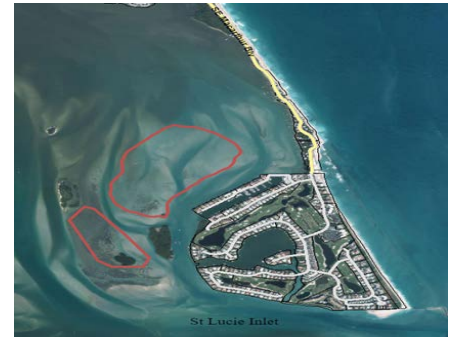


## Martin County/Indian River Lagoon Sea Grass Restoration Revised 6/21/2022

**Category** Non-Concurrency  
**Project Number** 9924  
**Location** Sailfish Point/Indian River Lagoon  
**District** 1  
  
**Project Limits** Located within Indian River Lagoon;  
 Martin County, FL  
  
**Related Projects**  
**Lead Dept/Division** Public Works/Ecosystems Restoration and Management



### DESCRIPTION

The Ecosystem Restoration and Management (ERM) Division has identified potential habitat and water conditions favorable for the restoration of sea grass beds just north of the St. Lucie Inlet within the Indian River Lagoon. The project includes the development of design, partnerships and the implementation of restoration activities including sea grass beds and mangrove/riprap breakwaters. The Martin County ERM division will be coordinating directly with the Florida Oceanographic Society, Indian River Lagoon Council, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

### BACKGROUND

Within the past decade Martin County has seen a significant loss of sea grass within the proposed project area. This is due to a complexity of environmental issues including increased nutrients, increased turbidity from Lake Okeechobee releases and other local watershed environmental impacts. Martin County ERM division anticipates the reduction of these environmental factors within the near future. This includes the reduction of Lake Okeechobee releases as well as water quality improvements within the local watershed. The ERM division has determined the location closest to the St. Lucie inlet would provide the most viable habitat for restoration activities. If successful other areas maybe identified for future projects.

### PROJECT ORIGINATION

Infrastructure Needs

### JUSTIFICATION

Seagrasses are essential to the Indian River Lagoon by serving as a nursery for juvenile fish, a habitat for shrimp and other animals, and as a staple food for endangered manatees. In addition, seagrass adds dissolved oxygen and improves overall water quality. The improvement of the sea grass beds will also have a secondary recreational benefit with the improvement of fisheries and ecological tourism.

Expenditures	Total	To Date		Funded					Unfunded
				FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27-31
Design	117,000			117,000					0
Construction	100,000				100,000				
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>217,000</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>117,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Revenues	Total	To Date	Carryover	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27-31
Ad Valorem	217,000		102,000	15,000	100,000				0
<b>Revenue Total</b>	<b>217,000</b>		<b>102,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Unfunded</b>									<b>0</b>

### OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

Annual maintenance costs for routine repairs is estimated at \$2500.