

Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative Finalizes State Funding Requests for Coming Year

Jupiter, Florida

August 13, 2007

At its regularly scheduled meeting in Jupiter on Monday, August 13, 2007, the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI) ranked projects which will be subject to grant funding requests in 2008.

The LRPI, which has effectively served to seek out funding assistance for much needed water quality enhancement projects in the river basin, has secured over \$13 million dollars in grants over the past five years. This financial support has since facilitated over \$26 million in improvements aimed to ensure the long term health of Florida's first nationally designated "wild and scenic" river. The LRPI attributes much of its success to the dedicated support offered by our local legislative delegation including Senate President Ken Pruitt, Senator Jeff Atwater, and Representatives William Synder and Carl Domino.

This week, four projects were given the immediate "green light" as funding was available from previous projects completed below initial original budget estimates. These projects and their local sponsors are:

Additional Projects to be Initiated Immediately

Project Name	LRPI Grant Amount	Local Sponsor	Local Match Funding Amount
Wildlife Utilization of the Loxahatchee River Floodplain Continuation 2008/2009	\$22,500	Division of Recreation and Parks, Florida Park Service	\$22,500
Limestone Creek Septic to Sewer Conversion	\$85,000	Loxahatchee River District	\$185,000
Loxahatchee River Public Outreach Project III	\$286,584	Loxahatchee River District	\$286,585
Urban Stormwater Management System Rehabilitation- Phase III	\$200,000	Town of Jupiter	\$200,000

Six additional grant projects totaling \$3,320,000 were selected to be supported by the LRPI through a state legislative appropriation request in the coming months. Local match funding from sponsoring governmental entities was established as \$22,622,000 thereby setting the grant funding percentage to only 15% of the estimated project costs. A final determination as to whether the State will be offering the requested financial support on these projects (see below) will not be known until July of 2008.

2008 Legislative Funding Request Listing

Rank Order	Project Name	Legislative Funding Request	Local Sponsor	Local Match Funds
1	Cypress Creek/Loxahatchee Project-Phase IV	\$850,000	Martin County Board of County Commissioners	\$2,152,000
2	Sandhill Crane East - Loxahatchee Slough Restoration Project - Phase II	\$750,000	PBC Department of Environmental Resources Management	\$750,000
3	Delaware Scrub Natural Area Restoration Project Phase II	\$200,000	PBC Department of Environmental Resources Management	\$200,000
4	Wild and Scenic River Corridor Exotic/Pest Plant Control - Phase I	\$400,000	Jonathan Dickinson State Park	\$400,000
5	Loxahatchee River Water Quality and Biological Monitoring	\$120,000	Loxahatchee River District & South Florida Water Management District	\$120,000
6	Indiantown - Jupiter Venture/Hatcher Property Hydrologic Restoration	\$1,000,000	PBC Department of Environmental Resources Management	\$19,000,000
TOTALS		\$3,320,000		\$22,622,000

For more information, please visit LRPI.org or contact the LRPI Chairman, David Brown, at 561-756-5134 or davidb@jupiter.fl.us.