

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

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

**THROUGH:** Eric Charest, Interim Natural Resources Director

**FROM:** Melissa Meisenburg, Sr. Lagoon Environmental Specialist

**SUBJECT:** Approval of FWC Grant for Indian River County Derelict Vessel Removal Project

**DATE:** January 23, 2024

**DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS**

On December 5, 2023, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved Staff's recommendation to apply for a Derelict Vessel Removal Grant (Grant) with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). Staff have since applied for the Grant and subsequently been notified by FWC of the award of \$31,000.00 in a Bulk Derelict Vessel Removal Grant (Contract No. 23214). This Grant award will reimburse the County for costs associated with the removal and disposal of four (4) derelict vessels from the Indian River Lagoon and St. Sebastian River within the jurisdictional boundaries of Indian River County. Officers from FWC have investigated the vessels and determined the vessels as derelict in accordance with sections 705.101 (3) and 823.11, Florida Statutes. The derelict designation from FWC allows the County to have the vessels removed and disposed of, improving boating safety and removing these hazards to navigation and the environment. FWC is preparing the grant agreement and will forward it to the County for review and execution upon completion.

Outlaw Maritime, LLC has been the County's contractor in prior derelict vessel removal projects, adhering to FWC's Best Management Practices for derelict vessel removal. Outlaw Maritime, LLC has provided a cost proposal to the County of \$31,000.00 to remove all four (4) currently authorized derelict vessels following the same protocols as previous removal tasks.

**FUNDING**

The cost to remove and dispose of the four (4) derelict vessels totals \$31,000.00. The FWC Grant will provide the County with 100% reimbursement of the associated costs not to exceed \$31,000.00. This task will be budgeted for in the Florida Boating Improvement Program – Other Contractual Services, Account #13321072-033490 on an upcoming budget amendment.

Account Name	Account No.	Amount
Florida Boating Improvement Program/Other Contractual Services	13321072-033490	\$31,000.00

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners authorize the Chair to sign and execute Contract 23214 in the amount of \$31,000.00 on behalf of the County.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. FWC Grant Agreement 23214
2. January 2024 IRC DV Removal Map

**APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR**

February 6, 2024