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
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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.