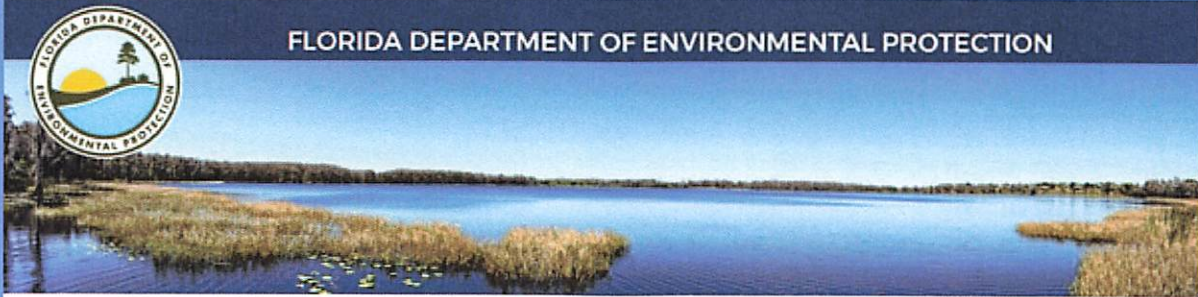


Ali Tretheway

From: Florida Department of Environmental Protection <FloridaDEP@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 5:03 PM
To: Ali Tretheway
Subject: DEP Announces Continued Historic Investments in Resilience



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 13, 2023

CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

DEP Announces Continued Historic Investments in Resilience

~At the conclusion of these assessments, all 67 counties in Florida will have completed a vulnerability assessment~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced the award of over \$28 million to develop or update comprehensive vulnerability assessments beginning this year. The [128 planning grants](#) announced today will result in 222 total local government vulnerability assessments. At the conclusion of these assessments, all 67 counties in Florida will have completed a vulnerability assessment and be eligible for inclusion in future iterations of the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan, which proposes funding for the highest ranked resilience and adaptation projects across the state.

“Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the state of Florida has become a national leader in resilience action,” said **DEP Secretary Shawn Hamilton**.

“Hurricanes Ian and Nicole illustrate just how crucial this investment is and will continue to be. These identified projects announced today will ensure inland and coastal communities are prepared for the impacts of storm surge, hurricanes and flooding and allow us to continue our aggressive efforts to protect Florida’s natural resources and infrastructure.”

“Governor DeSantis has consistently encouraged DEP and the Statewide Office of Resilience to empower local communities to better understand their unique flood vulnerability and to begin designing effective adaptations to reduce current and projected flood and storm surge risks to their residents and infrastructure,” said **Chief Resilience Officer Dr. Wes Brooks**. “This round of Resilient Florida planning grants reflects the state’s ongoing commitment to supporting these critical efforts across inland and coastal communities, and I’m proud that Florida is on track to ensure that every county and municipality in the state has completed an up-to-date and

comprehensive vulnerability assessment by 2026, consistent with the Governor's Executive Order 23-06."

In addition, [Governor DeSantis recently announced](#) the award of more than \$275 million immediately available for 75 resilience projects using already-appropriated funding through the Resilient Florida program to help prepare coastal and inland communities for the adverse impacts of flooding and storm surge. On December 1, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection submitted the second preliminary Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan to the Governor and Legislature, which proposed funding for resilience and adaptation projects received from across the state.

The total proposed investment in the plan is \$407 million across 86 new projects in the next three years.

Senate Bill 1954/House Bill 7019, which passed in 2021, is comprehensive legislation that ensures a coordinated approach to Florida coastal and inland resilience. The targeted funding and new directives have enhanced efforts to protect our inland riparian areas, coastlines, shores and coral reefs, which serve as invaluable natural defenses against sea level rise.

About the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the state's principal environmental agency, created to protect, conserve and manage Florida's environment and natural resources. The department enforces federal and state environmental laws, protects Florida's air and water quality, cleans up pollution, regulates solid waste management, promotes pollution prevention and acquires environmentally sensitive lands for preservation. The agency also maintains a statewide system of parks, trails and aquatic preserves. Visit the department's website at FloridaDEP.gov.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/3487d69>



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Preferences](#) | [Delete Profile](#) | [Help](#)

This email was sent using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Florida Department of Environmental Protection · 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard · Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000 · 850.245.2118



NOTE: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.