

Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: Florida Lionfish Removal Events Program
2. Date of Submission: 01/14/2016
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Holly Raschein

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)	INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested	TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:					0	948,000	948,000

- e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs
- f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

- a. Name: Lad Adkins
- b. Organization: Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF)
- c. Email:
- d. Phone #: (305)852-0030

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF)
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Bay, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Saint Johns, Saint Lucie, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) Bay, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Saint Johns, Saint Lucie, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project's intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

Background

Invasive lionfish are found throughout Florida's waters in a multitude of habitats and depths and are causing significant impacts to Florida's marine life with predicted long term impacts to Florida's commercial and recreational fisheries and coastal economies. Ongoing removals are being shown to reduce lionfish populations at a few heavily dived locations around the state (FL Keys and Southeast FL), however the majority of State waters are not regularly dived and under increasing threats posed by the invasion. Single and multi-day events (lionfish derbies) have been shown to reduce lionfish populations and to reduce population size structure resulting in less impact to native marine life and less reproductive output (Underwood et al 2014, Green et al in review, Akins in prep). However, these events have been sporadic in nature, do not comprise the totality of Florida's coastal waters and are typically held only once a year. During the time between derbies, lionfish recruitment repopulates removal areas to pre-derby levels. A small amount of funding has been made available through the FWC's Lionfish Program, however these funds are not sufficient to support derbies throughout the state on a frequency needed to reduce lionfish impacts.

Proposal

This proposal would create a Lionfish Removal Events Program to support removal at coastal locations throughout Florida on a quarterly basis. Funds would support volunteer removal teams at a level that would facilitate large scale participation at a frequency anticipated to exceed that of recolonization impacts

(including size and numbers).

Event Organization ? Derby events will follow REEF Sanctioned derby protocols currently used by more than 20 derbies throughout Florida and the invaded region. Components include mandatory captains meetings, collecting and handling training, and provisions (rules) requiring samples be made available for research, incorporating outreach and awareness components and coverage of events through media channels. Events will be organized and promoted in close consultation with county governments and the dive industry.

Locations ? The LREP program would provide funding to conduct derbies in each of Florida's 34 coastal counties. Frequency of events will be initially scheduled on a quarterly basis, (136 events annually), unless data dictate changes.

Incentive ? Prize money and/or other monetary incentive will be offered to encourage participation by divers. In addition, special provisions will be developed allowing the sale of collected fish to support derby activities and develop local markets.

Promotion ? The LREP schedule will be promoted through multiple channels including counties, FWC, DEMA and local and regional media.

Assessment ? Data will be gathered from each team participating in the LREP program at each derby event including number of lionfish seen, number removed and locations fished. All catch will be measured to determine changes in size frequency and population structure over time.

Administration and Reporting ? derby events and reporting will be managed through REEF with annual reporting of derby results including assessments of any changes in population size and structure.

Adjoining counties in less populated areas or in those with smaller coastal presence may be joined to facilitate greater participation and funds redirected to areas in need of additional derby support.

Budget ? Prize money/incentive and promotion for each event will be supported at a level of \$5,500 per derby event. Additional support through in-kind donations or other sponsorship may increase this award amount. Administration of this program will be supported by \$200,000 to the managing organization.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

Federal: 0

State: 0 (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

Local: 0

Other: 0

9. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

Yes