

Resilient Florida Program Implementation Scoring Criteria Guidance



**Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection
Florida Department of Environmental Protection**



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Purpose

On May 12, 2021, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 1954, now section 380.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.). This targeted funding developed a coordinated approach to Florida's coastal and inland resilience and created the Resilient Florida Program which helps prepare communities for the impact of flooding and storm surge. Through this legislation, the Resilient Florida Grant Program was created to enhance the department's efforts to protect our inland areas, coastlines and shores.

[Chapter 62S-8, Florida Administrative Code \(F.A.C.\)](#) was developed to establish project scoring criteria that, pursuant to [section 380.093 F.S.](#), is used in the department's hierarchical ranking system of submitted implementation project grant proposals. This guide is intended to aid eligible entities when submitting projects to be considered for inclusion in the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan (State Plan). Points awarded for each criterion are used in DEP's evaluation and ranking of implementation project grant proposals. This guide will outline each scoring criterion within statutory context, including examples for reference to illustrate the type of clear and concise response sought by the program.

Resilient Florida Grant Portal

The Resilient Florida [grant application portal](#) collects project proposals consistent with section 380.093, F.S., and Chapter 62S-8, F.A.C. Applicants can apply for grants through an eligible entity's established account, complete the application, view the status of existing applications, and submit supplemental documentation, all through the online portal.

Documentation may be required for applicants to be awarded points for specific criterion. Applicants have the ability to select the files from their computer that they wish to attach and upload them directly into the application.

In addition to applicant and project information, applicants are asked questions for data collection purposes that do not correlate with any of the project scoring criteria. Examples of these questions include whether the project would impact springs and if a [Sea Level Impact Projection \(SLIP\) Study](#) will be required. Applicants are encouraged to review the application portal in full and allow sufficient time to gather any non-project-specific information required.

The 2022 online application, in entirety, is recreated in Appendix A. Since that time, non-substantive updates have been incorporated into the portal application.

Pre-Application Resources

Each year, Resilient Florida (RF) staff will dedicate time between April 1 and June 15 to help with any necessary application support. Staff are available to assist with eligibility checks, pre-submittal application review and the preparation of GIS files. After June 15, staff will be available as time allows. Assistance cannot be guaranteed after June as volume may be high before the portal closes on September 1. Applicants are encouraged to contact staff as soon as possible to take advantage of this opportunity. Call the RF program at 850-245-7600 or email Resilience@FloridaDEP.gov.

Attachments

- Do not forget to upload all attachments referenced in the application.
- If including attachments in support of a scoring criterion, it is beneficial to include the attachment name and relevant page numbers in the explanation field.
 - > Criterion that require specific documentation is in *green, italicized* text.
- Use a simple naming structure to label/name corresponding attachments.
- Several scoring criteria are evaluated for the project impact area, which may not be the same as the geographic extent of the applicant entity. It is important to include a map of the project impact area, as defined in 62S-8.002(13), F.A.C., to aid in evaluation.
 - > GIS assistance is available during the pre-application period. Please see Pre-Application Resources above.

Explanation Fields

- The explanation field should be located directly below each question.
- Be concise and specific in the explanation.
- Please use plain language as not all evaluators are professional engineers, certified floodplain managers, building officials or code experts.
 - > Evaluators may not be able to award points if unable to verify the explanation.
- Make sure to fill out the explanation field of scoring criteria for which the proposed project should receive points.
 - > At a minimum, a reference to relevant attachments should be included.



Scoring Criteria Outline with Point Values

Statutory criteria: TIER 1		62S-8.003(2), F.A.C., criteria	Points
40 percent	Addresses risk in a vulnerability assessment (VA) or comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and SLR assessment.	<i>Risk of flooding and sea level rise to critical assets <u>and</u></i>	5
		<i>Risk of compound flooding to critical assets.</i>	5
	Reduces risk to regionally significant asset.	Reduces or avoids risk to regionally significant asset.	10
	Reducing risk in areas with higher percentage of vulnerable critical assets.	Percentage of total critical assets within the project impact area that are vulnerable critical assets.	10
	Contributes to existing flooding mitigation projects that reduce upland damage by incorporating new or enhanced structures or restoration and revegetation projects.	Contributes by incorporating new or enhanced structure <u>or</u>	6
		Contributes by incorporating natural system restoration and revegetation <u>or</u>	6
		Contributes by incorporating new or enhanced structure <i>and</i> incorporating natural system restoration and revegetation.	10
Tier 1 total points:			40



Statutory criteria: TIER 2		62S-8.003(3), F.A.C., criteria	Points
30 percent	Degree to which <u>flooding</u> and erosion currently affect the condition of the project area.	<i>Frequency of flooding or erosion in the project impact area <u>and</u></i>	3.75
		<i>Severity of flooding or erosion in the project impact area.</i>	3.75
	Overall readiness of the project to proceed in a timely manner.	<i>Status of project design <u>and</u></i>	3.75
		<i>Permitting and easement acquisition status <u>and</u></i>	2.75
		<i>Commitment of local funds for cost-share <u>or</u> the community is a financially disadvantaged small community.</i>	1
	Environmental habitat enhancement or inclusion of nature-based options for resilience.	Project enhances habitat or includes nature-based solutions <u>and</u>	3.75
		Project is in an area identified as a state or federal critical habitat for threatened or endangered species.	3.75
	Cost-effectiveness.	Demonstration of project cost effectiveness.	7.5
			Tier 2 total points:






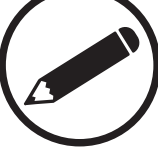



Statutory criteria: TIER 3		62S-8.003(4), F.A.C., criteria	Points
20 percent	Availability of local, state, and federal cost share funds.	50% cost share is identified but funds are not appropriated or released <u>or</u>	3.25
		<i>50% cost share available/committed</i> <u>or</u> the community is a financially disadvantaged small community.	6.5
	Previous state commitment and involvement in the project.	Previous state funding for preconstruction activities except design or <u>permitting</u> <u>and</u>	1
		Previous state funding for design <u>and</u>	1.5
		Previous state funding for <u>permitting</u> <u>and</u>	1.5
		State funding awarded for earlier phases of the project's total construction.	2.5
Exceedance of the flood-resistant construction requirements of the Florida Building Code and applicable flood plain management regulations.	Exceedance of Florida Building Code flood-resistant requirements or applicable floodplain management regulations <u>or</u> no relevant Florida Building Code flood-resistant requirements or floodplain management regulations apply.	7	
		Tier 3 total points:	20

Statutory criteria: TIER 4		62S-8.003(5), F.A.C., criteria	Points
10 percent	Project uses innovative technologies designed to reduce project costs and provide regional collaboration.	Innovative technologies will be used, and the proposal explains why they are innovative as well as how they will reduce cost and provide regional collaboration.	5
	Extent to which the project assists financially disadvantaged communities.	The project impact area <u>is located in</u> a financially disadvantaged community.	5
		Tier 4 total points:	10

Symbol Legend

The symbols in the table below will be used throughout the document to indicate where uploads or explanations are required to receive any or all points. Some of the symbols also represent various application superlatives for each tier. A short description of what the symbol means is provided next to each one.

	<p>Percent of applications that received some or all points. The number inside the flag indicates the percentage of applications that were awarded any points.</p>
	<p>Upload required for full points. Applicant must upload the required documentation or files to be awarded full points.</p>
	<p>Explanation (at minimum) required for full points. Applicant must provide an explanation at a minimum to be awarded full points.</p>
	<p>Explanation for partial points, upload for full points. Applicant can either provide an explanation and be awarded partial points or upload documentation for full points.</p>
	<p>Most applications received full points (top three scoring criteria). Applicant must upload the required documentation or files to be awarded full points.</p>
	<p>Most applications received partial points. Most applications were awarded partial points for this criteria.</p>
	<p>Fewest applications received points (top three scoring criteria). The fewest applications were awarded any points for this criteria.</p>

Tier 1

Section 380.093(5)(h)1., F.S., requires Tier 1 scoring criteria account for 40% of the total score and consist of four items.

- a. The degree to which the project addresses the risks posed by flooding and sea level rise identified in the local government vulnerability assessments or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment, as applicable.
- b. The degree to which the project addresses risks to regionally significant assets.
- c. The degree to which the project reduces risks to areas with an overall higher percentage of vulnerable critical assets.
- d. The degree to which the project contributes to existing flooding mitigation projects that reduce upland damage costs by incorporating new or enhanced structures or restoration and revegetation projects.



Section 380.093(5)(h)1.a., F.S.



The degree to which the project addresses the risks posed by flooding and sea level rise identified in the local government vulnerability assessments or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment, as applicable.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(2)(a), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)1.a., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 10 points.



- *Five points will be awarded if the project addresses flooding risks identified in a comprehensive vulnerability assessment or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment.*
- *An additional five points will be awarded if the project addresses compound flooding risks identified in a comprehensive vulnerability assessment or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment.*
- **Note:** Since projects can be eligible for inclusion in the State Plan without a comprehensive vulnerability assessment until Dec. 1, 2023, per rule 62S-8, F.A.C., other assessments, reports, evaluations or other documentation of risk that analyzes the impacts of existing or future flooding or sea level rise can be used to demonstrate risk.

Discussion

Requiring the critical assets be identified in either a comprehensive vulnerability assessment compliant with section 380.093(3)(c), F.S., or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment will provide consistency in assessing flood risk between applicants and therefore scoring between projects and project types. Additionally, DEP made efforts to not disproportionately provide points to coastal projects while also providing more points to projects that are subject to flooding risk from more than one source (such as sea level rise, rainfall-induced flooding, riverine flooding, etc.).

Prior to Dec. 1, 2023, per Florida Statute, eligible entities may submit projects identified in existing vulnerability assessments that do not comply with subsection 380.093(3), F.S. In rule 62S-8, F.A.C., this is further described as applicants without a comprehensive VA can use other assessments, reports, evaluations or other documentation of risk that analyzes the impacts of existing or future flooding or sea level rise to identify risk of flooding and sea level rise. Applicants must submit the report that states that there is a flood risk to receive points.

Example Response

See page 99 in the attached document, "Vulnerability Assessment Report." The document includes flood modeling results completed in 2021. From this analysis, the project area is highly vulnerable to flooding and will be even more vulnerable in the future. This project is designed to reduce risk of flooding and risk consequences from sea level rise in the area.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Upload required for full points.



Most applications received full points (top three scoring criteria).



Section 380.093(5)(h)1.b., F.S.

The degree to which the project addresses risks to regionally significant assets.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(2)(b), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)1.b., F.S., a proposal will receive 10 points if the project reduces risks to or adapts a regionally significant asset to avoid flooding risk. For the purpose of this criteria, relocation of the regionally significant asset constitutes adaptation of the asset.

Discussion

Regionally significant assets are “critical assets that support the needs of communities spanning multiple geopolitical jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water resource facilities, regional medical centers, emergency operations centers, regional utilities, major transportation hubs and corridors, airports, and seaports” [section 380.093(2)(d), F.S.]. Regionally significant assets do not have to be owned or maintained by the county or municipality applying for inclusion in the State Plan.

In the application, it is necessary to identify the geopolitical jurisdictions that the regionally significant asset serves. Those jurisdictions must be provided in the explanation field to receive points.

Example

This water resource facility (pump station) serves multiple geopolitical jurisdictions including (names of cities, counties, etc.).



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.



Section 380.093(5)(h)1.c., F.S.

The degree to which the project reduces risks to areas with an overall higher percentage of vulnerable critical assets.



Implemented with section 62S-8.003(2)(c), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)1.c., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 10 points for the percentage of vulnerable critical assets within the project impact area [62S-8.002(13), F.A.C.].



- Two points if at least one critical asset but less than 20% of total critical assets within the project impact area are vulnerable.
- Four points if 20% or more but less than 40% of total critical assets within the project impact area are vulnerable.
- Six points if 40% or more but less than 60% of total critical assets within the project impact area are vulnerable.
- Eight points if 60% or more but less than 80% of total critical assets within the project impact area are vulnerable; or
- Ten points will be awarded if more than 80% of total critical assets within the project impact area are vulnerable.

Discussion

Vulnerable critical assets are those identified in a comprehensive VA as being at risk to flooding or sea level rise. If a comprehensive VA includes scenarios beyond those required by section 380.093, F.S., such as higher frequency storm events, those scenarios cannot be used to determine vulnerability of an asset for this criterion. This helps create consistency in scoring between projects.

Prior to Dec. 1, 2023, applicants without a comprehensive VA can use best available data to determine which critical assets are vulnerable and calculate the percentage of vulnerable critical assets. This allowance is made so that communities can begin identifying infrastructure projects while they are completing comprehensive VAs and is supported by statute allowing project inclusion in the State Plan without a comprehensive VA until Dec. 1, 2023.

Applicants should identify all critical assets in the project impact area as well as whether those critical assets are vulnerable. This information allows the evaluator to verify the percent of vulnerable assets within the project impact area [(number of vulnerable critical assets/total critical assets) *100 = percent of vulnerable critical assets]. This can also be demonstrated visually through a map. Applicants can show the project impact area on a map and identify vulnerable and non-vulnerable critical assets within the project impact area.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



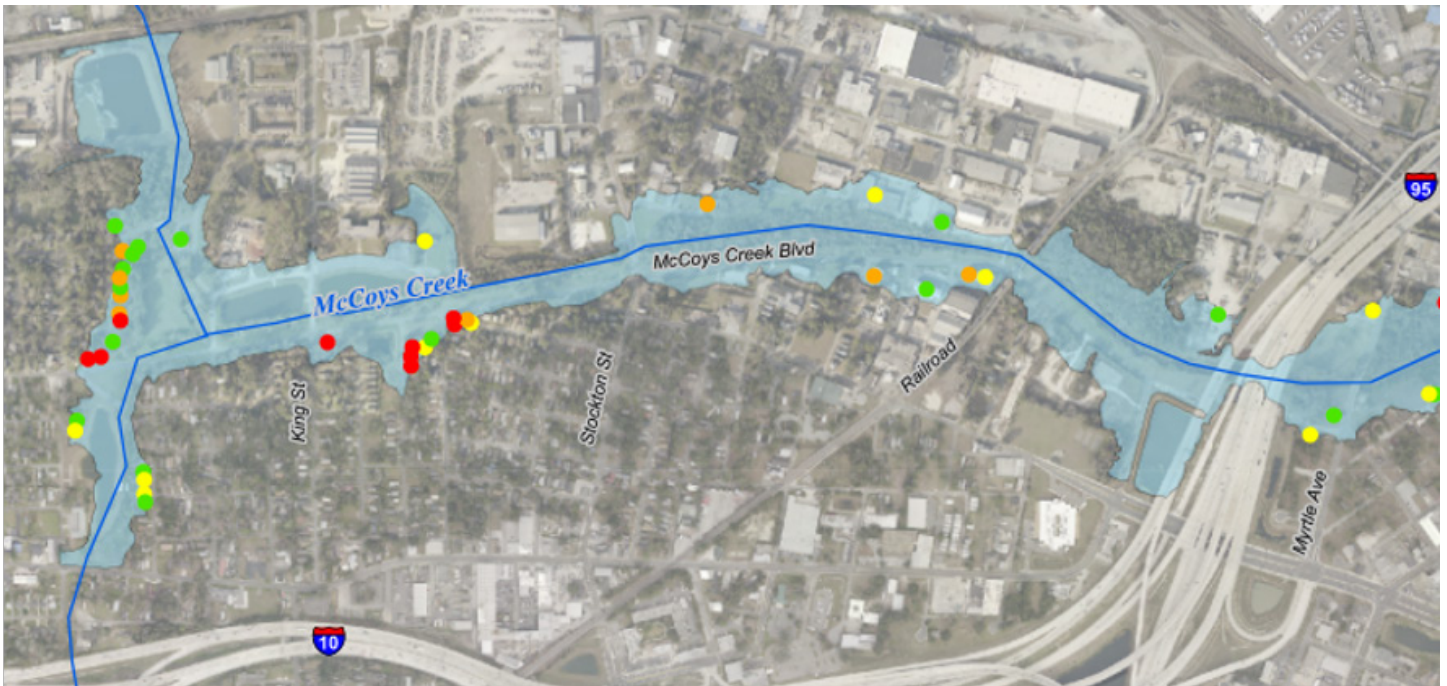
Most applications received partial points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

Example

The percentage of vulnerable critical assets in the project impact area is approximately 65% based on the number of structures that would flood during a 100-year flood event. This was determined with hydraulic modeling. The project impact area includes 43 critical assets and 28 of those assets are vulnerable. Critical assets in the area include Electric Authority lift station, the (Name) County Schools Maintenance facility, a Community Health Center and (Name) Park. Numerous properties are listed in the Florida Master Site File as historic structures. See “Critical Assets” attachment which lists all critical assets in the project impact area as well as denotes those that are at risk of flooding from a 100-year flood event. Also attached is a map that includes critical assets in the area with vulnerable assets denoted by yellow, orange and red dots (red is most vulnerable).






Section 380.093(5)(h)1.d., F.S.

The degree to which the project contributes to existing flooding mitigation projects that reduce upland damage costs by incorporating new or enhanced structures or restoration and revegetation projects.

Implemented with 62S-8.003(2)(d), F.A.C.

 To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)1.d., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 10 points.



- Six points will be awarded if the project contributes to existing flood mitigation projects that reduce upland damage cost by either incorporating new or enhanced structures that are critical to perform its intended function or by natural system restoration and revegetation **or**
- Ten points will be awarded if the project contributes to existing flood mitigation projects that reduce upland damage cost by both incorporating new or enhanced structures and by restoration and revegetation.

Discussion


To receive points for this scoring criterion, the project must contribute to an existing flood mitigation project that reduces upland damage cost. It is not sufficient to demonstrate that the proposed project will reduce upland damage cost.

DEP recognizes that many projects will not incorporate both new or enhanced structures and restoration and revegetation. However, awarding full points for doing both will incentivize applicants to think critically about whether natural system restoration and revegetation can positively affect infrastructure projects.

Example

The construction of a new drainage canal and pump station will further a regional effort to improve drainage in the area. The project is in the (Name) between (Name) and (Name), both of which discharge to (Name). Both the state and the county have implemented stormwater and water quality projects to improve drainage and the water quality within the area before it enters (Name). The proposed project will contribute to this larger effort and provide flood protection for an upland area that includes roadways and hundreds of homes housing almost 3,000 people.



 Percent of applications that received some or all points.

 Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

 Fewest applications received points (top three scoring criteria).

Tier 2

Section 380.093(5)(h)2., F.S., requires Tier 2 scoring criteria account for 30% of the total score and consist of four items.

- a. The degree to which flooding and erosion currently affect the condition of the project area.
- b. The overall readiness of the project to proceed in a timely manner, considering the project's readiness for the construction phase of development, the status of required permits, the status of any needed easement acquisition and the availability of local funding sources.
- c. The environmental habitat enhancement or inclusion of nature-based options for resilience, with priority given to state or federal critical habitat areas for threatened or endangered species.
- d. The cost-effectiveness of the project.



Section 380.093(5)(h)2.a., F.S.



Severity



Frequency

The degree to which flooding and erosion currently affect the condition of the project area.

Implemented with 62S-8.003(3)(a), F.A.C.



To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)2.a., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 7.5 points.

- Up to 3.75 points for the severity of flooding or erosion impacting the area:
 - > Two points if the project impact area has experienced flooding greater than 3 inches in the last three years or has experienced unmitigated erosion **or**
 - > 3.75 points if the project impact area has:
 - Been flooded to an estimated depth greater than 1 foot in the last five years.
 - Been flooded at least 3 inches but less than a foot in the current and each of the last three calendar years.
 - Had sustained flooding that lasted at least seven consecutive days **or**
 - Experienced erosion that is critical for the critical asset class.
- Up to 3.75 points will be awarded for the frequency of flooding or erosion affecting the area:
 - > Two points if the project impact area has experienced flooding or erosion in the last three years **or**
 - 3.75 points if the project impact area has been flooded more than 3 times in the last five years or is experiencing ongoing erosion.

Discussion

To receive two points for either severity or frequency of flooding, applicants must provide a description of the flooding that demonstrates qualifying for points. In order to receive 3.75 points for either severity or frequency of flooding, documentation (with dates) must be attached. Documentation may include reports of flooding or erosion recorded by the jurisdictions and sources in which the project impact area is located; local news reports or sources; documentation by a local official such as recorded high-water marks or inspection results; or any other similar document or report. Although similar documentation is not needed to receive two points, it is beneficial.

Examples

Severity: full (3.75) points – Ongoing erosion is evident in attached shoreline photographs, and the Black Lake River crest data supports the frequency as follows:

- (1) 11.95 ft on 04/18/2022.
- (2) 13.72 ft on 10/07/2021.
- (3) 12.64 ft on 04/25/2021.
- (4) 24.49 ft on 09/17/2020.
- (5) 11.39 ft on 12/30/2018.
- (6) 12.61 ft on 02/12/2018.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation for partial points, upload for full points.

Frequency: full (3.75) points – The (Name) Trail, adjacent roads, and (Name) Park (where (Name) is located), located within Unit 3, flood annually or multiple times per year during king tides in late summer/early fall (September-November). The deepest areas of flooding exceed 1 foot. Specific dates of documented flooding include Sept. 2, 2019; Oct. 14, 2019; Oct. 18, 2020; Sept. 21, 2020 and Nov. 5, 2021. Please see attached dated photos and news articles for verification.



September 2, 2019



November 2021



October 24, 2019

Section 380.093(5)(h)2.b., F.S.



Design



Permit/easements



Local cost share

The overall readiness of the project to proceed in a timely manner, considering the project's readiness for the construction phase of development, the status of required permits, the status of any needed easement acquisition and the availability of local funding sources.

Implemented with 62S-8.003(3)(b), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)2.b., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 7.5 points.



- Up to 3.75 points will be awarded for the status of the project design.



- > *1 point if partially designed or if site-specific environmental or geotechnical reports that demonstrate furtherance of a readiness to proceed are submitted or*
- > *3.75 points if final designs or plans are submitted.*



- Up to 2.75 points will be awarded for the status of necessary permits and easements.

- > 1 point for providing a list of all permits and easements necessary for project **or**
- > *1.5 points if proof of application for necessary permits or approval for at least one permit is submitted or*
- > 2.75 points if all necessary permits and easements have been authorized **or**
- > 2.75 points if no permits or easements are required.

- *One point will be awarded if local funding (e.g., a local optional sales tax, budgeted local dollars for capital improvements) has been committed as cost share for the project or if the community is a financially disadvantaged small community.*

Discussion

Project design – Full points will be awarded if certified final drawings or plans are submitted. Final design plans must be signed by a professional in the relevant field, which provides flexibility for different project types. Partial points for project design can be received by providing documentation of design work or pre-work. This can include partial designs (defined in 62S-8.002, F.A.C.) or necessary site-specific environmental or geotechnical reports. Zero points will be awarded if no design documentation is provided.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Upload required for full points.



Most applications received partial points.



Most applications received full points (top three scoring criteria).

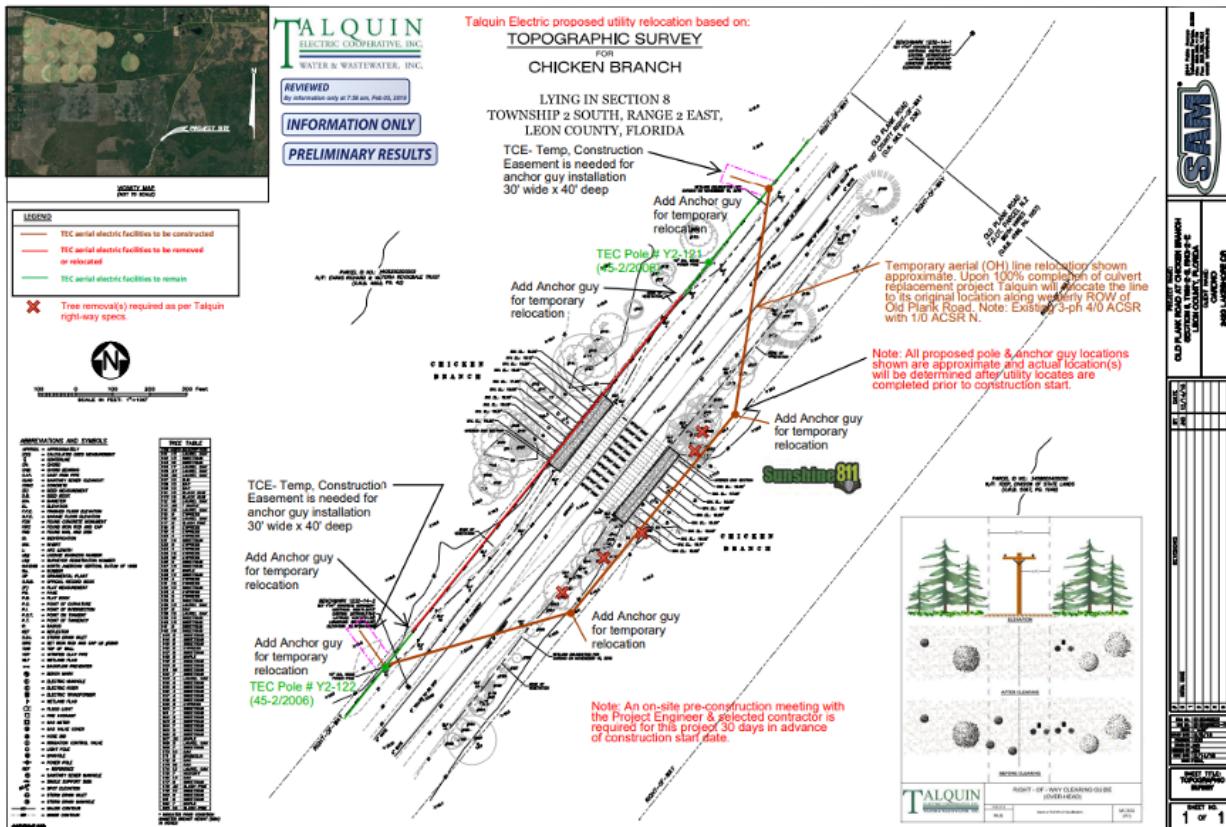
Permits and/or easements – In order to receive one point for this criterion, the applicant must list in the explanation or an attachment what permits are needed. However, documentation of permit application or issuance is required to be attached as verification for receiving 1.5 points. Documentation is not required if no permits/easements are required.

