



Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson
Way
Viera, FL 32940

Resolution/Award/Presentation

E.4.

4/21/2026

Subject:

Check Presentation from the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) for \$50,000 to Brevard County for the Historic Banana River Bomb Target Artificial Reef for Enhanced Fish Habitat project.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Dept/Office:

District 5 Commission Office

Requested Action:

It is requested that the BOCC accept the \$50,000 check from the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) for the Historic Banana River Bomb Target Artificial Reef for Enhanced Fish Habitat project.

Summary Explanation and Background:

Historic Banana River Bomb Target Artificial Reef for Enhanced Fish Habitat project will construct and install at least 40 artificial reef structures using diverse, dynamic designs around a historic U.S. Air Force bomb target in the Banana River Lagoon. The 50-foot diameter target, once used for World War II training exercises, will serve as the focal point for ecosystem restoration. The artificial reef will provide essential fish habitat, offer refuge, and stabilize sediments, fostering the return and growth of seagrasses. It will also serve as a shelter for juvenile fish and other estuarine species, with a particular focus on Gag Grouper, Mangrove Snapper, Florida Pompano, Pinfish, Pink Shrimp, and Red Drum, among others. Additionally, the reef will enhance eco-tourism and recreational opportunities, including fishing and snorkeling.

The artificial reef structures will be constructed out of eco-friendly fiberglass (metal free) rebar and concrete raw materials, all produced in the United States, and manufactured in Vero Beach, FL. The structures will be transported by barge vessel and strategically placed around the historic bomb target in accordance with permit specifications. The installation will consist of at least eight clusters, each containing five reef structures.

To ensure safety, markers will be installed to clearly identify the submerged reef and prevent boating accidents. This initiative will also contribute to education and eco-tourism by highlighting the site's historical significance. Originally part of the Banana River Naval Air Station, which was deactivated in 1947 and later transferred to Patrick Air Force Base (now Patrick Space Force Base), the site played a crucial role in training squadrons for bombing runs during World War II.

Monitoring will be conducted to assess the project's success. A baseline survey will be completed before construction, followed by one year of quarterly post-installation monitoring. This will include habitat use assessments through biofouling community analysis and video documentation.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

None



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April 22, 2026

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Commissioner Thad Altman, District 1

RE: Item E.4., Check Presentation from the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) for \$50,000 to Brevard County for the Historic Banana River Bomb Target Artificial Reef for Enhanced Fish Habitat Project

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on April 21, 2026, accepted the \$50,000 check from the CCA for the Historic Banana River Bomb Target Artificial Reef for Enhanced Fish Habitat Project.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/ds

cc: Finance
Budget