Reasonable Assurance Plan for Mosquito Lagoon

The development of a Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP) is a process that can be undertaken to improve a water body where a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not been established. The process is similar to the Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) that is undertaken where a TMDL has been established to indicate the impairment of the water body. The development of a Reasonable Assurance Plan for Mosquito Lagoon will require participation and unanimity from all stakeholders within the Mosquito Lagoon Watershed, including Volusia County, City of Oak Hill, City of Edgewater, City of New Smyrna Beach, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program and others. The RAP will provide more local control over development and implementation of prevention and restoration activities for the Mosquito Lagoon. The RAP will also make grant funding more available.

Current Situation

The Mosquito Lagoon is a priority water body in Volusia County. The water quality in Mosquito Lagoon has been declining, but is not considered impaired through the TMDL regulatory process. It is the desire of Volusia County and the other agencies that the water quality in Mosquito Lagoon not decline further and measures be undertaken to improve the water quality. Mosquito Lagoon is directly connected to the Indian River Lagoon which is an impaired water body and has a completed BMAP.

Project

The scope of work for the project includes:
- Establish a RAP framework within which stakeholders will participate
- Assess the current water quality and biological conditions in Mosquito Lagoon
- Establish appropriate indicators, endpoints, goals, and targets for Mosquito Lagoon
- Determine the appropriate prevention or restoration measures needed for the Mosquito Lagoon
- Develop a plan to monitor and measure the desired prevention or restoration measures

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has committed to assisting in the development of the RAP and has hired a consultant, Wildwood Consulting, to facilitate the process. The estimated cost to prepare the plan is $400,000.

Community Impact and Benefits

This project will determine measures that can be taken to preserve the highly valuable Mosquito Lagoon.
## Timeline for Reasonable Assurance Plan for Mosquito Lagoon

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