Local cost share – Documentation must be provided to receive the point for local cost share availability. Available cost share can be demonstrated by relevant documentation, including an approved and adopted capital improvement plan; a signed letter from the chief executive officer (or equivalent) of the eligible entity; a resolution or agenda item to be presented to the governing board committing funding to the project if selected; or any other comparable document showing availability of funds.

Documentation is not necessary for FDSC to receive this point as they are not subject to cost share requirements [section 380.093(5)(e), F.S.]. DEP will verify FDSC that are eligible to receive this point.

Examples

Project design – See Final_DesignDoc attachment (design document copied below).



Permits and/or easements – No easements are required. The following permits have been identified:

1. (Name) Outpost: Right of Way Permit; Design Review; Tree Removal.
2. Army Corps of Engineers: Dredge and Fill (USACE) – Individual or Nationwide.
3. Florida Department of Environmental Protection: Environmental Resource Permit, Mangrove Trimming.
4. (Name) Water Management District: Environmental Resource Permit.
5. (Name) of Regulatory and Economic Resources: Class 1 – Tidal Waters; Class II – Stormwater System Improvements.

Local cost share – A 50% cost share has been secured and is available in the city’s budget in the amount of \$1,802,955. Documentation is attached in the “CFO Budget and Matching Funds Letter” and in the “Cost Breakdown” document. The appropriate lines have been highlighted in each document.





Section 380.093(5)(h)2.c., F.S.

Habitat enhancement

Critical habitat

The environmental habitat enhancement or inclusion of nature-based options for resilience, with priority given to state or federal critical habitat areas for threatened or endangered species.

Implemented with 62S-8.003(3)(c), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria in section 380.093(5)(h)2.c., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 7.5 points.



- 3.75 points if the project enhances habitat or includes nature-based solutions **and**
- 3.75 points if the project impact area includes habitat identified as state or federal critical habitat for threatened or endangered species.

Discussion

In order to receive points for enhancing habitat or including nature-based solutions, the explanation must describe how the project will do so. “Nature-based solutions” is defined in 62S-8.002(11), F.A.C., as actions that rely upon natural processes to protect, restore and sustainably manage ecosystems, as well as solutions that address socio-environmental challenges using natural resources and processes.

Planted vegetation, green infrastructure, vegetated berms and swale reclamation are examples.

Critical habitat must be designated at the time of the application submission, and the explanation should include the names of the state or federally threatened or endangered species. Although not required, useful documentation may include maps, tables and other documents illustrating that the project impact area includes state or federally identified critical habitat for threatened and endangered species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) provide useful tools and information that applicants can use to support their explanation. The links below are valuable resources for applicants but do not constitute the only available information to support receiving points for this criterion.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species.](#)
- [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission State Wildlife Action Plan.](#)

Examples

Habitat enhancement – (Name) will restore the natural mangrove system next to the existing seawall. The root zone of mangroves will be restored to access open water. Invasive bushes in the mangrove area will be removed and replaced with healthy mangroves. This effort will benefit wildlife; enhance fish habitat; filter water; improve water quality; and serve as an extra support for the new seawall.

Critical habitat – The project is located within critical habitat for the gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) according to the [online mapping tool available from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.](#) Design has already been modified based on comments received from National Marine Fisheries Service to limit construction to areas above mean high water to reduce potential for impacts to sturgeon.



Section 380.093(5)(h)2.d., F.S.



The cost-effectiveness of the project.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(3)(d)

To incorporate criteria in section 380.093(5)(h)2.d., F.S., a proposal will receive 7.5 points for a demonstration of cost-effectiveness. Demonstration must include at least one of the following metrics:

- Comparison of contingencies and estimated total project cost.
- Cost of alternative approaches or explanation why no feasible alternatives exist.
- Avoided economic loss due to failure or inability to operate due to flooding or sea level rise; the project costs compared to costs to repair damage from flooding or erosion or other reasonably foreseeable losses using industry standard economic models.
- Future cost and benefits calculated using the relevant discount rate, net present value or other metrics measuring future costs and benefits to support the proposal; **or**
- Direct and indirect economic value of ecosystem services provided by natural or nature-based solutions.

Discussion

Additional ways to show cost-effectiveness can be used and explained, but at least one of the metrics listed above and in 62S-8.003(3)(d)1-5., F.A.C., must be included.

Example

See the attached Benefit-Cost Analysis document for more details. Installing flood mitigation measures on the existing building, at an estimated \$1,600,000, is more cost-effective than relocating to a new site, which would require an estimated contingency of over \$30 million for the design and construction costs of a 45,000-square-foot library. Additionally, site acquisition costs in the central area of (Name) are roughly \$800,000/acre according to recent property appraisal records.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

Tier 3

Section 380.093(5)(h)3., F.S., requires Tier 3 scoring criteria account for 20% of the total score and consist of three items.

- a. The availability of local, state and federal matching funds, considering the status of the funding award and federal authorization, if applicable.
- b. Previous state commitment and involvement in the project, considering previously funded phases, the total amount of previous state funding and previous partial appropriations for the proposed project.
- c. The exceedance of the flood-resistant construction requirements of the Florida Building Code and applicable floodplain management regulations.





Section 380.093(5)(h)3.a., F.S.

The availability of local, state and federal matching funds, considering the status of the funding award and federal authorization, if applicable.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(4)(a), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)3.a., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 6.5 points.

- 3.25 points if local, state or federal cost share has been identified but the funds have not been released or appropriated at time of application **or**
- 6.5 points if 50% cost share is available **or**
- 6.5 points if applicant is a FDSC.

Discussion

To receive full points, you must provide documentation that cost share is available. Available cost share must be demonstrated by relevant documentation, including an approved and adopted capital improvement plan; a signed letter from the chief executive officer (or equivalent) of the eligible entity; a resolution or agenda item to be presented to the governing board committing funding to the project if selected; or any other comparable document showing availability of funds. Documentation must specify the stated cost share amount or percentage in the application. Local and federal funds are viable cost share. State funds for cost share may be subject to restrictions on use of funds and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If submitting documentation similar to a capital improvement plan, it is beneficial to highlight the specific line item for the cost share.

