

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members

AGENDA ITEM 11

From: Staff

Date: July 15, 2016 Council Meeting

Subject: Indian River Lagoon Economic Valuation Update Report

Introduction

In late 2015, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO) tasked and funded the Treasure Coast and East Central Florida regional planning councils to work together in producing an updated economic contributions report for the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). The report was completed and transmitted to the FDEO on June 24, 2016. It is being presented to Council today for review and comment.

The intent of this economic analysis is to establish a repeatable and cost-efficient method for estimating the total annual economic values attributable to the IRL. Quantifying these values and the IRL's total annual economic output, serves to emphasize the region's economic interdependence with the IRL and the importance of restoration efforts to sustain its health and productivity.

This effort represents a tremendous opportunity for the IRL region to quantify, not only the annualized economic contribution of this nationally significant estuary, but what is at stake economically if the ecosystem collapses. The report demonstrates the vital role of a healthy IRL, not just to the region's economic vitality, but as the foundation of its extraordinary quality of life.

The executive summary from the report is included with this agenda item along with a six-panel color brochure containing important economic information from the report. The full report can be viewed and downloaded by accessing the following link: [http://www.tcrpc.org/special\\_projects .htm](http://www.tcrpc.org/special_projects .htm)

Recommendation

For information purposes only.

Attachments