



# Highlands Council Meeting

Thursday, February 20, 2020



# Functional Ecosystem Valuation (FEV) Evaluation and Field Test Contract

# FEV Evaluation and Field Test Contract

## Background and Need

- Act and RMP direct protection of natural resources, with emphasis on “no net loss of habitat values,” but no guidance on how to determine habitat values.
- 2013 Highlands Council award to develop a Functional Ecosystem Valuation (FEV) methodology; assigns quantitative value to resources.
- Draft FEV has been delivered. Provides framework for comparing different properties/resources.
- Independent, third-party validation needed to conduct testing of model in real-world scenarios.

**Objective:** Ensure accuracy, certainty, replicability of FEV

# FEV Evaluation and Field Test Contract

## Award Recommendation

- Applied Ecological Services (AES)
  - Multifaceted team of ecologists, wildlife biologists, a GIS professional, and an environmental economist.
  - Field test minimum of 9 sites (3 in the Preservation Area, 3 in the Planning Area, and 3 sites with land in both).
  - Custom GIS app provides real time field conditions to team and the Highlands Council.
  - Seasonal flora and fauna species determine field test schedule.
- Award of \$55,769.00
- Project work expected to be completed in 12-18 months.



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