

July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000 Grant Cycle

PROJECT: Governor's Commission For The Everglades

CONTACT:

Greg Diehl
Deputy Director
Secretary's Office
1550 Madruga Avenue Suite 412
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(305)669-6977

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$29,000

DESCRIPTION: The water quality of the many surface waters of the Everglades ecosystem has been degraded, or is in danger of degradation, and the natural systems associated with the Everglades, such as Florida Bay, have been altered so that they no longer fulfill the important functions they once performed. Yet the South Florida economy is dependent on these very systems. The Governor's commission for the Everglades will serve as a coordination mechanism to focus the many competing interests in South Florida on a restoration and management solution that will provide for sustainable economic development that can coexist with a healthy Everglades ecosystem.

PROJECT: Volunteer Coordination For The Apalachicola Reserve

CONTACT:

Woodard W. Miley, II
Environmental Administrator
Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve
350 Carroll Street
Eastpoint, FL 32328
(850)670-4324

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$20,000

DESCRIPTION: The problem to be addressed with this project is the lack of sufficient staff or funding to develop the infrastructure and human resources for a volunteer program at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve. Requested funding will allow the hiring of a temporary position to do this. Following the end of this project, existing staff will be more able to perpetuate a volunteer program on a long-term basis through increased knowledge, a sound infrastructure and volunteer assistance.

PROJECT: FACT/SOC Report Linkages Consultation

CONTACT:

Maureen Hart
Principal Consultant
Hart Environmental Data
Post Office Box 361
North Andover, MA. 01845
(978) 975-1988

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$20,000

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP) is in the process of developing a new set of coastal management indicators. Building on previous indicator work (the Florida Assessment of Coastal Trends), the Program intends to assess available indicators and choose those appropriate for FCMP strategic planning. In addition, the FCMP wants the documents associated with this Indicators Project not only to list the selected indicators, but also to analyze trends and interrelationships between and among them. Upon entering into contract with Hart Environmental

Data, the FCMP will receive guidance throughout both indicator development and the drafting of corresponding documents. Hart Environmental has extensive experience in sustainable indicator development and use; they will provide invaluable consultation and technical assistance through tasks such as meeting facilitation and documents reviews.

PROJECT: Governor’s Council for Sustainable Florida

CONTACT:

Governor’s Council for Sustainable Florida
Post Office Box 10688
Tallahassee, FL 32302
(850) 922-1733

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: The Governor’s Council for Sustainable Florida is a diverse nonpartisan forum on innovative policies and practices for sustainability in Florida. Through its Sustainable Florida Standards program collaborative partnerships, annual awards event, website, and publications, the Council promotes creative leadership in all sectors for a healthy environment, a prosperous economy, a satisfying quality of life, and vibrant, livable communities. The Council thus represents a strong potential private-sector partner for the Florida Coastal Management Program, which has been working to improve communication with leaders throughout Florida, especially in the business community and public interest groups. Through this partnership, the Florida Coastal Management Program will be able to improve coastal management in Florida in two ways: (1) by gaining the participation of the Council for input on a variety of issues, including setting priorities and developing programs and (2) by facilitating information transfer from Sustainable Florida Award recipients to peers in coastal communities.

PROJECT: CHNEP Newsletter Production and Printing

CONTACT:

Melissa Upton, Public Involvement Specialist
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
4980 Bayline Drive, 4th Floor
North Ft. Myers, FL 33917-3909
(941) 995-1777

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$14,000

DESCRIPTION: The production and distribution of a quarterly program newsletter is an effective way to inform people of the programs and activities of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP). Stewardship of Charlotte Harbor can be created and fostered through solicitation of articles and information for the newsletter from individuals, agencies and organizations both inside and outside of the CHNEP study area. The CHNEP produced and distributed a quarterly newsletter. The newsletter was coordinated with similar publication to include a calendar of events held by other organizations throughout the watershed.

