

Board of County Commissioners

1801 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960
Telephone: (772) 567-8000 FAX: 772-778-9391



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

August 21, 2025

620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida
32399-1600
(850) 488-4676

Re: Derelict Vessel Grant Application – Fall 2025 Indian River County Derelict Vessel Removal

The Indian River County Board of County Commissioners intends to have two (2) derelict vessels removed from the waters of the state, the vessels and vessel parts transported to an approved landfill facility and the vessels destroyed. The County has received a Derelict Vessel Removal Authorization Letter for each of these vessels from The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

The selected contractor will use FWC Best Management Practices for Derelict Vessel Removal. These include protective measures and equipment to prevent erosion and pollution during removal.

The County is applying for the FWC Derelict Vessel Removal Grant for 100% reimbursement of the Contractor (Outlaw Maritime LLC) amount in the total of \$9,625. Indian River County, Lagoon Division will oversee the Fall 2025 Indian River County Derelict Vessel Removal project while in coordination with FWC Law Enforcement.

Sincerely,

Melissa Meisenburg
Senior Lagoon Environmental Specialist
Indian River County Natural Resources
Lagoon Division
(772) 226-1651

PROJECT SUMMARY

Fall 2025 Indian River County Derelict Vessel Removal

As of August 21, 2025, there have been two (2) Authorization Letters issued for Derelict Vessel (DVs) removal within the boundaries of Indian River County. Indian River County, Lagoon Division is coordinating the removal effort for all two (2) vessels. The County is seeking a FWC Derelict Vessel Removal Grant for full reimbursement of the contracted amount for this project.

A licensed and insured contractor (Outlaw Maritime LLC) will be utilized by the County to properly and safely remove all 2 (two) DVs adhering to the best management practices. A Scope of Work has been developed by County Staff to guide the Contractor in the removal.

The County will provide Lagoon Division Staff to observe and photographically record the removal process. Photographs documenting the removal process will be incorporated into the final report. Local FWC Law Enforcement will also be offered to observe the removal process. Upon completion, Staff will inspect the removal locations to ensure all debris has been removed.

BUDGET

The following table is the price breakdown for the cost to remove each DV provided from Outlaw Maritime LLC.

MAP ID	Case Number	Cost to Remove
DV0010821	FWC25ON0047556	\$4,900.00
DV0010824	FWC24ON0054327	\$4,725.00
TOTAL		\$9,625.00

SCOPE OF WORK

The County is sought removal quotes from Outlaw Maritime LLC to provide removal of the (number) derelict vessels (DVs) from the waters of the state, transport the vessels and vessel parts to an approved landfill facility and destroy the vessel. The contractor will use Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Best Management Practices for Derelict Vessel Removal. This includes protective measures and equipment to prevent erosion and pollution during the removal process. Attached you will find maps and details of the DVs authorized for removal by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement.

[Derelict Vessel Removal Background](#)

Derelict vessels are navigational hazards to boaters, negatively impact the environment and are aesthetic nuisances. Typically these vessels are found grounded on the edges of active waterways where they may have physical impacts on benthic and shoreline communities. However, the impact of these vessels is not limited to their immediate location. If left unattended, the influences of winds and tides continue to push the boats, causing greater impact as they become more deeply mired into the environment. Early extraction of these vessels will avoid and minimize the environmental impacts. In addition to the physical impacts resulting from the movement of these vessel through the environment, there are long term

effects caused by their continued degradation and decay in the marine environment. These vessels may be constructed of various materials, such as wood, steel, aluminum, or fiberglass; each having varying degrees of resilience and can remain in the marine environment for extended periods of time. With the progression of time, the environmental impacts increase because of the shading from the hull and displacement of live bottom and emergent vegetative communities resulting from the expansion of the debris field as the vessel disintegrates. The impacts resulting from the removal of these vessels during any stage is less than the impacts caused by the long-term presence of the vessel in the marine environment. Therefore, early detection and removal of abandoned and derelict vessels is the best means of minimizing the individual or cumulative impacts to the environment.

