ECOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES, INC.
www.ecological-associates.com

RFP NO. 25-004
CITY OF KEY WEST
WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

DUE DATE: APRIL 17, 2025 @ 3PM

Prepared by:
James Sellers, Co-President
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Prepared for:
City Clerk
City of Key West
1300 White Street
Key West, Florida 33040

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Tab 1. Cover Letter and Executive Summary

Ecological Associates, Inc (EAI) is a multi-disciplinary environmental consulting firm incorporated in Florida. Our headquarters are in Jensen Beach (Martin County) and we have a satellite office in Titusville (Brevard County). EAI has been in business since 1994 (31 years) offering professional services focusing on species and ecosystem management, monitoring, and research. EAI has experience working in the Indian River Lagoon, Biscayne Bay, the Florida Keys, freshwater systems, estuaries, and beaches along the east coast of Florida.

EAI understands the City is looking for a partner who can review existing data, identify action items to reduce pollutants, and establish and execute a comprehensive water quality program in support of pollutant reduction goals. Included with these tasks are communication to ensure citizens have access to and understanding of the current status of the waters, beaches, and coastal ecosystems within the City and what is being done to improve water quality. EAI is committed to fulfilling these duties with a focus on safety, data quality, responsiveness, and open communication to facilitate a successful program.

To meet the RFP goals, EAI will leverage the combined knowledge of our staff to review existing data and coordinate with the City to consider public concerns. EAI will identify opportunities to mitigate pollutants and support public outreach. EAI has staff with technical data review and GIS experience, which will ensure all data are considered to provide a complete picture of the City's water quality status. Concurrent with developing mitigation strategies and the water quality sampling plan, EAI and Eurofins will initiate beach sampling to provide the weekly information the City needs to keep the public informed. EAI will review and summarize data trends for the different beaches and advise appropriate public messages for swimming risks. Throughout the process, EAI will collaborate with City staff to improve messaging to the public and improve the water quality program and plan.

EAI appreciates this opportunity to provide a proposal in support of the City of Key West's initiatives to develop a comprehensive water quality program. If selected for this Scope of Work, EAI commits to supporting the project until completion.

Sincerely,

James (Jimmy) Sellers
EAI Co-President / Director of Business Development & Finance

Headquarters	3552 NE Candice Avenue, Jensen Beach FL 34957 – (772) 334-3729
Satellite Office	5332 Riveredge Drive, Titusville FL 32780 – (772) 334-3729
Principals	Niki Desjardin and Jimmy Sellers, Co-Presidents
Proposal Lead	Jimmy Sellers
Number of Employees	51 full-time, 3 part-time, and up to 28 seasonal staff

Tab 2. Qualifications and Relevant Experience

2.1 Company Profile

EAI is co-owned by Niki Desjardin and James (Jimmy) Sellers and is comprised of three departments: Environmental Resource Management, Coastal Protected Species, and Aquatic Sciences. EAI is an industry leader in water quality monitoring and delivers quality, cost-effective, scientific work products safely, on time, and within budget. As a testament to our capabilities, professionalism, and cost-effective services, EAI currently holds multi-year environmental services contracts with Indian River, Brevard, St. Lucie, Martin, and Volusia Counties. EAI is currently supported by 51 full-time staff, 3 part-time staff and up to 28 seasonal laboratory and field technicians, depending on season. EAI employs specialists in a broad range of aquatic and terrestrial systems, including staff with expertise in project management, environmental permitting, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). A team organization chart is attached with the resumes in **Appendix A**.

EAI's regimented health and safety program, project-specific standard operating procedures (SOP), system-wide quality assurance measures, and library of qualified job applicants allow the company to efficiently train and safely integrate new staff into its operations as project needs dictate. EAI's fleet of vehicles includes light and heavy-duty trucks and three boats: a 25-ft Parker for work in nearshore ocean waters, a 20-ft Caprice for work in sheltered inland waterways, and a 24-ft pontoon boat for sheltered water work. EAI maintains sampling gear and instrumentation for its field studies, including but not limited to, multiparameter water quality meters, Ponar grabs, scuba and snorkeling gear, autosamplers, and turbidimeters.

2.2. Water Quality Experience

2.2.1. Experience in managing water quality and QA/QC data

Since 1994, EAI has worked closely with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and municipalities in Florida to design water quality monitoring programs and subsequently collect, review, and submit water quality data. In the past 15 years, EAI has supported the design of 17 water quality sampling plans, including 4 Quality Assurance Protection Plans (QAPP) in the last 5 years. EAI uses Excel and Access databases to manage and store data from various water quality projects, some of which include weather data, flow data, and other environmental data. All data collection and QA/QC follow the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) requirements and EAI's Quality Manual.

EAI routinely subcontracts the analysis of water quality samples to Eurofins Environment Testing, who conduct their own quality checks and tests according to state requirements and industry best practices. EAI reviews the quality results and ensures that all parameters that require a qualifier code per FDEP Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) are properly documented. EAI also monitors and tracks the field blanks collected across projects to monitor for potential contamination so corrective actions are completed as soon as a concern arises.

2.2.2 Experience and ability to collect environmental samples in accordance with FDEP Standard operating procedures

EAI has multiple trained staff that are qualified to collect a variety of water quality, sediment, tissue, macroinvertebrate, and environmental samples according to the FDEP SOPs. New staff are required to successfully complete specific training on the SOPs with experienced staff prior to sample collection and calibration of sondes. In addition, staff undergo internal audits every two years for calibration and field sampling. This approach ensures staff maintain a high standard in data collection and that our water quality program follows current best practices.

EAI regularly maintains dipper wands, Niskins, and other sampling equipment in-house so that equipment stays in good repair for sampling throughout the year. Sufficient spare equipment is maintained so that any equipment, including sondes, that go out for repair do not impact our ability to meet sampling schedules. Depth poles and lines are reviewed annually to verify the depth demarcations are accurate. Sondes undergo both quarterly and annual maintenance according to manufacturer specifications and industry best practices. All maintenance is documented and retained according to FDEP SOP requirements.

2.2.3 Experience deploying and collecting data

EAI has deployed different types of multiparameter sondes, such as YSI EXO2 and In-Situ Aquatroll 500, autosamplers, flow meters, photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) sensors, and rain gauges. Continuous data were either stored on the sonde's internal memory or saved within a data logger and communicated via cellular telemetry. Staff also have experience deploying various water level sensors, temperature sensors, and other hydrometeorological equipment in support of a variety of programs.

EAI's equipment can store the captured data electronically, which minimizes potential transcription errors and provides back-up for data collected on data sheets. These data are documented on project-specific data sheets or, if no grab sample is collected, stored on the YSI for download upon return from the field. EAI has also collected visual data on algal blooms using a drone, and the information was used to quickly determine the extent of the bloom.

2.2.4 Experience in conducting surface water sampling

EAI has collected grab samples using primary and secondary equipment from boats, structures, and by wading. These collections have been made in support of large-scale monitoring programs, local stormwater treatment area (STA) efficacy monitoring, compliance, and other programs. Surface water sampling is conducted to FDEP standards and requirements and includes sampling for nitrogen (as Nitrate+Nitrate, TKN, and ammonia), phosphorus, total suspended solids, chlorophyll a, ortho phosphate, and other analytes. In 2024, EAI conducted daily water quality monitoring using deployed sondes throughout the year.

2.2.5. Experience in maintaining and calibrating field meters that measure dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, specific conductance, and salinity

EAI maintains a water quality lab for the calibration, maintenance, and storage of multiparameter sondes that are used to collect in-situ measurements such as dissolved, oxygen, pH, oxidation reduction potential (ORP), temperature, specific conductance, salinity, and turbidity. This includes maintaining a supply of appropriate standards and cleaning solutions so that equipment can be maintained in clean and good working condition. All standards meet the manufacturer specifications and have been selected to meet the FDEP bracket criteria for each parameter. All staff are trained to calibrate according to FDEP SOPs prior to assignment to project work, and all staff that calibrate must pass internal audits every two years. In addition, EAI conducts an annual laboratory audit to ensure that equipment, standards, acids, and other equipment and materials are stored safely and properly, are documented properly, and disposed of correctly once out of date or otherwise no longer in use.

2.2.6. Experience in performing laboratory analysis (either by Respondent or subcontractor), including laboratory certifications

The Eurofins Orlando lab (Lab ID E83018) has been in operation since October 2000. The Eurofins Florida Keys lab (Lab ID E35834) has been in operation since August 2002. Both labs conduct analyses on potable and non-potable water samples. Certifications for each lab are provided as an attachment.

2.2.7. Methods Used

Eurofins can analyze a variety of water quality parameters across its different labs in Florida; analysis methods for the pollutants of concern listed in this RFP are detailed below.

Parameter	Sample Type	Lab Method
Enterococci	Water Grab	Enterococci
NO_x	Water Grab	EPA 353.2
TP	Water Grab	EPA 365.1
TKN	Water Grab	EPA 351.2
Chlorophyll *a*	Water Grab	SM 10200 H

2.3. Staff Qualifications

Carrie Scarola will serve as the project manager in support of the project tasks. Ms. Scarola is the senior project manager for the Aquatic Sciences department and is proficient in the development, implementation, and management of grant-funded quality assurance project plans (QAPP) and the associated water quality sampling, permit-compliance turbidity monitoring, and various benthic surveys. She is also proficient in the creation and management of databases to store and organize large datasets.
Years of Experience: 18

Michelle Luce will serve as the project lead and point of contact for the project tasks. Ms. Luce is a senior scientist and Quality Assurance Officer and is experienced with project design, application of various environmental sensors, and groundwater and surface water quality sampling. She is proficient with developing SOP, QAPP, and water quality audit programs and with obtaining regulatory permits with county, state, SFWMD, and federal agencies.
Years of Experience: 10

Max Toebe will serve as support staff for office and field work. Mr. Toebe is a senior scientist with experience in water quality sampling, data collection using continuously deployed sondes, sediment sampling, and database management. He is also an experienced boat captain.
Years of Experience: 12

Danielle Zugelter will serve as support staff for office and field work. Ms. Zugelter is a biologist with experience in water quality sampling, sediment sampling, seagrass surveys, and benthic community surveys. She is also experienced with developing QAPP for water quality monitoring and regulatory permitting with county, state, SFWMD, and federal agencies.
Years of Experience: 6

Danielle Koehler will serve as support staff for office and field work. Ms. Koehler is a biologist with experience in water quality sampling, sediment sampling, seagrass surveys, and benthic community surveys. She also serves as EAI's GIS lead for mapping efforts.
Years of Experience: 6

Joseph Penta will serve as support staff for office and field work. Mr. Penta is a biologist with experience in water quality sampling, sediment sampling, seagrass surveys, and benthic community surveys. He is also experienced with regulatory compliance for county, state, SFWMD, and federal agencies.
Years of Experience: 9

Tommy Cross will serve as the beach field sampler and lab analyst for Eurofins Environment Testing in Marathon, Florida. Mr. Cross has supported this role with Eurofins since 2008.
Years of Experience: 20

Cynthia de LaRosa will serve as lab QA manager for Eurofins Environment Testing in Orlando, Florida. She has been providing testing services, including lab and QA management, with Eurofins for over 15 years and is also responsible for internal audits and data review for lab improvements.
Years of Experience: 35

2.4. Safety/Hazardous Waste Plan

EAI maintains a Health and Safety Plan (HASP) that maintain safe workspaces, practices, and lab control for chemicals and materials used in the process of sampling efforts. Prior to working with hazardous chemicals, EAI staff complete a Hazardous Materials Communication Program,

which educates on the personal protective equipment (PPE) required, how to identify and label hazardous materials, and other key information. Safety data sheets for all chemicals used by EAI projects are maintained in a share folder that is easily accessible to all employees. In addition, staff complete a float plan, if working from boats, and a safety checklist for each field project. These plans ensure staff have support if problems occur in the field and are aware of hazards that may be present to minimize safety incidents.

Eurofins Environment Testing includes their hazardous waste plan within their quality manual, which will be provided upon request from the City of Key West. Sample disposals are completed in compliance with all applicable state and federal requirements.

2.5. Quality Assurance Program

EAI maintains a Quality Manual detailing the required training, document management, sampling protocols, and data QA/QC processes that are required for the company's water quality programs. This Quality Manual meets the requirements for FDEP SOP FA 1000 and is updated regularly to keep up with state requirements. Eurofins maintains a Quality Assurance Manual (QAM) for testing facilities located throughout Florida. This manual covers both the Orlando and Florida Keys labs, which will support nutrient analyses and bacteria analysis respectively, for the proposed work. Their QAM is consistent with various EPA, ANSI/ASQC, and other state and federal requirements. The QAM is reviewed every two years and updated when changes are needed to meet new or changing regulations and operations.

2.5.1. NELAC Audit Results

The results of the 2024 audit for Eurofins Florida Keys Lab included a "acceptable" score in every category and a conclusion that "the laboratory's personnel, procedures, equipment, facilities, and quality system are in compliance with the requirements of FAC Rule 64E-1 and the 2016 TNI Standard." A copy of the complete review is available upon request.

Likewise, the results of the 2023 audit for Eurofins Orlando Lab included an "acceptable" score in every applicable category and a conclusion that "The laboratory's personnel, procedures, equipment, facilities, and quality system are in compliance with the requirements of FAC Rule 64E-1 and the 2016 TNI Standard." A copy of the complete review is available upon request.

2.6 Number of Similar Water Quality Analyses Previously Performed

In 2024, the Orlando lab completed 34,115 unique analyses of potable water samples and 156,754 analyses of non-potable water samples. In 2024, the Florida Keys lab completed 171 unique analyses of potable water samples and 11,830 unique analyses of non-potable water samples. In 2024, EAI biologists performed in-situ data collection and/or grab sampling at various unique locations across Florida on more than 250 days during the year. In addition, continuous water quality data was collected using deployed sondes throughout the year.

Tab 3. References and Quality of Past Performance on Similar Projects

3.1. Examples of Similar Projects

Phase 1 East Fork Creek Stormwater Quality Improvement Project

Client: Martin County Public Works
Contact Name: Scott Tedford
Contact Address: 2401 SE Monterey Rd, Stuart, Florida 34996
Telephone: (772) 221-2380
Email Address: stedford@martin.fl.us
Consultant Cost: $56, 941.01
Project Start/End Date: January 2023 – October 2024
Assigned Employees: C. Scarola (Project Manager), D. Zugelter (Lead), T. Caba, S. Donnelly, D. Koehler, M. Luce, J. Penta, C. Trimble

Project Description: EAI developed and implemented a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to monitor the effectiveness of a grant-funded water quality improvement project at the East Fork Creek Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) in Martin County. EAI assessed the effectiveness of the new STA in reducing nutrient loads received from the East Fork Creek tributary, including total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS). This effort was a critical component in helping Martin County meet total maximum daily load and Basin Management Action Plan requirements for the St. Lucie Estuary via Florida Department of Environmental Protect (FDEP) Agreement Number: NF110. EAI developed the sampling plan and conducted sampling at three sites according to FDEP Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Data was then analyzed to meet the standards outlined in the QAPP. All deliverables were provided on-time and within budget.

EAI drafted the QAPP and sampling design, which included determining appropriate sampling locations, sampling frequency, methodologies, and equipment for monitoring water quality to meet both the FDEP and the Grant-funding requirements. EAI conducted 26 biweekly sampling events at three locations to monitor TN, TP, and TSS levels. Monitoring also included collecting in-situ data for temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity, specific conductivity, pH, water clarity, and total water depth at each sampling site. EAI was responsible for the calibration and maintenance of the YSI ProDSS units used for the in-situ measurements and coordinated with Eurofins Environment Testing for sampling kits and analyte analysis.

Following completion of sampling, EAI analyzed the data and presented findings within a final report in accordance with FDEP guidelines. The report summarized the monitoring results using metrics and visual aids, such as graphs and tables, to compare the water quality data to the project's nutrient reduction goals. The data demonstrated improvements in water quality, with several key metrics meeting or exceeding the targets set by the project's goals.

St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Water Quality Monitoring

Client: South Florida Water Management District
Contact Name: Kevin Nicholas (Previous) / James Brown (Current)
Contact Address: 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406
Telephone: (561) 686-8800 / (843) 333-1673
Email Address: knichol@sfwmd.gov / jabrown@sfwmd.gov
Consultant Cost: $123,675.00
Project Start/End Date: July 2023 – Current
Assigned Employees: C. Scarola (Project Manager), D. Zugelter (Project Lead), D. Koehler, J. Penta, S. Donnelly

Project Description: EAI was contracted by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to collect surface water quality samples and field data associated with the St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries (SLT) project. The purpose of this sampling was to monitor the nutrient loads discharging from the surrounding tributaries to the St. Lucie Estuary. EAI conducted biweekly monitoring of 31 sampling stations throughout the SLT in Martin and St. Lucie Counties. Monitoring and sampling efforts included collecting surface water quality grab samples, in-situ water quality readings, and documenting the presence/absence and direction of flow at each station. Water quality samples were collected for Nitrate-Nitrite (NOX), Ammonium (NH4), Orthophosphate (OPO4), Total Nitrogen (TN), and Total Phosphorous (TPO4). In-situ water quality parameters collected included dissolved oxygen (DO), pH, specific conductivity (SpC), and temperature. Measurements and general sampling procedures were in accordance with FDEP SOP and the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual. EAI attended quarterly meetings and prepared quarterly reports summarizing monitoring efforts.

EAI delivered reliable and defensible water quality samples, field data, and reporting of monitoring. EAI mobilized quickly to meet SFWMD's sampling schedule and coordinated with the SFWMD to implement a sampling route that provided increased efficiency for daily sampling efforts. EAI's monitoring efforts of the SLT provided qualitative and quantitative data to the SFWMD which aide the SFWMD and the State of Florida in future water quality decisions.

Indian River Mosquito Control District Monthly Impoundment Water Quality Sampling

Client: Indian River Mosquito Control District
Contact Name: Brandon Chadwick
Contact Address: 5655 41st St, Vero Beach, FL 32967
Telephone: (772) 226-6521
Email Address: b.chadwick@irmcd.org
Consultant Cost: $88,100.00
Project Start/End Date: November 2023 – Current
Assigned Employees: C. Scarola (Project Manager), D. Koehler (Lead), M. Luce, K. Ward

Project Description: Indian River Mosquito Control District (IRMCD, District) manages 4,500 acres of coastal mangrove swamps and salt marshes along the Indian River Lagoon. EAI was contracted to design and implement the District's first water quality sampling plan, which includes collection of monthly water quality data within mosquito control impoundments in support of increased impoundment efficiency and water quality improvement.

EAI completed desktop analysis of the impoundments via aerial imagery and topographic data and selected preliminary monitoring sites. These sites were then field verified to confirm monitoring suitability. Sites were selected to be representative of the waterbody and easily accessible for cost-effectiveness and safety. EAI recommended the water quality parameters and abiotic data to be collected for the mosquito impoundments based on their potential impacts to impounded mangrove wetland health and to establish a baseline of the current water quality conditions within each impoundment. EAI worked closely with IRMCD staff to finalize the specific sampling sites and monitoring plan.

EAI implemented the sampling plan for 37 stations within mosquito impoundments, with 25 stations monitored year-round and 12 additional stations monitored during the wet season. Additional monitoring during the wet season will allow for more comprehensive data to be collected during months when water quality may be highly variable. Stations are sampled monthly using a YSI ProDSS water quality meter and additional abiotic data, comprised of water odor, color and flow presence, is collected at each site. General environmental data, including tides, temperature, wind speed, and sky conditions are noted for each sampling event. Prior to sampling, the water quality meter is calibrated following applicable FDEP SOPs. Measurements are collected for total depth, temperature, specific conductance, salinity, dissolved oxygen, pH, oxidation reduction potential, and turbidity. All field documentation is recorded in compliance with FDEP SOPs. Following each sampling event, EAI summarizes the collected data and provides water quality improvement recommendations based on trends in the data.

Florida Power & Light Turkey Point Units 3 & 4 Uprate Project

Client: Stantec
Contact Name: Jim Bolleter
Contact Address: 12300 South Shore Blvd., Suite 222, Wellington, Florida 33414
Telephone: (561) 793-3849 ext. 4001
Email Address: jim.bolleter@stantec.com
Consultant Cost: $180,000.00/year
Project Start/End Date: 2010 – Current
Assigned Employees: C. Scarola (Project Manager), K. Dawson (Project Lead), E. Collins, J. Everhart, M. Toebe, K. Rawson

Project Description: EAI conducts semi-annual ecological monitoring in support of the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant for four study areas, with three adjacent to the Cooling Canal System within Biscayne Bay and Card Sound and one reference site in Barnes Sound.

At each of the 64 sampling points, porewater is extracted and specific conductance measured with a multiparameter sonde. Porewater temperature is measured in-situ and samples are collected and subsequently analyzed for sodium, chloride, phosphorus, TKN, un-ionized ammonia, nitrite+nitrate as N, ortho-phosphate as P, and tritium. Surface water quality measurements are recorded for dissolved oxygen, salinity, specific conductance, pH, turbidity, and oxygen reduction potential. Light attenuation is measured at a single sampling point along each transect using a LI-COR LI-1400 data logger. Additionally, turtle grass (*Thalassia testudinum*) leaf samples are collected and analyzed for nutrients in the laboratory.

A qualitative characterization of benthic conditions surrounding each sampling point is made by a diver at the beginning of each submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) survey. Four quarter-meter quadrats are deployed around the sampling point, and the SAV within each of the quadrats is examined. Percent cover is determined using the Braun-Blanquet Cover Abundance (BBCA) Index methodology. Sediment depth is considered an important variable in determining the relative abundance of seagrasses. Within each scored quadrat, a rod was inserted into the substrate near the four corners and in the middle to determine depth of refusal (i.e. underlying hardbottom). The data were compiled, analyzed, and incorporated into semi-annual and annual reports that included comparisons to previous events.

3.2. References for Similar Projects

To directly address our past performance on similar projects referenced in this proposal, EAI prepared a survey for Project Managers from Martin County and the Indian River Mosquito Control District. Their responses are included below and contact details for each are included for reference in Section 3.1. In addition to the survey responses, EAI received a formal Contractor Performance Evaluation from the SFWMD for services provided on the SLT Monitoring project in 2024. That evaluation is also included below to demonstrate the quality of our past performance on similar projects.

Survey Response #1. Scott Tedford, Martin County

1. Which water quality services has EAI provided to your organization?

Managing water quality data, QAQC of water quality data, collecting environmental samples in accordance with FDEP SOPs, deploying water quality equipment and collecting data, conducting surface water sampling, maintaining and calibrating field meters that measure dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, specific conductance, and salinity, contracting with suitable laboratories to analyze collected data, developing water quality sampling quality assurance protection plans, conducting community outreach and supporting engagement, other scientific support services.

2. How satisfied were you with the overall level of service from EAI for projects under your supervision? *Very Satisfied*

3. Based on your experience working directly with EAI on projects with a similar scope of work as the current proposal for the City of Key West, were any services not completed to your satisfaction?

We count on EAI to provide a large range of services for Martin County, including many water quality projects. We've found EAI to continually go above and beyond. Staff are knowledgeable, professional, very responsive, and always provide quality deliverables on time.

4. Please share any other comments related to this request below.

I have no reservations recommending EAI for their water quality expertise.

Survey Response #2. Brandon Chadwick, Indian River County Mosquito Control District

1. Which water quality services has EAI provided to your organization?

Managing water quality data, deploying water quality equipment and collecting data, maintaining and calibrating field meters that measure dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, specific conductance, and salinity.

2. How satisfied were you with the overall level of service from EAI for projects under your supervision? *Very satisfied.*

3. Based on your experience working directly with EAI on projects with a similar scope of work as the current proposal for the City of Key West, were any services not completed to your satisfaction?

During the Districts time working directly with EAI, there were no services that were not completed to our satisfaction. EAI has conducted their monthly sampling events and submit every report package in a timely manner. EAI has been completely open and transparent with the District. We have been invited out to attend sampling events and have been quick to answer any questions that we may have. The supplied report packages include a calibration report, the collected data from the performed event and a discussion on the recommendations that EAI has to improve the water quality. These discussions and recommendations are taken into account for future improvement plans for the individual testing sites.

4. Please share any other comments related to this request below.

Overall, working with EAI has been a delightful experience. Working with a team of professionals that promptly complete the proposed work in a professional and timely manner is a pleasure and a weight off my shoulders. All the completed work and transparency is appreciated.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Contractor Performance Evaluation

Contract/Work Order No.	Contractor	Evaluation Period	
WO# 4600004769-WO1R1	The Transit Group, Inc. dbe Ecological Associates, Inc.	2/22/2024-11/22/2024	☐ Interim ☒ Final
Project Title	**Project Description**	**Contract/Work Order Total**	
St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries (SLT) Monitoring	Biweekly if flowing sample collection and processing for 31 stations over a two-day period in the creeks and canals that are the tributaries of the St. Lucie Estuary in Martin and St. Lucie Counties.	~~$123,674.80~~ $115,274.50	

Check the appropriate ratings for Lines 1 through 8.
Sum the individual ratings, by column, to produce the Individual Column Ratings on Line 9.
Sum the Individual Column Ratings in Line 9 to produce the Total Rating Score on Line 10.
Divide the Total Rating Score in Line 10 by the number 8 (the number of performance indicators in Lines 1-8) to produce the Average Rating Score in Line 11.

	Performance Indicators	Rating Unsatisfactory	Marginal	Satisfactory	Very Good	Exceptional
1.	Planning & Approach	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
2.	Staff Capability	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
3.	Staff Effectiveness	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
4.	Flexibility in Meeting District Goals	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
5.	Promptness of Deliverables/Milestones/Reports/Invoices	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
6.	Report Quality and Invoicing Procedure	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
7.	Quality of Work Completed	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
8.	Contract Under or at Budgeted Cost	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☒ 5
9.	Individual Column Rating (Total lines 1-8.)					40
10.	Total Rating Score (Total row 9.)	40				

11.	Average Rating Score (Divide line 10 by the number 8.)	5

In Lines 12 through 21, provide any additional detail, as deemed necessary, to support the ratings given in Lines 1 through 8 as well as any additional comments regarding SBE utilization on Line 20. Additional space is available on Line 22 if needed.

12.	Current tasks completed and/or deliverables received? If no, reason:	☒ Yes ☐ No
13.	Current work completed ahead/on schedule? If no, number of days late: _____ and reason:	☒ Yes ☐ No
14.	Contract currently under/at budgeted cost? If not at bucget, specify amount over $ _____ and reason:	☒ Yes ☐ No
15.	Contractor strengths: Excellent communication with field project manager and contract manager; well prepared for sampling and quarterly meetings; very eager to do a good job; very thorough in terms of sampling, documentation, and equipment maintenance/upkeep.	
16.	Contractor weaknesses: None	
17.	Specific problems incurred*: None	
*Note:	Problems concerning loss of keys to District structures/controlled areas should be included in this section. Contact Amy Best for detailed history at extension 2864. Repeated loss of keys may lead to deeming a contractor as non-responsible in conjunction with future solicitations.	
18.	How may these have been prevented?	
19.	Additional comments/recommendations: A pleasure to work with, really appreciate all of the employees' hard work and dedication.	
20.	Comments on SBE utilization:	
21.	**Currently recommend firm for future contracts/work orders of this type? If "No" an explanation must be provided in Line 22 below.**	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Project Manager (sign)	Date	Section Administrator (sign)	Date
Jessica Testa	04/07/2025	Linda Wasmund 2025.04.07 EDT	04/07/2025

22. Please indicate any additional comments corresponding to Performance Indicators (Lines 1-8) on Page 1 – explain marginal/unsatisfactory performance; **if "No" applies to Question 21, an explanation must be provided here.** Additional sheets may be attached if necessary.

Number	Remarks
#	
#	

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT/PROCUREMENT & SBE SECTION USE ONLY

Please indicate any additional comments corresponding to the numbered question on Page 1 and/or Page 2:

Number	Remarks
#	
#	

Evaluation Number/Score:	SBE Compliant:	Comments: Firm is 100% SBE.
Running Average Score:	☒ Yes ☐ No	

Procurement Representative (sign)	Date	SBE Representative (sign)	Date
	04/09/2025		4/9/2025

Tab 4. Project Approach – Ability to Meet Requirements

EAI has both supported existing water quality programs and developed a new water quality program for an entity with no prior data or experience managing water quality. We have the expertise to evaluate the local and large-scale concerns for water bodies and construct a sampling design and frequency that supports the goals of the program while honoring a responsible budget and efficient use of resources. EAI understands the project and its scope of services and goals as outlined by the City in this RFP.

4.1 Project Approach by Task

Task 1. Review current relevant data across all GOCs and Identify Opportunities

A comprehensive review of available pollutant data across each Geographic Area of Concern (GOC), both provided by the City and that are publicly available, including sampling locations, analysis types, and other factors will be used to identify key pollutants in the different GOC and be the foundation for informing a water quality sampling program. Key pollutants of concern include nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorophyll measurements. The data review can include time series reviews, identifying pollutant hot spots, and reviewing the spatial availability of data. Of special interest are identifying areas where data are lacking or where existing data show trends of increasing pollution or analysis results in excess of standard values, some of which are described in the Florida Keys Reasonable Assurance Document. The water quality data will also be reviewed for concerns related to shorelines, including coastal wetlands and mangroves, which face different challenges to open surface waters.

Once these data are collected and reviewed, a summary will be drafted and presented in person to the City Commission to explain the key pollutant concerns and recommendations. This information will be geared for the citizens of Key West so that a broad audience can understand the current conditions and recommendations to capture the extent of pollutants, with the City Commission providing feedback and prioritization.

Task 2. Identify Actions that may Mitigate Pollutants

Based on findings obtained during Task 1, EAI will prepare a list of potential actions which may mitigate the identified pollutants in the GOC. Pollutant concerns will vary in type, magnitude, seasonality, and ecological and economic impact to the City's resources. A multi-variate approach, with a mix of short-term projects and long-term solutions, will be pursued to provide as comprehensive a response program as possible. EAI will consult Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), FDEP, and SFWMD resources for different methods for removing nutrient pollution and estimates for the removal magnitude over time. For each proposed action, EAI will include a definition of the scope, associated estimated costs, and postulated effect on the pollutant.

Included in this approach will be options for public action or community service opportunities, to promote engagement from the citizens of Key West and provide citizen science opportunities in support of the City's goals to reduce pollution. Citizen involvement in local programs can be a great source of support, both through volunteers and general engagement, and will be built into the sampling plans and discussions. EAI has extensive experience developing public outreach and education activities and resources. EAI will present in person the best viable actions for mitigating pollutants to the City Commission for their review and prioritization.

Task 3. Design Water Quality Monitoring Programs

Using findings and feedback obtained during Tasks 1 and 2, EAI will design a comprehensive water quality monitoring program illustrating various sampling scenarios with associated monitoring goals and estimated costs to present to the City Commission. Inital site selection will focus on areas that are likely to provide representative data of the system and can be sampled consistently and safely. Where possible, samples will be collected from truck accessible sites. From there, a field reconnaissance will be completed to verify safe and legal access, that site conditions are representative of the water body, and the station will be suitable for sampling throughout the year. Where reasonable, sampling stations may be placed where historical data exists in order to establish trend data. Core sampling stations would include areas with known nutrient concerns or a lack of data to evaluate current pollutants. These stations can also include locations close to public or natural interests which might be more sensitive to changes in water quality conditions.

Baseline data collection for one full wet and full dry season are recommended prior to implementing the pollution mitigations steps identified in Task 2. This allows future sampling to evaluate progress towards the water quality goals. Goals for each scenario will be specific, measurable, and based on evaluating the effectiveness of the mitigation methods and tracking the general water conditions throughout the City. Data collection will include water grab samples and in-situ field parameters including dissolved oxygen, temperature, specific conductance, salinity, pH, and, if desired, turbidity.

The number of sampling locations will be dependent on the complexity of the water conditions, including tides and other inputs, the City's budget, and the return on investment of information for sampling efforts. To determine if more sampling locations and/or greater frequency of sampling is ideal depends on the number of locations where concerning data are present and the magnitude of nutrient pollution. Seasonal sampling, where the frequency of sampling in the wet and dry seasons is different, may help maximize the City's efforts to collect comprehensive data and will be considered when developing the water quality program. Where possible, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), SFWMD, and other publicly available water quality data will be used to supplement the plan developed for the City. By utilizing public partners already working in the area, the sampling plan can maximize the efficient use of resources.

Costing will be estimated based on quotes from Eurofins based on the final analysis tests selected for inclusion in the program. The cost of equipment, staff, and materials will be estimated based on existing project knowledge and by organizing the sampling to maximize the efficient use of labor and equipment.

Task 4. Increase Availability of Recent Beach Reports

To increase available beach water quality data, the City wishes to double the current sampling frequency from every other week to once a week. To prepare for this RFP response, EAI spoke with FDOH representatives and understands that the current sampling is completed by FDOH every other week by direct grabs while wading specific distances from shore at four specific beach locations (Smathers Beach, Fort Zachary Taylor State Park, Higgs Beach, and South Beach). FDOH's sampling regime, including exact locations, timings, and analytes will be confirmed with the FDOH and mirrored by EAI staff so that the sampling methods followed by FDOH and EAI and collected data are comparable. EAI staff will collect in the 'off' weeks that FDOH does not sample so the City has weekly data for these beaches through the combined efforts of EAI and FDOH. EAI will coordinate with FDOH throughout the sampling process to ensure the sampling plans remains consistent. EAI has verified analysis hold and drop-off times with the Eurofins Florida Keys lab and will ensure that samples are collected and delivered promptly. Once the test results are received, EAI will promptly send the results to the City and highlight any areas of concern based on the FDOH beach water quality categories.

Task 5. Increase Community Knowledge of Data/ Beach Report Implications

With the increase in data resolution resulting from Task 4 sampling, EAI will evaluate and summarize more nuanced trends in data geographically and seasonally for the beaches where bacteria sampling is conducted. EAI will use data processing and GIS tools to review, visualize, and summarize data trends at these beaches. Based on those summaries, EAI will help devise educational messages for visitors and swimmers to increase awareness and understanding of swimming risks associated with water quality conditions. This includes assisting the City with the design and creation of visual aids for the Water Quality Categories to increase accessibility for a broader audience.

Task 6. Assist with Design of New Beach Water Quality Monitoring Plan

Based on the findings and feedback collected during Tasks 1-5, EAI will collaborate with the City's Water Quality Improvement Plan members and other technical experts to design an updated beach water quality monitoring plan. Depending on the City's concerns, priorities, and data trends, additional sampling locations and/or updated frequencies may better support safe public use of beaches and identify additional areas of concern to incorporate into the updated beach water quality monitoring plan. Efforts will focus on balancing costs and benefits of additional sampling by prioritizing beaches with high visibility and/or high public use as well as coordinating sampling efforts with FDOH and other stakeholders.

4.2. Proposed Operations Plan

4.2.1. Staffing assignment

EAI's assigned project lead is Michelle Luce, a senior scientist with over 10 years of experience in environmental monitoring, data collection, data QA/QC, and project management. Sampling staff are included in the table below. Two support staff will collect data when a boat is used for access and one support staff will collect data for truck-accessible locations without other safety concerns. Each station will be fully processed, including preserving samples, documenting notes, and other field tasks, prior to advancing to additional scheduled sites.

EAI Staff	Primary/Back-up	Time Available (Hours/Week)
Carrie Scarola	Primary	6
Michelle Luce	Primary	8
Max Toebe	Back-up	8
Danielle Zugelter	Primary	10
Danielle Koehler	Back-up	11
Joseph Penta	Primary	11

4.2.2. Scheduling

The final sampling stations selected in Task 2 will be scheduled such that stations along a waterbody or flow way will be collected on the same day, from downstream to upstream or from most contaminated to least contaminated and fully processed and provided to the lab by the final sample drop-off time. Daily schedules will typically start shortly after sunrise to maximize sampling hours without compromising safety. To meet hold times and timeframes detailed in the Scope of Work, sampling will be scheduled Mondays through Thursdays, excluding federal holidays or when the lab will otherwise be unable to process samples. EAI will confirm the lab hours and holidays prior to final scheduling to ensure all samples are collected, delivered, and processed within their hold times. EAI will evaluate the costs and benefits for biweekly versus monthly sampling and potential benefits to seasonally variable sampling methodologies. EAI will present the best-case sampling regimes for the City to make an informed selection.

4.2.3. Plan for unfavorable sampling conditions

EAI has sufficient trained and experienced staff to serve as backup in case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances leading to unavailability of the primary team member(s). In addition, EAI has sufficient backup sampling equipment and trucks to mitigate for calibration or truck issues. In the event of an unforeseen issue encountered during sampling, such as access issues, weather concerns, or other obstructions, EAI will promptly communicate with the City to provide details on the issue and provide a proposed solution where possible, such as rescheduled sampling dates.

Sampling efforts will be rescheduled for the next available field date (excluding Fridays, weekends, and federal holidays) after the original sampling effort was cancelled and ideally within the following week, weather provided. If poor weather forecasts are known, EAI may advance a sampling efforts by up to a few days to avoid an extended delay in sampling.

4.2.4. Field data entry, QA, & correction

Data forms are reviewed for completeness and then transferred into an Excel data base managed by EAI within 48 hours of data collection. Data is then reviewed within 48 hours of entry. In accordance with FDEP SOPs, any edits are struck through with a single link and initialed. Eurofins reviews all analytic results for accuracy and completeness prior to providing the lab reports. EAI will review the analytical results to ensure all qualifier codes are properly noted and discussed as needed with Eurofins or with EAI QA staff to determine if corrective actions are required. If corrective actions are required, these will be promptly completed and EAI will inform the City of the situation and its resolution.

Data from beach sampling will be provided to the City following receipt from the lab. Data for water quality sampling will be submitted to the Watershed Information Network (WIN) or other data system the City requires at quarterly intervals. EAI has the capability to create compatible files for upload to various data bases, including WIN. Data undergo a final QAQC by EAI at the point of upload to WIN for any final edits that might be required.

4.3. Project Management

4.3.1. Management and communication methods

EAI will keep the City informed of the progress on each task and coordinate with the City for presenting information for Tasks 1-3. This may include emails, meetings, or calls to coordinate information and resolve any questions.

4.3.2. QA/QC Methods

EAI maintains a comprehensive Quality Manual according to FDEP SOP requirements, a full copy of which is available upon request. Internal audits are conducted on each project for documentation and for each staff every two years to ensure all best practices are consistently applied. Training logs for staff that have been approved to complete water quality sampling activities are also available upon request from the City of Key West.

4.3.3. Valid Quality Plan/sampling protocols for sampling organization(s) covering types of sampling and monitoring

Eurofins Environment Testing can complete all requested analyses according to the methods described in the Florida Keys Reasonable Assurance Document. EAI can complete all discrete field measurements with deployed multiparameter sondes and complete grab samples according to the FDEP SOPs. The following table describes the methods and procedures to be followed for the proposed work.

Parameter	Sample Type	Lab Method
Enterococci	Water Grab	Enterococci
NO_x	Water Grab	EPA 353.2
TP	Water Grab	EPA 365.1
TKN	Water Grab	EPA 351.2
Chlorophyll *a*	Water Grab	SM 10200 H

4.3.4. Subcontractor Documentation

Eurofins Orlando and Eurofins Florida Keys are both accredited labs and their accreditation certificate and scope of accreditation are available upon request.

4.3.5. Equipment – availability and suitability of sampling equipment

EAI currently owns and maintains multiple YSI ProDSS sondes for multiparameter in-situ data as well as a variety of supporting sampling equipment. The EAI lab maintains sufficient standards for all projects and keeps a tracking log for standard use to ensure timely replacment of solutions. EAI also has the required safety equipment, such as waders and life jackets, for sampling in and around water. A list of key equipment that EAI owns and maintains in good working condition is provided below.

Equipment	Quantity	Equipment	Quantity
YSI ProDSS	6	Drone	1
Trucks	17	GPS	3
Kayak/Jon Boat	2	Underwater Cameras	3
Boats	3	Scuba Tanks	9
Secchi Discs	3	Scuba Gear	2
Niskin Sampler	4	Snorkeling Gear	2
Dipper Wand/Swing Sampler	6	Pumps	4
PAR Sensors	2	Peristaltic Pump	1
Microscopes	5	ATVs/RTVs	12
Turbidity Meters	3	Artificial Substrate Sampler	20
DI Water Containers	5	Dip Nets	4

Tab 5. Other Information

5.1. Value Added Option(s)

EAI is experienced with setting up continuous monitoring stations, which can provide high-resolution water quality data, either as deployed stations or on telemetry for regular access to water quality data. These stations do not require frequent maintenance and can provide data unavailable by traditional grab methods. Continuous water quality data can show seasonal, diurnal, and storm patterns and provides data when sample collection by staff may be unsafe or

unfeasible. Strategically placed stations for continuous water quality data have the potential to greatly improve the quantity, quality, and accessibility of data available to the City.

5.2. Familiarity with the City of Key West

EAI is experienced working in marine and estuarine tidal project areas, including providing onsite monitoring for drilling operations in Islamorada, FL. During construction, EAI monitored the channel hourly for signs of drilling fluids. EAI's work at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power plant, near Biscayne Bay, also included marine water quality sampling as part of the scope.

5.3. Clients in USA, FL, SE FL, and City of Key West

EAI has long-standing contracts with Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Brevard, and Volusia Counties as well as several local municipalities and government agencies, including IRMCD, SFWMD, and the City of Stuart. EAI also has long-standing contracts with private clients including Florida Power & Light Company and DBE Utility Services. In 2023, EAI completed benthic surveys pursuant to the "Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Resource Assessment Survey Protocols for Nearshore Construction Projects" in Snake Creek and Tavernier Creek for Environmental Science Associates. EAI has no current projects or clients that may be affected by work on the proposed contract and have no potential conflict of interest.

5.4. Proposed Contract Deviations

EAI does not propose any contract deviations.

Tab 6. Cost Effectiveness

To achieve the greatest cost savings for the City of Key West, Eurofins Florida Keys will conduct sampling for Task 4 and EAI will coordinate with the City, Eurofins, and FDOH. The cost per sample for the beach sampling is $316.52 with four samples collected each event; two events per month. A summary of the costs for one year of the work requested in the RFP are included in the following table, including travel and lab expenses.

Task 1: Data Review & Recommendations	$18,680.25
Task 2: Pollutant Mitigation Recommendations	$12,580.25
Task 3: Water Quality Program Design	$22,180.50
Task 4. Sampling Visit (Year)	$32,918.60
Task 5: Community Outreach for Beach Reports	$9,130.00
Task 6: Support for New Beach WQ Monitoring Plan	$7,380.00
Total (Year 1)	**$102,869.60**

Tab 7. Project Schedule and Deliverables

EAI anticipates that some tasks may be executed concurrently. The deliverables schedule for each task is detailed in the table below. Comparative cost and the goals for the sampling efforts will be presented to the City for review during the planning process.

Task	Deliverable	Schedule
1	Water Quality Pollutant Summary and Design Recommendation Presentation	12 weeks from Notice to Proceed
2	Recommended Actions to Mitigate Pollutant Presentation	12 weeks from City's decision(s) for Task 1
3	Water Quality Monitoring Program Presentation	12 weeks from City's decision(s) for Task 2
4	Biweekly Beach Sample Results	1 business day after receipt from lab
5	Summary Report of Beach Water Quality Data	8 weeks from start of Task 2*
6	Design Recommendations for Detailed Beach Monitoring Plan	8 weeks from completion of Task 5*

* *Support will continue to the end of the contract year for these Tasks.*

Tab 8. Litigation

EAI's co-presidents, Niki Desjardin and Jimmy Sellers, have worked at EAI for 20 years and 7 years, respectively, and have served as co-presidents since March 2022. EAI previously operated under the company name The Transit Group, Inc. d/b/a Ecological Associates, Inc, from 2015-2024 and operated under the name Ecological Associates, Inc from 1994-2015. EAI has provided the services described in this RFP since 1994 when the company was founded.

8a. EAI has never failed to complete work or provide goods for which we were contracted.

8b. EAI has no ongoing litigations, judgement, claims, or arbitration proceedings or suits pending or outstanding.

8c. EAI has not been party to any lawsuit, arbitration, or mediation with regard to a contract for services, goods, or construction services similar to those requested in the RFP.

8d. EAI has not initiated litigation against the City or been sued by the City in connection with a contract to provide services, goods, or construction services.

8e. In the last five (5) years, no owner, partner, or controlling shareholder failed to perform services or furnish goods similar to those requested in the RFP.

8f. EAI customer references and contact information is included under Tab 3 of this proposal.

8g-h. EAI credit references and financial statements for the past 3 years are attached in **Appendix B**

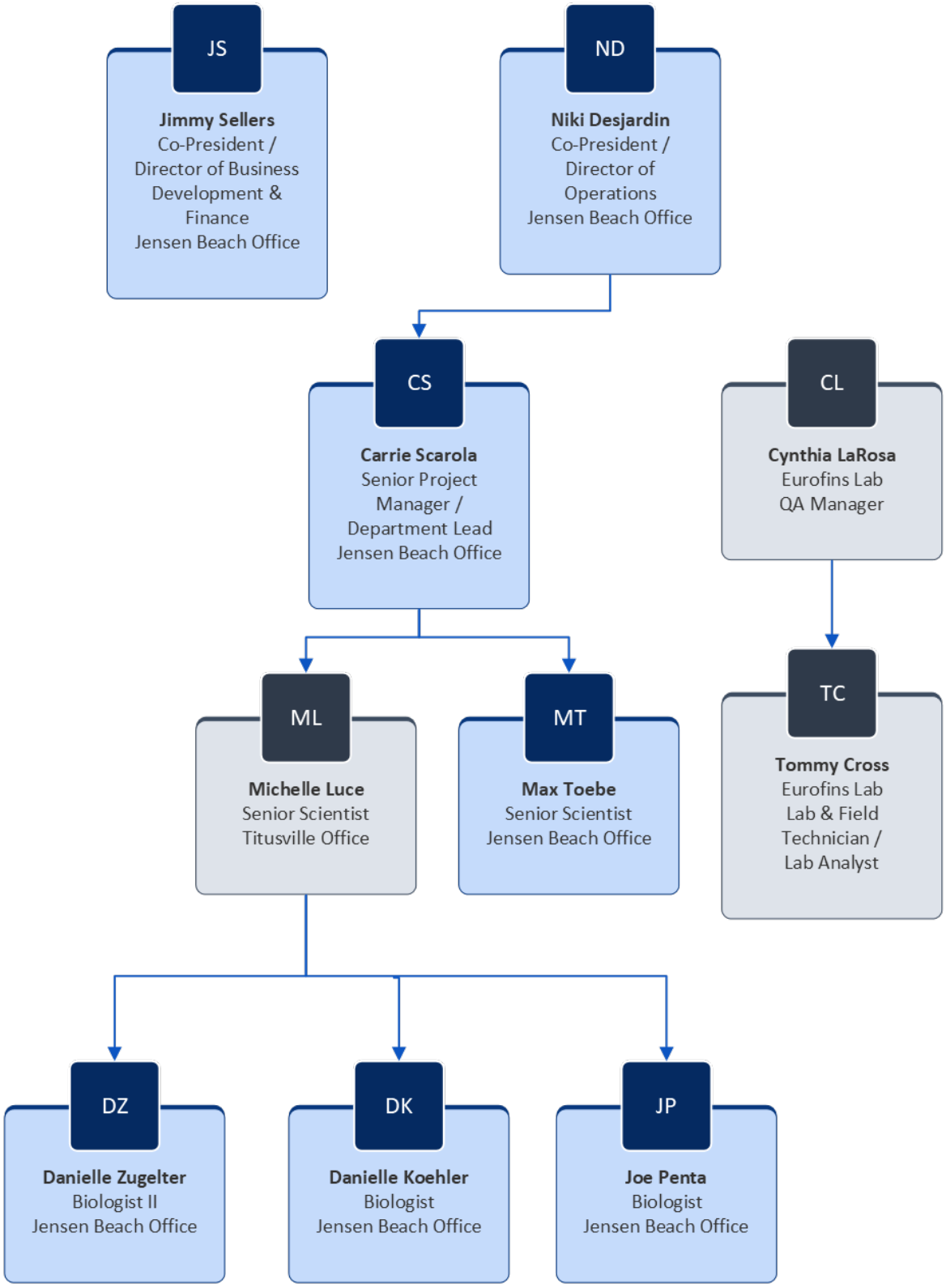
Tab 9. City Forms

All signed and notorized City Forms are included in **Appendix C**.

Tab 10. Project Location and Local Preference

Main and primary office at which the work will be completed: 3552 Candice Ave, Jensen Beach, Florida 34957. Additional office at which the requested work will be completed: 5332 Riveredge Dr, Titusville, Florida 32780. Based on the RFP description, EAI and Eurofins are not local businesses.

Appendix A. EAI Organizational Chart and Resumes



DANIELLE E. KOEHLER, B.S.

Total Years' Experience: 7
Years with EAI: 3

Technical Specialties

- Environmental Assessments
- Water Quality Monitoring
- GIS Mapping and Analysis
- Field Sampling Methodology
- Species Taxonomy
- Environmental Permitting and Compliance
- Protected Species Monitoring
- Radio Telemetry

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.
- Chincoteague Bay Field Station
- The Sloth Institute – Costa Rica

Education

- B.S. (Environmental Studies-Conservation Ecology), 2018, California University of Pennsylvania

Certifications

- FDEP Stormwater Management Inspector
- HSI CPR, First Aid, AED
- USFWS Qualified Caracara Observer
- SDI Open Water Diver

Synopsis of Qualifications

Field biologist with professional experience conducting transect, behavioral monitoring, water quality monitoring, and vegetation surveys in adverse weather conditions and varying ecosystems throughout the eastern United States, Costa Rica, and Madagascar. Professional training and experience in environmental assessments, environmental permitting and compliance. Proficiency in GIS mapping and analysis, focusing on deliverables that accurately display detailed location information while remaining visually cohesive.

Representative Project Experience

Indian River Mosquito Control District, Mosquito Impoundment Water Quality Monitoring, Indian River County, FL – Project lead and field biologist responsible for completing monthly water quality monitoring within Indian River County's Mosquito Impoundments. Twenty-five stations are monitored year-round, with an additional 12 stations monitored during the wet season for a total of 37 stations. Monthly sampling efforts include the collection of in-situ data for temperature, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, salinity, turbidity, and oxygen reduction potential in accordance with all applicable FDEP SOPs. Responsible for the accurate and complete collection of field data, meter calibration in accordance with FDEP SOPs, and report drafting, data analysis and provision of water quality improvement recommendations.

South Florida Water Management District, St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Monitoring, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, FL – Field biologist responsible for water quality sampling at 31 stations in Martin and St. Lucie Counties. The purpose of this sampling is to monitor nutrient loads discharging from the surrounding tributaries to the St. Lucie Estuary. Grab samples are collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. Water quality meters are calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data is recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software. Responsible for mobilization and demobilization efforts, grab sampling, recording in-situ measurements, and data entry and verification.

South Florida Water Management District, C-44 Stormwater Treatment Area Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Field biologist responsible for water quality sampling at six stations in the C-44 STA. Grab samples are collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. Water quality meters are calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data is recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Operational Project Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software. Reports occurrences of federally or state listed birds and migratory birds observed in the storm water treatment area during nesting season to the District. Responsible for mobilization and demobilization efforts, grab sampling, recording in-situ measurements, and data entry and verification.

Martin County, East Fork Creek STA QAPP & Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Field biologist responsible for biweekly water quality sampling at three sampling locations to analyze the nutrient removal efficiency of the newly constructed STA.

Sustainable Costal Solutions/Martin County, Numerical Modeling Water Quality Sampling, Martin County, FL – Field Biologist responsible executing weekly water quality monitoring within the St. Lucie River watershed, St. Lucie Estuary, Indian River Lagoon, and Atlantic Ocean. In situ water quality measurements and general field measurements were recorded and water samples were collected across twelve stations, monitored seasonally.

Martin County, Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Seagrass Restoration Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Field biologist and GIS mapper responsible for monitoring the success of a seagrass restoration project, at multiple project areas throughout the IRL, within the Jensen Beach to Jupiter Inlet Aquatic Preserve in Martin County. Following the initial installation of 6 acres of farm raised shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*) by an outside contractor, four monitoring events were completed by EAI, in accordance with the issued Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permit. Data collected was compiled and presented in reports detailing the survival and establishment of the planted seagrass. Esri Field Maps were used to create navigational maps of the survey area, ensuring accurate and efficient collection of data while in the field. Data collected during the sampling events was compiled to create maps displaying observed species Braun Blanquet Cover Abundance (BBCA) scores and additional environmental data in a comprehensible format.

MICHELLE LUCE, M.S.

Total Years' Experience: 10
Years With EAI: 4

Technical Specialties

- Environmental Assessments
- Environmental Resource Permitting
- FDEP & SJWMD Water Quality Monitoring & Sampling Protocols
- Protected Species Assessments
- USGS Discharge Methods for ADCP & Flowtracker II
- Campbell Scientific Datalogger Programming and Telemetry
- Continuous Environmental Data Collection, Site Installation, & Repair
- National Incident Command System (NICS) Training for Emergency Management
- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development
- Audit Program Development and Support

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.
- St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD)
- AMEC Foster-Wheeler

Education

- M.S. (Ecology), 2014, Florida Institute of Technology
- B.S. (Ecology), 2011, Florida Institute of Technology

Certifications

- Wildland Firefighter I
- HSI CPR/First Aid/AED

Synopsis of Qualifications

Experience obtaining various environmental resource permits for utility construction and right-of-way maintenance. Experience in design and maintenance of various hydrometeorological instrumentation for continuous and point data collection, groundwater and surface water quality sampling, and development of SOPs. Specialty in quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures, audit program creation and support, and general best practices for ethical data collection. Educational background in ecological principals, ornithology, statistical analysis, natural resource management, and natural resource policy.

Representative Project Experience

Martin County, Ripple Stormwater Water Quality Retrofit Project, Martin County, FL – Served as Project Lead/Manager for project and responsible for scheduling, internal, and external communication, coordination with client and subcontractor staff, and deliverable creation and management. Supported QA/QC of field and lab data, including training incoming staff.

Martin County, Numerical Modeling Water Quality Sampling, Martin County, FL – Collected freshwater water quality samples according FDEP SOP using niskin and direct grab methods. Responsible for training incoming staff for project-specific water quality sampling. Coordinated with USGS staff for platform access to facilitate sampling during lock and dam construction.

Martin County, Jensen Beach Mosquito Impoundment Telemetry, Martin County, FL – Project Lead/Manager responsible for the program development, site location and design, installation and maintenance for continuous water quality stations. The JBI Telemetry project included the

installation of four (4) continuous water quality sensors and one (1) rain gauge with third-party data loggers and cellular communication on solar power. Designed the system to maximize equipment function for available budget and installed the equipment on time and under budget. Created the equipment program to collect hourly data and communicate data twice per day. Set up the low-voltage power system with voltage control, solar panel, and battery for night-time measurements. Completed calibration and verification of the water quality sensors and rain gauge and trained Martin County staff on how to maintain the systems.

Martin County Water Quality Projects, Martin County, FL – Assisted with project design for East Fork Creek STA, including QA/QC for the FDEP-approved QAPP and site selection. Report Lead responsible for the Willoughby Creek STA data analysis and report creation to evaluate nutrient reduction in the system. Assisted with flow calculations using water level and reference weird data for Coral Gardens Outflow Nutrient Monitoring and advised with interpretation of flow data. Responsible for QA/QC of water quality sampling data and reports for Cypress Creek, Coral Gardens Outflow Nutrient Monitoring, and East Fork Creek STA.

SJRWMD, Flood Control Structure Support (Water Resource Information Bureau), Brevard and Indian River Counties, FL – Point of contact and technical support for flood control data station maintenance. Monitored and repaired data sensors and equipment, including QA/QC of data received. Maintained United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) structures operated by SJRWMD, including structures with dive teams. Documented and reported compromise of rehabilitated structure while work was under warranty. Advised engineering during pre-bid meetings for large-scale rehabilitation projects.

AMEC Foster-Wheeler, Water Quality Data Collection, Baker, Duval, Clay, St John, Putnam, Alachua, Flagler, Marion, and Volusia Counties, FL – Collected water quality and sediment samples according to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and SJRWMD protocols. Training in FDEP surface water and groundwater quality sampling, habitat assessments, and stream condition index. Provided QA/QC of data collected by field staff.

SJRWMD, Continuous Water Quality Support, Brevard and Indian River Counties, FL – Relocated active continuous water quality stations in the Indian River Lagoon to improve safety during maintenance. Procured all materials and scheduled each site to minimize data loss by coordinating with the water quality field and QA/QC teams. Provided post-installation technical support and training for water quality team.

SJRWMD, Continuous Hydrologic Data Collection and Quality Assurance, Indian River, Brevard, Osceola, Orange, Seminole, Volusia, and Lake Counties, FL – Monitored, repaired, and installed hydrometeorologic continuous data stations to meet SJRWMD requirements for F.S. 373 and F.A.C. 40C. Provided initial QA/QC of data and supported beta-testing of electronic data forms. Trained in acoustic discharge measurement methods according to United States Geological Survey standards. Trained in Campbell Scientific programming to support the data collection network. Trained in wildland firefighting (level 1) and supported prescribed burns in Brevard and

Indian River Counties. Responsible for the regular, safe use of boats, kayaks, ATV, and trailering for accessing sites. Trained incoming technicians.

SJRWMD, Standard Operating Procedures Overhaul, Brevard County, FL – Developed SOPs for hydrometeorological continuous data collection in compliance with F.S. 373 and F.A.C 40C. Created time budget for each SOP update and protocol for writing, reviewing, and incorporating the new SOP. Updated all routine and most non-routine maintenance SOP for hydrometeorological network responsibilities.

SJRWMD, Redesign of Critical Flood Control Structure, Brevard County, FL – Documented unusual behavior and compromised ability to collect data at a critical USACE flood control structure. Led the response to redesign the structure component to restore site monitoring capabilities by coordinating with multiple bureaus. Developed best practices for future rehabilitation projects.

JOSEPH M. PENTA, M.S.

Total Years' Experience: 10
Years with EAI: 5

Technical Specialties

- Water Quality Sampling
- Environmental Assessments
- Environmental Compliance
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Surveys
- Sea Turtle Monitoring
- Sea Turtle Rehabilitation
- Sea Turtle Nest Relocations
- Shorebird Monitoring
- Field Work and Data Collection
- GIS/Data Collection Using GPS

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.
- Broward County

Education

- M.S. (Biology), 2013, Nova Southeastern University
- B.S. (Biology), 2006, Long Island University

Certifications

- HSI CPR/First Aid/AED
- FDEP Qualified Stormwater Management Inspector
- SSI Master Diver Certification
- Florida Master Naturalist

Synopsis of Qualifications

Biologist with experience conducting nesting surveys and data collection for sea turtle monitoring programs on nourished (pre through post-construction) and non-nourished beaches. Experience conducting nighttime surveys for nesting turtles during active beach construction and relocating nests, protected species observation aboard dredging and marine construction projects, and tagging and genetic sampling of nesting sea turtles. Responsible for data collection (including sea turtle crawl identification, nest marking, reproductive success analysis, identification, and reporting hatchling disorientation events, documentation and reporting of nest depredation, and escarpment monitoring) and data management. Experience conducting breeding/nonbreeding shorebird surveys as part of the Florida Shorebird Alliance and Treasure Coast Shorebird Partnership. Participated in Florida Shorebird Database (FSD) webinar for returning route surveyors. Experience conducting SAV surveys, water sampling and taking water quality readings with YSI Pro DDS meters.

Representative Project Experience

South Florida Water Management District, St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Water Quality Monitoring, St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties, FL – Biologist 1 responsible for water sampling through the use of a van dorn, swing sampler or dipper wand. The purpose of this sampling was to monitor the nutrient loads discharging from the surrounding tributaries to the St. Lucie Estuary. Grab samples were collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. YSI DDS Pro water quality meters were calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data was recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software.

South Florida Water Management District, C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Biologist 1 responsible for water sampling through the use of a van dorn. Grab samples were collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. YSI Pro DDS water quality meters were calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data was recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Operational Project Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software.

Sustainable Coastal Solutions/Martin County, Numerical Modeling Water Quality Sampling, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, FL – Field support staff for executing weekly water quality monitoring within the St. Lucie River watershed, St. Lucie Estuary, Indian River Lagoon, and Atlantic Ocean. In-situ water quality measurements (Including PAR) and general field measurements were recorded, and water samples were collected across twelve stations, monitored seasonally. Assisted with mobilization efforts and data entry.

Martin County, Ripple Stormwater Water Quality Retrofit Project, Martin County, FL – Monitored rainfall and flow conditions within the project area. Collected field data using water quality meter (i.e. specific conductivity, pH, dissolved oxygen, oxidation reduction potential, turbidity, and temperature), collected surface water samples via grab sampling, and delivered water samples for laboratory analysis.

St. Lucie County Mosquito Impoundment, Water Quality Monitoring, St. Lucie County, FL – Performed pre and post-calibrations of YSI Pro DSS water quality meters and Hach Quanta meter. Operated, implemented, and maintained field-based water quality monitoring systems and collected field measurements with the Hach Hydrolab Quanta Multi-Probe Meter. Collected field measurements for dissolved oxygen, oxidation reduction potential, pH, specific conductance, temperature, turbidity, and salinity. Completed data entry and report to send to St. Lucie County.

Martin County, Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Seagrass Restoration Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Field Biologist responsible for monitoring the success of a seagrass restoration project at several locations throughout the IRL, within the Jensen Beach to Jupiter Inlet Aquatic Preserve in Martin County. Installation of farm-raised shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*) planting units over approximately 6-acres was completed by another consultant for the County. Following the planting event, each site was monitored at 30 days (Time Zero), 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months post-installation to fulfill specific monitoring and reporting requirements of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permit, including the survival rate and establishment of the shoal grass planting units.

CARRIE A. SCAROLA, B.A.

Total Years' Experience: 18
Years with EAI: 18

Technical Specialties

- Water Quality Project Design
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Turbidity Compliance Monitoring
- Environmental Assessments
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation & Benthic Faunal Surveys
- Sediment Analyses
- Polychaete Taxonomy
- Wetland Delineations
- Floral & Faunal Inventories
- Protected Species Survey/Monitoring
- Biological Characterization Sampling
- Database Development, Management, & Data Analysis

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.

Education

- B.A. (Environmental Studies), 2007, Florida Atlantic University's Honors College

Professional Affiliations

- Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists

Certifications

- FWC Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent (GTA-14-00063D)
- FWC Approved Manatee Observer
- Florida Stormwater Erosion and Sedimentation Control Inspector (46071)
- Licensed Commercial Pesticide Applicator (CM27076)
- Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Certified Advanced Open Water Diver
- HSI CPR/First Aid/AED

Synopsis of Qualifications

Experience in water quality and turbidity monitoring, SAV assessments, polychaete taxonomy, benthic community ecology, sediment analyses, wetland delineations, and protected species surveys and monitoring in the southeastern United States. Proficient in the development, implementation, and management of grant-funded Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) development and associated water quality sampling, permit-compliance turbidity monitoring programs as well as sediment, benthic macroinvertebrate, and plankton analysis. Creates and maintains databases to store and assimilate data for a variety of projects. Manages projects from inception to completion, tracks budget, oversees scheduling and equipment purchases, and provides QA/QC for reporting. Supports department level financial tracking and strategic planning. Participates in meetings with prospective clients and has led the compilation of Request for Proposal responses.

Representative Project Experience

Florida Power & Light Company, Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 Uprate, Miami-Dade County, FL – Collected water quality samples, faunal throw trap, porewater, soil core, SAV, and light attenuation data in support of the Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 Uprate Project. Duties included preparation of sample containers, collection of porewater nutrient and soil core samples, faunal throw trap surveys, SAV surveys, light attenuation monitoring, as well as the calibration and use of Hach Quanta water quality meters to collect *in-situ* pH, temperature, DO, salinity, specific conductance, turbidity, and ORP. Collected porewater samples for sodium, chloride, phosphorus, TKN, un-ionized ammonia, nitrite+nitrate as N, ortho-phosphate as P, and tritium. Performed water quality meter calibrations and sampling following FDEP SOPs. Participated in SFWMD-hosted annual interagency (FWC, United States Geological Survey, and Miami-Dade County) SAV calibration exercises. Sampling occurred semi-annually within Biscayne Bay, Card Sound, and Barnes Sound.

Florida Power & Light Company, Turkey Point Aquifer Performance Testing and Water Quality Sampling, Miami-Dade County, FL – Installed and monitored seepage meters in Biscayne Bay in support of an Aquifer Performance Test. Monitored seepage meters for twenty-eight days at high tide, then relocated and monitored for an additional seven days at both high and low tides. Measured seepage meter water for pH, temperature, DO, salinity, and specific conductance using a calibrated Hach Quanta meter. Calculated seepage rates for inclusion in the hydrology report of the Aquifer Performance Test.

Florida Power & Light Company, Turkey Point Biological Characterization and Water Quality Sampling, Miami-Dade County, FL – Collected ichthyoplankton, meroplankton, trawl, and water quality samples over a one year period in support of the Turkey Point Units 6 and 7 Expansion Project. Duties included preparation of formalin-spiked sample containers, deployment of trawl and bongo sampling gear, and calibration and use of water quality meters to collect *in-situ* pH, temperature, DO, salinity, and specific conductance at discrete depths. Deployed bongo nets to collect plankton samples and a ten-foot otter trawl to collect larger specimens. Identified, counted, measured, and weighed all fish and shellfish. Sampling occurred every two weeks at five sites, with day and night sampling at each site.

South Florida Water Management District, St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Water Quality Monitoring, St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties, FL – Senior project manager responsible for oversight, budget tracking, and QA/QC of biweekly sampling efforts of thirty-one stations for the collection of water quality data. The purpose of this sampling was to monitor the nutrient loads discharging from the surrounding tributaries to the St. Lucie Estuary. Mobilized quickly to meet SFWMD's sampling schedule and coordinated with the SFWMD to implement a sampling route that provided increased efficiency for daily sampling efforts. Grab samples were collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. Water quality meters were calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data was recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software.

South Florida Water Management District, C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Senior project manager responsible for oversight, budget tracking, QA/QC, and field collection of biweekly sampling efforts of 6 stations throughout the C-44 STA for the collection of water quality data. Grab samples were collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. Water quality meters were calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data was recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Operational Project Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software.

Martin County, East Fork Creek Stormwater Quality Improvement Project, Martin County, FL – Project Manager responsible for overseeing development and implementation of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to assess the effectiveness of the constructed stormwater treatment area built to improve load reductions stormwater runoff, particularly total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids, into the St. Lucie Estuary. Developed cost-effective sampling plan utilizing grab samples to monitor water quality variables throughout the treatment train. The QAPP was approved by FDEP in

March 2023. Monitoring commenced in October 2023 following construction completion and will continue through October 2024.

Indian River Mosquito Control District, Impoundment Water Quality Monitoring, Indian River County, FL – Senior project manager responsible for project design, site selection, and monitoring implementation for a new water quality sampling program throughout the Indian River Mosquito Control District's impoundments. Twenty-five stations are monitored year-round, with an additional twelve stations monitored during the wet season, for a total of thirty-seven stations. Provided cost savings by adjusting the monitoring plan to fit budget requirements for each fiscal year. Monthly sampling efforts include the collection of in-situ data for temperature, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, salinity, turbidity, and oxygen reduction potential in accordance with all applicable FDEP SOPs. Provides QA/QC of water quality data and monthly report submittals.

St. Lucie County, Mosquito Impoundment Water Quality, St. Lucie County, FL – Project Manager responsible for overseeing monthly water quality monitoring within St. Lucie County's Mosquito Impoundments. Thirty-one stations are monitored year round, including four mitigation sites, with an additional 19 stations monitored during the wet season, for a total of 50 stations. Supports QA/QC of monthly reports. All data is recorded in compliance with applicable Florida Department of Environmental Protection Standard Operating Procedures. Worked directly with the client to develop effective reporting, including charts that highlight previous data in relation to current data, to facilitate the identification of values that are abnormal.

Sustainable Coastal Solutions/Martin County, Numerical Modeling Water Quality Sampling, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, FL – Project manager responsible for oversight of weekly water quality monitoring within the St. Lucie River watershed, St. Lucie Estuary, Indian River Lagoon, and Atlantic Ocean. *In-situ* water quality measurements and general field measurements were recorded and water samples were collected across twelve stations, monitored seasonally. Coordinated with client regarding project administration needs.

Martin County, Cypress Creek Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Project Manager responsible for scope of work development and water quality monitoring plan following focal points provided by client. Identified sampling stations and coordinated with supplier to procure and install appropriate autosampler and flow monitoring equipment. Developed project-specific database. Oversaw biweekly water quality sampling via grab, autosampler, and drone for stations with limited accessibility including budget monitoring and QA/QC of quarterly reports.

Martin County, Coral Gardens Outflow Nutrient Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Senior project manager responsible for coordination, project design and implementation, and final report review for twelve water quality sampling events at the Coral Gardens Outflow Canal to support the County's efforts to determine the effect of American eelgrass (*Vallisneria americana*) on nutrient reduction. The project included the collection of grab samples for nutrient analysis of Total Coliforms, Escherichia coli, Total Suspended Solids, Total Nitrogen, Ammonia, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Nitrate+Nitrite, and Total Phosphorus. In-situ data for temperature, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, pH, and turbidity was also collected. All sampling was performed in accordance with applicable FDEP SOPs.

Martin County, Stormwater Treatment Area Sediment Testing, Martin County, FL – Project Manager responsible for designing and implementing a baseline analysis for the determination of nutrient loads of sediments within four selected Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) waterbodies. Identified cost savings for additional sampling sites. Sampling sites selected to best capture sediment characteristics in the main flow ways, rather than the edges of the properties. The sites within each STA waterbody were chosen so one location would be nearer the inflow and the other the outflow. Analytes included Total Nitrogen, Ammonia, Nitrate+Nitrite, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, and Orthophosphate. Provided Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) support during final review of report.

Martin County, Salerno Creek Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Planting, Martin County, FL – Provided field and management support for the design and installation of mechanical planting units of farm-raised *Ruppia maritima* and two ecotypes of *Vallisneria americana* within Salerno Creek STA. Designed planting zones utilizing different species and ecotypes based on salinity tolerance. Mapped surface area of planting zones using sub-meter GPS, documented process via photos, and compiled summary report.

Martin County, Ripple Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Project Manager responsible for development of Quality Assurance Project Plan outlining the process and procedures necessary to adequately analyze the nutrient reduction provided by a newly constructed stormwater system in Palm City. Identified sampling stations, equipment, and sampling frequency to provide data required to fulfill FDEP Grant requirements. Developed project-specific database. Oversaw water quality sampling including budget monitoring and QA/QC to ensure accordance with FDEP SOP requirements.

Martin County, Indian River Lagoon Seagrass Restoration Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Provides project management and staff support for the monitoring of approximately six acres of seagrass restoration sites at several locations throughout the Indian River Lagoon, within the Jensen Beach to Jupiter Inlet Aquatic Preserve in Martin County. Monitoring efforts will continue for one year to document the growth and successful establishment within the various research plots. At each sampling point, seagrass species composition, shoot counts, and density/coverage were recorded using Braun-Blanquet Cover Abundance Methodology. Sediment type and water depth were also noted. Responsible for general project oversight, budget tracking, and report QA/QC.

Martin County, Willoughby Creek Stormwater Quality Improvement Project, Martin County, FL – Project Manager responsible for drafting and implementing the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to assess the best management practice effectiveness of the constructed stormwater treatment area built to reduce the inflow of total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids into the St. Lucie River. Developed an adequate sampling plan by utilizing flowmeters, autosampler composite samples, and grab samples to monitor water quality variables adequately despite the limitations of the system structures. The QAPP was approved by FDEP in April 2020. Monitoring commenced following the completion of the project, extending from August 2020 and July 2021. Provided oversight and guidance during analysis outlining average nutrient concentrations and reductions provided per year. Provided client with cost savings, through correct identification of commonly dry hydrological periods of a secondary inflow, by utilizing grab samples for sample collection at that site.

Martin County, Jensen Beach Mosquito Impoundment, Martin County, FL – Provided field and permitting support for the county's efforts to restore appropriate hydrologic conditions within a 170-acre mosquito impoundment that experienced a large-scale mangrove mortality event following impacts from Hurricane Irma in 2017. Provided water quality and sediment sampling, aerial drone surveys, an updated Land Management Plan, and Environmental Resource Permitting support for proposed maintenance dredging of internal drainage ditches.

Environmental Science Associates, SFWMD Everglades Agricultural Area Water Quality Audits, Palm Beach County, FL – Project Manager responsible for client coordination and oversight for EAI to provide staff in support of SFWMD's field audit program for the primary sampling agencies within the Everglades Agricultural Area.

MAX J. TOEBE

Total Years' Experience: 15
Years With EAI: 12

Technical Specialties

- Water Quality Sampling
- Turbidity Monitoring
- 316(a)(b) Compliance Monitoring
- Sea Turtle Monitoring
- Shorebird Monitoring
- Drone Piloting

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.
- Inwater Research Group, Inc.
- Florida Oceanographic, Inc.

Education

- Jensen Beach High School

Certifications

- FAA Remote Pilot
- Florida Safe Boating Certificate
- Certified NAUI Open Water Diver
- HSI CPR/First Aid/AED

Synopsis of Qualifications

Specialized experience in water quality sampling design and monitoring, biological assessments, aquatic biological sampling, and turbidity monitoring. Practical experience in data collection and field operations for sea turtle nesting surveys on nourished (pre-construction through post-construction monitoring) and non-nourished beaches in Florida. Conducts daytime nesting surveys and nighttime surveys to monitor nesting turtles during active construction and relocate nests. Skills include sea turtle crawl identification, nest relocation, nesting marking, monitoring, and evaluation, and data entry and verification. Experience in shorebird monitoring and permit-compliance turbidity monitoring.

Representative Project Experience

South Florida Water Management District, Aquifer Storage and Recovery Ecological Risk Assessment Baseline Ecological Studies, Okeechobee, FL – Conduct baseline biological studies near aquifer storage and recovery wells within the Kissimmee River's C-38 canal to assess potential impact of discharged water on surrounding aquatic ecosystem. The project includes collection of water quality data, surface water, sediment, ichthyoplankton, periphyton, macroinvertebrate sampling, fish population assessments via electrofishing, apple snail and mussel trapping, and deployment and maintenance of continuous water quality monitoring sondes. Responsible for field data collection, sample processing for metal analyses, and data entry and management.

Ferreira Construction Southern Division Co. Inc., St. Lucie Inlet Groin Repair Project, Martin County, FL – Monitored background and compliance locations for turbidity exceedances by collecting surface and mid-depth samples three times a day at least four hours apart. Performed daily calibration of the turbidimeter following the FDEP's SOP protocols. Coordinated turbidity issues with contractor.

Ferreira Construction Southern Division Co., Bathtub Beach & Sailfish Point Nourishment Project, Martin County, FL – Monitored background and compliance locations for turbidity exceedances by collecting surface and mid-depth samples three times a day at least four hours apart. Performed daily calibration of the turbidimeter following the FDEP's SOP protocols. Coordinated turbidity issues with contractor.

St. Lucie Inlet Maintenance Dredging Project, Martin County, FL – Monitored background and compliance locations for turbidity exceedances by collecting mid-depth samples three times a day

at least four hours apart using a swing pole sampler during boat-based sampling. Performed daily calibration of the turbidimeter following the FDEP's SOP protocols. Coordinated turbidity issues with contractor.

Florida Power & Light Company, CWA Rule 316(b) Phase II for Power Plant Cooling Water Impingement and Entrainment Mortality, Multiple Plants, FL – Served as field team member conducting samples and data for multiple sampling projects related to 316(b) impingement and entrainment monitoring at five different power plants in Florida. Each plant required a different sampling design and protocols based on plant-specific conditions and scope of work. Custom-designed sampling equipment to collect ichthyoplankton and meroplankton samples and capture fish and shellfish impinged on Cape Canaveral Plant's traveling screens. Responsible for using water quality instrumentation and biological sampling equipment. Conducted bi-weekly *in-situ* water quality monitoring, and collection of ichthyoplankton and meroplankton entrainment samples. Captured fish and shellfish impinged on plant's traveling screens.

Florida Power & Light Company, 316 (a) Biological Monitoring for the St. Lucie Plant Units 1 & 2 Uprate, St. Lucie County, FL – Served as field team member for agency-approved Biological Plan of Study to assess the effects of an increase in effluent temperature on fish and invertebrate communities near a discharge site and at two control areas north and south of the discharge area. Conducted sampling more than one year prior to the uprate completion and two years post-uprate in the coastal Atlantic waters off Hutchinson Island, Florida. Carried out trawl, gill net, beach seine, and ichthyoplankton sampling six times per year at nine stations. Took water quality measures at multiple depths along each transect for trawl and gill net sampling. Identified all fish and ichthyoplankton with designated Representative Important Species measured and weighed.

Martin County, Red Tide Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Collected and submitted water samples to the FWC's Red Tide Offshore Monitoring Program (RTMP) at the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg, Florida. Collected paired mid-depth water samples in nearshore waters approximately three feet deep and not directly in breaking wave/white water at up to seven stations on Jupiter and Hutchinson Island beaches. Recorded water quality measurements (pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, salinity, and specific conductivity) and environmental data (air temperature, wind speed, and direction) on field datasheets provided by RTMP. Completed a chain-of-custody form with sample numbers and sample dates/times.

Martin County, Blue-Green Algae Bloom Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Conducted a series of drone over-flights from the St. Lucie Locks (S80) to the St. Lucie Inlet to provide documentation on algae bloom conditions within Martin County waterways between July and September 2018 (10 events). Captured video and still images of the water plume leaving the St. Lucie Inlet. Still image transects were pre-planned using the Drone Deploy flight planning tool. Uploaded the images to Drone2Map for processing and resulted in Geo Tiff files for each flight area. Edited the video and images together along with google map locations where the still images were captured, and included a comparison video showing the differences between some events.

DANIELLE ZUGELTER, M.S.

Total Years' Experience: 8
Years With EAI: 3

Technical Specialties

- Water Quality Monitoring
- Water Quality Project Design
- Environmental Assessments
- Fish, Ichthyoplankton, & Benthic Invertebrate (Crustaceans, Molluscs, Polychaetes) Taxonomy
- Submergerd Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) & Benthic Faunal Surveys
- Sediment Analyses
- Stormwater & Erosion Control Best Management Practices
- Wetland Delineations & UMAM

Professional History

- Ecological Associates, Inc.
- SFWMD
- Harnden Environmental
- Florida Institute of Technology

Education

- B.S. (Marine Biology), 2017, Waynesburg University
- M.S. (Biological Oceanography), 2019, Florida Institute of Technology

Certifications

- PADI SCUBA Diver
- FAA Certified Remote Drone Pilot
- FDEP Qualified Stormwater Management Inspector
- HSI CPR/First Aid/AED

Synopsis of Qualifications

Professional training and experience in environmental assessments, environmental permitting and compliance, ichthyoplankton collection and identification, wildlife surveys and monitoring, and wetland delineations. Specialized experience in water quality sampling design and monitoring, harmful algae bloom sampling and analysis, sediment sampling, SAV surveys, and marine benthic invertebrate identifications.

Representative Project Experience

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Water Quality Division, St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries (SLT) Water Quality Monitoring & C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area Water Quality Monitoring, St. Lucie and Martin County, FL – Project lead and field biologist responsible for executing biweekly sampling efforts of thirty-one stations for SLT monitoring and six stations for C-44 monitoring for the collection of water quality data. The purpose of this sampling was to monitor the nutrient loads discharging from the surrounding tributaries to the St. Lucie Estuary. Mobilized quickly to meet SFWMD's sampling schedule and coordinated with the SFWMD to implement a sampling route that provided increased efficiency for daily sampling efforts. Grab samples were collected for the analysis of Ammonia, Nitrate-Nitrite, Orthophosphate, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus. Water quality meters were calibrated and used to collect in-situ readings for dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Data was recorded in accordance with the SFWMD Field Sampling Manual and St. Lucie Estuary Tributaries Monitoring Plan requirements and entered into the SFWMD's field collection software. Prepared quarterly reports and attended quarterly meetings with district personnel.

Martin County, East Fork Creek STA QAPP & Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Project lead and field biologist responsible for biweekly water quality sampling at three sampling locations to analyze the nutrient removal efficiency of the newly constructed STA. Lead the

preparation of the FDEP-approved QAPP describing sampling protocols, which include the collection of water samples, rainfall datum and in-situ readings.

ECT, Water Quality and Ecological Impact Study, Glades and Okeechobee Counties, FL – Field biologist assisting with electrofishing, water quality sampling, and periphytometers for ASR ERA Pre-Operational Monitoring along the C-38 Canal and northern Lake Okeechobee Project. Field collection entailed preparation of spiked sampling containers, water quality meter calibration in accordance with quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) protocols, use of water quality meters to collect in-situ data (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and salinity), and the use of peristaltic pumps and single-use tubing to collect samples at multiple depths. Samples were transferred via chain-of-custody forms to state-certified laboratories for analysis of proscribed analytes. Fish captured during electrofishing operations were measured, weighed, and released unless targeted for tissue analysis for heavy metals at an approved laboratory. Periphyton and macroinvertebrates from collections are prepared, preserved, and sent to appropriate labs for taxonomic analysis.

Martin County, Ripple Water Quality Monitoring, Martin County, FL – Field biologist responsible for water quality sampling. Calibrated and verified Hach Quanta water quality meters, recorded *in-situ* water quality measurements and field condition, and collected grab samples. Assisted with mobilization and demobilization efforts, and data entry.

Sustainable Coastal Solutions/Martin County, Numerical Modeling Water Quality Sampling, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, FL – Field biologist responsible executing weekly water quality monitoring within the St. Lucie River watershed, St. Lucie Estuary, Indian River Lagoon (IRL), and Atlantic Ocean. *In situ* water quality measurements (including PAR) and general field measurements were recorded and water samples were collected across twelve seasonally monitored stations. Assisted with mobilization efforts and data entry.

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Water Quality Division, Okeechobee, Polk, Highlands, Glades, Palm Beach, and Martin County, FL – Provided water quality monitoring and sample collection across the Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades watershed. Received professional training in surface water and marsh sampling pursuant to SFWMD and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) regulatory protocols. Received specialized training in the collection of cyanobacteria, pesticides, and exploratory analytes for issues of "emerging concern."

FDEP and Florida Institute of Technology, Restoring Lagoon Inflow Project, Brevard & Indian River County, FL – Conducted monitoring of seagrass, benthic, and planktonic communities throughout the IRL and Atlantic Ocean. Processed, identified, and analyzed benthic invertebrate communities and structures. Analyzed sediment and water quality characteristics in accordance with FDEP protocols. Monitoring was conducted in three locations of the IRL (Cape Canaveral, Patrick Airforce Base, and Vero Beach) and three Atlantic Ocean locations adjacent to the IRL sites to provide the FDEP with a proposed location to build a weir to restore lagoon inflow.

eurofins | Environment Testing

PERSONNEL RESUME

Cynthia
LAROSA
Quality Assurance Manager

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Ms. LaRosa began working in analytical laboratories in 1990. She has extensive experience both on the bench and in management. She has widespread experience developing new analytical procedures, preparing SOPs, documenting demonstration of capability and training lab staff. Ms. LaRosa has broad experience in the analyses of trace metals, all of the routine wet chemistry tests as well as microbiology analyses. This experience includes compliance to EPA methodologies and NELAC / TNI standards.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

QA MANAGER | *Eurofins Environment Testing, Orlando – 2005 to 2018, 2022 to present*
Responsible for planning, implementation, and results of the quality management system. Leads internal audits and interviews staff to identify procedural and process non-conformances. Performs investigations to determine root causes and corrective actions for identified deficiencies. Performs quality control data review for trend analysis and improvement opportunities. Measures test equipment, performs calibrations and verifications on support equipment. Corrects and revises procedures to improve quality and maintain compliance with the environmental laboratory quality standards.

LABORATORY MANAGER | *2018 to 2022*

CHEMISTRY SUPERVISOR/ CHEMIST/MICROBIOLOGIST | *2001 to 2005*

CHEMISTRY SUPERVISOR/CHEMIST | *Tri-Tech Analytical*, *1999 to 2001*

OWNER/OPERATOAR | *Top Banana*, *1995 to 1999*

CHEMISTRY SUPERVISOR/CHEMIST | *GEOS Laboratory*, *1992 to 1995*

CHEMIST | *Thornton Laboratories*, *1990 to 1992*

CHEMIST | *Vermont Dept of Agriculture, 1986 to 1990*

EDUCATION

- BS Biology, Norwich University, Northfield, VT (1986)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Florida Society of Environmental Analysts

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PERSONNEL RESUME

Thomas
Cross
Field Technician/Analyst

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

Thomas Cross has supported field activities and currently serves as Eurofins Marathon laboratory technician and field technician since 2008. Skilled in managing client specific projects, handling field sampling activities, reviewing reports for accuracy and ensuring compliance with environmental regulations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Field Technician/Lab Analyst | *Eurofins ET Marathon – Present*

Polk County landfills and Lee/Hendry County Landfill groundwater sampling

City of Key West: Key West Bight Quarterly surface water monitoring

Semi-Annual monitoring of Boot Key Harbor in Marathon

Construction drinking water line clearance

EDUCATION

- In studies – UCF Orlando

SKILLS

- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Performed sampling per FDEP SOP FS1000 and FS4000, Performing CBOD, TSS and bacteria testing per EPA methodologies.
- Operate and deploy flow proportion and time compositors
- Groundwater sampling
- Surface water sampling
- Sediment Sampling

Appendix B. Financial Statements

Credit References

1. iThink Financial Credit Union, Ben Maffett, SBA and Commercial Sales Manager, (772) 257-7107, bmaffett@ithinkfi.org
    a. Primary company bank accounts held at iThink and in good standing.
    b. Company SBA loans held at iThink and all payments current.
2. Truist Bank, Jensen Beach Branch, (772) 334-4500
    a. Secondary company bank accounts held at Truist and in good standing.
3. American Express, Business Credit Card, (833) 698-2567
    a. Primary credit card used by company/employees.
    b. ~$30,000 average monthly spending.
    c. Statement balance paid every month.

Financial Statements (3 years)

2022 EAI Balance Sheet

2022 EAI Profit & Loss

2023 EAI Balance Sheet

2023 EAI Profit & Loss

2024 EAI Balance Sheet

2024 EAI Profit & Loss

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022

Assets

Current Asset		
Cash	656,767.88	
Other Current Assets	1,132,066.87	
Receivables	-275.94	
Total Current Asset		1,788,558.81
Non-Current Asset		
Equipment	273,735.17	
Building	68,448.01	
Other Noncurrent Assets	-960,226.15	
Capital assets	543,975.53	
Total Non-Current Asset		-74,067.44
Total Assets		**$ 1,714,491.37**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022

Liabilities and Equity

Current Liability		
Credit Card	-15,076.31	
Current Payables	25,581.45	
Other Current Assets	-13,143.52	
Payroll Liabilities	-10,110.37	
Total Current Liability		-12,748.75
Non-Current Liability		
Noncurrent Liabilities	157,589.82	
Total Non-Current Liability		157,589.82
Equity		
Desjardin Equity	393,296.66	
Total Equity		393,296.66
Retained Earnings		
Equity	391,014.88	
Net Income	785,338.76	
Total Retained Earnings		1,176,353.64
Total Liabilities and Equity		**$ 1,714,491.37**

Profit and Loss Statement

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022

	Current Month
Income	
Operating Income	3,542,576
Other Current Assets	800
Other Income	1,982,022
Professional Services Revenues	-566
Professional Services Write-offs	92,048
Total Income	**5,616,880**
Cost Of Sales	
Billable Cost	
Billable Cost of Services	2,586,183
Total Billable Cost	**2,586,183**
Nonbillable Cost	
Nonbillable Cost of Services	326,617
Total Nonbillable Cost	**326,617**
Total Cost Of Sales	**2,912,800**
Gross Margin	**2,704,080**
Expenses	
Advertising/Marketing	25,064
ATV / Trailer Expense	6,104
Vehicle Expenses	129,384
Boat Expenses	22,625
Charitable Contributions	1,750
Computer Operations	104,229
Field/Scientific Activities	72,787
Human Resources	23,934
Indirect Labor Cost	993,377
Insurance	126,247
Miscellaneous	-41
Office/Facility Operations	227,306
Other Expenses	231,458
Payroll Expenses	203,101
Payroll Taxes	175,076
Professional Associations	1,765
Professional Fees	9,027
Service Charges and Fees	3,837
Shipping/Handling	5,552
Sub-Contracted Services	4
Taxes	51,383
Travel & Ent	13,317
Utilities	59,819
Total Expenses	**2,487,104**
Net Operating Income	**216,976**
Other Income	
Other Income	568,363

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022

	Current Month
Total Other Income	**568,363**
Net Income (Loss)	**785,339**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

Assets

Current Asset		
Cash	693,839.07	
Other Current Assets	1,158,542.37	
Receivables	-275.94	
Total Current Asset		1,852,105.50
Non-Current Asset		
Equipment	273,735.17	
Building	68,448.01	
Other Noncurrent Assets	-1,156,971.15	
Capital assets	533,793.21	
Total Non-Current Asset		-280,994.76
Total Assets		**$ 1,571,110.74**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

Liabilities and Equity

Current Liability		
Credit Card	-15,076.31	
Current Payables	-108,530.98	
Other Current Assets	-13,143.52	
Payroll Liabilities	-8,810.82	
Total Current Liability		-145,561.63
Non-Current Liability		
Noncurrent Liabilities	149,900.00	
Total Non-Current Liability		149,900.00
Equity		
Desjardin Equity	393,296.66	
Total Equity		393,296.66
Retained Earnings		
Equity	972,644.64	
Net Income	200,831.07	
Total Retained Earnings		1,173,475.71
Total Liabilities and Equity		**$ 1,571,110.74**

Profit and Loss Statement

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

	Current Month
Income	
Operating Income	3,779,640
Other Current Assets	218
Other Income	835,390
Professional Services Revenues	-20,971
Professional Services Write-offs	59,426
Total Income	**4,653,702**
Cost Of Sales	
Billable Cost	
Billable Cost of Services	1,531,261
Total Billable Cost	**1,531,261**
Nonbillable Cost	
Nonbillable Cost of Services	245,580
Total Nonbillable Cost	**245,580**
Total Cost Of Sales	**1,776,841**
Gross Margin	**2,876,861**
Expenses	
Advertising/Marketing	21,632
ATV / Trailer Expense	5,286
Vehicle Expenses	85,427
Boat Expenses	7,034
Charitable Contributions	4,100
Computer Operations	137,165
Field/Scientific Activities	96,609
Human Resources	28,335
Indirect Labor Cost	1,191,215
Insurance	167,985
Miscellaneous	-375
Office/Facility Operations	161,637
Other Expenses	5,872
Payroll Expenses	238,989
Payroll Taxes	181,527
Professional Associations	2,647
Professional Fees	8,339
Service Charges and Fees	2,771
Shipping/Handling	1,706
Sub-Contracted Services	351
Taxes	249,600
Travel & Ent	24,551
Utilities	54,911
Total Expenses	**2,677,313**
Net Operating Income	**199,548**
Other Income	
Other Income	1,283

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

	Current Month
Total Other Income	**1,283**
Net Income (Loss)	**200,831**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Assets

Current Asset		
Cash	758,778.82	
Other Current Assets	1,158,542.37	
Receivables	-275.99	
Work In Progress	6,043.14	
Total Current Asset		1,923,088.34
Non-Current Asset		
Equipment	273,735.17	
Building	68,448.01	
Other Noncurrent Assets	-1,302,871.15	
Capital assets	606,299.71	
Total Non-Current Asset		-354,388.26
Total Assets		**$ 1,568,700.08**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Liabilities and Equity

Current Liability		
Credit Card	-5,900.75	
Current Payables	-118,176.83	
Other Current Assets	-12,804.31	
Payroll Liabilities	7,537.00	
Total Current Liability		-129,344.89
Non-Current Liability		
Noncurrent Liabilities	-43,163.47	
Total Non-Current Liability		-43,163.47
Equity		
Desjardin Equity	393,296.66	
Total Equity		393,296.66
Retained Earnings		
Equity	1,173,475.71	
Net Income	174,436.07	
Total Retained Earnings		1,347,911.78
Total Liabilities and Equity		**$ 1,568,700.08**

Profit and Loss Statement

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Friday, April 11, 2025

Date Range from: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

	Current Month
Income	
Operating Income	4,214,134
Other Current Assets	18,188
Other Income	1,079,061
Total Income	**5,311,383**
Cost Of Sales	
Billable Cost	
Billable Cost of Services	1,909,219
Total Billable Cost	**1,909,219**
Nonbillable Cost	
Nonbillable Cost of Services	185,972
Total Nonbillable Cost	**185,972**
Total Cost Of Sales	**2,095,191**
Gross Margin	**3,216,193**
Expenses	
Advertising/Marketing	29,844
ATV / Trailer Expense	3,898
Vehicle Expenses	139,315
Boat Expenses	7,485
Charitable Contributions	2,250
Computer Operations	117,190
Field/Scientific Activities	114,353
Human Resources	27,070
Indirect Labor Cost	1,231,001
Insurance	340,458
Miscellaneous	-35
Office/Facility Operations	149,775
Other Expenses	247,281
Payroll Expenses	245,497
Payroll Taxes	197,053
Professional Associations	350
Professional Fees	12,575
Service Charges and Fees	3,109
Shipping/Handling	1,740
Taxes	92,324
Travel & Ent	25,758
Utilities	59,240
Total Expenses	**3,047,533**
Net Operating Income	**168,660**
Other Income	
Other Income	5,776
Total Other Income	**5,776**
Net Income (Loss)	**174,436**

Ecological Associates, Inc.
Basis: Cash
Print accounts with activity

Date Range from: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024

Appendix C. City Forms

Anti-kickback Form

Florida Statement under Section 287.133(3)(A) Florida Statutes, On Public Entity Crimes

City of Key West Indemnification Form

Equal Benefits for Domestic Partners Affidavit

Cone of Silence Affidavit

Non-Collusion Affidavit

Local Vendor Certification Pursuant to City of Key West Code of Ordinances Section 2-798

The City of Key West E-Verify Affidavit

Affidavit Attesting to Noncoercive Conduct for Labor or Services

Vendor Certification Regarding Scrutinized Companies List

ANTI-KICKBACK AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA)

: SS JENSEN BEACH

COUNTY OF MARTIN)

I, the undersigned hereby duly sworn, depose and say that no portion of the sum herein bid will be paid to any employees of the City of Key West as a commission, kickback, reward or gift, directly or indirectly by me or any member of my firm or by an officer of the corporation.

By: _____
James Sellers

Sworn and subscribed before me this 10th day of April 2025.

_____
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Florida at Large

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

My Commission Expires: 04/26/2028

SWORN STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 287.133(3)(A)
FLORIDA STATUTES, ON PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

1. This sworn statement is submitted with Bid or Proposal for the City of Key West RFP 25-004 Water Quality Monitoring Program.

2. This sworn statement is submitted by Ecological Associates, Inc. whose business address is 3552 NE Candice Ave, Jensen Beach, Florida, 34957, and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 32-0764920.

3. My name is James Sellers (please print name of individual signing) and my relationship to the entity named above is the Co-President and Director of Business Development & Finance for Ecological Associates, Inc.

4. I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(g), Florida Statutes, means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States, including but not limited to, any bid or contract for goods or services to be provided to any public or an agency or political subdivision of any other state or of the United States and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, material misrepresentation.

5. I understand that "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(b), Florida Statutes, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.

6. I understand that an "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, means

    1. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime; or

    2. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The ownership by one person of shares constituting controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one

person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding 36 months shall be considered an affiliate.

7. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(8), Florida Statutes, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter into a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts for the provision of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity.

8. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement. (Please indicate which statement applies).

X Neither the entity submitting this sworn statement, nor any officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity have been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989, AND (Please indicate which additional statement applies.)

_____There has been a proceeding concerning the conviction before a hearing of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer did not place the person or affiliate on the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)

_____The person or affiliate was placed on the convicted vendor list. There has been a subsequent proceeding before a hearing officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer determined that it was in the public interest to remove the person or affiliate from the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)

_____The person or affiliate has not been put on the convicted vendor list. (Please describe any action taken by or pending with the Department of General Services.)

(signature)

April 10, 2025
(date)

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF MARTIN

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority,

James Sellers who, after first being sworn by me, affixed his/her
(name of individual signing)

signature in the space provided above on this 10th day of April, 2025.

My commission expires:

Elizabeth A Reilly
NOTARY PUBLIC

04/26/2028

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

CITY OF KEY WEST INDEMNIFICATION FORM

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Consultant expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Key West, their officers, directors, agents and employees *(herein called the "indemnitees") from liabilities, damages, losses and costs, including but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and court costs, such legal expenses to include costs incurred in establishing the indemnification and other rights agreed to in this Paragraph, to persons or property, to the extent caused by the negligence, recklessness, or intentional wrongful misconduct of the Consultant, its Subcontractors or persons employed or utilized by them in the performance of the Contract. Claims by indemnitees for indemnification shall be limited to the amount of Consultant's insurance or $1 million per occurrence, whichever is greater. The parties acknowledge that the amount of the indemnity required hereunder bears a reasonable commercial relationship to the Contract and it is part of the project specifications or the bid documents, if any.

The indemnification obligations under the Contract shall not be restricted in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable by or for the Consultant under Workers' Compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefits acts, and shall extend to and include any actions brought by or in the name of any employee of the Consultant or of any third party to whom Consultant may subcontract a part or all of the Work. This indemnification shall continue beyond the date of completion of the work.

CONSULTANT: Ecological Associates, Inc. 3552 NE Candice Ave, Jensen Beach, Florida, 34957

Address

SEAL:

Signature

James Sellers
Print Name

Co-President and Director of Business Development & Finance
Title

DATE: April 10, 2025

EQUAL BENEFITS FOR DOMESTIC PARTNERS AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA)

: SS JENSEN BEACH

COUNTY OF MARTIN)

I, the undersigned hereby duly sworn, depose and say that the firm of Ecological Associates, Inc. provides benefits to domestic partners of its employees on the same basis as it provides benefits to employees' spouses, per City of Key West Code of Ordinances Sec. 2-799.

By: _____
James Sellers

Sworn and subscribed before me this 10th day of April 2025.

Elizabeth A Reilly
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Florida at Large

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

My Commission Expires: 04/26/2028

CONE OF SILENCE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA)

: SS JENSEN BEACH

COUNTY OF MARTIN)

I, the undersigned hereby duly sworn, depose and say that all owner(s), partners, officers, directors, employees and agents representing the firm of Ecological Associates, Inc. have read and understand the limitations and procedures regarding communications concerning City of Key West Code of Ordinances Sec. 2-773 Cone of Silence.

By: _____
James Sellers

Sworn and subscribed before me this

10th day of April 2025.

NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Florida at Large Elizabeth A. Reilly

My Commission Expires: 04/26/2028

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA)

:SS JENSEN BEACH

COUNTY OF MARTIN)

I, the undersigned hereby declares that the only persons or parties interested in this Proposal are those named herein, that this proposal is, in all respects, fair and without fraud, that it is made without collusion with any official of the Owner, and that the Proposal is made without any connection or collusion with any person submitting another Proposal on this Contract.

By: _____
James Sellers

Sworn and subscribed before me this

10th day of April 2025.

Elizabeth A. Reilly
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Florida at Large

My Commission Expires: 04/26/2028

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

LOCAL VENDOR CERTIFICATION

PURSUANT TO CITY OF KEY WEST CODE OF ORDINANCES SECTION 2-798

The undersigned, as a duly authorized representative of the vendor listed herein, certifies to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, that the vendor meets the definition of a "Local Business." For purposes of this section, "local business" shall mean a business which:

a. **Principle address as registered with the FL Department of State located within 30 miles of the boundaries of the city, listed with the chief licensing official as having a business tax receipt with its principle address within 30 miles of the boundaries of the city for at least one year immediately prior to the issuance of the solicitation.**

b. **Maintains a workforce of at least 50 percent of its employees from the city or within 30 miles of its boundaries.**

c. **Having paid all current license taxes and any other fees due the city at least 24 hours prior to the publication of the call for bids or request for proposals.**

- Not a local vendor pursuant to Code od Ordinances Section 2-798
- Qualifies as a local vendor pursuant to Code od Ordinances Section 2-798

If you qualify, please complete the following in support of the self-certification & submit copies of your County and City business licenses. Failure to provide the information requested will result in denial of certification as a local business.

Business Name Phone:

Current Local Address: Fax:
(P.O Box numbers may not be used to establish status)

Length of time at this address

_____ _____
Signature of Authorized Representative Date

STATE OF_____
COUNTY OF_____
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____day of _____, 20___.
By_____, of_____
(Name of officer or agent, title of officer or agent) Name of corporation acknowledging)
or has produced_____as identification
(type of identification)

_____
Signature of Notary

_____
Print, Type or Stamp Name of Notary

Return Completed form with
Supporting documents to:
City of Key West Purchasing

_____
Title or Rank

THE CITY OF KEY WEST E-VERIFY AFFIDAVIT

Beginning January 1, 2021, Florida law requires all contractors doing business with The City of Key West to register with and use the E-Verify System in order to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees. The City of Key West requires all vendors who are awarded contracts with the City to verify employee eligibility using the E-Verify System. As before, vendors are also required to maintain all I-9 Forms of their employees for the duration of the contract term. To enroll in the E-Verify System, vendors should visit the E-Verify Website located at www.e-verify.gov.

In accordance with Florida Statute § 448.095, **it is the responsibility of the Awarded Vendor to ensure compliance with all applicable E-Verify requirements.**

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned contractor verifies it compliance with Florida Statute § 448.095, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm, or corporation which is engaged in the performance of services on behalf of the City of Key West, has registered with, is authorized to use, and uses the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system.

Furthermore, the undersigned contractor agrees that it will continue to use E-Verify throughout the contract period, and should it employ or contract with any subcontractor(s) in connection with the performance of services pursuant to this Agreement with The City of Key West, contractor will secure from such subcontractor(s) similar verification of compliance with Florida Statute § 448.095, by requiring the subcontractor(s) to provide an affidavit attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. Contractor further agrees to maintain records of such compliance during the duration of the Agreement and provide a copy of each such verification to The City of Key West within five (5) business days of receipt.

Failure to comply with this provision is a material breach of the Agreement and shall result in immediate termination of the Agreement without penalty to the City of Key West. Contractor shall be liable for all costs incurred by the City of Key West to secure replacement Agreement, including but not limited to, any increased costs for the same services, and costs due to delay, and rebidding costs, if applicable.

April 10, 2025
Date

(Signature of Authorized Representative)

State of Florida,
County of Martin,

Personally Appeared Before Me, the undersigned authority, James Sellers who, ☒ being personally know or ☐ having produced his/her signature in the space provided above on this 10th day of April, 2025.

Elizabeth A. Reilly
Signature, Notary Public

04/26/2028
Commission Expires

Stamp/Seal:

ELIZABETH A. REILLY
Commission # HH 476355
Expires April 26, 2028

AFFIDAVIT ATTESTING TO NONCOERCIVE CONDUCT FOR LABOR OR SERVICES

Entity/Vendor Name: Ecological Associates, Inc.
Vendor FEIN: 32-0764920
Vendor's Authorized Representative (Name and Title):
James Sellers, Co-President and Director of Business Development & Finance
Address: 3552 NE Candice Avenue
City: Jensen Beach State: Florida Zip: 34957
Phone Number: (772) 334-3729
Email Address: Jimmy@ecological-associates.com

As a nongovernmental entity executing, renewing, or extending a contract with a government entity, Vendor is required to provide an affidavit under penalty of perjury attesting that Vendor does not use coercion for labor or services in accordance with Section 787.06, Florida Statutes.

As defined in Section 787.06(2)(a), coercion means:

1. Using or threating to use physical force against any person;
2. Restraining, isolating, or confining or threating to restrain, isolate, or confine any person without lawful authority and against her or his will;
3. Using lending or other credit methods to establish a debt by any person when labor or services are pledged as a security for the debt, if the value of the labor or services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt, the length and nature of the labor or service are not respectively limited and defined;
4. Destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, withholding, or possessing any actual or purported passport, visa, or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document, of any person;
5. Causing or threating to cause financial harm to any person;
6. Enticing or luring any person by fraud or deceit; or
7. Providing a controlled substance as outlined in Schedule I or Schedule II of Section 893.03 to any person for the purpose of exploitation of that person.

As a person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor, I certify under penalties of perjury that Vendor does not use coercion for labor or services in accordance with Section 787.06. Additionally, Vendor has reviewed Section 787.06, Florida Statutes, and agrees to abide by same.

Certified By: James Sellers, who is authorized to sign on behalf of the above referenced company.

Authorized Signature: _____
Print Name: James Sellers
Title: Co-President and Director of Business Development & Finance

VENDOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING
SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES LISTS

Respondent Vendor Name: Ecological Associates, Inc.

Vendor FEIN: 32-0764920

Vendor's Authorized Representative Name and Title: James Sellers, Director of Business Development & Finance

Address: 3552 NE Candice Avenue

City: Jensen Beach State: Florida Zip: 34957

Phone Number: (772) 334-3729

Email Address: Jimmy@ecological-associates.com

Section 287.135(2)(a), Florida Statutes, prohibits a company from bidding on, submitting a proposal for, or entering into or renewing a contract for goods or services of any amount if, at the time of contracting or renewal, the company is on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to section 215.4725, Florida Statutes, or is engaged in a boycott of Israel. Section 287.135(2)(b), Florida Statutes, further prohibits a company from bidding on, submitting a proposal for, or entering into or renewing a contract for goods or services over one million dollars ($1,000,000) if, at the time of contracting or renewal, the company is on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, both created pursuant to section 215.473, Florida Statutes, or the company is engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.

As the person authorized to sign on behalf of Respondent, I hereby certify that the company identified above in the section entitled "Respondent Vendor Name" is not listed on either the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List I understand that pursuant to section 287.135, Florida Statutes, the submission of a false certification may subject such company to civil penalties, attorney's fees, and/or costs and termination of the contract at the option of the awarding governmental entity.

Certified By: James Sellers, Co-President and Director of Business Development & Finance,
Print Name *Print Title*
who is authorized to sign on behalf of the above referenced company.

Authorized Signature:  .