

**The Harris Chain of Lakes Wild-Adult Largemouth Bass Stocking  
Research/Demonstration Project  
Lake Griffin**

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Money allocated 2004-2007	\$394,220 (\$131,407/yr)
Replacement Value of Fish Stocked 2004-2007	\$230,692
Total – 13,933 fish	
➤ 14 in – 4,080 fish	
➤ 17 in – 1500 fish	Project Dollars If Fish Purchased - \$163,528
Angler Phone calls January 1, 2006 to November 2007	377 calls (101 2005-calls)
Angler reported expenditures	\$53/day      \$1,617/year      \$3,234/2 yr
Days Fished	USFWS – 16 days/yr Local Survey – 64 days/yr
Angler Expenditure (2006-2007) for 377 anglers only	\$639,392 (32 days)    B/C=1.6 \$1,278,784 (64 days) B/C=3.2
\$3,234x377 anglers	\$1,219,218      B/C=3.1
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Total Anglers Assuming 10% return phone call and 1 angler	3770 anglers
2 anglers	7540 anglers
Estimated Expenditure for 1 angler over 2 years	\$6,393,920 (32 days)    B/C=16 \$12,787,840 (64 days) B/C=32
\$3234x3770 anglers	\$12,192,180      B/C=31 \$6,100,000/yr      B/C=16
“                    “                    “ 2 anglers	\$12,787,840 (32 days) B/C=32 \$25,575,680 (64 days) B/C=65
\$3234x7540 anglers	\$24,384,360      B/C= 62 \$12,192,180/yr      B/C= 31
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41% anglers fishing more	
Assuming 41% of fishing effort due to stocking	
Estimated Expenditure for 1 angler	Range B/C= 6.7 to 13.3
“                    “                    “ 2 anglers	Range B/C=13.3 to 27

## BASS STOCKING PROGRAM (Agenda Item 5B)

### Restoration of the Economic Vitality of Lake Griffin and Lake Dora's Largemouth Bass Fishery

#### A Research/Demonstration Project - PHASE V

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##### Proposal

(Continuation of Lake County Water Authority Project PO 20700182)

Lake Griffin has been stocked with large (greater than 8 inches) largemouth bass from December 2004 to May 2007. In December 2007, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences stocked largemouth bass into Lake Dora. This project will continue stocking and evaluating the Lake Griffin and Lake Dora largemouth bass fisheries for the next two years (October 2008 to October 2010).

#### Background

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission have identified both Lake Griffin and Lake Dora as having poor largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides floridanus*) fisheries (Benton, Report to the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council 2006). The Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council has recommended that Lake Griffin and Lake Dora be stocked with large largemouth bass to help reduce the economic losses suffered by the local fishing community and associated businesses.

**UF/IFAS' Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (FAS) captured and transported over 13,900 largemouth bass greater than 8 inches into Lake Griffin since December 2004. Over 4000 fish greater than 14 inches were stocked. Between December 2007 and April 2008, FAS captured and transported 4,623 largemouth bass greater than 8 inches into Lake Dora. To stimulate immediate angler interest at Lake Dora, 1069 bass greater than 14 inches were released and the May 2008 electrofishing evaluation by FAS indicated 22% of the largemouth bass captured were stocked fish. Consequently, the 2007-2008 stocking effort introduced substantial numbers of bass to Lake Dora and has generated considerable angler interest based on the more than 70 phone calls from anglers capturing tagged fish.**

**Funding for a detailed study of the economic activity generated by the stocking program at lakes Griffin and Dora was not available, but based on phone calls from anglers catching tagged bass, the two-year economic return at Lake Griffin was estimated to range from three to six million dollars. Under the most stringent constraints of angler participation, estimates of the return on investment (RTI) for the bass-stocking program indicate that for every dollar spent three dollars are expended in the community. Using optimal figures RTI increases to 13 to 1, thus the largemouth bass stocking program, is contributing significantly to the local economy.**

#### Proposal

**The major objective of this phase of the demonstration project will be to continue to stimulate angler interest in fishing at Lake Griffin and at Lake Dora. The UF/IFAS team will transfer over the next two years 8,000+ largemouth bass greater than 8 inches in size into Lake Griffin and Lake Dora. It is anticipated that approximately 50% of the fish selected for transport will be quality-sized (greater than 12 inches) largemouth bass. To maintain angler interest, each lake will receive 50% of the 4000+ fish stocked during each year.**

PROJECT BUDGET  
(October 2008 to September 2009)

**Task I.**

**Costs**

Transfer a minimum of 4000+ largemouth bass (greater than 8 inches) into Lake Dora (minimum 2000 fish) and Lake Griffin (minimum 2000 fish).	\$ 95,875
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Task II

Evaluate effects of 2008-09 stocking Lake Dora/Lake Griffin and continue managing donor waters for future stocking efforts.	\$ 11,000
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(October 2009 to September 2010)

**Task I.**

Transfer a minimum of 4000+ largemouth bass (greater than 8 inches) into Lake Dora (minimum 2000 fish) and Lake Griffin (minimum 2000 fish)	\$ 95,875
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Task II

Evaluate effects of 2009-10 stocking Lake Dora/Lake Griffin and Continue managing donor waters for future stocking efforts	\$ 11,000
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Overhead (5%)	\$ 11,250
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<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>
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\* Lake County Water Authority has a University of Florida overhead of 5% per past contracts.

Task II

Evaluate effects of 2008 stocking Lake Dora/Lake Griffin and manage donor waters for future stocking 2009 efforts	\$ 47,857
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Overhead (5%)	\$ 2,393
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<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
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\* Lake County Water Authority has a University of Florida overhead of 5% per past contracts.