



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
(727) 824-5312 FAX 824-5309
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

Steve Shippee
Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge
105 Santa Rosa Blvd
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

SEP 18 2012

Dear Mr. Shippee:

Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge is eligible to apply for the Prescott Grant Program FY 2013 competition. Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge has been an active participant in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southeast Regional Stranding Network for more than three years and is currently in good standing. The Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge has complied with the terms and responsibilities of their Stranding Agreement and has no record of a pending NMFS notice of violation regarding the policies of their Stranding Agreement. This includes, but is not limited to, timely reporting of strandings to NMFS and submission of complete Level A data to the Regional Stranding Coordinator.

The Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge has cooperated in a timely manner with NMFS, other Federal, state, and local officials, and other stranding network participants. The Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge does not have any current NMFS enforcement investigations for the take of marine mammals contrary to Marine Mammal Protection Act/Endangered Species Act regulations.

Prior to the issuance of any award funds, Prescott Grant Program staff will review the status of any existing agreements, grants, and permits you may hold with the Agency to ensure compliance with reporting requirements, as detailed in the Federal Funding Opportunity.

Thank you for your interest in the Prescott Grant Program and your participation in the NOAA Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Marine Mammal Stranding Network and the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Fougères at 727-824-5323.

Sincerely,

NMFS Southeast Region
Stranding Program Administrator

