

# Alachua County, FL

## Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00092 Agenda Date: 5/23/2023

## **Agenda Item Name:**

Agreement #13817 with Greentrust Environmental Inc., in the amount not to exceed (NTE) \$100,000.00 annually, for the removal of invasive plants at Barr Hammock for Land Conservation and Management, Environmental Protection.

#### Presenter:

Stephen Hofstetter, Environmental Protection Director, Environmental Protection, 352.264.6811 Theodore White, Procurement Manager, Procurement, 352.374.5202

## Description:

Agreement #13817 with Greentrust Environmental Inc.

#### **Recommended Action:**

Approve Agreement #13817 with Greentrust Environmental Inc., in the amount (NTE) \$100,000.00 annually, for the removal of invasive plants at Barr Hammock for Land Conservation and Management, Environmental Protection and authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the County.

#### **Prior Board Motions:**

On May 8, 2012, Board approved the Barr Hammock Preserve Management Plan which identifies land stewardship activities including but not limited to invasive plant management as priorities for the preserve.

#### Fiscal Note:

Sufficient funds exist in the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) budget, in funds 261 and 021.

## Strategic Guide:

Environment

### **Background:**

The 5,953 acre Barr Hammock Preserve is located in south central Alachua County, near Micanopy, and approximately one mile from the Alachua/Marion County line. It was acquired with funds from Alachua County through the Alachua County Forever bond, the Wild Spaces Public Places sales tax, Florida Communities Trust grant, North American Wetland Conservation Act grants and the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The Conservation Trust for Florida was a partner in the grant applications for funding acquisition of the Preserve. Outstanding biotic features include: hydric hammock, mesic flatwoods, baygall, and basin marshes in Levy Prairie and Ledwith Lake. The Preserve is managed to protect, preserve and enhance the unique natural and cultural resources found on the property and to provide an enjoyable and educational passive recreational experience. Two public trailheads provide visitors access to hiking, biking, and equestrian trails. Barr Hammock

Preserve contains a diverse assemblage of seventeen upland and wetland natural communities, and at least twenty-six imperiled species of plants and animals are known to occur on the site. Seventeen species of non-native, invasive plants have been surveyed on the property, and treatment and removal of these plants is a priority included annually in workplans prepared for this preserve.

This purchase is exempt from the County's competitive bidding requirements pursuant to Section 22.3-302(12) of the Alachua County Procurement Code, Procurement of Supplies or Services under Contract with federal, state, or municipal governments or any other governmental agency or political subdivision provided the vendor extends the same terms and conditions of the Contract to the County. However, since the dollar amount of the purchase exceeds the purchasing authority of the Procurement Manager, this Purchase Order is being submitted for Board consideration and approval.

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