

Indian River Lagoon Economic Impact Update

December 2025



OVER 940,000

**acres of natural lands and agricultural
lands retain more than**

100 BILLION

**gallons of floodwaters
annually**



**52,500
ACRES**



**of natural lands provide
additional coastal protection**

**368,000
ACRES**

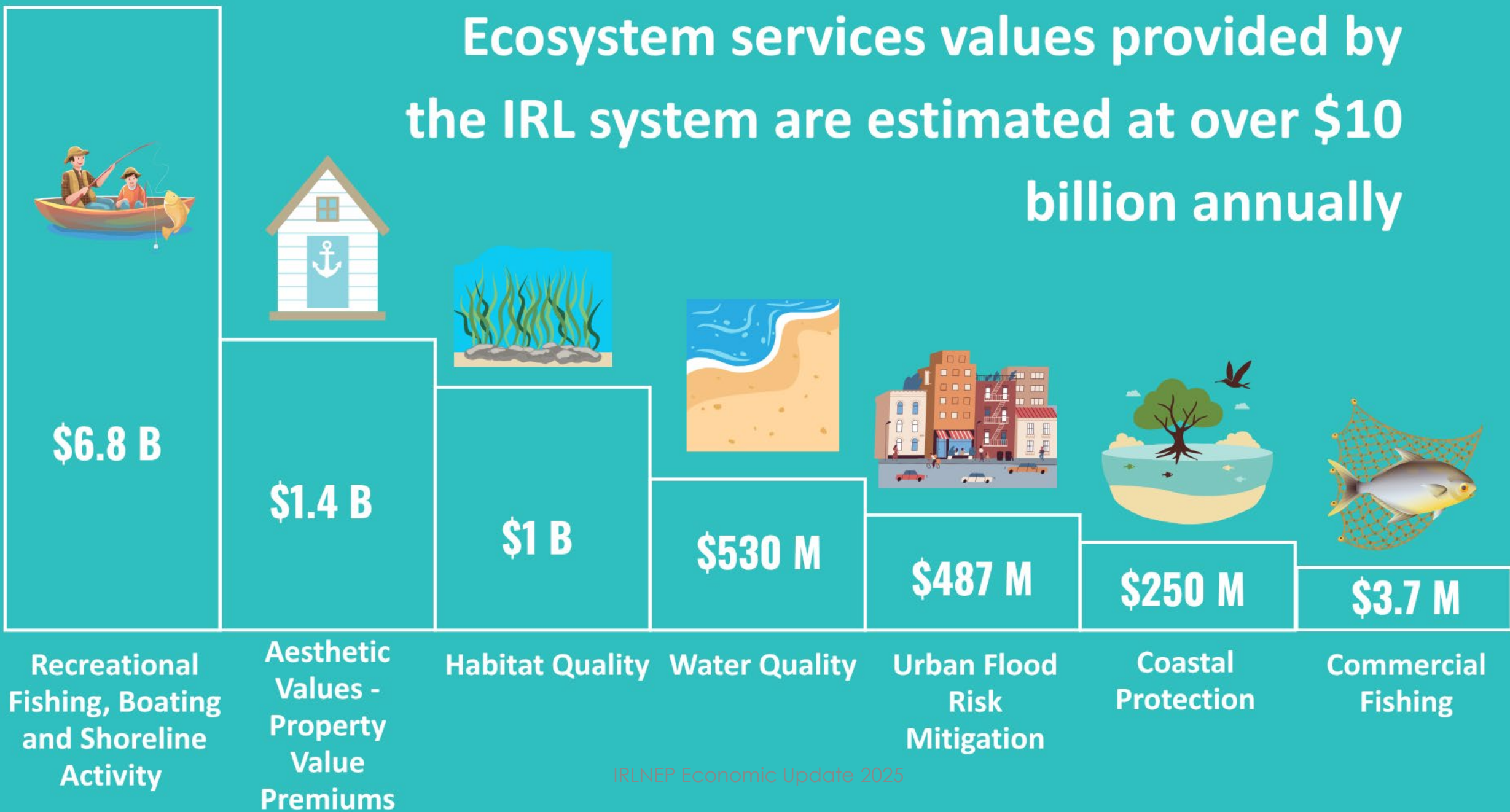
**of land provides water
filtration and purification**



**These lands and
waters generate
habitat, aesthetic
and recreational
values**



Ecosystem services values provided by the IRL system are estimated at over \$10 billion annually



Ecosystem Services Valuation



Coastal Protection
Water Filtration/Water Quality
Habitat Quality
Aesthetic or Scenic Value
Recreational Value and Tourism

Ecosystem service: Coastal protection

The InVEST™ model calculates the difference in exposure to coastal hazards with and without natural protective processes intact.

TBG used CLC land cover data from FWC as inputs to estimate coastal protection provided by IRL habitat.

	Estimated Acres – Existing Condition	Coastal Protection Ecosystem Services	Projected Improvements from Projects
		in \$ Millions	in \$ Millions
Salt Marsh	17,959	\$ 77.1	
Mangrove	19,302	82.9	
Maritime Hammocks	12,553	\$59.1	
Other	2,703	\$29.8	
Total	52,518	\$250	\$8.4

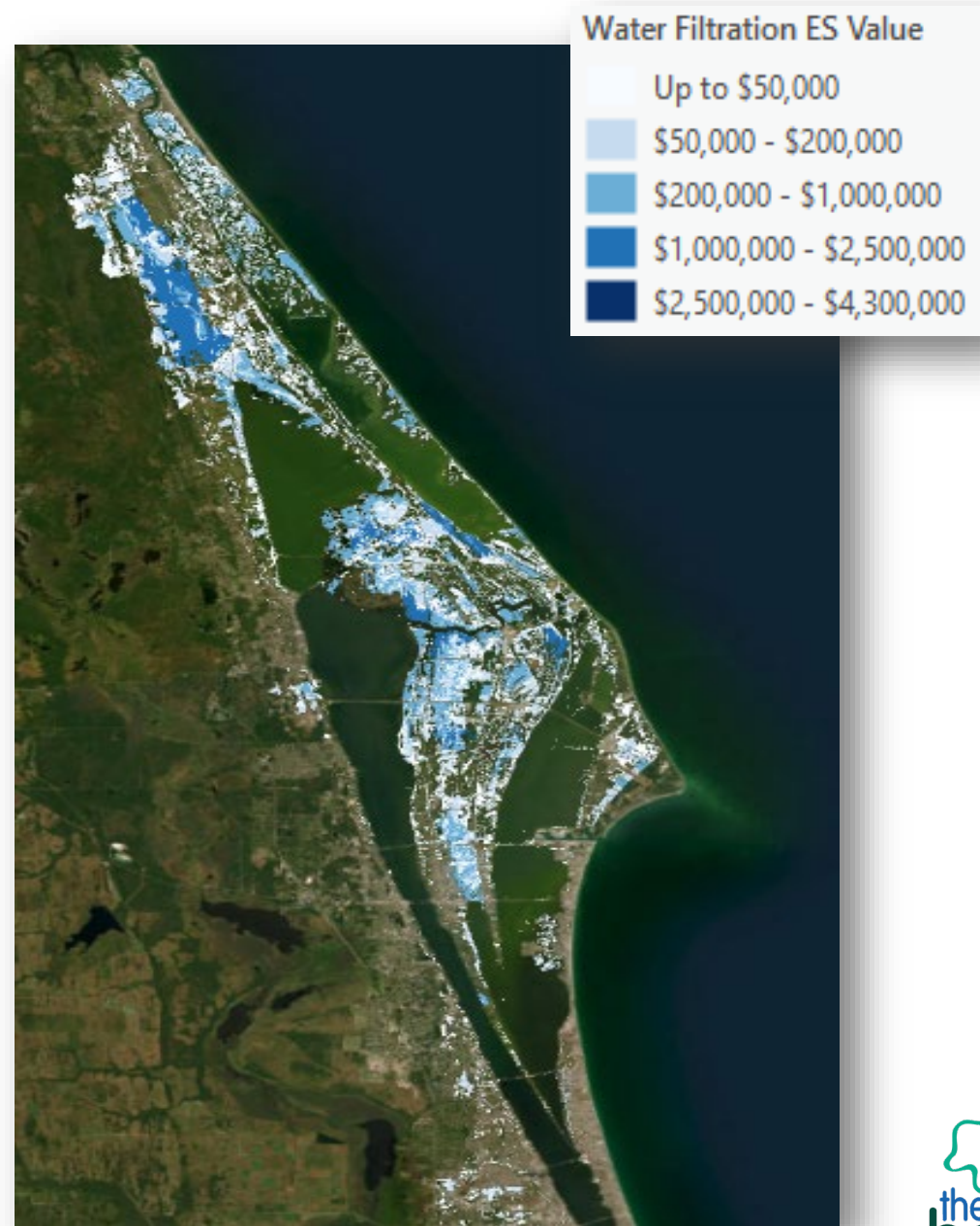
Example habitats providing coastal protection services



Ecosystem service: Water Filtration

FEMA Ecosystem Services values for detailed CLC habitat types were used to estimate water quality improvement values in the BCAs, and for overall ecosystem services valuation.

Habitat Type	Estimated Acres – Existing Condition	Water Filtration Ecosystem Services	Projected Improvements from Projects
Coastal Wetland	57,754	\$106,042,000	
Forest	149,410	\$76,595,000	
Inland Wetland	159,402	\$297,561,000	
Riparian	6,703	\$49,287,000	
Shellfish Reefs	532	\$376,000	
Total	368,565	\$529,860,000	\$38,009,000

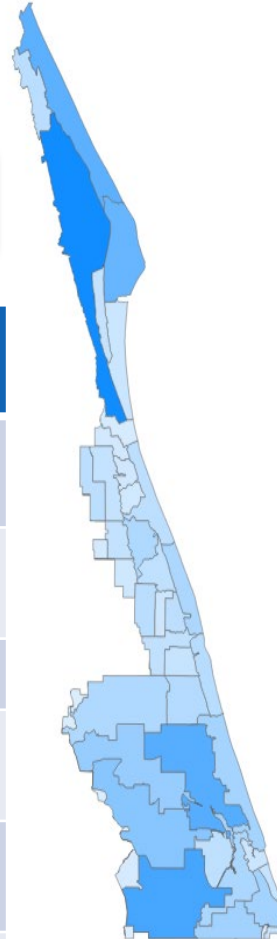


Ecosystem service: Wildlife Habitat

Estimated ecosystem services using FWC
CLC data

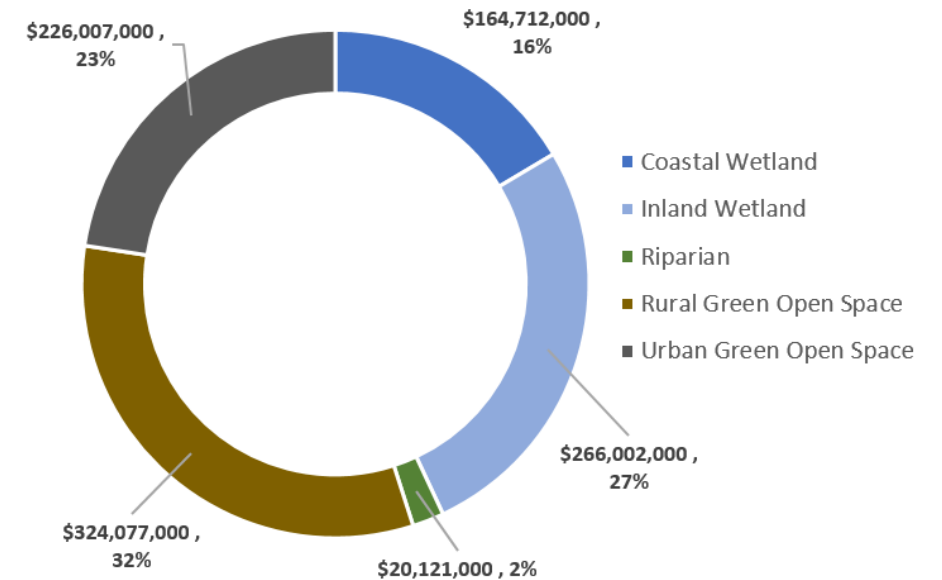
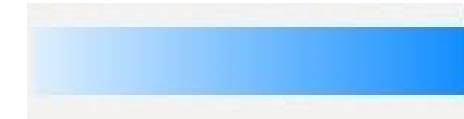
FEMA Habitat Type	Habitat ES \$/ac	IRL Acres	Total Habitat
Coastal Wetland	\$2,420	57,754	\$164,712,000
Inland Wetland	\$1,416	159,402	\$266,002,000
Riparian	\$2,547	6,703	\$20,121,000
Rural Green Open Space	\$2,021	136,067	\$324,077,000
Urban Green Open Space	\$5,890	32,559	\$226,007,000
Total Habitat ES Value			\$1,000,917,000

Habitat Quality Ecosystem Services by Basin and type



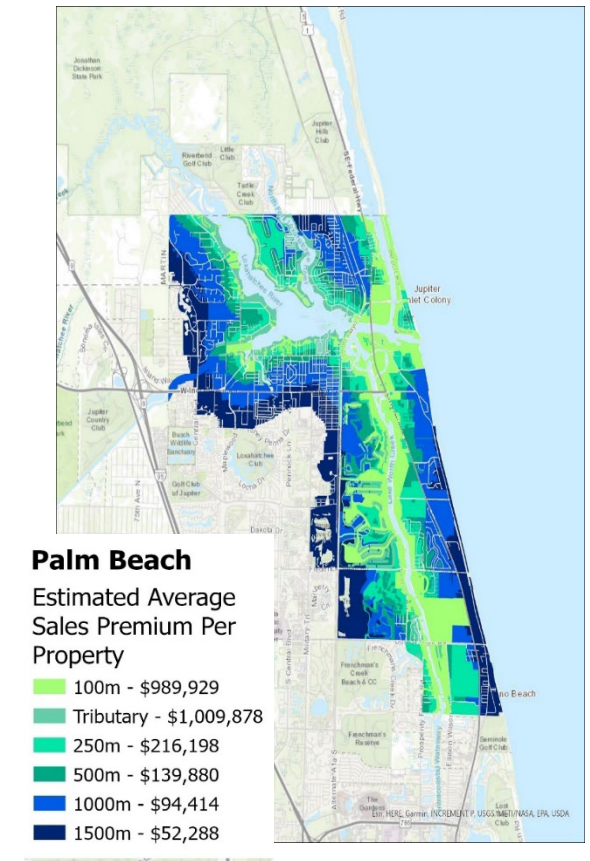
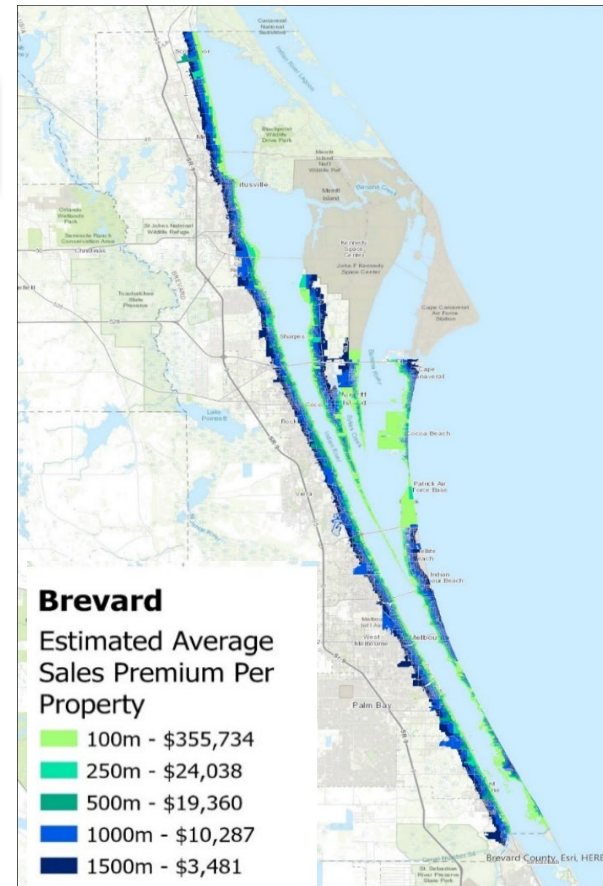
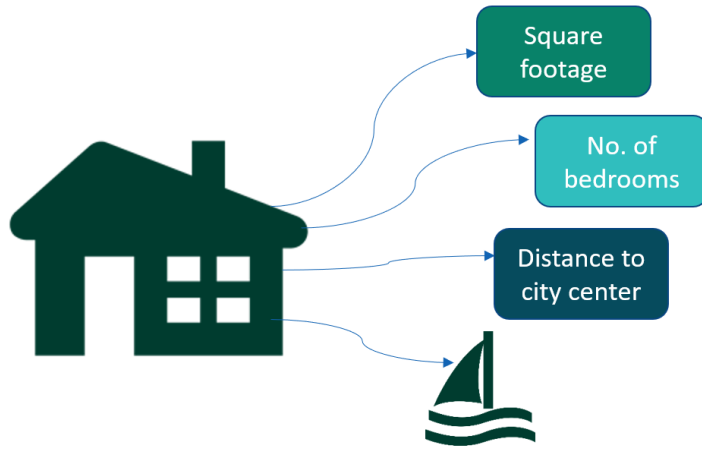
\$435k

\$90M



Ecosystem Service: Aesthetic Value

Estimated with hedonic models



Property Values

County	Waterfront	Canal/ River Access	Up to 1,500m	Total	Annualized
Volusia	\$443 M	\$0	\$787 M	\$1,230 M	\$73.8 M
Brevard	\$3,582 M	\$1,568 M	\$1,007 M	\$6,157 M	\$369.4 M
Indian River	\$1,625 M	\$278 M	\$1,204 M	\$3,107 M	\$186.5 M
St. Lucie	\$577 M	\$-	\$964 M	\$1,541 M	\$92.5 M
Martin	\$3,069 M	\$606 M	\$2,163 M	\$5,838 M	\$350.3 M
Palm Beach	\$1,015 M	\$1,723 M	\$2,343 M	\$5,081 M	\$304.9 M
Total	\$10,312 M	\$4,177 M	\$8,466 M	\$22,955 M	\$1,377.4 M

Benefit-Cost Analysis



NOAA projects
Case studies across Habitat
Restoration types

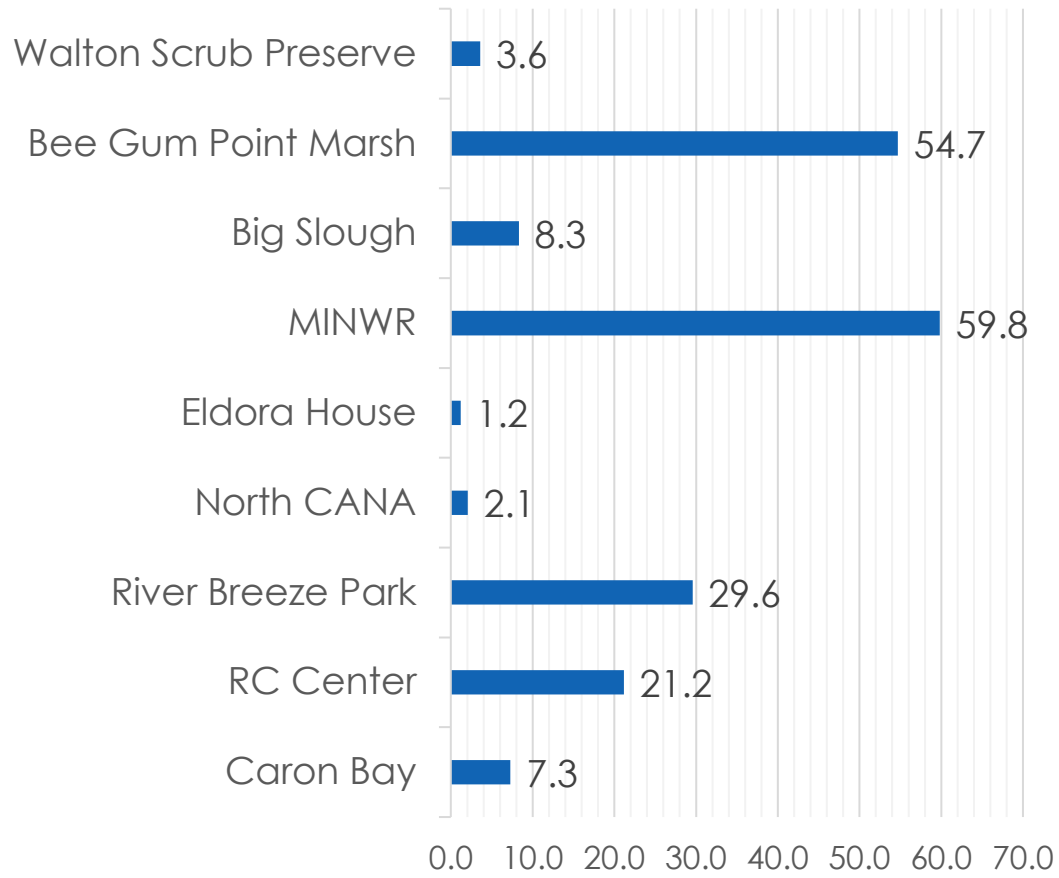
Benefit-Cost Analysis Case Studies

- Selected case studies
- Identified costs & benefits
- Tracking units

CBA Metrics

Location	Primary Habitat Type	Case Study	Total Costs (10-years)	Total Benefits(10-years)
Mosquito Lagoon	Salt Marsh	Caron Bay	\$383,817	\$2,793,532
	Fish Reef	RC Center	\$24,499	\$518,379
	Clam	River Breeze Park	\$408,316	\$12,074,375
	Oyster Reef	North CANA	\$417,406	\$859,326
	Living Shoreline	Eldora House	\$426,231	\$504,273
North IRL	Wetland	MINWR/KSC	\$922,500	\$55,196,114
Central IRL	Seagrass	Big Slough	\$602,670	\$5,012,707
	Fish Passage	Bee Gum Point Marsh	\$562,367	\$30,764,204
South IRL	Mangrove	Walton Scrub Preserve	\$924,961	\$3,306,142

Benefit-Cost Analysis



24x
RETURN ON
INVESTMENT



Overall, a 24x return on investment

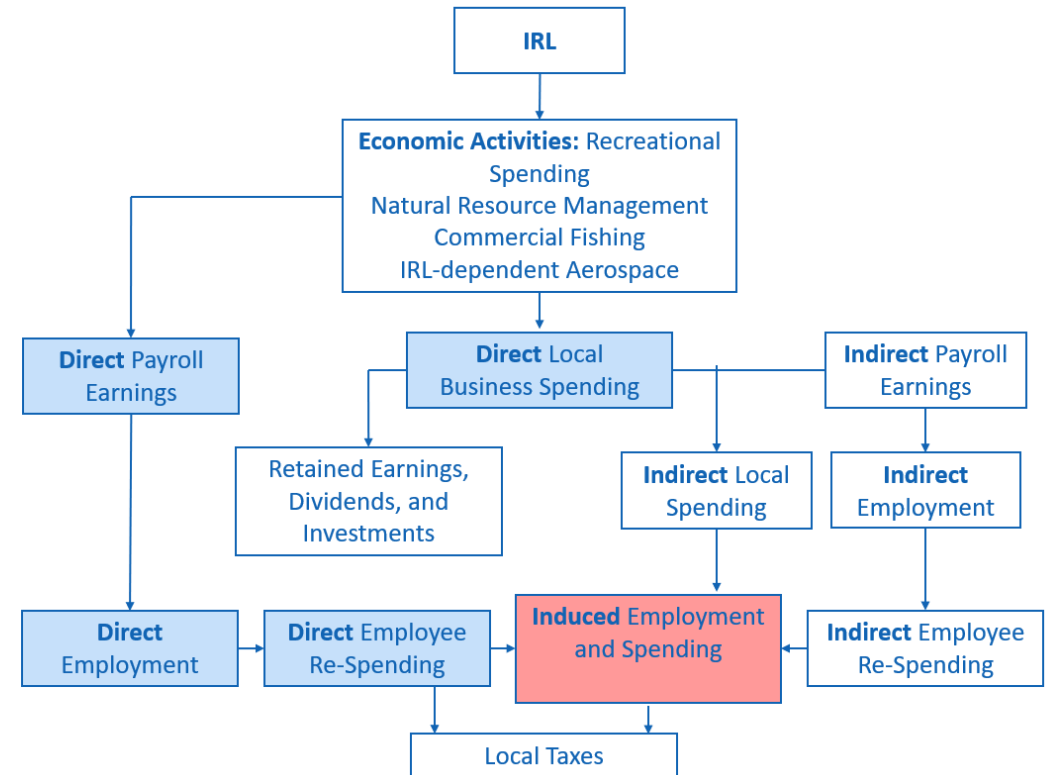
Economic Impact



Industry sectors
Dashboard tool

Input-Output Model

- Measures effects of spending as dollars flow through regional economy
- Spending data is margined for dollars that leave local economy
 - i.e., petroleum is primarily produced outside Florida
- Regional multipliers are used to estimate impacts
 - including tax revenues
- Value-added measures reflects an industry's capacity to translate a change into income and final demand
- Induced effects from visitors only



Economic Impact of the IRL - Total

	Employment	Labor Income	Value Added	Output
Direct	71,689	\$5.2B	\$8.5B	\$17.1B
Indirect	33,462	\$2.0B	\$3.0B	\$5.8B
Induced	23,249	\$1.2B	\$2.5B	\$4.0B
Property Value Impacts Annualized			\$1.4B	
Total	128,400	\$8.3B	\$15.4B	\$26.9B

IRL Summary Results

\$28.3 BILLION
in spending
generates



\$14 BILLION
in value added
to local GDP



\$8.3 BILLION
in wages



128,400
jobs

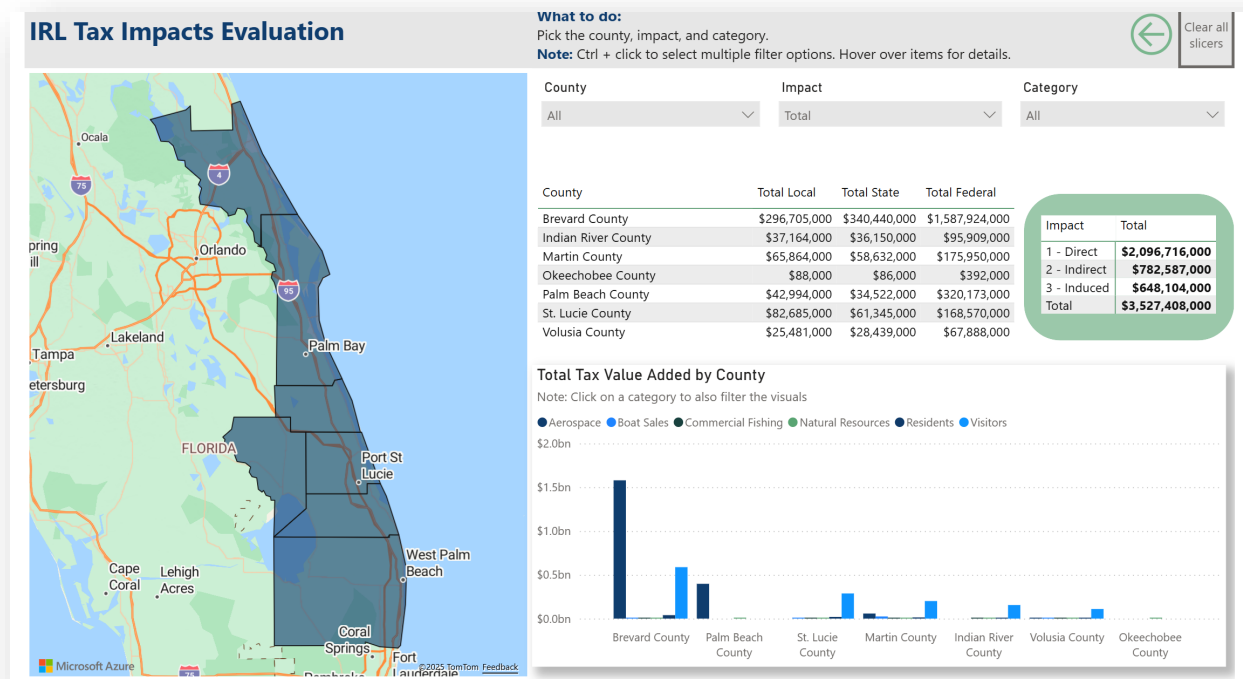
	Employment	Labor Income	Value Added	Output	Taxes
Recreation	75,206	\$3.2B	\$5.6B	\$10.5B	\$1.4B
Natural Resource Management	1,041	\$77M	\$112M	\$222M	\$25
Commercial Fishing	30	\$0.1M	\$3M	\$3M	\$0.4M
Boat Dealers	1,445	\$111M	\$166	\$431M	\$36M
Aerospace	50,679	\$5.0B	\$8.1B	\$15.7B	\$2B
Property Values				\$1.4B	
Total	128,400	\$8.3B	\$14.0B	\$28.3B	\$3.5B

Summary Results – Martin County

	Employment	Labor Income	Value Added	Output	State & Local Taxes	Federal Taxes
		(in Millions of \$)				
Recreation	11,815	\$536.7	\$937.0	\$1,755.1	\$99.6	\$114.4
Commercial Fishing	5	\$0.0	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.0	\$0.0
Boat Sales	980	\$78.7	\$116.9	\$295.7	\$8.0	\$16.4
Nat Res Mgmt	191	\$13.8	\$20.0	\$40.1	\$1.2	\$2.9
Aerospace	2,357	\$198.2	\$318.7	\$676.2	\$15.6	\$42.2
Total	15,348	\$827.4	\$1,392.7	\$2,767.3	\$124.5	\$175.9
Property Values			\$305			
Total with Property Values			\$3,072			

Dashboard Tool

- Allows IRLNEP to access SEP data by user needs: city, county, priority community etc. across time
 - 2012-2022 for most data
 - 2019 – 2022 for some data



<https://datavisual.balmoralgroup.us/IRLNEPeconomicupdate2025>

Questions? Thank you!

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