To get partial points for “identifying” cost share, you must provide an explanation of where the cost share will be sourced from, such as a local option sales tax. It is beneficial for evaluators if the applicant specifies whether the identified cost share will be local, state or federal funds. Documentation is not necessary for a FDSC to receive this point as they are not subject to cost share requirements [section 380.093(5)(e), F.S.]. DEP will verify FDSC that are eligible to receive this point.

Example

Please see the attached “Match Commitment Letter” from the board of county commissioners.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.





Explanation for partial points, upload for full points.



Section 380.093(5)(h)3.b., F.S.

Previous state commitment and involvement in the project, considering previously funded phases, the total amount of previous state funding, and previous partial appropriations for the proposed project.

 Implemented with 62S-8.003(4)(b), F.A.C.
To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)3.b., F.S., a proposal will receive up to 6.5 points.

-  1 point if previous funds were awarded for preconstruction activities (as defined in section 380.093(2)(c), F.S.), except for design and permitting **and**
 - 1.5 points if previous funds were awarded for project design **and**
 - 1.5 points if previous funds were awarded for permitting **and**
 - 2.5 points if previous funds were awarded for an earlier phase of project construction.

Discussion


Verification must include previously funded phases, amount of prior state funding and previous partial appropriations. It must be submitted in a format that is verifiable by the agency or agencies having awarded the previous funding. Applicants should provide the agreement number, the agency providing funding, and the year of award at a minimum. This can be done in the explanation field or through relevant attachments.

Previous funding must be specific to the project. Resilient Florida Planning Grants to complete statutorily compliant vulnerability assessment will not be considered previous funding for the purpose of this criterion.

Example

(Name) was awarded a rural infrastructure grant through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity under Agreement No. DXXXX to conduct a study to identify options to reduce or prevent flooding in the downtown area.



 Percent of applications that received some or all points.

 Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

 Fewest applications received points (top three scoring criteria).



Section 380.093(5)(h)3.c., F.S.

The exceedance of the flood-resistant construction requirements of the Florida Building Code (FBC) and applicable floodplain management regulations.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(4)(c), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)3.c., F.S., a proposal will receive seven points if the project exceeds FBC or local floodplain management regulations or if these regulations do not apply to the project.



Discussion

Allowing full points for projects that do not have applicable FBC or local floodplain management regulations is not intended to penalize green projects and nature-based solutions. Applications must explain how the project will exceed FBC or floodplain management requirements. Because not all evaluators are certified floodplain managers, building officials or code experts, it is beneficial for the applicant to reference or provide an attachment of the specific FBC or local floodplain management regulation that will be exceeded, including FBC section or local ordinance.

Example

Local floodplain management requirements and/or the Florida Building Code require elevation to BFE+1. The project design adds an additional 2 feet and will be elevated to BFE+3.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.



Fewest applications received points (top three scoring criteria).

Tier 4

Section 380.093(5)(h)4., F.S., requires Tier 4 scoring criteria account for 10% of the total score and consists of two items.

- a. The proposed innovative technologies designed to reduce project costs and provide regional collaboration.
- b. The extent to which the project assists financially disadvantaged communities.





Section 380.093(5)(h)4.a., F.S.

The proposed innovative technologies designed to reduce project costs and provide regional collaboration.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(5)(a), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)4.a., F.S., a proposal will receive five points if the project uses innovative technologies designed to reduce project costs and provide regional collaboration.



Discussion

Innovation refers to the development of new ideas or the improvement of existing ones. In this context, innovative means an emerging technology or a proven technology that is being used in a unique way to adapt one or more critical assets to the effects of flooding or sea level rise in the project impact area. The application must demonstrate which specific technologies will be used and explain why they are innovative as well as how they will both reduce cost and provide regional collaboration.

Because projects funded by the Resilient Florida Program are still in development, an example response for this criterion is not available.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.



Fewest applications received points (top three scoring criteria).

Section 380.093(5)(h)4.b., F.S.



The extent to which the project assists financially disadvantaged communities.



Implemented with 62S-8.003(5)(b), F.A.C.

To incorporate criteria section 380.093(5)(h)4.b., F.S., a proposal will receive five points if the project impact area is partially or wholly within a financially disadvantaged community.

Discussion

This criterion is related to financially disadvantaged communities, not FDSC as outlined in section 380.093(5)(e), F.S. DEP did not provide specific requirements to demonstrate financial disadvantage for this criterion to provide applicants flexibility to demonstrate in a way that makes sense to their community. However, the applicant must demonstrate how the community is financially disadvantaged and include a description of the metrics used to establish that determination.

Additionally, this criterion is related to the project impact area. If the project impact area intersects with a financially disadvantaged community and the applicant demonstrates this, points will be awarded. It is beneficial to include a description or map of the project impact area.

Example

The rivers are located in census tract 26 in the (Name) neighborhood. Seventy-five percent of residents are low-to-moderate income and 45% are living below the poverty line, with the median household income at \$22,125. This compares to the state of Florida where 43% of residents are low-to-moderate income and 13% live below the poverty line. Unemployment is 10% compared to Florida's rate of 5.4%.



Percent of applications that received some or all points.



Explanation (at minimum) required for full points.

Appendix A: Example Application

Items with a red asterisk are required, and italicized text denotes informational text seen by scrolling over an “i” icon in the application portal.

Applicant Information

Applicant Account: [search box for registered accounts]

Applicant Grant Manager: [search box for contacts]

Applicant Authorized Signee: [search box for contacts]

Applicant Fiscal Agent: [search box for contacts]

Project Information

Choose the Entity Category (refer to section 380.093(5), F.S., for more information): [drop down menu]

- County, municipality or authorized special district addressing risks of flooding or sea level rise identified in a vulnerability assessment.
- Eligible entity mitigating risks of flooding or sea level rise on water supply or water resources of the state.

Choose the project type you are submitting (Resilient Florida Program Project Type): [pick list and can select more than one]

- Coastal flood control.
- Cultural or community resource.
- Domestic wastewater infrastructure.
 - > Drinking water supply.
 - > Emergency facilities.
 - > Land acquisition and conservation.
 - > Living shoreline.
 - > Natural system restoration.
 - > Stormwater infrastructure.
 - > Transportation and evacuation.
 - > Utilities infrastructure.
 - > Preconstruction activities.

