

RESTORE Act Ecosystem Restoration Project Proposals
for consideration in the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Comprehensive Plan
2012

Contact Information: Lizanne Garcia, Sr. Environmental Scientist, Southwest Florida Water Management District, (SWFWMD) Lizanne.Garcia@swfwmd.state.fl.us					Date of Submittal:		
Name of Project: Terra Ceia Ecosystem Restoration – Phase 2					Org and Rank:		
Project Description: Phase 2 encompasses two parcels, owned by the SWFWMD, known as the Huber and Frog Creek Borrow Pit parcels. The total acreage of the two parcels is approximately 400 acres. This Phase will involve the enhancement, restoration and/or creation of coastal ecosystems habitats, and potential water quality improvements in the southeastern reaches of Tampa Bay in an area known as Terra Ceia/Bishop Harbor.							
Project Location: Both parcels are located in Manatee County and are proximal to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve. The Huber Parcel straddles I-275, just south of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge and is comprised of 285 acres. The 119 acre Frog Creek Borrow Pit Parcel is located in the northeastern quadrant of the intersection of I-275 and US-41.							
Responsible Party: SWFWMD				Partners: FDEP			
NEP: TBEP		Project Cost: \$5,000,000			Dollars Needed: \$4,750,000		
Start: October 2014				Completion: October 2019			
Status of Project Design and Permitting: This Phase is in preliminary design. Design and permitting is anticipated to be complete by mid-2014.							
What Date or Year could Construction Feasibly Begin: October 2014							
Your Proposed Timing of Funding (given permits, phasing, staging, etc.)							
FY	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	Total
	\$250,000		\$2,375,000	\$2,375,000	\$		\$5,000,000
Quantify Environmental Results and How to Measure Them:							
Economic Benefits (including ecosystem services): The value of ecosystems service improvements has not been estimated yet.							
Estimated number of Jobs Created or Preserved: 77 jobs created							
How much Habitat will be restored and conserved? Approximately 110 acres on the Huber parcels are in need of restoration. The remaining approximately 175 acres are mangrove wetlands that will be conserved. The 100 acre borrow pit on the Frog Creek Parcel will be enhanced by the creation of freshwater littoral areas. The remaining 19 upland acres on the Frog Creek Parcel require limited non-native removal.							
Quantify pollutant reductions: This Project will provide pollutant load reductions via the freshwater wetlands being created/enhanced on the Frog Creek Borrow Pit Parcel.							
What living coastal/marine resources will be improved and by how much?: On the Huber parcel, it is anticipated that up to 55 acres of wetlands will be constructed or restored along with 55 acres of uplands. These restored areas provide opportunities to increase wildlife that use estuarine and freshwater wetlands and coastal upland habitats including wading birds, recreationally important fish species, and migrating neo-tropical songbirds. The Frog Creek Borrow Pit parcel will include enhancement and creation of freshwater habitat, a coastal habitat specifically identified by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program as in need of restoration. This type of habitat provides critical foraging habitat to feed young wading birds.							

How will community resilience be enhanced? Removal of non-native and nuisance plant species from the site will enhance the potential for the created and restored habitats to become resistant to re-colonization of non-native species.

