

Project Name:

Under Dock / Piers Reef Ball Habitat

Contact Information *(Include at least one name, phone number, email address, and organization name if applicable):*

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Reef Innovations / Reef Ball Foundation

Project Location *(Include a map, if possible, and the city, county, longitude/latitude, and watershed):*

Multiple project locations in each of the counties on the West Coast of Florida Bay, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Monroe, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton

Phase I Under public docks / piers,

Phase 2 Private Landowners / Homeowners docks and piers.

We would ask that FDEP priorities the locations on state and federal land.

Counties should provide a list of Dock and Piers they would like to see a habitat under.

The logistics from the prioritized request list would be worked out by Reef Innovations. Since the project will continue for multiple years.

The decisions on the exact locations could become a competitive grant.

Project Description *(Describe all aspects of the project):*

Under most docks you find an area that is muddy bottom with the lack of much life. By providing a Reef Ball structure, fish, crustaceans, mollusks, ect will find an excellent habitat. Under the foot print of the dock / pier we can create some habitat that was lost during the construction of the structure and surrounding development, thus adding to the living shoreline.

Starting with Phase I, Reef Innovations would develop a work crew to survey, determine suitability and deploy a Reef Ball Habitat under public docks and piers. This habitat will produce diversity from oysters to corals depending on the water conditions they are placed in.

Phase 2, expands the plan using the established criteria allowing private property owners to finance the placement of Under Dock / Pier Reef Ball Habitats.

The science shows a need for restoration of estuary habitats, and this is a great way for homeowners to take steps to help in creating sustainability along our coastline through Habitat Restoration.

Reef Innovations will be the contractor for both Phase I and Phase II activities. Reef Innovations will survey the site to determine its suitability for a habitat; Reef Innovations will deploy the Reef Ball Habitat.

Estimated Project Costs *(Describe the estimated costs of the project, including any assumptions for contingency and ongoing operations/maintenance. Identify other secured funding sources such as matching funds, in-kind contributions or state/federal dollars. In addition, if possible, complete and submit the Cost Appendix Sheet associated with this Form):*

This project scope changes a great deal depending on the size and number of habitats that are created. A basic cost of Reef Ball materials, survey cost and deployment cost combine to make a total cost for each Dock / Pier project. The actual cost of a given project will vary, thus one large project may take a larger portion of the money that many smaller ones.

Attached is a prices sheet for Reef Balls FOB, Sarasota, FL. In another proposal we suggest the funding of a Reef Ball Production Site in Wakulla County and Panama City to reduce the cost of Reef Materials for this and many other projects.

This cost on each deployment will consist of Any Permit Costs, Survey Costs, Reef Balls Used, Deployment Cost and Man Hours. We anticipate the creation of a 4 to 5 man crew for the deployment process.

Other Funding *(Indicate if the project is submitted for any potential funding or if it may be used to leverage additional funding, if so please describe the funding source [e.g. State/Federal Grants]):*

Phase 2 is funded 100% by the homeowner / land owner.

There is a possibility of NGO with property or projects they wish to see developed could provide additional funding.

County Government could provide additional funding, for larger or additional project they would like to have in their counties.

Technical Feasibility *(Describe the technologies involved and any relevant past experience or*

proven success with similar projects):

The feasibility of Under Dock / Pier Reef Ball Habitats has been proven over the past @20 years.

Recently it has been approved as mitigation by the Army Corp. in the St Pete area.

Environmental Benefits *(Describe the nature, magnitude, and timing of any environmental benefits attributable to the project. If possible, describe potential environmental performance measures [e.g. pollutant reduction]. Please address any potential environmental impacts associated with implementing or maintaining the project [e.g. loss of a habitat or conversion of habitat from one type to another during implementation]):*

This project will provide immediate benefit, from the time of the first deployment. Oyster growth in proper conditions will be seen in a couple months and can be amazing in a year's time.

This project will continue to have a benefit in the future. Placement in areas that habitat may change due to sea level rising and increased ocean temperatures will have an added benefit.

Reef Balls have a proven success with growth of corals both hard and soft.

Economic and Social Benefits *(Describe the economic and social benefits including those related to the project's improved ecosystem services and any estimates on jobs created or preserved):*

Economic Benefits include employment and all the added income from workers in the area. If the modules are produced within the region, then there are many fold in the economic benefits of other jobs.

The Under Dock Reef Ball Habitat can also be a added benefit for real estate values. Homes with living habitats will increase in value.

It increases the joy and is a great place for kids to learn to fish and enjoy the marine environment.

A social benefit will be improved health of the various bays that the habitats are placed in. This will continue to be a social benefit for years to come.

Community Resilience *(Describe if the project assists Florida's ability to anticipate, withstand, or recover from hazards or threats [e.g. hurricane preparedness, establishing living shorelines]):*

The project will provide additional living shoreline, restoring what has been lost due to development and disasters.

The structure of the Dock / Pier is enhanced by the Reef Balls around pilings thus reducing the damage in the event of a storm.

Conflicts or Complements to Existing Efforts *(Describe any ongoing activities in the project implementation area, if the project is part of another plan, and why the project does or does not interfere with that work. Please consider how the project may complement existing local, regional, and state efforts/plans/objectives):*

This project fits with the goals and objectives of the states artificial reef program. Also, most counties have a plan for restoration of the Gulf Coast the addition of Reef Ball Habitats under docks will augment their plan.

Under dock / pier Reef Ball Habitats will not distract from any other county plans for restoration. It will only be added value as more habitats are created.

Complies with Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Laws/Regulations *(Describe any concerns or potential conflicts):*

None know

Readiness for Implementation *(Describe if the project has had any design or permitting work started or completed attach permits or design work]. Please address any issues that may delay start or finish of the project):*

Implementation can start immediately. The surveys and design of the layout should be require minimal time. It would be ideal to reduce the Army Corp, FDEP approval process by accepting a criteria for evaluation by Reef Innovations, thus eliminating extra paperwork and duplication of permitting for each dock.

The permitting process has been done on existing deployments.

A streamlining of the process is need so we can proceed after a survey and verification the criteria are met for the location.

Public Acceptance *(Describe any known or potential public approval or opposition to the project):*

On April 9 2013 Wakulla County Restore Act Committee Meeting voted support for this projects concept.

Other county have expressed verbal support for the project. And State and Federal officials have indicated support.

I have seen or heard no opposition from anyone.

Additional Information you wish to provide *(Please include any maps, designs, drawings, photos, or background resources that may assist in completely and accurately understanding the project):*

Cost Appendix Sheet

Cost Item Cost Estimate

Planning

Planning Subtotal:

Construction

Construction Subtotal:

Monitoring

Monitoring Subtotal:

Project Cost

Subtotal:

TOTAL:

Estimated Costs by Year

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/files/Project_Submittal_Form_distributed.pdf