U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecological Services Office

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FISCAL YEAR 2004

PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
JANUARY 30, 2004

WE ARE SEEKING PROPOSALS ON THE FOLLOWING:

Actions to:
- Contribute to recovery of federally listed endangered or threatened species.
- Restore South Florida ecological communities upon which endangered, threatened, candidate, or imperiled species depend.
- Improve the status of imperiled species/communities so that candidate designation or listing as endangered or threatened does not become necessary.

Surveys or investigations that address:
- Critical information needs for developing effective conservation programs for species that are endangered, threatened, candidate, or imperiled.
- Management and monitoring of endangered, threatened, candidate, or imperiled species and the ecological communities upon which they depend.
- Status of threatened, endangered, candidate, or imperiled species, directed at assessing the effect of known threats to these species or identifying new threats.

We have identified the following for which we would like to receive proposals. However, we are accepting proposals on ANY topic that meets the descriptions above.

- Status survey for imperiled aquatic and terrestrial reptiles and amphibians in South Florida.
- Evaluation of conservation needs for Savannah's mint (Dicerandra immaculata savannarum) and modest mint (Dicerandra frutescens modesta).
- Status survey for the variegated orchid (Tolumnia bahamensis).
- Scrub spurge (Euphorbia rosescens) and scrub bluestem (Schizachyrium niveum) status information.
- Recovery and reintroduction of the southeastern beach mouse (Peromyscus polionotus niveiventris).
- Inventory and monitoring of listed species to improve land management on conservation lands.
- Population viability analyses or similar analyses of the long-term prospects of listed plants on conservation lands, especially for those plant species that may qualify for reclassification or those for which substantial data are already available.
- Assessment of the adequacy of existing conservation lands on the Lake Wales Ridge as it relates to listed species management and recovery. Such studies
could assess the need for additional, limited land acquisitions or set-asides, and/or set priorities for management and restoration.

- Research and monitoring of long-term vegetation changes after fire to improve management of listed species.
- Propagation, *ex situ* germplasm conservation, and reintroduction/population augmentation for listed species that lack large or viable populations in the wild.
- Population genetic studies aimed at specific management needs of wild or captive populations of listed species.
- Information on fire ants in North Key Largo, specifically impacts on endangered species and distribution and control of fire ants
- Information on Key Largo woodrats, specifically microhabitat analysis of occupied habitat, use of artificial nest structures, and effects of successional changes.
- Effects of secondary impacts on endangered species in North Key Largo.

**MANDATORY QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Proposals must be submitted digitally, preferably via email.
- Proposals, excluding attachments, must not exceed five pages in length with fonts no smaller than 10 point.
- Attach a summary of the qualifications of each principal investigator and co-investigator.
- Proposals that require federal, state, local, or private authorization, such as permits, or permission to access or conduct activities on public or private lands, must demonstrate that they do or will have the authorizations necessary to complete the project.

**PROPOSAL FORMAT:**

**Project Title:**
**Principal Investigator(s):** Name/Affiliation and contact information, including email address
**Project Location:** Provide a detailed description or map of the proposed study area, referencing land ownership, as necessary
**Objectives:**
**Project Background:**
**Purpose/Relevance to the South Florida Ecosystem:**
**Study Design:**
**Expected Benefits from Results:** Include, if applicable, a list of recovery tasks from the 1999 South Florida Multi-Species Recovery Plan which can be wholly or partially accomplished by the project
**Cooperators/Partners:**
**Timeline with Milestones:** Multi-year projects will be accepted
**Project Cost/Budget Breakdown:** Provide an itemized budget, including all indirect or overhead costs; separate annual budgets are necessary for multi-year projects; identify funding from other sources and clearly indicate the amount of funding being requested by the Service per year.
**Literature Cited:**
EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS:
Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by the South Florida Ecological Services Office. Projects will be evaluated on the basis of both scientific merit and cost. We recommend minimizing overhead, indirect costs, and other expenses that will not contribute directly to completing the project. We may contact the principal investigators to obtain additional details regarding their proposal.

We do not have an approved budget for fiscal year 2004, and we cannot be certain when funding will become available. Funds often do not become available until the end of the fiscal year, so some projects may be funded as late as September 2004.

Attached is a file containing proposals received by this office that have not been funded. These proposals will be considered for funding in fiscal year 2004 and in subsequent years if they remain unfunded. Investigators should notify us if their project has received funding from another source, they no longer want the project considered for funding, or they want to revise the project proposal.

EXPECTATIONS:
Upon funding a particular project, we will require interim and final reports on project progress, as well as access to all raw and summary data, including digital data, maps, and photographs. We request that all manuscripts for publication that result from funded projects be submitted for review to our office prior to submission to a peer-reviewed journal. Additionally, we request that Service funding is acknowledged in any manuscripts, publications, reports, or posters.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:
Submit proposals to: marilyn_knight@fws.gov, or mail disk containing proposal to: Marilyn Knight, South Florida Ecological Services Office, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960. If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Knight at 772-562-3909, ext. 297.