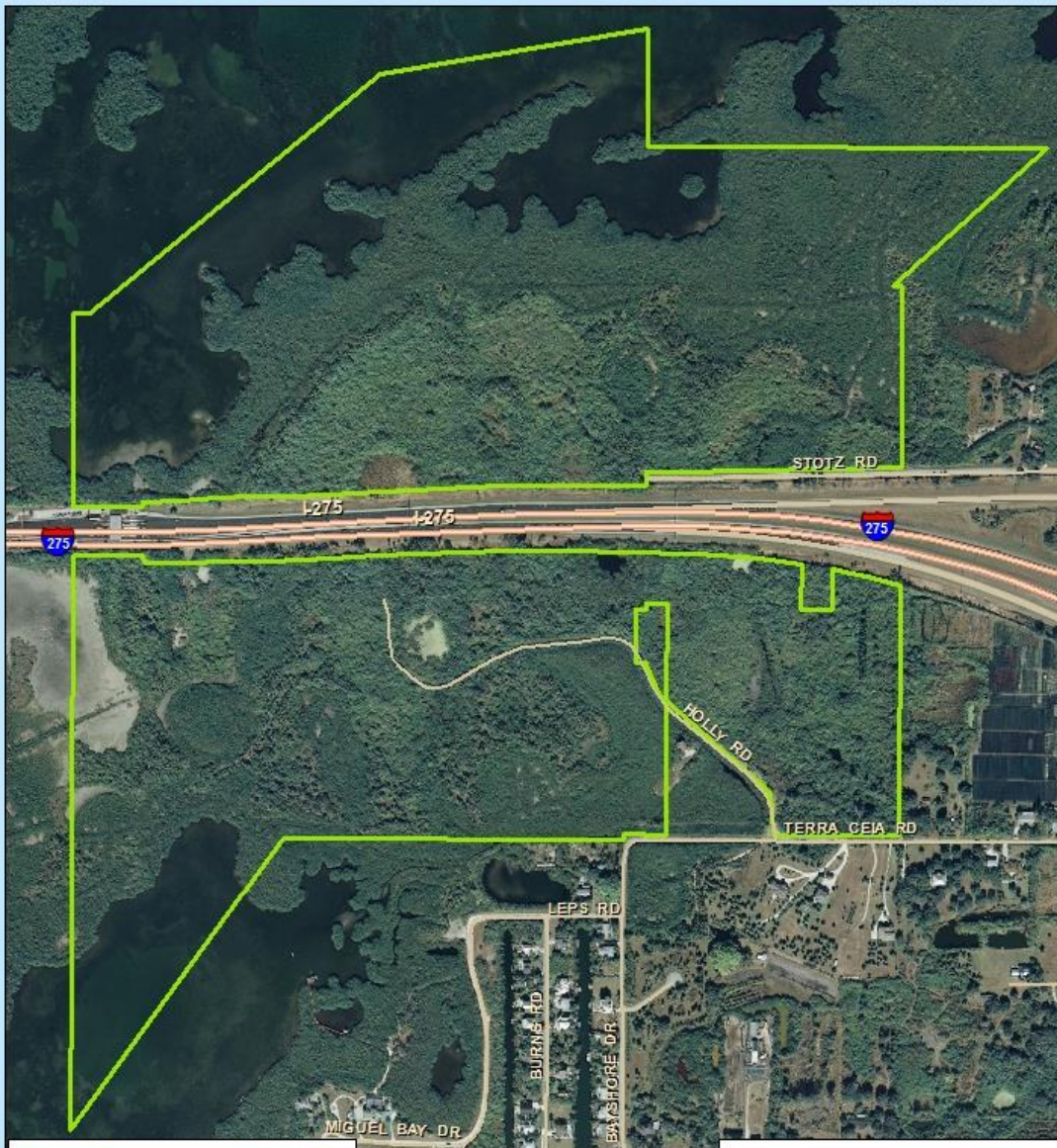
Additional Justification: These large parcels provide protection of freshwater and estuarine wetlands that are home to many commercially and recreationally important fish species. The project is feasible due to its public ownership and the commitment of SWFWMD to restoring this property. Funding for the project design is included in the SWFWMD's 2012 budget. The SWFWMD does not have sufficient funds to complete construction. To date, the District has completed approximately 843 acres of wetland and upland restoration in the Terra Ceia/Bishop Harbor area. This Phase 2 project will complete restoration identified for Terra Ceia by the SWFWMD. The SWFWMD has collaborated with the FDEP on previous phases of restoration at Terra Ceia as well as Phase 2. The District budgeted funds for design and permitting. The District does not have sufficient funds to complete construction.

Add any photos or maps that explain project:

Terra Ceia Phase 2 Frog Creek Parcel



Terra Ceia Phase 2 Huber Parcel



Southwest Florida
Water Management District

Legend

 Huber Parcel

0 345 690 1,380
Feet

SWIM Section
September 12, 2012
2011 Imagery

