

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) today announced a \$286,298 competitive grant for Indian River and St. Lucie habitat conservation planning from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

“The hardworking taxpayers of St. Lucie County are getting a return on their federal tax dollars, and that’s good news,” Rooney said. “This grant will give some relief to local taxpayers and landowners by providing federal funds to support conservation efforts. This funding will help identify areas of need and find potential habitats for some of Florida’s threatened and endangered species.”

The competitive Habitat Conservation Planning (HSP) Assistance Grant will provide federal funding to begin identifying needs and potential habitats for a concentrated, county-wide conservation planning effort. An HSP in the St. Lucie region could benefit species like the Florida grasshopper sparrow, wood stork and Florida scrub-jay. The grant is awarded through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, which supports participation in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects.

“To learn more about grant related services or to request a letter of support, please contact my office at (772) 288-4668 or visit my website,” Rooney said.

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