

Meeting Date
<b>January 16, 2014</b>



AGENDA	
Section	Workshop
Item No.	II.A

**AGENDA REPORT**  
**BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

SUBJECT:	Presentation of the Countywide Wetlands Study (Study)
DEPT/OFFICE:	Natural Resources Management Department (NRM)

**Requested Action:**

Staff requests that the Board accept the Wetlands Study completed by BKI, Inc. Consulting Ecologists to include the High Function Wetlands Assessment Method, the High Function Assessment Matrix, the Landscape Level Polygon Map, Reference Wetland document and the Wetlands Assessment Toolbox. (Actual Comprehensive Plan language will be addressed under separate agenda).

**Summary Explanation & Background:**

On May 29, 2012, the Board authorized advertisement for and acceptance of proposals from qualified firms for ecological services to complete a Countywide Wetland Study (Study), with cost not to exceed \$50,000. The Study was to be completed by a consulting firm with specific qualifying experience in ecological systems, quantifying and qualifying wetlands, and extensive knowledge of the unique wetland systems within Brevard. BKI, Inc. Consulting Ecologists (BKI), was awarded the contract in December 2012.

BKI, Inc. Consulting Ecologists initiated the Study in January 2013. BKI completed the final draft of the Study in September 2013. The completed Study provides a regional look at Brevard County wetland systems for the purposes of comprehensive planning and providing resource based information for development within wetlands. Specifically, the Study provides science and technology based tools to identify high functioning wetlands and landscape level systems of connected wetlands.

The attached Staff Report summarizes the history of the Wetlands Working Group; Comprehensive Plan, Conservation Element Policy amendments; associated Board authorization of the Study; and Study results.

BKI, Inc. Consulting Ecologists (BKI) will present the Study for Board consideration. Staff requests that the Board accept the High Function Wetlands Assessment Method, the High Function Assessment Matrix, the Landscape Level Polygon Map, Reference Wetland document, and the Wetlands Assessment Toolbox. Actual Comprehensive Plan language will be addressed under a separate agenda.

**Fiscal Impact:** FY 13-14 No Fiscal Impact.  
**FY 14-15 No Fiscal Impact.**

**Name:** Ernest Brown (x52439) or Darcie McGee (x52433), NRM, 633-2016

**Clerk to the Board instruction:**

Exhibits Attached:	Attachment II.A-1-Staff Report	Attachment II.A-4-Landscape Level Polygon Development
	Attachment II.A-2-Wetlands Assessment Method	Attachment II.A-5-Landscape Level Polygon Map
	Attachment II.A-3-Reference Wetlands	Attachment II.A-6-Wetland Assessment Toolbox

**Contract /Agreement (If attached):** Reviewed by County Attorney Yes ☒ No ☐ PR ☐

County Manager

Deputy County Manager

Department Director / Extension

Stockton Whitten

Howard Tipton

Assistant County Manager

Ernest Brown/X52439

Mel Scott