



# Resilient Florida



**Dr. Wes Brooks, Chief Resilience Officer**  
Executive Office of the Governor

**Shawn Hamilton, Secretary**  
Department of Environmental Protection

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Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection



# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA

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...but a **coordinated approach** to understanding risks and vulnerabilities, and to sharing responsibility for mitigating flood impacts is.

# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA



Governor DeSantis created the position of **Chief Resilience Officer** (CRO) within the Executive Office of the Governor on Aug. 1, 2019.

HB7053 signed into law and goes into effect on 7/1/2022, creating the **Statewide Office of Resilience**, headed by the CRO within the Executive Office of the Governor.

# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA



## CRO and Statewide Office of Resilience:

- Reviewing all flood resilience and mitigation activities in the state and coordinating efforts with federal, state and local governmental entities.
- Providing strategic direction for cross-agency efforts.
- Collaborating with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation.
- Engaging with state agencies and water management districts to innovate processes, programs, decision frameworks and reporting mechanisms.

# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA



Communication

Coordination

Innovation



# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA



Cost-Effective

Evidence-Based

Sustainable



# RESILIENCE IN FLORIDA



Sets up communities to be better off in the future by improving quality of life for Floridians today.





# RESILIENT FLORIDA PROGRAM







# 2021 LEGISLATION

Legislature acknowledged that Florida is vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding and potential for increasingly severe storms. To address challenges, Florida must:

- Assist communities to adapt critical assets/regionally significant assets.
- Maintain a Statewide vision for both coastal and inland communities.
- Prioritize state resources with a statewide data set and vulnerability assessment.







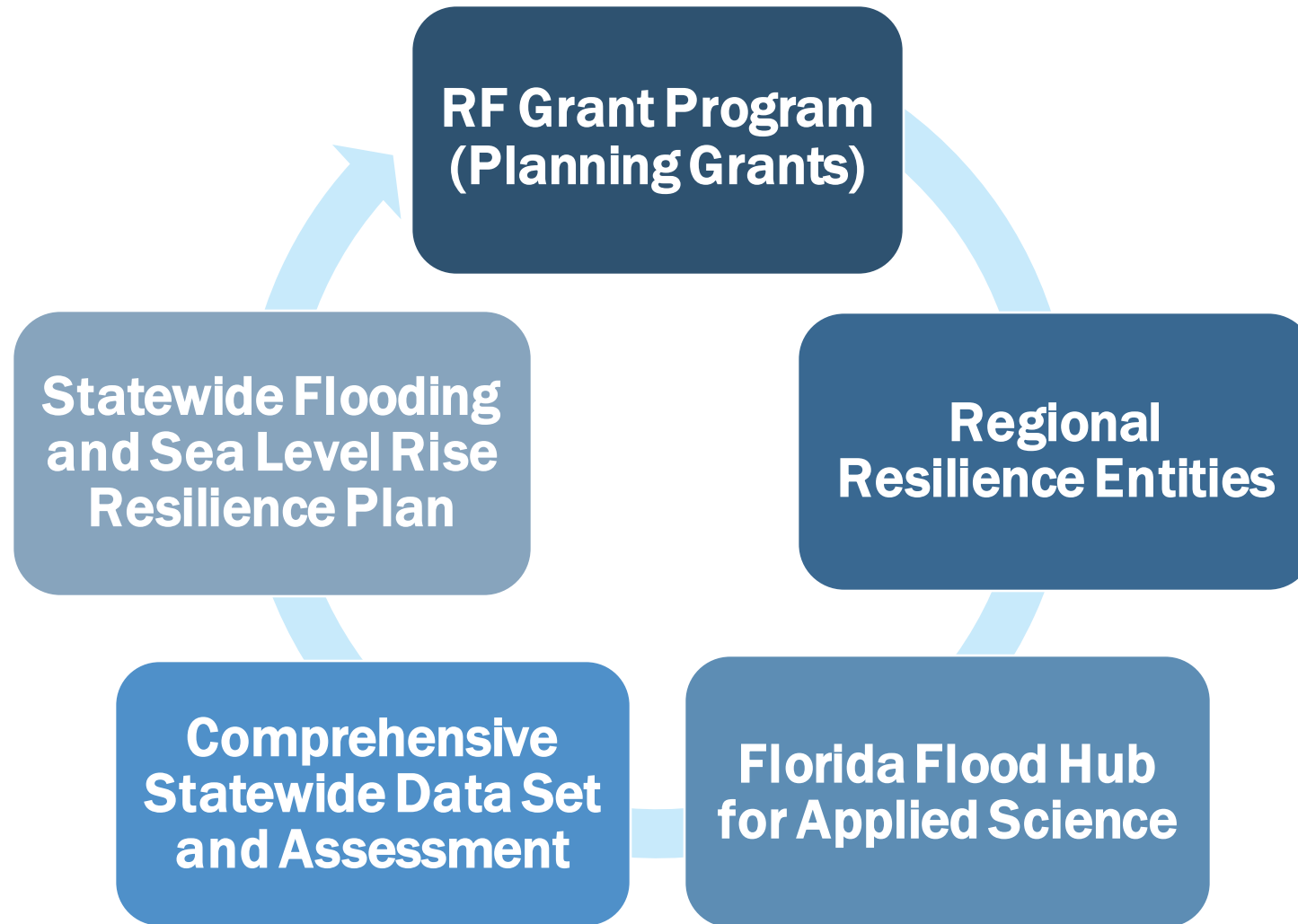
# 2022 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

- Refines and adds definitions.
- Requires vulnerability assessments to include specific rainfall data.
- Provides more support for financially disadvantaged communities.
- Improves accountability and transparency through additional reporting requirements.
- Extends the deadline for the comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set to July 1, 2023 and statewide vulnerability assessment to July 1, 2024.
- Expands eligible entities to submit projects for inclusion in the statewide plan.





# PROGRAM ELEMENTS





# RESILIENT FLORIDA GRANTS

## FOCUS ON PLANNING



- Vulnerability assessments consistent with new statute, using standard planning horizons and sea level rise projections.
- Adaptation/resilience plans for projects to adapt critical assets.
- Comprehensive plan amendments.
- Compliance with the Peril of Flood statute.





# ADDITIONAL PLANNING RESOURCES

## CONTEXT

- Assemble a steering committee
- Set guiding principles and motivations
- Establish planning area and describe geographic context
- Define public outreach approach and opportunities for community participation

## ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

- Assess adaptive capacities
- Prioritize adaptation needs
- Identify adaptation strategies
- Integrate into existing plans



## VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

- Conduct an exposure analysis
- Conduct a sensitivity analysis
- Assign focus areas

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- Assess implementation capabilities
- Create a schedule of activities, actions, and actors
- Monitor and evaluate

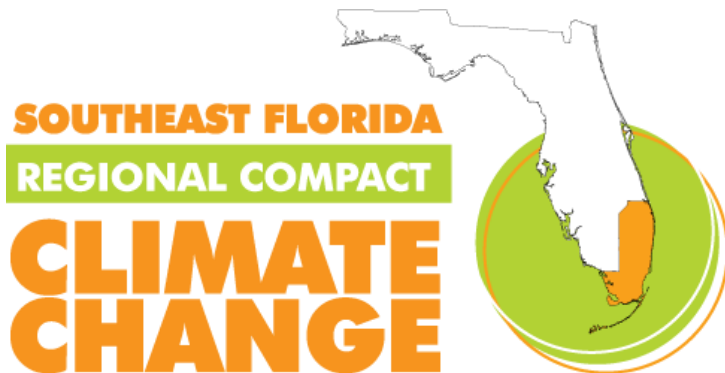
- Florida Adaptation Planning Guidebook.
- Standard scope of services for vulnerability assessments.
- Living shorelines guidance document.
- Quarterly Coastal Resilience Forum.
- Grants' question and answer sessions.



# REGIONAL RESILIENCE ENTITIES

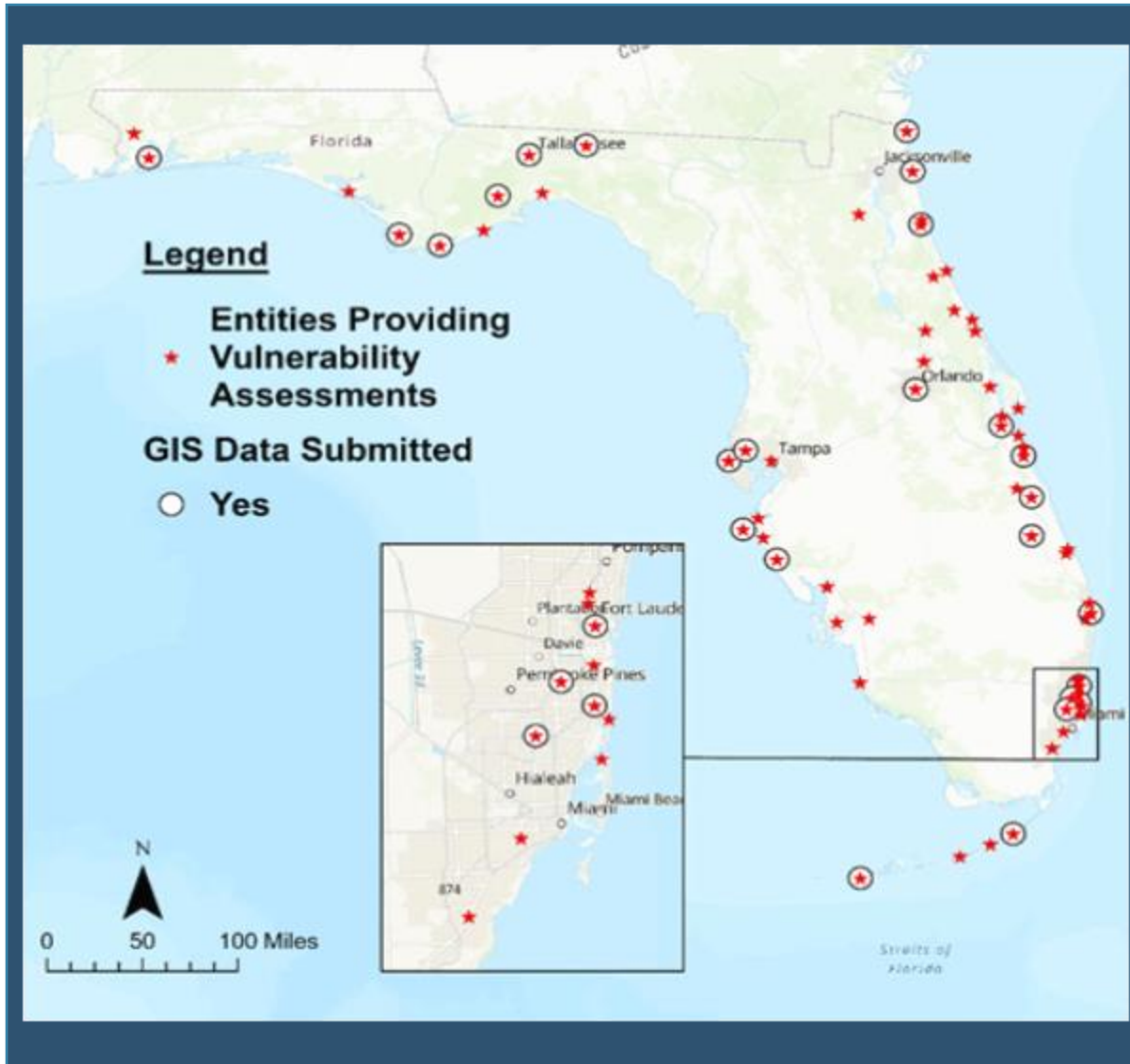
Funding for regional resilience entities to assist communities and coordinate intergovernmental solutions:

- Technical assistance.
- Coordinate multijurisdictional vulnerability assessments.
- Develop project proposals/applications for planning grants and the Resilience Plan.





# COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE DATA SET AND ASSESSMENT



- Reviewing, organizing and classifying critical asset data.
- Collecting national and statewide critical asset data.
- Coordination with Florida Flood Hub for review and hosting.
- Will be completed by June 2023.
- Data will be used to development statewide vulnerability assessment.





# FLORIDA FLOOD HUB

Designates the College of Marine Science at USF to serve as the lead institution to engage other academic and research institutions, private partners, and financial sponsors to coordinate efforts to support applied research and innovation to address the flooding and sea level rise challenges of the state.



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA  

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COLLEGE OF MARINE SCIENCE





# RESILIENCE PLAN



- Prioritized based on criteria in statute.
- 3-year rolling plan of projects:
  - Fully-fund projects to completion.
- Year 1 and 2 preliminary plans use completed local vulnerability assessments.
- Year 3+ Plans use projects identified in the Statewide Vulnerability Assessment.
- Minimum 50% cost share unless “financially disadvantaged small community.”





# NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS LIVING SHORELINES



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks · Jan 12

Visited [#Biscayne](#) Coastal Wetlands with [@MiamiDadeRER](#) staff. [#Florida](#)'s new Statewide Resilience Plan includes 3 land acquisition projects to help mitigate risks from sea level rise and storm surge facing communities in southern [@MiamiDadeCounty](#). [#ResilientFL](#)



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Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks · Jan 12

These projects conserve critical wetlands that serve as endangered species habitat, advance [#Everglades](#) restoration, improve stormwater management, reverse saltwater intrusion, and limit nutrient pollution flowing into [@EvergladesNPS](#) and [@BiscayneNPS](#).



mdc-eel-program-mdc.hub.arcgis.com  
Miami-Dade County • RER • DERM • EEL Program  
The EEL Program and its partners have brought more than 20,700 acres of environmentally ...



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

At Lake Gwyn, [@PolkCountyFL](#) restored wetland functions, helping store and clean water along the Peace Creek basin while providing new recreation opportunities for locals.

A \$7.05M [@FLDEPNews](#) award will enable similar [#NaturalInfrastructure](#) projects in the area.

[#ResilientFL](#)



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

Enjoyed meeting community leaders in Santa Rosa County to learn more about the past + present importance of the land + water at Floridatown Park.

An \$800K [#ResilientFL](#) grant from [@FLDEPNews](#) will fund a new living shoreline project to help protect the site well into the future.







# STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

Spent a beautiful day with [@myescambia](#) where locals marveled about the quality of life benefits derived from the Beach Haven stormwater project.

Phase II promises to expand those benefits to more residents w/ a \$4.195M award from [@FLDEPNews](#) [#StatewideResiliencePlan](#)



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

With a \$14.88M [#ResilientFL](#) [@FLDEPNews](#) award, Walton County is advancing construction of the Old Town of Santa Rosa Regional Stormwater Management system to slow + clean flows entering Choctawhatchee Bay.

Appreciated learning more about the project during my recent site visit.



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

Fernandina Beach is taking major strides towards a more resilient future.

With \$525K from [@FLDEPNews](#), [@MyCOFB](#) will further upgrade stormwater capacity and replace aging infrastructure in the historic downtown area which has been prone to periodic flooding. [#ResilientFL](#)







# NEW OR RETROFIT CRITICAL FACILITY



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.

@Wesley\_R\_Brooks · Jan 10

The Lake Belmar neighborhood is subject to increasing nuisance flooding, but @MiamiDadeCounty is increasingly realizing that flood fixes shouldn't compromise water quality in #BiscayneBay. Thanks to @IrelaBague + @MiamiDadeRER for working towards comprehensive solutions.



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3

9



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.

@Wesley\_R\_Brooks · Jan 10

Project proposes construction of a new pump station to enhance flood protection with a design that also allows for the evaluation of drainage wells for stormwater infiltration treatment. The area's existing partial outfall into the Bay will be redirected into the new system.



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.

@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

.@PinellasCoNews received three #ResilientFL awards from @FLDEPNews including \$25M to replace wastewater collection systems at 15 mobile home parks.

Updates will ensure system reliability for vulnerable communities and enhance water quality, including for Lake Seminole.







# STRUCTURE OR CRITICAL ASSET ELEVATION



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

SW Mockingbird Lane is among the most vulnerable roads along the St. Lucie River to high water and tidal flooding in @MartinCountygov. An \$810K @FLDEPNews grant will help cover costs of roadway elevation and construction of a weir with check valve. #ResilientFL #FloodMitigation



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

Grateful for the time @HernandoCoGov Administrator Jeff Rogers and his team spent with me outlining their #resilience priorities, including raising #FirstResponders' living quarters above storm surge levels and helping #HernandoBeach homeowners navigate @FEMA mitigation programs.



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

The #FloridaKeys are a spectacular place to live, work, and play.

@monroecounty is working hard to keep it that way well into the future.

Residents are the beneficiaries when #ResilientFL \$ helps elevate roads + FL Keys Stewardship Act \$ helps restore water quality in canals.







# SEAWALLS



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

Since 1565, @CityStAug has the longest history of continuous settlement in the US in part because of #resilience and #adaptation.

We're proud to partner with America's Oldest City to keep the streak alive: @FLDEPNews just awarded the City \$26.5M for 7 new #ResilientFL projects!



Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
@Wesley\_R\_Brooks

.@MiamiBeachNews has long been a pioneer for #SeaLevelRise solutions. Looking forward to continuing to support their work and ensuring that the lessons learned from their #adaptation + #resilience efforts are available to help all similarly situated communities across our state.





# FUNDING SUPPORT

## PLANNING GRANTS

To assist local governments with Vulnerability Assessments, Peril of Flood Comprehensive Plan Amendments

## STATEWIDE FLOODING AND SEA LEVEL RISE RESILIENCE PLAN

To assist local governments and eligible entities in implementing projects that address flooding and sea level rise

## STATEWIDE DATA SET AND ASSESSMENT

Collection of local vulnerability assessments and data to assist in creating a Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Assessment

## REGIONAL RESILIENCE ENTITIES

Technical Support, develop project applications for members and multijurisdictional collaboration

## FLORIDA FLOOD HUB

Scientific research, expert working groups, flooding and sea level rise modeling methodology, recommendations, training and education

FY21-22

\$20 M/ \$500 M\*

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\$2 M

\$2 M

\$2 M

FY22-23

\$20 M/ \$20 M

\$270 M/ \$180 M

\$2 M/\$7.1 M

\$2 M

\$5.5 M



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE



**THE FIRST EVER STATEWIDE RESILIENCE FLOODING AND SEA LEVEL PLAN**  
Funding of 76 implementation projects over the next three years for a total of \$270 M and 113 implementation projects for a total of \$404 M.



**PLANNING AND REGIONAL RESILIENCE ENTITY (RRE) GRANTS**  
Award of 98 Planning grants for a total of \$20 M and nine RRE grants to conduct vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans and peril of flood policy documents.



**RULE-MAKING**  
Conducting public workshops and drafting a rule to ensure that project application evaluations, scoring and ranking are consistent with Florida Statutes.





# IMPLEMENTATION GRANT CYCLE

**JULY 1**

Resilient Florida  
project portal opens to  
accept applications.

**SEPT. 1**

Deadline to submit  
proposed projects  
through portal

**DEC. 1**

Statewide Flooding  
and Sea Level Rise  
Resilience Plan  
due.





# THANK YOU



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