



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecological Services Office**



**Request for Proposals
Fiscal Year 2006**

OBJECTIVES :

- ?? To fund technically sound and cost effective projects that restore or enhance degraded coastal wetlands and uplands, estuaries, and riparian corridors; including the removal of exotic vegetation from coastal areas; and promoting public awareness of south Florida's ecological problems; and
- ?? To form partnerships with Federal, state and local governments, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, non-profit groups, and citizens in south Florida in joint efforts to conserve, restore, and enhance coastal resources and habitat.

ELIGIBILITY: Federal, state, and local government agencies, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, non-profit groups, and citizens are eligible to apply for funding.

PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA: Preference will be given to projects that meet the following criteria:

- ?? Have a project site located within the coastal counties of south Florida;
- ?? Result in on-the ground restoration or enhancement of coastal habitats;
- ?? Improve habitat for fish and wildlife resources including federally protected species through restoration and enhancement;
- ?? Remove exotic vegetation and restore sites using native plant species;
- ?? Form partnerships with more than one participant; and
- ?? Provide the majority of total project cost through direct match or other contributions (*e.g.*, technical support, equipment, in-kind services, etc.).

PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS: Proposals will be evaluated and selected by staff in the South Florida Ecological Services Office. Project contacts for high-ranking proposals may be asked to provide additional details of the work to be accomplished. Applicants will be notified by October, 2006, if their proposal will be funded or not.

PROPOSAL FORMAT: Proposals must include all information requested below in order to receive consideration for funding.

Project Title

Contact Information: Include name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone, fax, and e-mail address for each principal investigator and co-investigator. Clearly indicate who the applicant is and what entity it is (*e.g.*, Federal, state, or local government; academic institution; non-governmental organization; non-profit group; or citizen).

Project Objectives: Clearly define what the project will accomplish.

Project Location and Description: Provide a figure of the project area (include latitude and longitude; section,

township, and range; county), and clearly describe the approach and specific methods required to accomplish the project. Include the following: (1) geographic extent of the benefits, including those that go beyond the project boundaries; (2) type of habitat and amount of area to be restored or permanently protected (*e.g.*, linear feet of shore line, acres); and (3) background on any problems the project seeks to resolve and the project's relevance to south Florida's coastal ecosystems. Clearly quantify the amount of restoration and indicate whether ownership of the project area is public or private.

Project Benefits to Coastal Ecosystems: (1) Describe how any state or federally protected species will benefit from the project; (2) provide background information on any problems the project seeks to resolve and the project's relevance to south Florida's coastal ecosystem; and (3) outline the anticipated long-term and permanent results.

Contributing Partners: Identify each partner and what type of entity it is, define its role and responsibilities in completing the project, and clearly itemize what each will contribute (*e.g.*, funds, staff hours, volunteer hours, technical support) and the dollar value.

Project Costs: Indicate the total cost to complete the project and provide a detailed budget itemizing individual component costs, including all indirect and overhead costs. Indicate how much funding is being requested from the Coastal Program and what project components this funding will pay for. In addition, indicate the amount of cash and in-kind contributions each partner will contribute.

Statement of Products: Identify each product that will result from the project, in addition to quantifying the amount of restoration.

Time Frame: Provide a detailed schedule of project implementation, duration, monitoring, reporting (semiannual and annual), and milestones. Identify anticipated completion date for each product.

Actions to Date (if any): Describe past or current activities that are relevant to the project, such as previously initiated or completed projects that could affect project initiation or offset the total project cost.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- ?? Applicants must submit one hard copy of each proposal and a digital copy (.PDF file or .DOC file) on CD. We do not accept submissions by email;
- ?? Proposals, excluding attachments, should not exceed five pages in length with fonts no smaller than 10 point;
- ?? A summary of qualifications should be attached for each project leader. Other attachments should be limited to literature cited, aerial images, maps, project design schematics, and other figures;
- ?? Projects that require Federal, state, local, or private authorization (*e.g.* permits, permission to access or conduct activities on public or private lands) must demonstrate that they have or will have the necessary authorizations necessary to complete the project;
- ?? Submit proposals to the Coastal Program Coordinator:

Jeff Howe
Coastal Program RFP 2006
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecological Services Office
1339 20th Street

Vero Beach, Florida, 32960

EXPECTATIONS: Upon funding a particular project, we will require interim and final reports on project progress, as well as access to all raw and summary data, including digital data, maps, and photographs. We request that Service funding be acknowledged in any manuscripts, publications, reports, or posters. Requests for reimbursement will not be processed until up-to-date reports are on file.

Proposals must be received by May 1, 2006.

Funding is competitive and may be limited. Because funds may not become available until the end of the fiscal year, successful applicants may not be notified until October 2006.

For more information contact: Jeff Howe at (772) 562-3909 (ext. 283); Email: Jeffrey_Howe@fws.gov