000

PROJECT: Egan's Creek Lighthouse/Marsh Overlook

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Division of Recreation & Parks will construct a boardwalk and observation platform to provide more controlled access to Egan's Creek, located in the Fort Clinch State Park (Nassau County). Egan's Creek is an estuarine tidal marsh that provides feeding, cover, and reproduction habitat for a diversity of animal life, and provides a rare opportunity for nature observation and photography for visitors. The boardwalk and platform will help minimize the effects of foot traffic and prevent degradation of the salt marsh. Interpretive signage on the responsible use of the coastal resources will be posted in the observation area. Visit http://www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch/ParkSummary.cfm for more information on Fort Clinch State Park.

AGENCY: DEP/Division of Recreation & Parks

CONTACT: Ezell Givens **FCMP FUNDING:** \$100,000

PROJECT: Critical Habitat Enhancement for the Anastasia Island Beach Mouse **DESCRIPTION:** The Anastasia Island beach mouse, listed by the State and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service as an endangered species, is restricted to Anastasia Island in St. Johns County, Florida. As with
most beach mouse species, the primary cause of threat to survival is habitat loss; on Conch Island, located
within Anastasia State Park, secondary dune succession has caused many of the interior swales to become
dominated by wax myrtles. The wax myrtles serve as both a movement barrier for beach mice to escape
storm surges, and as a genetic exchange barrier between mice from different areas of the island. To
address this resource management issue, the DEP Division of Recreation & Parks will reduce the
coverage of wax myrtles on Conch Island by at least 30%. This approach is consistent with the intent of
the Federal Recovery Plan in that it protects beach mouse habitat while also attempting to ensure the
continued population viability of the subspecies. For more information on Anastasia State Park, visit
http://www.floridastateparks.org/anastasia/ParkSummary.cfm.

AGENCY: DEP/Division of Recreation & Parks

CONTACT: Alice Bard **FCMP FUNDING:** \$15,000

PROJECT: Shell Mound/Spoil Pile Habitat Restoration

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Division of Recreation & Parks will use FCMP funds to assist with habitat restoration activities in the Estero Bay Preserve State Park. Specifically, this project involves removing Category I Pest Plants from spoil piles and shell mounds that have become infested with Australian pines, seaside mahoe and Brazilian pepper. The first phase will be to eradicate exotic plants on Dog Key, Starvation Key and Julie's Island – three mangrove islands with cultural shell middens and historic features. The second phase involves the removal of exotic vegetation that has colonized spoil pile areas along the Estero River, Mullock Creek and Hurricane Bay. For more information on the Estero Bay Preserve State Park, visit http://www.floridastateparks.org/esteroBay/ParkSummary.cfm.

AGENCY: DEP/Division of Recreation & Parks

CONTACT: Robert Baker **FCMP FUNDING:** \$45,500

PROJECT: Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program Implementation

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Community Affairs is the lead agency for the Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program (WFP), which designates Waterfronts Florida communities every two years. This project provides \$25,000 to each of the three designated communities to implement vision or waterfront revitalization plans. Visit http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdcp/dcp/waterfronts/index.cfm for more information on the Waterfronts Florida Partnership program at DCA.

AGENCY: Department of Community Affairs

CONTACT: Jennifer Carver **FCMP FUNDING:** \$75,000

PROJECT: DCA Coastal Program Support

DESCRIPTION: FCMP funds will be used for technical support to coordinate and review federal actions for consistency with the FCMP, and to assist local governments in dealing with the impacts of coastal development. The Division of Community Planning is responsible for various growth management initiatives of the state, including the Development of Regional Impact process, the Areas of Critical State Concern program, and the local government comprehensive planning process.

AGENCY: Department of Community Affairs

CONTACT: Beth Frost **FCMP FUNDING:** \$40,000

.....

PROJECT: Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program Implementation

DESCRIPTION: The Waterfronts Florida Partnership (WFP) Program will use FCMP funds to implement activities related to access, hazards, coastal dependent uses, and environmental and economic issues confronting waterfront communities. WFP efforts will focus on providing technical assistance and training services, developing materials to assist communities with waterfront revitalization, recruiting and designating new WFP communities using a revised designation process, and conducting a strategic planning process for the WFP as recommended in a recent Program Assessment. Visit http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdcp/dcp/waterfronts/index.cfm for more information on the Waterfronts Florida Partnership program at DCA.

AGENCY: Department of Community Affairs

CONTACT: Jennifer Carver **FCMP FUNDING:** \$74,000

PROJECT: Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas, Integrated Management Framework **DESCRIPTION:** The DEP Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas will finalize its new management framework (IMF), integrate it system-wide, and revise aquatic preserve management plans. Grant funds will be used to: 1) Develop and implement an IMF to improve protection of aquatic resources; and 2) using the IMF approach, revise individual aquatic preserve, National Estuarine Research Reserve, Keys Sanctuary and Southwest Coral Reef program management plans. Approximately three to six management plans will be revised per year.

AGENCY: DEP/Office of Coastal &; Aquatic Managed Areas

CONTACT: Karen Bareford **FCMP FUNDING:** \$103,000

PROJECT: Geospatial Assessment of Marine Ecosystems (GAME)

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas is collaborating with the Florida Institute of Oceanography and the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission to compile and map geospatial data to describe Florida's marine ecoregions. In Phase I of this project, grants funds will be used to describe the GAME data management strategy and prepare a summary document; upgrade the existing GAME project catalog; identify and load new information entries into catalog; and produce a map of the data catalog. The GAME overview is accessible at http://research.myfwc.com/features/view_article.asp?id=27265.

AGENCY: DEP/CAMA
CONTACT: Ellen McCarron
FCMP FUNDING: \$100,000

PROJECT: Florida BlueWays – Coastal Resource Information System (CRIS)

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Fish & Wildlife Research Institute will transfer the BlueWays/CRIS boating characterization methodology previously completed for the Tampa and Sarasota Bay to other areas of the state. Specifically, FWC will complete a boating characterization in Brevard County and initiate boating characterizations for St. Andrews Bay and Collier County. FWC will work with federal, state and local agencies to incorporate use of the data in addressing resource protection, waterway management and public access issues. The BlueWays interactive mapper is accessible at http://research.myfwc.com/features/default.asp?id=1341.

AGENCY: Florida Fish &; Wildlife Conservation Commission/FWRI

CONTACT: Bill Sargent **FCMP FUNDING:** \$173,000

PROJECT: Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Response Plans

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Department of Health will facilitate the development of county-specific harmful algal bloom (HAB) response plans. Grant funds will be used to finalize the HAB Reference Guide; create 'generic' HAB response plans to assist counties in developing their plans; design and field test a User Manual for the HAB planning process; and develop an annual operational plan and project evaluation plan to measure progress. Visit http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/aquatic-toxins/index.html for more information on harmful algal blooms.

AGENCY: Florida Department of Health

CONTACT: Bart Bibler **FCMP FUNDING:** \$25,000

.....

PROJECT: Aquaculture Management & Coordination

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will convene and maintain a multi-agency steering group in order to create a formal agreement between agencies and stakeholders to better manage aquacultural resources. The steering group will conduct a series of statewide agency and industry "best management practices" outreach seminars for aquaculturists and state program staff to transfer information about technologies and production methods; species mapping; water quality monitoring and aquaculture-related resource management issues. A final draft technical bulletin will be produced for commercial aquaculturists.

AGENCY: Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

CONTACT: Paul Zajicek **FCMP FUNDING:** \$59,000

PROJECT: Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plans

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) will facilitate the development of post-disaster redevelopment plans (PDRP) for all coastal communities. In the first year of funding, DEM will establish a PDRP working group; compile and evaluate existing PDRPs using a survey instrument; prepare draft PDRP guidelines; and select pilot community(s).

AGENCY: Department of Community Affairs/DEM

CONTACT: Walker Banning **FCMP FUNDING:** \$75,000

.....

PROJECT: Implementation of Improved On-Site Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems

(OSTDS) Management

DESCRIPTION: The goal of this project is to improve the maintenance of OSTDS that do not have operating permits through local initiatives. Project tasks include 1) evaluate existing county or municipality OSTDS maintenance management ordinance (MMO) or a needs assessment; 2) develop and implement an MMO customized to specific needs of each county; 3) set up program to identify and eliminate OSTDS failure areas; 4) provide technical assistance to local governments in securing funds to repair or replace failing systems; and 5) develop educational materials that reinforce and support existing or new local maintenance programs.

AGENCY: DEP, Division of Water Resource Management

CONTACT: Patti Sanzone **FCMP FUNDING:** \$102,000

.....

PROJECT: OSTDS Public Service Announcements

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Division of Water Resource Management will televise public service announcements to promote the proper management and maintenance of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS). This initiative is a key component of the OSTDS management measure in the state's coastal nonpoint pollution control program developed under CZMA Section 6217.

AGENCY: DEP, Division of Water Resource Management

CONTACT: Patti Sanzone **FCMP FUNDING:** \$25,310

PROJECT: Seagrass & Oyster Shell Salvage and Habitat Restoration

DESCRIPTION: The DEP Northwest District in Pensacola will use FCMP funds to salvage submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), specifically shoal grass, from the footprint of permitted docks, and replant the SAV in the Project GreenShores restoration site. Widgeon grass, propagated at the District's tissue culture laboratory, will also be planted. Volunteers will assist in salvaging and monitoring the grasses and will use the restored areas as education sites to increase knowledge of SAV restoration. The District will also collect oyster shell from local restaurants and the seafood industry and deploy the shell material to suitable marine bottoms at Woodlawn Bayou, Blackwater Bay, Bayou Grande and Bayou Garcon. The shell will create up to three acres of oyster habitat that will enhance essential fish habitat, increase oyster population and benefit the SAV planted areas.

AGENCY: DEP, Northwest District

CONTACT: Amy Baldwin **FCMP FUNDING:** \$40,579