PROJECT: Juno Hills: Access to Coastal Resources

CONTACT:

Dave Gillings
Palm Beach County
Environmental Program Supervisor
3323 Belvedere Road, Suite 502
West Palm Beach, FL 33406-1548
(561) 233-2477

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: This project is to design access to the 579 acre Juno Hills Natural Area located in the Town of Juno Beach in northern Palm Beach County. This unique area contains the only major example of Florida scrub ecosystem remaining in Palm Beach County that extends across the primary coastal ridge from the Atlantic Ocean to the Intracoastal Waterway. The site is home to 37 endangered and listed animal and plant species including the Florida scrub jay and the four-petal pawpaw. The project will conduct a feasibility study to determine the best way to provide pedestrian access to the portion of the site east of the highly-traveled U.S. 1. Once that mode is determined, it and the trails and boardwalks needed throughout the site will be designed to connect proposed and existing parking areas and dune walkovers.

PROJECT: Sea Turtle Monitoring and Public Education

CONTACT:

Paul Davis, Environmental Program Supervisor
Palm Beach County
3323 Belevedere Road, Suite 502
West Palm Beach, FL 33406-1548
(561) 233-2509

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$31,500

DESCRIPTION: This project is to promote sea turtle conservation, and is divided into two components: 1) volunteer coordination and 2) education. Sea turtle nesting data is collected by a variety of groups and organizations along nesting beaches in Florida. This project is designed to serve as a pilot program to coordinate and implement a volunteer-based sea turtle monitoring using standardized methods to collect nesting data on the beaches that are not currently monitored. The program is designed to become self-sufficient through the establishment of a solid foundation of highly trained and experienced volunteers. Palm Beach County has a large population of people living on and using the beaches. Beach-goers, who are unaware of how their activities interfere with the continued survival of sea turtles, may intentionally or unintentionally conduct activities which pose threats to sea turtles. The goals are to educate the public, including both local residents and tourists, on the significance of Palm Beach County beaches, sea grasses, near shore hard bottom and reefs in providing important habitat for sea turtles, and to encourage community stewardship in the protection and preservation of sea turtles and their habitats.

PROJECT: Coastal Program Support

CONTACT:

Lynn Griffin, Environmental Manager
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000
(850) 487-2231

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$40,000

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Office of Intergovernmental Programs is understaffed to meet the significant workload assigned to it. In particular, coordination of clearinghouse-federal consistency reviews for the department is a considerable task now that DEP is responsible for 18 of the Florida Coastal Management Program's 23 enforceable policies. In addition, this coordination has become a key element of the Department's ecosystem management initiatives. Conducting consistency reviews, facilitating policy development, program activity tracking and monitoring federal and state review timelines are demanding tasks. The Department received financial assistance to meet these challenges and complete its coastal management program responsibilities.

PROJECT: Maritime Heritage Trail

CONTACT:

Dr. James Miller, Chief
Florida Department of State
Division of Archaeological Resources
R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
(850) 487-2299

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$71,900

DESCRIPTION: This project will develop and establish a conceptual trail incorporating heritage locations, including historical, natural, and community resources, around Florida's coastline that are open to the public. Between 100 and 200 such sites will be organized by heritage themes; each will be represented by a short description and access information, as well as an illustration. The heritage themes, Coastal Environments, Coastal Communities, Historic Ports, Lighthouses, Coastal Forts, and Shipwrecks, will be developed in narratives to explain how natural and cultural coastal features developed historically, and how they fit together in a region. The Trail, on the model of Florida's Black Heritage Trail and Cuban Heritage Trail already developed, will consist of information rather than a marked route; visitors can access any sites on the trail in any order, and there is not a marker or sign system on the ground for directions or identification. Information about the trail will be supplied in two formats: in a series of six pamphlets/posters presenting each theme, and in a web site incorporating the same information plus additional internet links as appropriate. The products will be developed and produced in camera-ready format, and posted on-line by the conclusion of the project. The same information will also be provided to the Division's Trail program for potential use in a trail book of 30-40 pages in length, but this is not a grant product.

PROJECT: Coastal Zone and Ocean Policy Coordination

CONTACT:

Carlilane Johnson, Governmental Analyst III
Executive Office of the Governor
The Capitol, Suite 1501
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
(850) 488-5551

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$83,000

DESCRIPTION: Because many different agencies are responsible for laws and regulations within Florida's coastal zone, effective coastal management can only be accomplished through the coordination and cooperation among agencies charged with administering the laws and regulation which are part of the Florida Coastal Management Program established by the Florida Coastal Management Act of 1978. Through staff support, this project provided improved interagency coastal staff coordination, internal agency staff communication and coordination on coastal program issues, and a single point of contact in the Governor's Office for coastal program staff actions.

PROJECT: Coastal Program Support

CONTACT:

Beth Elrod, Senior Management Analyst
Florida Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
(850) 488-2358

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$30,000

DESCRIPTION: The Florida Coastal Management Program continued a program of coordination and review to assist local governments and regional agencies in dealing with the cumulative and secondary impacts of coastal development, primarily through the federal consistency process. Through the federal consistency process, direct federal activities, federally permitted or licensed activities, Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act exploration, development and production activities, and federally funded state and local government activities are reviewed for consistency with Florida's Coastal Management Program. This effort will focus on service delivery through the Department of Community Affairs, the 11 regional planning councils (RPCs), and the five water management districts (WMDs). This effort will also provide an opportunity for local governments to focus on the concerns regarding cumulative and secondary impacts as they begin the evaluation and appraisal process for local comprehensive plans.

PROJECT: Island Restoration and Education Project

CONTACT:

Betty Johnson, Principal Planner
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
9455 Koger Boulevard, Suite 219
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(727) 577-5151, extension 242

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$48,900

DESCRIPTION: This project will facilitate a community-based stewardship of the island bringing together government entities, environmental scientists, non-profit environmental groups and volunteers to restore the island and create an environmental educational opportunity for students and residents. The island itself; however, is overgrown with exotic plants such as Brazilian Pepper and Australian Pine which is choking out the native vegetative, limiting plant and wildlife bio-diversity and causing severe erosion along the shore. Recreational use has left the island strewn with broken bottles, cans and other litter. Solving these problems will take a team approach. Appropriate use of the island for enjoyment of the general public, school groups, and others can be greatly augmented through the use of interpretive signs and pathways. Further, integrated curricula to take advantage of the natural features and fitted to the diversity of different users is needed to provide the types of information and stimulation required to engender understanding and concern. To provide for access even for people remote from the project site, a link will be established using the current technology of linked Internet websites. In use, activities on the island will be broadcast for anyone with Internet access to enjoy.

PROJECT: Dune Crossover for Handicapped Beach Access

CONTACT:

Robert Stowe, Public Works Director
City of Satellite Beach
565 Cassia Boulevard
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
(407) 777-2309

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$9,900

DESCRIPTION: This project proposes to replace one of the City's 13 public dune crossovers with one which meets American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for wheelchair access to the beach.

PROJECT: Oaks by the Bay Development, Phase II

CONTACT:

David L. Jackson, Project Director
City of Panama City
1900 West 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32401
(850) 872-3199

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: This project proposes to implement elements of the City of Panama City's working waterfront revitalization plan, "Strategic Revitalization Plan for St. Andrews: A Community's Vision for its Future." This project will implement elements of the plan by developing a recent land acquisition adjacent to Oaks by the Bay Park so that it can be better utilized as a site for festivals and by the public at large. Development in this phase will construct a pavilion in the northeast corner of the park.

PROJECT: Cocoa Harbor Revitalization Master Plan and Dock Improvements

CONTACT:

Anne Fadullon, Director of Community Development
City of Cocoa
Cocoa City Hall
603 Brevard Avenue
Cocoa, FL 32988
(407)639-7563

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: Cocoa maintained its docking capacity until the 1980s, serving as a harbor for intracoastal cruise ships. A depressed economy destroyed the cruises and Cocoa's harbor capacity fell into disrepair. The City of Cocoa wishes to redevelop its harbor capacity by repairing, expanding and improving the existing T-dock on the south shore of Lee Wenner Park approximately 380 feet eastward along the shoreline of the park. This will provide more usable waterfront for both commercial and public usage. The first step in this project will be the Cocoa Harbor Revitalization Master Plan.

PROGRAM: Building Collaborative Processes for Addressing Coastal Issues

CONTACT:

Dr. Roy Carriker
University of Florida
Professor and Director
Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute
Post Office Box 110230
Gainesville, FL 32611-0230
(352) 846-2010

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$45,000

DESCRIPTION: Environmental management issues often involve multiple, competing parties. Policy questions quickly move from the board room to the court room. Expensive and time consuming litigation replaces collaboration and cooperative problem solving. The Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute uses eight three-day sessions and a practicum experience to train individuals involved in natural resource planning and policy implementation to use collaborative problem solving approaches to policy development. Through a series of field trips and stakeholder panels, Institute participants receive first hand exposure to Florida's pressing natural resource issue areas. Two of the eight sessions have a specific coastal issue focus. All of the activities for those two sessions are built

around coastal management issue themes. Given the percentage of Florida's land mass which is coastal and the percentage of Florida's population which is concentrated in coastal areas, the content of the other six sessions also touches on issues and implications for coastal resource use.

PROJECT: Bear Cut Preserve Boardwalk and Reef Overlook

CONTACT:

Nancy Dufau, Grants Supervisor
Miami-Dade County
275 NW 2nd Street
Miami, FL 33128
(305) 755-7947

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: In order to provide public access to a unique fossilized black mangrove reef located offshore Bear Cut Preserve while protecting valuable coastal resources, Miami-Dade County plans to construct a fully accessible raised boardwalk. The boardwalk will be constructed on land and connect the new Crandon Park Nature Center with a tram drop-off point and a reef overlook. The boardwalk will facilitate ongoing environmental education programs currently run from the Biscayne Nature Center, which will be relocated to the permanent facility in late 1999 when construction is completed. The boardwalk will enhance public access to coastal resources while helping to preserve the quality of the site's habitats.

PROJECT: Cultural Resource Protection in the Coastal Zone

CONTACT:

Dr. James Miller, Chief
Florida Department of State
Division of Archaeological Resources
R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
(850) 487-2299

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$100,000

DESCRIPTION: The work in the third year of this project follows and concludes that completed in the previous two years. The first year was focused on identifying the state's most threatened archaeological and historical sites, the nature of their threats, and the range of possible preservation solutions. This work entailed applying GIS, a computer mapping tool, to determine the range, number and location of sites situated in the Department of Environmental Protection's critical erosion zone. The project asked archaeologists and preservationists through questionnaires to identify sites, and considerable research was undertaken to assess the range of possibilities for site preservation. The second year focused on synthesizing this information, which has resulted in lists and accompanying maps identifying threatened sites and project case studies and the formulation of preservation strategies for protecting such sites. The project has also prepared several drafts of publications that would help educate private property owners and the public on the significance and protection of these sites. With these tasks completed, the third year of the project will center on testing proposed preservation strategies as program initiatives using case studies.

PROJECT: Waterfronts Florida Program Administration

CONTACT:

Dan Pennington, Community Planner
1000 Friends of Florida
926 East Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 222-6277

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$120,000

DESCRIPTION: In its Section 309 program area assessment and multi-year strategy, the State of Florida has identified the Special Area Management Planning (SAMP) enhancement area as a high priority. This strategy to address SAMPs focuses on the use of SAMPs to manage the coastal resources of Florida. A program designed to provide assistance and training to communities undergoing waterfront revitalization will result in the completion of Special Area Management Plans for participating communities to use for guidance and direction during their redevelopment efforts.

PROJECT: Florida Blueways Model in Charlotte Harbor

CONTACT:

Christopher A. Friel, Program Administrator
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida Marine Research Institute
100 Eighth Avenue, SE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5095
(727) 896-8626

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$120,000

DESCRIPTION: A successful Florida Blueways strategy will need to address the major methodological, organizational, and technical components needed to be included in the initial implementation, as well as mechanisms for soliciting and capturing input and feedback from the science, management, and stakeholder communities. The Florida Marine Research Institute shared the evolving characterization process with the Florida Governor's Ocean Committee in November 1998 and received extremely favorable feedback. There appears to be significant value in exploring further the potential functional linkages between Florida Blueways and the work of the Florida Ocean Committee. Additional major issues that warrant further attention include (1) further Charlotte Harbor case study refinement, (2) design of a structured scientific and stakeholder participation process, (3) conducting a series of working sessions to "go public" with the Charlotte Harbor characterization, (4) definition of further implementation steps in Charlotte Harbor, (5) design of a process of transferring characterization approach to other regions and estimation of effort/resources required, and (6) creation of a summary report with the refined Charlotte Harbor case study and specific statewide implementation options. This project will specifically accelerate the conceptual development and practical implementation of the Florida Blueways concept in Charlotte Harbor by continuing refinement of the ecological characterization pilot that was begun in 1998-99 and greatly expanding the human use and socio-economic characterization for coastal, estuarine, and ocean systems. The end result will be a defensible analysis approach that contributes to the evolving Florida Blueways concept, that has been tested using the best available multi-agency data and subjected to peer-review.

PROJECT: Effects of Water Control Structures on Estuaries

CONTACT:

Dr. Michael Savarese
Florida Gulf Coast University
Associate Professor of Earth Systems Science
10501 FGCU Boulevard South
Ft. Myers, FL 33965-6565
(941) 590-7165

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$64,844

DESCRIPTION: Information will be collected concerning sediment heavy metal and organochlorine concentrations upstream and downstream water control structures with different designs within a salinity zone similar to the Henderson Creek structure. Juvenile fish and macroinvertebrate abundance associated with the upstream and downstream habitats of these structures will also be measured. These data will be used in collaboration with the South Florida Water Management District to select the best water control structure design for Henderson Creek as well as other estuaries in southwest Florida.

PROJECT: Impacts of Septic Tanks in the Pensacola Bay

CONTACT:

Charlie Goddard
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Watershed Management Section
160 Governmental Center
Pensacola, FL 32501
(850) 595-8300

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$50,000

DESCRIPTION: Septic tank systems may introduce a number of deleterious environmental contaminants and pathogens into recreational surface waters. Fecal coliform bacteria are commonly used as an indicator species to suggest septic tank problems and contamination of coastal waters. Unfortunately, fecal coliform bacteria may not necessarily originate from human hosts and septic tanks, since all warm-blooded animals are hosts to this group of bacteria (domesticated animals, wildlife, livestock). Therefore, present water quality studies seeking to determine the deleterious environmental effects attributable solely to septic tanks may be confounded by other bacterial sources. This proposed study will be the first step in development of an analytical technique to distinguish between the fecal coliform bacteria from human hosts and those from the digestive systems of other species of animals. This technique will help aquatic biologists determine the quality management decisions. A model Weekly Water Quality Monitoring Program, with results published weekly in the local newspaper, will be developed and implemented to provide the public with water quality data at high-use swimming, fishing and boating areas in the Pensacola Bay System. The weekly monitoring will determine the fecal coliform bacteria concentrations at each sampling site and allow for trend analysis to be performed. This program can serve as a model for other communities concerned with the water quality of their swimming, fishing and boating areas.

PROJECT: Volunteer Monitoring in the Perdido Bay

CONTACT:

Charlie Goddard
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Watershed Management Section
160 Governmental Center
Pensacola, FL 32501
(850) 595-8300

FCMP FUNDING AMOUNT: \$14,267

DESCRIPTION: Citizen volunteers currently sample the water quality in Perdido Bay once a week. These volunteers include the Alabama Coastal Foundation and some Florida citizens who are affiliated with the Perdido Ecosystem Restoration Group (PERG). Three Florida and Alabama volunteers currently collect samples at sites in lower Perdido Bay but their sampling efforts are not coordinated. With the tremendous growth that is occurring along the Perdido Bay on both the east and west shores, it is imperative that the citizens of Florida and Alabama develop a comprehensive sampling plan that will identify sources of pollution to the Bay which may interfere with its ongoing recovery. Once the sites have been identified, the PERG can present the sites to local and state governments, homeowners groups or other citizen groups and take the necessary steps to eliminate the sources of pollution. These types of problems are described, and the correction actions outlined in the updated Perdido Basin Management Strategy book which was published as part of a grant from the Florida Coastal Management Program.