RESTORE Act Ecosystem Restoration Project Proposals

for consideration in the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Comprehensive Plan 2012

<table>
<tr><td colspan="5">Contact Information: Stephanie T. Powers, Staff Environmental Scientist, Southwest Florida Water Management District
Stephanie.Powers@swfwmd.state.fl.us</td><td colspan="3">Date of Submittal:
9/6/2012</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">Name of Project: Coral Creek Ecosystem Restoration on the Cape Haze Peninsula, Florida</td><td colspan="3">Org and Rank:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Project Description: Phase II of this project encompasses a ~400 acre portion of the site. This phase will involve the restoration and/or enhancement of historic wetland hydroperiods, removal of exotic plant species, and the creation of palustrine wetlands.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Project Location: Charlotte County, 2,600 acre parcel co-owned by the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and is part of the Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Responsible Party: SWFWMD</td><td colspan="4">Partners: This project has letters of support from members of the US Congress, members of the Florida Legislature, and FDEP, SWFWMD, FDEP - CH Preserve State Park</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">NEP: CHNEP</td><td colspan="3">Project Cost: $1,800,000</td><td colspan="3">Dollars Needed: $900,000</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Start: September 2013</td><td colspan="4">Completion: Three years thereafter.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Status of Project Design and Permitting:: This project is in the initial 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 8-12 months.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">What Date or Year could Construction Feasibly Begin: September 2013</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Your Proposed Timing of Funding (given permits, phasing, staging, etc.)</td></tr>
<tr><td>FY</td><td>Previous</td><td>12/13</td><td>13/14</td><td>14/15</td><td>15/16</td><td>16/17</td><td>Total</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>$700,000</td><td>$230,000</td><td>$250,000</td><td>$620,000</td><td></td><td></td><td>$1,800,000</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Quantify Environmental Results and How to Measure Them:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Economic Benefits (including ecosystem services): Value of ecosystems service improvements is estimated at $91,093,117</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Estimated number of Jobs Created or Preserved: 18</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">How much Habitat will be restored and conserved?: 400 acres</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Quantify pollutant reductions: This phase will not provide significant pollutant load reductions.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">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.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">How will community resilience be enhanced? Filling of mosquito control ditches and re-contouring of existing upland cut canals will reduce the effects of sea-level rise and improve resilience of Cape Haze.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">Additional Justification: This large tract is home to many of Florida's species of special concern, including the gopher tortoise and the southern bald eagle. Additionally, the freshwater and estuarine wetlands are home to numerous juvenile commercially and recreationally important fish species. The wetlands also provide forage areas for the region's wading bird population.
This project is achievable due to its public ownership and the commitment of the Water Management</td></tr>
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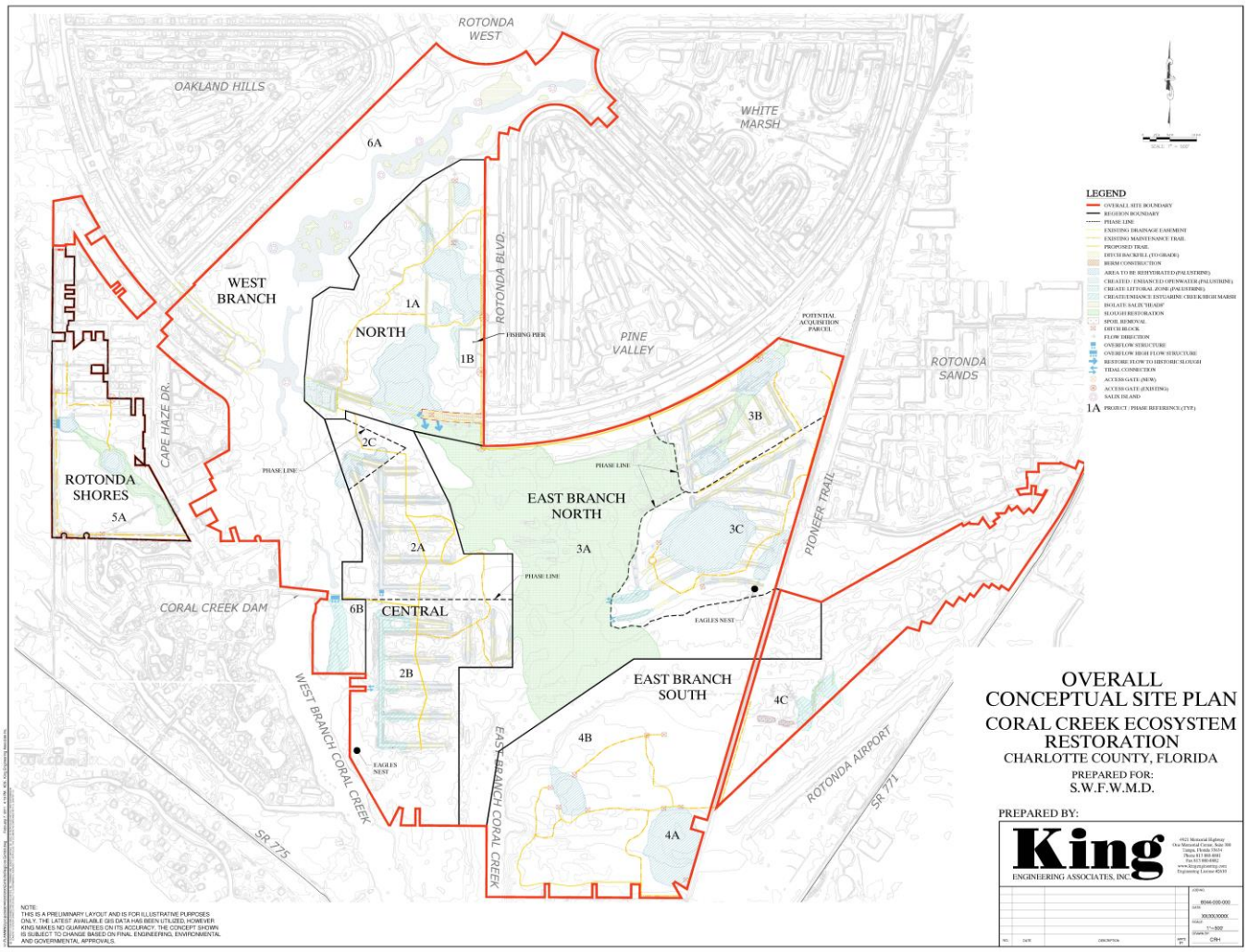
District and the FDEP to restoring this property. Additionally, since the project site has been deemed a state park, management of the site will be maintained by FDEP. Funding for the overall project design and permitting has been included in the District's budget for the past four years. The District does not have sufficient funds to complete construction. Phase II of this project is estimated to cost $1.8 million.



Add any photos or maps that explain the project: