



Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council

Tampa Bay Watershed

Palm River Restoration Project Phase II,
East McKay Bay
(FL_RESTORE_004_003_Cat1/Cat2)



Project Name: Palm River Restoration Project Phase II, East McKay Bay

Costs: Category 1: \$87,750 | Category 2: \$497,250

Responsible Council Member: State of Florida

Project Details: The proposed project would involve water quality improvement and upland and wetland restoration and enhancement on Southwest Florida Water Management District-owned land along the Palm River.

Activities: The proposed project includes activities in two FPL categories. The Category 1 activities would involve completion of environmental compliance and permitting for the restoration of salt marsh and coastal uplands and the construction of three stormwater ponds, which would improve water quality and enhance upland and wetland areas on 53 acres of Southwest Florida Water Management District land.

Category 2 activities are proposed for potential future funding. If implemented, Category 2 activities would remove exotic vegetation, restore approximately eight acres of salt marsh and 32 acres of coastal uplands, and construct three stormwater management areas to provide water quality treatment for 436 acres of residential, commercial and industrial developed land.

Environmental Benefits: If the Category 2 activities are fully implemented, the project would allow for significant reduction of pollutants in stormwater runoff entering McKay Bay and, ultimately, Tampa Bay. The project would be designed to remove an estimated 517 pounds of nitrogen annually. It would also reduce erosion, remove exotics and replant native vegetation to restore approximately eight acres of salt marsh and 32 acres of coastal uplands.

The project would also benefit wildlife in the area. McKay Bay has been identified as highly important bird habitat, supporting many resident species as well as large numbers of migratory waterfowl and shorebirds that use the embayment as a feeding and resting site for several months each year.

Duration: It is anticipated it would take approximately six months to complete the Category 1 environmental compliance and permitting activities. Implementation of the Palm River Restoration Project Phase II East McKay Bay restoration projects proposed under Category 2 would take approximately one year and be monitored and maintained for a two-year period after restoration by the construction contractor. The project's ecological benefits will be sustainable over the long-term, at least twenty-five years, with minimal maintenance.

More information on these activities can be found in Appendix J. Tampa Bay; Unique Identifiers: FL_RESTORE_004_003_Cat1 and FL_RESTORE_004_003_Cat2.



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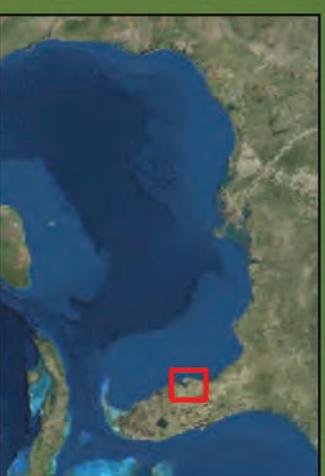
Water Quality Improvement

Cost: Category 1: \$87,750 | Category 2: \$497,250

Sponsor: State of Florida

Project Status: Planning/Implementation

Purpose: The project consists of extensive habitat restoration, water quality improvement, and mitigation of erosion along the Palm River at the mouth of McKay Bay, within the Tampa Bay Watershed. **Planning** - The objective is to complete all applicable environmental compliance and permitting for the habitat restoration and stormwater ponds construction. **Implementation** - If funded in the future, the project would remove exotic vegetation, create of an herbaceous wetland, and the construct three stormwater management areas that will provide water quality treatment for 436 acres of residential, commercial, and industrial developed land.



Map Date: August 10, 2015