*Project Title (This should be a brief synopsis of the project plan. Limited to 20 words.): [text box]

List the Cities/Towns/Villages (List all cities/towns/villages where work is to be performed): [text box]

Project Geo Location:

- Latitude: [text box]
- Longitude: [text box]

Project Location (narrative; neighborhood, part of town, intersection, etc): [text box]

State Lands or State Parks Utilized (Will any of the work to be performed occur on state lands?): [drop down menu]

Area Served (If applicable, area served required only for projects that mitigate risks on a regional scale): [pick list of Florida counties, can select more than one]

Sponsor City/County (If applicable. If the applicant is the sponsor, leave blank.): [pick list of Florida counties]

Background

Explain the demonstrated needs and how the project will address those needs. (Explain the demonstrated need that the project addresses.) [text box]

Explain how the proposed project fits into the Project Types chosen. [text box]

Project Scoring Criteria

Tier 1 Criteria Information

Does the project reduce risk of flooding or sea level rise identified in a comprehensive vulnerability assessment or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment? If yes, please explain. (Until Sept. 1, 2024, applicants without a comprehensive vulnerability assessment shall receive points based on risks posed by flooding or sea level rise identified in an assessment, report, evaluation or other documentation of risk that addresses flooding or sea level rise.) [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Does the project reduce risk of compound flooding identified in a vulnerability assessment or the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise assessment? If yes, please explain. (Until Sept. 1, 2024, applicants without a comprehensive vulnerability assessment shall receive points based on risks posed by flooding or sea level rise identified in an assessment, report, evaluation or other documentation of risk that addresses flooding or sea level rise.) [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Does the project reduce risk to or adapt a regionally significant asset? This can include relocation. If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

What percent of critical assets in the project impact area are considered to be vulnerable? Please describe the method used to determine the percent selected as well as provide a list of critical assets in the project impact area. (Vulnerable critical assets are those at risk of flooding based on applicable scenarios and standards outlined in paragraph section 380.093(3)(d), F.S. Until Sept. 1, 2024, if evaluation of those scenarios and standards is unavailable for the project impact area, best available data can be used to determine the percent.) [drop down menu and text box]

- None.
- At least one critical asset but less than 20%.
- 20% or more but less than 40%.
- 40% or more but less than 60%.
- 60% or more but less than 80%.
- 80% or more.

Does the project contribute to existing flood mitigation projects that reduce upland flood damage cost by incorporating new or enhanced structure or natural system restoration and revegetation? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- No.
- Yes, by incorporating new or enhanced structure.
- Yes, by incorporating natural system restoration and revegetation.
- Yes, by incorporating **both** new or enhanced structure **and** natural system restoration and revegetation.

Tier 2 Criteria Information

What is the current frequency of flooding or erosion in the project impact area? (If area has been flooded three times in five years or is experiencing ongoing erosion, supporting documentation must be submitted with the application.) [drop down menu and text box]

- No current flooding or erosion.
- Has experienced flooding or erosion in the last three years.
- Has been flooded at least three times in the last five years or is experiencing ongoing erosion. If area has been flooded three times in five years or is experiencing ongoing erosion, please explain and provide documentation.

What is the current severity of flooding or erosion in the project impact area? (If area has been flooded greater than 1 foot in the current and each of the previous three calendar years, been flooded for seven consecutive days, or erosion is critical for the critical asset class, supporting documentation must be submitted with the application.) [drop down menu and text box]

- No current flooding or erosion.
- Flooding greater than 3 inches in last three years or has ever experienced unmitigated erosion.
- If area has been flooded greater than 1 foot in the current and each of the previous three calendar years, has been flooded for seven consecutive days or erosion is critical for the critical asset class, supporting documentation must be submitted with the application.

What is the status of project design? (To receive points for a completed design, plans properly certified by a professional in the relevant field must be submitted with the application.) [drop down menu and text box]

- Not designed.
- Partially designed or site-specific environmental or geotechnical reports have been completed.
- Design is complete. To receive points for a completed design, plans properly certified by a professional in the relevant field must be submitted with the application.

Permitting and easement acquisition status. If applicable, please provide a list of necessary permits/easements and application statuses. [drop down menu and text box]

- Necessary permits and easements have been identified.
- All permits have been applied for or at least one permit has been approved .
- All necessary permits and easements have been authorized/obtained.
- No permits or easements are required for the project.

Are local funding sources committed as cost share or is the project in a financially disadvantaged small community as defined in section 380.093(5)(e), F.S.? If yes, please explain and provide documentation. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Does the project include environmental habitat enhancement or nature-based solution•••s? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Does the project impact area include area that is identified as state or federal critical habitat for threatened and endangered species? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Is the project cost-effective? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Tier 3 Criteria Information

Is 50% local, state or federal cost share secured for the project? If 50% cost share has been secured, please provide documentation with the application. [drop down menu and text box]

- No (unless the project is in a financially disadvantaged small community).
- Cost share has been identified but not appropriated or released .
- Cost share has been secured.
- The project is in a financially disadvantaged small community and cost share is not required.

Has state funding previously been awarded for the project? If so, for what? Please explain and provide documentation. (Pre-construction activities are defined in section 380.093(2)(c), F.S.) [pick list, can select more than one, and text box]

- None.
- Preconstruction activities (defined in section section 380.093(2)(c), F.S.) other than design and permitting.
- Design.
- Permitting.
- Construction (previous phases).

Will this project exceed Florida Building Code flood-resistant requirements and local floodplain management regulations? If yes, please outline the specific requirements and details relating to how the design exceeds the criteria. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No
- These regulations do not apply to the project

Tier 4 Criteria Information

Does this project include innovative technologies designed to reduce project costs and provide regional collaboration? If yes, please specify which technologies will be used and explain why they are innovative as well as how they will reduce cost and provide regional collaboration. (For this criterion, “innovative” means an emerging technology or a proven technology used in a unique way to adapt one or more critical assets to the effects of flooding or sea level rise.) [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Does the critical asset being adapted or the project impact area contain a financially disadvantaged community? If yes, please explain the metric used to determine financial disadvantage (e.g., local income compared to state average). [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Additional Information

Will this project benefit a spring? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Will this project protect water sources using alternative water supplies? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Will this project construct, upgrade or expand facilities to provide waste treatment? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Will this project convert septic to sewer? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

Has this project been submitted to other programs for funding? If yes, please explain. [drop down menu and text box]

- Yes
- No

What is the population of your community? (Enter integer values only.) [text box]

Multiagency Information

The following information is for data collection purposes only and does not correlate with any of the project evaluation criteria.

