

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: September 18, 2018 Consent Regular
 Workshop Public Hearing

Department: Environmental Resources Management
Submitted By: Environmental Resources Management
Submitted For: Environmental Resources Management

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: a Management Plan (Plan) for Sandhill Crane Wetlands (formerly known as C-18 Triangle) Natural Area.

Summary: The Plan identifies natural resources present on the natural area and provides for the preservation, restoration, management and passive recreational use of those resources. After review of the Plan by the Natural Areas Management Advisory Committee (NAMAC) and a public hearing held on June 20, 2018, NAMAC unanimously recommended the Plan for approval at its July 20, 2018 meeting. Initial invasive/ nonnative vegetation removal, a majority of the fence and regulatory sign installation, and nominal public use facilities have been completed. Remaining capital projects (remaining fencing and signage) are expected to be completed in FY 2019, at an estimated cost of \$17,475. Annual management and operating costs, including prescribed burns/mechanical vegetation reduction, ongoing nonnative/invasive animal and plant control, repair and replacement of facilities, and biological monitoring and reporting are estimated to be \$114,160. Funds for capital improvements, and annual management and operation of the site are expected to come from the Natural Areas Fund, Natural Areas Stewardship Endowment Fund, Pollution Recovery Trust Fund, Ag Reserve Land Management Fund, and/or other funding sources. The first update to the Plan will be due in 2028. District 1 (AH)

Background and Justification: The 137.9-acre Sandhill Crane Wetlands Natural Area is located in the northeastern portion of Palm Beach County. This site was acquired by the County through two land donations, one in 2000 and the other in 2006. To date, 283 plant and 98 animal species have been recorded on site, including 8 plant and 12 animal species that have been designated as having some degree of endangerment by at least one governmental agency or have been ranked by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory. The primary purpose for the acquisition was to preserve, restore/enhance and manage the site’s ecological resources, including the existing natural communities, their component plant and animal species, and local groundwater resources. Environmental Resources Management (ERM) is dedicated to maximizing the beneficial effects of its land management activities, public use facilities and public outreach efforts, while improving efficiencies and reducing costs. Staff also continues to pursue any grants available to offset a portion of land management costs.

Attachment:

1. Sandhill Crane Wetlands Natural Area Management Plan

Recommended by: *Seborah Drum* 8/22/18
Department Director Date

Approved by: *Peo* 9/4/18
Assistant County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capital Expenditures		\$17,475			
Operating Costs	\$114,160	\$117,585	\$121,113	\$124,746	128,488
External Revenues					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL	\$114,160	\$135,060	\$121,113	\$124,746	128,488
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes No

Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes No

Budget Account No.:

Fund 1226 Department 380 Unit 3162 Object Various Program _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal year 2018 management and operating costs are estimated to be \$114,160. Over the past five years, annual management and operating costs for County owned/managed natural areas have increased an average of 3% per year. Annual management and operating costs for FY 2019 and beyond may be higher or lower than projected. Remaining capital projects (remaining fencing and signage) are expected to cost \$17,475 and should be completed in FY 2019. Funds for management and operation of the natural area are expected to come from the Natural Areas Fund (1226), Natural Areas Stewardship Endowment Fund (1220), Pollution Recovery Trust Fund (1227), Ag Reserve Land Management Fund (1222) and/or ad valorem funding sources.

C. Department Fiscal Review:

A. Henry

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and /or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

<i>Relegh...</i> 8/24/18	<i>Ar. J. Jans...</i> 8/30/18
OFMB 9/2/18	Contract Development & Control

8/29/18 TW

B. Legal Sufficiency:

Anne Del... 9/4/18
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director