



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
2022 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
(pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes)**

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Friends of the Spoil Islands (FOSI)

Mailing Address: PO Box 651172 Vero Beach, FL 32965

Telephone Number: 802-535-9500

Website Address (*required if applicable*): www.fosifl.org

Check to confirm your Code of Ethics is posted conspicuously on your website.

Statutory Authority:

Section 20.2551, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit; public records; partnerships. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements, operational parameters, duties of a CSO to support the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), or individual units of the Department, use of Department property, audit requirements, public records requirements, and authorizes public-private partnerships to enhance lands managed by the Department.

Section 20.058, F.S., Citizen support and direct-support organizations. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements to submit an annual report each year for each designated CSO and to post that information on the Departments website.

YOUR MISSION AND LAST CALENDAR YEAR'S PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CSO's Mission: (Consistent with your Articles and Bylaws)

Promote, support, restore, and enhance habitats and natural resources that directly and indirectly benefit the Indian River Lagoon Aquatic Preserves system. Further, act in compliance with the Citizen Support Organization agreement.

Describe Last Calendar Year's Results Obtained:

- Elected new board members
- Purchased Reconyx game cameras and solar panel battery charges to allow remote monitoring of bird rookeries on spoil islands
- Provide ongoing cellular service plan for Reconyx wildlife cameras for IRLAP staff
- Provided funds for purchase of audio playback equipment for Least tern nesting sites
- Covered registration fees for IRLAP staff member to attend Leave No Trace Educator course. Staff member has since provided multiple outreach events to residents on Leave No Trace principals to improve visitor use on spoil islands.
- Participated in St. Lucie County's Oxbow Eco Center Earthday celebration. Over 7000 visitors attended the event.
- Participated in Indian River County Lagoonfest coordinated by the Environmental Learning Center.
- Continued to participate as a member of the Environmental Leaders Coalition of Indian River County (IRC). The coalition allows the various environmental organization of IRC to stay connected and informed and to make the public aware of what the groups are working on. Provided list of speaker topics for interested parties to access if

speakers are required. Third quarterly newsletter of 2021 included data on FOSI trash collection efforts on soil islands through IRLAP's Spoil Island Adoption Program.

- Provided funding for the purchase of more mattresses for Titusville Field Station dorms to allow interns and others to locate for extended periods of time for projects
- Received donation for the purchase of new picnic table from the Vero Beach Yacht Club Chapter of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. The table was installed on IR-25 with help from Indian River County Boys and Girls Club members, providing the members a chance to explore the Indian River Lagoon, the spoil islands, and learn how to use hand tools to build and install the table.
- Coordinated exhibit with St. Lucie Cultural Alliance of Clyde Butcher's Living Waters Collection in Port St. Lucie in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institute's Waterways Exhibit. The collection was on display from October through December. Clyde Butcher was invited and attended the opening night cocktail event. Donations to FOSI through the sale of merchandise from the Clyde Butcher Gallery totaled \$371.17.
- Received a Public Interest donation of \$15,000. Funds were used to purchase 3 VEMCO acoustic receivers and 15 acoustic telemetry tags that are being used in the first acoustic telemetry study of Horseshoe crabs (HSC) in Florida. The study will try to determine movements of HSC outside of spawning events and how possible shoreline armoring projects can impact beach access. The receivers have also been registered into the FACT (Florida Atlantic Coast Telemetry) Array and will help other researchers study the movement of organisms in the Indian River Lagoon.
- Provided funds for refreshments for the Audubon Society Conservation Leadership Initiative participants during their stay at the Titusville Field Station.
- Provided funds for refreshments for Air Force volunteers during initial planting of Titusville Field Station Pollinator Garden
- Received \$2500 donation from FWC for use of Titusville Field Station dorms to house summer Black Rail Field Technician. Dorms are currently being used for the summer of 2022 for the new technician and funds will be donated to FOSI. All funds are used to purchase equipment for the Field Station
- Covered registration fees for all IRLAP staff to attend the Indian River Lagoon Symposium at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute.
- Covered membership dues for IRLAP staff to join the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals
- Purchased signs for recognition of Spoil Island Adopters
- Purchased acknowledgement sign to install on osprey nesting platform installed by volunteer group "Camp Neverfast"
- Provided funds for registration of Titusville Field Station Pollinator Garden in the National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitat designation program
- Provided funds for a fuel card as a stipend for the IRLAP 2022 summer intern.

Describe the CSO's Plans for the Next Three Calendar Years:

- Continue to assist IRLAP in funding the "Leave no Trace" Program to promote island waste removal
- Purchase WAG Bags for spoil island Leave No Trace program
- Evaluate conditions on IR-43 and develop a work plan and assist IRLAP with purchase of amenities for recreational activities.
- Continue to provide support for Dorm facilities at the Titusville Field Station through funding and administration of funds donated by tenants.
- Continue maintenance of FOSI and Spoil Island Project website.
- Cover membership fees to Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP) and other relevant meetings for IRLAP staff
- Provide WiFi service to Titusville FS Dorms and cellular service for wildlife cameras

CSO's LAST CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS:

Total Number of CSO General Membership: Zero

Total Number of Board of Directors: Nine (9)

Total Volunteer Hours for the Board of Directors: 103 hours

ORCP & CSO RELATIONSHIP:

Don't duplicate by describing accomplishments and contributions in the summary. Brag in the above Results Obtained. Describe the relationship here.

Manager's Comments on the CSO & ORCP Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on

- Changing developments of the managed area(s) provided by the CSO.
FOSI's support has allowed our office to improve the dorm facilities at the Titusville Field Station. The use of the dorms has been of great help not only to our office but to other agencies that need to provide low cost housing for field staff. Currently FWC and Canaveral National Seashore have summer field staff housed at the property. Improvements to the site have allowed IRLAP staff to stage vessels there, saving time and money of having to trailer vessels to other aquatic preserves.
- Effectiveness of the organization in fulfilling their purpose to support the managed area(s).
FOSI has worked diligently to improve and expand the help they provide to our office through administration of donations and Public Interest funds. Many of our projects would not be possible without the help of FOSI and their administrative capabilities.
- Effectiveness of the Board of Directors in completing their Annual Program Plan.
In the last few years FOSI has updated their work plans to better and more efficiently work with our staff to provide timely responses to request for assistance. Most of the goals presented in last year's plan have been completed to the best of circumstances (COVID has impacted many programs they had planned).
- The relationship between ORCP team and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?
The new Board has created a very efficient program for the approval of funding IRLAP needs. They have streamlined communication between myself and the Board, making any decisions in a very timely manner.

CSO President's Comments on the CSO & ORCP Relationship and Support:

Provide your perspective on the relationship between the ORCP and CSO. What went well? Are there areas of improvement?

Communication and funding request processes were reviewed with the new Board members and new Treasurer and IRLAP. This has improved the ability to respond in a timely fashion in addition to improved accountability. The Clyde Butcher exhibit coordinated in collaboration with the Smithsonian, Fort Pierce Cultural Alliance, FOSI and IRLAP was an example of true teamwork.

SUMMARIZE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR LAST CALENDAR YEAR, DIRECT SUPPORT & REVENUES:

Program Service Expenses are costs related to providing your organization's programs or services in accordance with your mission. Describe and provide expenses that directly support the managed area(s). For established nonprofit organizations, program service expenses generally represent most of the overall expense of the organization. For the last calendar year provide description and total \$ for each that apply. Replace examples with your information.

Horseshoe crab telemetry equipment	\$ 13,684
Audio playback equipment, solar panels for cameras	\$ 340
Leave No Trace Trainer Workshop	\$80
IRL Symposium registration	\$ 160
FAEP Memberships	\$ 255
Vehicles (e.g., trucks/cars, UTVs, golf carts, accessible devices, etc.)	\$ 0
Picnic Tables for campsites	\$ \$700
Spoil Island Adopter signage	\$400
Website hosting and maintenance fees	\$ 827
Programing/interpretation support material purchases	\$ 0
Other program services	\$ 0
Total Program Service Expenses	\$

Visitor Services Revenue

Describe revenues and the sources generated from fundraising on managed area property. Replace examples with your information.

Gift shops, craft stores, and concession sales	\$ NA
Merchandise sales (e.g., plants, firewood, ice, t-shirts, hats, etc.)	\$ NA
Programs and Special Events (e.g., fundraising workshops, seasonal events, concerts, etc.)	\$ NA
Vending (e.g., drink machines, penny press, laundry, Wifi, etc.)	\$ NA
Rentals (e.g., bikes, canoe, kayak, SUPs, etc.)	\$ NA
Managed area donation boxes	\$ NA
Other visitor services revenue	\$ NA
Total Visitor Services Revenue	\$ 0

NET ASSETS: \$12, 694.15

Organizations end of last year's Total Liabilities minus Total Assets. This is not the above's Visitor Service Revenue minus Program Service Expenses.

CSO AUDIT THRESHOLD:

Last Calendar Year's Total Expenses (including grants) \$

Are the CSO's annual total expenses \$300,000 including grants? Then Section 215.981(2), Florida Statute requires an independent CPA audit using Government Audit Standards ([U.S. GAO Yellow Book](#)). The audit is **due by September 1** (or 9 months after the CSO's calendar year ends) to the Florida Auditor General and to the Department.

This information is complete to the best of my knowledge pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes		
Title	Name	Signature
CSO President	John C Bacon	<i>John C. Bacon</i>
		Date
		May 24, 2022

ORCP Manager	Irene Arpağyan		6/30/22
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CSO's Code of Ethics is attached

CSO has attached the most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N receipt. All IRS Form 990's must be *complete* with Part III Program Service and *all* appropriate Schedules (A, O and others as appropriate). If filing an IRS extension, attach the IRS 8868 receipt and the most recent complete 990 and schedules.