

Project Title:

Restoration through Ecotourism: Increasing Public Awareness of Natural Resource Management through Interpretive Wilderness Experiences

Abbreviated Project Description:

This Proposed project will initiate nine ecotourism and restoration sites using existing state lands and areas within the Florida Forever program. These nine sites will be positioned in six counties located along the Gulf for the purposes of providing educational opportunities while increasing environmental awareness and promoting stewardship. These sites will conduct several different types of guided tours to instruct patrons of the natural environment; some tours will have patrons kayaking in one of the State's Aquatic Preserves while others will focus on restoration efforts. When successful, this initiative will be a model for ecotour projects throughout the state.

Watersheds:

Apalachicola-Chipola, Choctawhatchee-St. Andrew, Ochlocknee-St. Marks, Pensacola, Suwannee

Counties:

Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Taylor County, Wakulla County

Estimated Cost:

\$6,854,262.49

Submitted By:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection: Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas