**Background Information for**

**FCT Grant Applicants on criterion** [**62-818.007**](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)**(2)(d)6.**

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**

**Landowner Assistance Program**

The Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) is a cooperative and voluntary effort between the landowner and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to improve habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. In order to encourage Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Grant Program recipients to better manage priority habitats, the FWC will work with committed FCT applicants to manage their priority habitat. The land use planning efforts and habitat management decisions made today will determine the future for fish and wildlife tomorrow.

FWC's Office of Conservation Planning Services is a group of approximately 30 biologists who are available to provide wildlife-related assistance with land use planning and habitat management technical assistance. Landowners seeking technical assistance with habitat management will likely find it offered within LAP. With the landowner’s commitment to enhance and protect priority habitats, there are many forms of assistance FWC’s biologists can provide to supplement local government/non-profit efforts in ensuring well directed habitat enhancement and long term land management of natural communities and recreational use of park lands.

**Follow the steps to determine if your site qualifies for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission -**

**Landowner Assistance Program,** [**62-818.007**](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)**(2)(d)6., points.**

1. Is your FCT project site 20 acres or more?

NO – If not, STOP here; you do not quality for points under this criterion.

YES – Continue to Step II.

1. Are there a minimum of 20 acres of natural communities within your 2016-17 FCT grant application project?

NO – If not, STOP here; you do not quality for points under this criterion.

YES – Continue to Step III.

1. Are there at least 20 acres of Critical Lands and Water Identification Project (CLIP) Priority 1 and/or Priority 2 habitat? CLIP priority habitat is viewable on-line at the [Florida Wildlife Legacy Initiative (FWLI)](http://ocean.floridamarine.org/FWLI/)

NO – If not, STOP here; you do not quality for points under this criterion.

YES – Submit supporting materials described below in your FCT Grant Application that clearly demonstrates that the site qualifies and the applicant will protect the Priority Habitat.

*(Complete (A) or (B) to determine qualification.)*

* + 1. Create your own site MAP:
			1. Go to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory website and download [CLIP 3.0](http://www.fnai.org/clip.cfm), or use their Online Map Viewer to produce a map that clearly shows the project boundary in relation to CLIP 1 & 2 Priority Habitats. Calculate acres in MapViewer, ArcGIS or similar tool and report.
			2. If the CLIP map and acreage report indicate that your site does contain at least 20 acres of Priority 1 and/or Priority 2 CLIP habitat then submit the following documentation IN your FCT Grant Application for criterion [62-818.007](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)(2)(d)6:

Both the CLIP map and report that documents that acreage of CLIP 1 & 2 Priority Habitats within the project site; AND

A completed [LAP Application](#application) with the required supporting documentation.

* + 1. Request FWC assistance to create your site CLIP map and report:
			1. Send an email request to GIS.Requests@MyFWC.com ([sample email](#sample)) at least **3 weeks** prior to needing a response from FWC; THEN
			2. Once you receive your requested materials from FWC, if your CLIP map and report indicates that your site does contain at least 20 acres of Priority 1 and/or Priority 2 CLIP habitat then submit the following documentation IN your FCT Grant Application for criterion [9K-7.007](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)(2)(d)6.:

Both the CLIP map and report that documents that acreage of CLIP 1 & 2 Priority Habitats within the project site; AND

A completed [LAP Application](#application) with the required supporting documentation.

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Example email request to GIS.Requests@MyFWC.com

To: GIS.Requests@MyFWC.com

From: *(applicant name and email)*

Subject: Request for CLIP 1 & 2 Priority Habitats Map & Report for FCT Grant Application

Attachments: FCT Project Site Boundary

Please provide the following information so we may include the FWC’s Landowner Assistance Program criterion in our 2016-17 Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Grant Application.

Please send us an email response with:

A CLIP Map and Report that document the acreage of CLIP 1 & 2 Priority Habitats within the FCT Project Site;

Please find the attached documentation on project site boundary:

 Boundary Map(s) :*(include either a shape file, property appraisers map or other acceptable detailed project boundary)*

Please Note: We tried to using FWLI to gather this information but encountered difficulty for the following reasons: *(Optional but preferred: please provide any feedback here that will help improve the future usability of FWLI)*

Signed- (*Requestor Name & Phone number etc.)*

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**Landowner Assistance Program**

**Application**

**for**

**Florida Communities Trust 2016-17 Grant Applicants**

The goal of the Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) for FCT grants is to assist the proposed landowner with enhancement of habitat conditions for fish and wildlife that lead to long term conservation partnership with landowners. *Enrollment in the LAP indicates the applicant’s approval for documentation of wildlife species occurrences on enrolled properties and that the applicant will consider FWC’s recommendations regarding the management of the project site if acquired with the assistance of FCT.*

**Project Site information:** Does a current habitat management plan exist for the site? \_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No

**Key Contact**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_First Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_MI:\_\_\_\_

(This must be the same person designated in the FCT Grant Application.)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local Gov’t/Nonprofit Environmental Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City ­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, FL Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Enrolled Project Site information:**

Total FCT Project Site Acres: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Estimated Acres Enrolled in LAP: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (This should equal the Priority 1/Priority 2 Habitat acres within Project Site.)

Section(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Township \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_North or South; Range \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ East or West

County:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Current land use of enrolled acres:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To your knowledge:

Is the property currently managed with using any Cost-Share Programs?\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No; List:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is the property enrolled in the RCW Safe Harbor Program? \_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No

Is the property a “Certified” Gopher Tortoise Recipient Site? \_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No

**Supporting Documentation: must include the following documentation with the application to be considered:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Copy of the FWC CLIP Priority 1 and/or 2 Habitat Map

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Copy of the FWC CLIP Priority 1 and/or 2 Habitat Report

Key Contact Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Submit this page & all required supporting documentation with the FCT grant application for consideration of criterion** [**62-818.007**](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)**(2)(d)6.**

Please visit [Florida’s Wildlife Conservation Guide](http://myfwc.com/conservation/value/fwcg/) to develop your own management strategies for restoration and conservation within this project area and on other managed lands using.

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