

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

Contact Information: Stephanie T. Powers, Staff Environmental Scientist, Southwest Florida Water Management District Stephanie.Powers@swfwmd.state.fl.us					Date of Submittal: 10/11/2012		
Name of Project: Palm River Restoration Project Phase II, East McKay Bay in Tampa, Florida					Org and Rank: TBEP		
Project Description: This multi-year project is a Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program initiative consisting of habitat restoration, water quality improvement, and mitigation of erosion along the Palm River at the mouth of McKay Bay. A feasibility study was conducted on the land surrounding the Palm River to identify sites for habitat restoration and stormwater treatment project implementation. Currently, two sites on property owned by the District have been selected. The first site, the Spoil Disposal Cell Area (Phase I), has been completed. The East McKay Bay sites (Phase II) focus on water quality improvement and upland and wetland enhancement.							
Project Location: Hillsborough County, 40-acres within three parcels owned by SWFWMD							
Responsible Party: SWFWMD				Partners: This project has support from SWFWMD, the Florida Department of Transportation and the Tampa Electric Company			
NEP: TBEP		Project Cost: \$1,165,000			Dollars Needed: \$500,000		
Start: March 2013				Completion: December 2013			
Status of Project Design and Permitting: This project is in the final design and permitting phase. Exotic removal areas have already been identified and restoration efforts in these areas could begin immediately. The remaining components will be ready to construct in <5 months.							
What Date or Year could Construction Feasibly Begin: March 2013							
Your Proposed Timing of Funding (given permits, phasing, staging, etc.)							
FY	Previous	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	Total
	\$150,000	\$1,015,000					\$1,165,000
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: 18							
How much Habitat will be restored and conserved?: 40 acres							
Quantify pollutant reductions: This phase will provide significant pollutant load reductions, though they have not yet been quantified.							
What living coastal/marine resources will be improved and by how much?: Arthropod and fish abundance and diversity will be improved with resulting increase in bird abundance and diversity.							
How will community resilience be enhanced?							
Additional Justification: Since 1950, about 50 percent of the bay's natural shoreline and 40 percent of its seagrass acreage were lost as a result of physical destruction and water quality impairment. This resulted in a decline in the aesthetic, recreational, and commercial value of the bay, as well as a loss of habitat for native plants and animals. The SWIM Plan for Tampa Bay outlines goals to restore habitat							

and reduce pollutants entering Tampa Bay. The objectives of this project are consistent with these goals. Funding for design and permitting was included in the District's budget. Construction is estimated to cost approximately \$1 million.

Add any photos or maps that explain the project:

