

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

THROUGH: Richard B. Szpyrka, P. E., Public Works Director

THROUGH: Eric Charest, Natural Resources Manager

FROM: Melissa Meisenburg, Lagoon Plan Environmental Specialist

SUBJECT: Indian River County Draft Lagoon Management Plan

DATE: June 27, 2023

BACKGROUND

On April 4, 2023, Coastal Division staff presented the Indian River County Lagoon Management Plan (LMP) outline to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for approval. The outline was approved unanimously by the Board. Since then, staff along with our approved environmental consultant, Tetra Tech, have worked diligently to incorporate the research and review elements and a projects list identifying current and future projects aimed at improving the health of the Indian River Lagoon. The draft LMP brings together input received from multiple County Departments, a literature review, expert analyses, and guidance from regulatory agencies to have a cohesive Plan reflecting the unique needs of the Indian River Lagoon within Indian River County.

DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS

The draft LMP is ready to move into the next step of the development phase. Pending Board approval, Staff, utilizing the Public Outreach assistance from Tetra Tech under approved Work Order #01, will begin soliciting comments on the draft plan in accordance with the schedule set forth in Work Order #01. This includes Tetra Tech meeting individually with Commissioners to receive comments on the draft LMP, coordinating with specific interest groups, and hosting two Public Workshops in July and August where additional feedback will be received. The final version of the LMP, incorporating items from the one-on-one Commissioner meetings, interest groups, and public comments and workshops, is anticipated to be presented to the Board on September 26, 2023, for consideration.

FUNDING

No additional funding is needed for this step in the development of the County's LMP.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize staff to move on to the Public Outreach step to move the development of Indian River County's LMP forward.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Lagoon Management Plan