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Lee Commissioners ratify \$90,000 state reimbursement grant to clear beaches after red tide event

Fort Myers, FL, Dec. 20, 2022 – The Lee Board of County Commissioners voted Tuesday to ratify acceptance of a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for reimbursement of services associated with the recent red tide event up to the maximum of \$90,000.

The grant provides funds to the county for the purpose of assisting with the cleanup of the large quantities of dead fish and marine life on Lee County’s beaches and in its waterways. The Florida Department of Health-Lee County issued Red Tide Alerts in November in several areas from Bonita Beach north to Boca Grande Pass. Those alerts were lifted earlier this month.

Lee County Parks & Recreation has completed cleanup in areas most heavily impacted, including Captiva and the Lee County portions of Gasparilla Island. More cleanup is possible.

The eligible expenses for reimbursement are staff overtime hours including fringe benefits, contractual expenses related to the biological debris removal services, rental of equipment, and landfill fees.

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