



Jonathan P. Steverson
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Phone: (850) 539-5999 • Fax: (850) 539-2777

July 3, 2013

Via Electronic Transmission

Mr. Billy McKee
Walton County Environmental Manager
117 Montgomery Circle
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435
mckbilly@co.walton.fl.us

RE: Coastal Dune Lake Restoration Project

Dear Mr. McKee:

The coastal dune lakes of Walton County are of fundamental importance to the ecology and character of the region. They also represent a type of ecosystem unique to the northern Gulf of Mexico. Restoring the hydrological integrity of these lakes would be a regionally significant accomplishment and would be an important step toward ensuring long-term ecological health and resilience. Walton County's proposed Coastal Dune Lakes Restoration Project is consistent with the District's Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program and would complement our agency's watershed protection and restoration efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Duncan Jay Cairns". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Duncan Jay Cairns
Chief, Bureau of Environmental and Resource
Planning

cc: Ms. Melinda Gates, Walton County

DJC:pt

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

JOHN ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

STEPHANIE BLOYD
Panama City Beach

GARY CLARK
Chipley

JON COSTELLO
Tallahassee

NICK PATRONIS
Panama City Beach

BO SPRING
Port St Joe