Estimated Project Duration: [drop down menu]

- 6 months
- 12 months
- 18 months
- 24 months
- 30 months
- 36 months
- 42 months
- 48 months

Permitting (Brief description of expected permit determinations necessary for project completion or relevant permit information once permitted): [text box]

Lands, Easements, Rights of Way (Brief description of acquisitions or permissions necessary for project completion or relevant information once required): [text box]

Critical Infrastructure (Select yes if this project includes critical infrastructure that is confidential or should be redacted from public records searches): [drop down menu]

- Yes
- No

Project Located in a Coastal Zone? [drop down menu]

- Yes
- No

SLIP Study Required? [drop down menu]

- Yes (Upload SLIP Study output)
- No

Source of Match: [drop down menu]

- Local funds
- State funds
- Federal funds

Funding Mechanism (Program utilized or local funding mechanism): [text box]

Local Project Phase: [drop down menu]

- Planning
- Pre-construction (design, permitting, etc.)
- Closed
- Construction
- Post-Construction Monitoring

Project Work Plan

Project Summary (Provide a brief synopsis of the project. Limited to 75 words.): [text box]

Project Description (This should be a concise summary of the work being done. It may explain the broader issue that the project will address or what the end goal of the work is. It should **not** restate the tasks or deliverables and should not give specifications or similar detailed descriptions. Limited to 300 words.): [text box]

Uploads

Please make sure uploaded documents are named appropriately; suggested types of categories are listed below. Avoid using scanner assigned file names. You may also add your community such as “community_filename.”

Upload the following supporting documents:

- *Map of project area (map must have a minimum scale of 1” = 200’ and include a compass rose and legend).
- Geographic extent of the project area in GIS format.
- Draft or signed resolution or letter of support from local governing board.
- Vulnerability Assessment Report or other local study or report.
- Final design and permitting documents (if applicable).
- Match or additional cost-share documents (if applicable).
- Subcontractor or other local or regional partnership agreements (if applicable).

If you are attempting to upload an unsupported file type, please place the file in a ZIP compressed folder before uploading.

Task

Input task information below.

At least one task is required to submit application.

Please select “Create New Project Task” to save the record. Once a task is created, it will be added to the table above. To add additional tasks, update the details below and select “Create New Project Task.”

To edit a task after creation, you must delete the entry and create a new task to replace it with the correct details. To delete, select the arrow on the table next to the associated task and select “delete.” Then enter the correct task information below and select “Create New Task.”

*Task Number: [text box]

Select task title from the drop-down field of task titles provided. If your proposed task title is not available, leave the drop down field as -None-, and enter additional task title in the “Title Other” field.

Task Title: [drop down menu]

- Pre-design or feasibility study.
- Data collection or study.
- Stakeholder coordination and planning.
- Design and permitting or pre-construction activities.
- Project management.
- Bidding and contractor selection (required to be included prior to construction if project includes construction).
- Construction.
- Permit-required monitoring.
- Public education.
- Equipment purchase.
- Land acquisition.
- Site cleanup.

Title Other: [text box]

*Work Performed by (who will be performing the work, grantee and/or contractor.): [drop down menu]

- Grantee only
- Contractor only
- Grantee and Contractor

*Task Description: [text box]

*Goal: [text box]

Time to Completion: [drop down menu]

- 1-6 months
- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- Other

Select deliverables associated with each task. If your expected deliverable is not part of the field, enter into “Other deliverable” field. [pick list, can select more than one]

- Final pre-design documents, feasibility study or comparable certificate of completion signed by a Florida registered professional engineer. If applicable, the Sea Level Impact Projection study report.
- Final report or study to include the process and methodology and any data gaps.
- A summary report from each workshop or meeting, including attendee feedback and outcomes and a copy of all materials created at each workshop or meeting.
- Final design documents signed by a Florida registered professional engineer. If applicable, final permit documents from all appropriate state and federal regulatory agencies.
- Project management reports signed by the Florida registered professional engineer, to include a summary of project and site inspections, meeting minutes and field notes, as applicable.
- Public notice of advertisement for the bid, complete bid package and written notice of selected contractors.
- Final design and Certificate of Occupancy (if applicable) and Certificate of Completion signed by a Florida registered professional engineer.
- Copy of completed monitoring data, surveys and final reports for the permit-required work and documentation of submittal to the appropriate state or federal regulatory agencies.
- Copy of printed material for distribution, including text and graphics, link to website, material developed, and dated photographs of installed materials at the project location, if applicable.
- Purchase orders and vendor invoices for delivery, installation and other necessary costs, as applicable.
- Copies of all appraisals, the closing statement or all closing documents, title exam/insurance, property survey, boundary map, and the deed, recorded easement or property interest.
- Dated color photographs of ongoing work and a signed acceptance of the completed work to date, as provided in the grantee’s certification of payment request.

Other Deliverable: [text box]

Task Budget Category

Select “Create New Application Task Budget” to save the entry. Repeat for each task until completed. If multiple budget categories are needed for a single task, submit multiple entries until the budget for that task is completed.

*Application Task Number (Please select a task number that corresponds with the information input in the previous section, “Tasks.”): [drop down of applicant selected tasks]

*Expense budget category: [drop down menu]

- Contractual services.
- Salary/fringe.
- Equipment .
- Miscellaneous/other expenses.
- Land acquisition.

*Budget amount: [text box]

*Match amount (Total match available for this task. If no match, put 0.): [text box]

Task Personnel Grantee*

*All fields in this section are required if grantee is performing work.

Application Task Number: [drop down menu to choose the application task number]

Position Title: [text box]

Maximum Hours (rounded to the quarter hour.): [text box]

Maximum Hours Time Unit: [drop down menu]

Maximum Hourly Rate (This value should be based on actual salary dollars, rounded down to the nearest penny.): [text box]

Fringe Percent: [text box]

Select “Create New Task Personnel Grantee Entry” to save the entry. Repeat for each task until completed. If multiple personnel are needed for a single task, submit multiple entries until all personnel for that task have been entered.

Submittal – Grantee’s Certification Statement

By signing this statement page, the undersigned certifies that:

1. This application is in all respects fair and submitted in good faith without collusion or fraud.
2. If selected through this application process, the recipient will work in good faith and in partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to manage subcontractors in a timely and accurate manner.
3. Any funds awarded as a result of this application process will not be used as match fund to apply for or receive other state funds without departmental review and approval.
4. The undersigned has full authority to bind the applicant.

The selection of the checkbox below acts as your signature.

*Authorized Signer’s Signature: [text box]

Checking this signifies your signature. Please see the certification statements above and ensure you have entered a value of each indicated required field or section in your application. Once all fields are complete, click the check box to agree to the certification statements and select “Submit” below.

*Certification Agreement: [check box]

Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection Florida Department of Environmental Protection

