

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: February 2, 2021 Consent Regular
 Workshop Public Hearing

Department: Environmental Resources Management

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: **Staff recommends motion to approve:** an updated Management Plan (Plan) for Delaware Scrub Natural Area.

Summary: The initial Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on September 9, 2008. 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), they unanimously recommended the Plan for approval at its November 20, 2020 meeting. Initial invasive/nonnative vegetation removal, fence and regulatory sign installation, and public use facilities have been completed. Annual management and operating costs, including prescribed burns/mechanical vegetation reduction, ongoing invasive/nonnative animal and plant control, repair and replacement of facilities, and biological monitoring and reporting are estimated to be \$107,301. This cost is for the current fiscal year and is expected to increase as described in the Summary of Fiscal Impact. 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 ad valorem funding sources. District 1 (SS)

Background and Justification: The 19.2-acre Delaware Scrub Natural Area is located in the northeastern portion of Palm Beach County (County) within the Town of Jupiter (Town). The entire site was acquired by the County and Town in 2005. To date, 251 plant and 147 animal species have been recorded on site, including 7 plant and 15 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 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 continue to pursue any grants available to offset a portion of land management costs.

Attachment:

- 1. Delaware Scrub Natural Area Management Plan

Recommended by:  12-18-2020 SAS 11/30/2020
 Department Director Date

Approved by:  1/14/21
 Assistant County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs	<u>\$107,301</u>	<u>\$110,520</u>	<u>\$113,836</u>	<u>\$117,251</u>	<u>\$120,769</u>
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL	<u>\$107,301</u>	<u>\$110,520</u>	<u>\$113,836</u>	<u>\$117,251</u>	<u>\$120,769</u>
# 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 2021 management and operating costs are estimated to be \$107,301. 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 2022 and beyond may be higher or lower than projected. 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:

S. Neary

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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

<p><u>Lex Martin 1/7/21</u> OFMB <i>1/6</i> <i>(RM) 1/6</i></p>	<p><u>John J. ... 1/13/21</u> Contract Development & Control <i>1-13-21 TW</i></p>
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B. Legal Sufficiency:

for S. Stone 1/13/21
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director