Derelict Vessel Removal (FDEP) Permit Exemption

An Exemption under Florida Administrative Code Chapter 62-330-051(5)(g) by The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, has been established for the removal of derelict vessels. Based on the presumption the extraction of these vessels from the marine environment will cause only minimal environmental impacts and in turn avoid the long-term impacts resulting from the degradation of the vessel at its current location. The environmental impacts are ameliorated by the application of the best management practices referenced below.

Florida Administrative Code Chapter 62-330-051(5)(g)

(g) The removal of derelict vessels, as defined in Section 823.11(1), F.S., by federal, state, and local agencies, provided:

1. The derelict vessel case has been completed as specified in Section 705.103, F.S., and has been entered into the Statewide Derelict Vessel Database maintained by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
2. All work is done in a manner that, to the greatest practicable extent, avoids additional dredging or filling, grounding or dragging of vessels, and damage to submerged resources such as seagrass beds, oyster beds, coral communities, mangroves, other wetlands, and live bottom; and
3. An absorbent blanket or boom shall be immediately deployed on the surface of the water around the derelict vessel if fuel, oil, or other free-floating pollutants are observed during the work

General Derelict Vessel Removal and Environmental Protection Best Management Practices

The following best management practices (BMPs) will be employed by the marine contractor during the removal of the derelict vessels. The BMPs will be incorporated into the contract for the vessel removal project. The marine contractor will be required to show proof of their ability to meet the BMP requirements with their contingency of equipment, staff and expertise in the removal of derelict vessels.

Compliance with these BMP's will be monitored by the County and by local Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission law enforcement officers. These BMPs are as follows:

a) All Work Is to Meet the Following Requirements:

1. Operations are to be limited to daylight hours.

2. Operations are to be staged from an upland area.
3. All work is to be performed in a manner that avoids and/or minimizes impacts to live bottom and other resource areas (e.g., seagrass beds, oyster beds, wetlands, mangroves, and other sensitive habitats) while approaching, working in, and leaving the derelict vessel site.
4. All work shall avoid impacts to manatees, sea turtles, and other species listed by the state and federal government as threatened or protected.
5. The Contractor will remove all contaminants and pollutants including fuels, batteries, paints, solvents, black/grey water, and engines from the derelict or otherwise authorized vessel prior to or immediately after vessel extraction from the water, whichever option is best to prevent environmental impacts. Any contaminant or pollutant found to be contained within a derelict or other authorized vessel as well as the used absorbent matts/socks shall be removed by the Contractor, placed in an approved container, and disposed of properly. The placement of an absorbent matt/socks on the surface of the water within the turbidity barrier around the derelict or other authorized vessel is required where free floating product (gas/oil) is observed and under vessels placed on land.
6. The Contractor is to provide appropriate BMPs approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for erosion control and turbidity protection while each derelict vessel is being removed. In areas of low to moderate currents, a Type II floating turbidity barrier will be installed within a ten (10) foot radius of the vessel being removed prior to starting any removal activities. The turbidity barrier shall be anchored to the bottom of the waterway.
7. The Contractor is to provide appropriate BMPs for erosion control and turbidity prevention around the vessels/barges being used to remove the derelict vessel and around the perimeter of any upland staging site where necessary.
8. The Contractor is to monitor turbidity levels throughout removal work.
9. In an effort to reduce turbidity, a crane, winch and/or approved alternate method is to be used to raise the derelict or other authorized vessel from the water if available.
10. The Contractor will assess turbidity levels and allow them to return to an acceptable level similar to pre-project condition prior to removal of turbidity measures.
11. The dragging of vessels is to be avoided both on and off-shore. All vessels/barges used in vessel removal shall continually monitor water depths to avoid running aground.
12. The Contractor will load derelict vessels onto a barge and/or flatbed truck (or similar) for proper disposal.
13. The Contractor is to photo-document all removals as described in SOW Section 6 with pictures taken before, during and after removal. The Contractor will provide a monthly written report of all removal activities.

b) For Derelict Vessels That Are Floating or Lightly Aground:

1. The vessel is to be pumped out as needed and extracted (floated out) during high water.
2. Following extraction, the vessel is to be towed from the grounded location to a boat ramp or other removal point while avoiding and/or minimizing impacts to live bottom areas.

c) For Derelict Vessels That Are Hard Aground:

1. The vessel is to be approached using shallow draft vessels.
2. The vessel is to be extracted using a crane from a shallow draft deck barge, by hand using the best available tools, or similar approach to minimize impacts to the site and surrounding areas.

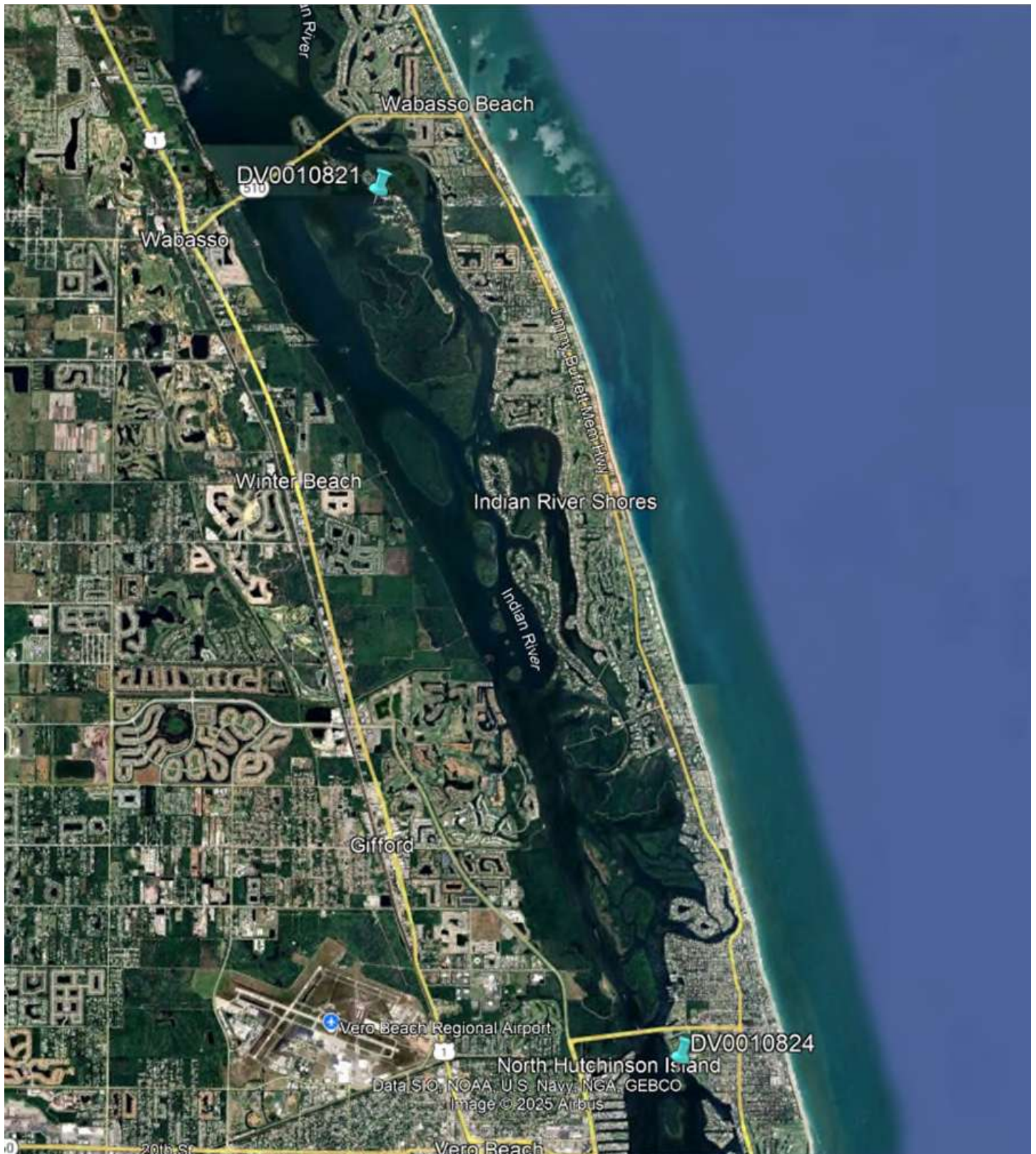
d) For Derelict Vessels Sunken in Shallow Water:

- a) Install and inflate flotation bags as needed.
- b) Lift the vessel with barge mounted crane or similar equipment.

A pre-construction meeting will be held between the County and the Contractor prior to the implantation of the removal process.

DV0010821/FWC25ON0047556

DV0010824/FWC24ON0054327





FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Application

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Application Number:	Date Received:
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I. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Applicant:		Indian River County- Lagoon Division	
a) Federal Employer ID No.:		59-60000674	
b) Project Manager Name:	Melissa Meisenburg	c) Project Manager Title:	Senior Lagoon Environmental Specialist
d) Mailing Address		1801 27th Street, Bldg A	
e) City/State/ZIP		Vero Beach, FL 32960	
f) Shipping Address		1801 27th Street, Bldg A	
g) City/State ZIP		Vero Beach, FL 32960	
h) Telephone		772-226-1651	
i) FAX		772-778-9391	
j) Email		mmeisenburg@indianriver.gov	
k) District Numbers:			
l) State House		8	
m) State Senate		17	

II. PROJECT SUMMARY	
a) Project Title	Fall 2025 Indian River County Derelict Vessel Removal
b) Project Goal(s):	Efficiently and safely remove two (2) authorized derelict vessels from the Indian River Lagoon water body within Indian River County, Florida.
c) Project Cost (Total):	\$ 9,625.00

d) Grant Amount Requested:

\$ 9,625.00

e) Project Type(s):

☒
☐

Bulk Derelict Vessel Grant (See Section V of guidelines for eligibility and restrictions). Rapid Removal Derelict Vessel Grant (See Section VI of guidelines for eligibility and restrictions).

Brief Project Summary (including the total number of derelict vessels that you are requesting be removed as part of this project). (Note that a detailed Project Summary/Scope of Work is required as an attachment to this application.

As of 8/21/25, two (2) derelict vessels have been authorized for removal from the waters of the Indian River Lagoon within the boundaries of Indian River County. Using a contractor (Outlaw Maritime LLC) the County will efficiently and safely remove all two (2) derelict vessels following the FWC Derelict Vessel Removal Guidelines. A detailed Scope of Work is attached to this document for review.

III. JUSTIFICATION FOR RAPID REMOVAL GRANT REQUEST VS. BULK DERELICT VESSEL GRANT REQUEST

Describe how the vessel to be removed meets the rapid removal criteria listed in Section VI of the Derelict Vessel Removal Grant guidelines using specific conditions which demonstrate it is in danger of imminent sinking, breaking apart, or is a critical danger to public safety or the environment.

Not applicable, the application is for a Bulk Derelict Vessel Removal Grant.

IV. PROJECTED OUTCOMES

- a. How many total derelict vessels are there in the project's jurisdiction? What percentage of the total derelict vessels located within the project's jurisdiction will be removed by this project? (Limited to those listed in the Statewide Derelict Vessel Database).

There are currently six (6) open derelict vessel cases in Indian River County. There are currently two (2) derelict vessels authorized for removal. Indian River County intends to remove 33% of the open vessels cases, 100% of the authorized derelict vessels within the County.

- b. Describe the system to be used in demonstrating complete removal and destruction of the removed vessel(s). Include the procedure to verify contractor's completeness in removal of the vessel(s).

A marine barge and crane will be used to lift and remove derelict vessels from the waters of the Indian River Lagoon. FWC Removal Guidelines will be followed to prevent impacts to the waters and surrounding area. The barge will transport removed vessels to the boat ramp for removal where they will be disposed of at an authorized landfill. Lagoon Division staff will observe the removal process, documenting removal and disposal, including the inclusion of photos and landfill tickets in the final report. Upon completion of the removal, Lagoon Division staff will inspect the location to insure all debris has been removed. FWC Law Enforcement will be notified prior to removal and upon removal completion with documentation.

V. BUDGET

Has a detailed cost estimate/proposal been developed for this derelict vessel removal project? If yes, attach a copy of application.

☒ YES

☐ NO

VI. OTHER SOURCE OF FUNDS (STATUS)

- a. ☐ Federal ☐ State/Local ☐ Loan Agency:
b. Grant Name: Amount:
c. Approval Status: ☐ Approved ☐ Pending Intend to Apply, Date:

VII. LAW ENFORCEMENT CASE DATE

(Include a line for each derelict vessel that you are requesting be removed as a part of this project)

	AGENCY	AGENCY CASE NUMBER	VESSEL REGISTRATION	VESSEL MAKE	VESSEL LENGTH	VESSEL REMOVAL QUOTE
1	FWC	FWC25ON0047556	FL4721GA	Wellcraft Marine Co	28'	\$ 4,900.00
2	FWC	FWC24ON0054327	FL3602LE	Century	27'	\$ 4,725.00
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
TOTAL						\$ 9,625.00

VIII. APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS CHECKLIST

For mailed applications, include a copy on electronic media with paper copy or you may email entire application to:

DVGrant@MyFWC.com**Inc. Required Attachments**

- ☒ a. Cover Letter: A brief letter explaining overview of project and responsible parties involved.
- ☒ b. Application: One (1) application with original signature from authorized individual.
- ☒ c. Project Proposal: a detailed description of the project as described in the application instructions.
- ☐ d. Delegation of Authority: Formal documentation to show that the person signing the application has the authority to apply for, administer and commit the governing body or not-for-profit organization to the grant project on behalf of the applicant.
- ☒ e. Detailed Cost Estimate: Cost estimate in the form of a formal bid, written quote from proposed vendor or a detailed cost estimate for the project elements. One (1) tabbed section for each vessel removal requested to include the Derelict Vessel Data Sheet (Attachment "A").

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

Application is hereby made for the activities described herein. I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in the application, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, this information is true, complete, and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority (see grant guidelines Section IV, 4.4) to sign on behalf of the Applicant and that the Applicant has the ability to undertake the proposed activities in compliance with the FWC Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program Guidelines.

I also certify that the applicant's governing body is aware of and has authorized the project manager as the official representative of the applicant to act in connection with this application and subsequent project, as well as to provide additional information as may be required. By my signature below, the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws in conjunction with this proposal and the resulting project if approved.

Print/Type Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF SELECT ONE

_____ personally, appeared before me this _____ day of _____

20__ who subscribed and swore to the above instrument in my presence.

Notary Public Name: _____ My commission expires: _____

NOTE: Instruction and further information regarding this application and the FWC Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program can be found in the Program's Guidelines document or by contacting the Program Administrator at: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Boating and Waterways Section, Derelict Vessel Program, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600 or call (850) 488-5600

Attachment A

(Submit one (1) sheet for each vessel requested in grant application)

Derelict Vessel Data Sheet

Law Enforcement Case Number:	FWC25ON0047556
County of Vessel's Location:	Indian River
Has the vessel's owner or responsible party been charged with a violation of either Section 823.11, F.S. or Section 376.15, F.S.?	NO
If the vessel's owner or responsible party has not been charged with a violation of Section 823.11, F.S. or section 376.15, F.S., did law enforcement request that the State Attorney file charges directly?	NO
Describe the vessel's location: (example: Vessel is in shallow water within mangroves at boat ramp. The vessel is located in shallow water south of the Wabasso Causeway and just south of the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) on the West side of Live Oak Dr.	
Vessel Coordinates: (Degrees-Decimal Minutes)	(N) 27 45.1567 (W) 80 24.6257
Has law enforcement officer issued a Letter of Removal Authorization:	YES
Vessel Color:	White
Vessel Length:	28'
Vessel Registration:	FL4721GA
Investigating Agency:	FWC
Photo of Vessel: (include photos as attachment in this tab)	YES
Select Removal Type:	BULK REMOVAL
Are there pollutants on the vessel requiring removal?	NO
Is the vessel located in or above seagrass or coral?	NO
Vessel Removal Cost (Include contractors written quote for the vessel)	4,900.00
Contractor's Name:	Outlaw Maritime LLC
Contractor's Address:	7673 Lakeview Dr. West Melbourne, FL 32904
Contractor's Phone	321-480-2975

DV0010821/FWC250N0047556



QUOTE

Outlaw Maritime LLC
7673 Lakeview Dr
West Melbourne, FL 32904
772-480-2975
outlawmaritimellc@gmail.com

Indian River County

Date 08/15/2025

PROJECT TITLE: Derelict Vessel Removal DV0010821
QUOTE NUMBER: 081520251

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
DV0010821 28' Wellcraft Remove and dispose			\$4900.00
		Subtotal	\$4900.00
		Total	\$ 4,900.00

Please contact me with any and all questions you may have. Thank You.

Kevin Miller

Attachment A

(Submit one (1) sheet for each vessel requested in grant application)

Derelict Vessel Data Sheet

Law Enforcement Case Number:	FWC24ON0054327
County of Vessel's Location:	Indian River
Has the vessel's owner or responsible party been charged with a violation of either Section 823.11, F.S. or Section 376.15, F.S.?	NO
If the vessel's owner or responsible party has not been charged with a violation of Section 823.11, F.S. or section 376.15, F.S., did law enforcement request that the State Attorney file charges directly?	NO
Describe the vessel's location: (example: Vessel is in shallow water within mangroves at boat ramp. Just north of Veteran's Memorial Island)	
Vessel Coordinates: (Degrees-Decimal Minutes)	(N) 27 38.8740 (W) 80 22.1580
Has law enforcement officer issued a Letter of Removal Authorization:	YES
Vessel Color:	White
Vessel Length:	27'
Vessel Registration:	FL3602LE
Investigating Agency:	FWC
Photo of Vessel: (include photos as attachment in this tab)	YES
Select Removal Type:	BULK REMOVAL
Are there pollutants on the vessel requiring removal?	NO
Is the vessel located in or above seagrass or coral?	NO
Vessel Removal Cost (Include contractors written quote for the vessel)	4,725.00
Contractor's Name:	Outlaw Maritime LLC
Contractor's Address:	7673 Lakeview Dr. West Melbourne, FL 32904
Contractor's Phone	321 480-2975

DV0010824/FWC24ON0054327



QUOTE

Outlaw Maritime LLC
7673 Lakeview Dr
West Melbourne, FL 32904
772-480-2975
outlawmaritimellc@gmail.com

Indian River County

Date 08/15/2025

PROJECT TITLE: Derelict Vessel Removal DV0010824
QUOTE NUMBER: 081520252

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
DV0010824			\$4725.00
27' Century Remove and dispose			
Subtotal			\$4725.00
Total			\$ 4,725.00

Please contact me with any and all questions you may have. Thank You.

Kevin Miller