

POTENTIAL DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL RESTORATION PROJECTS: PROVIDING INFORMATION TO ASSIST WITH PROJECT ASSESSMENT

To help you propose projects to the State of Florida's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), we developed this project submission form. You are not required to complete this form to submit a project. However, completion of the form will help DEP gather the information required to completely and accurately evaluate a project against the selection and evaluation criteria. Where appropriate in the form, please provide references to any additional supporting information.

Project Name: *(Include project number from DEP's existing list of submitted projects, if applicable.)*

Navarre Beach Park Gulfside Walkover Complex – SR15-

Contact Information:

Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners
Grants/Special Projects
6495 Caroline St., Suite H
Milton, FL 32570
Sheila Harris
850-983-1848
sheilah@santarosa.fl.gov

Location for Project Implementation: *(For example, city and county, GIS coordinates if known.)*

Navarre Beach Park, Navarre Beach (Santa Rosa Island), Santa Rosa County

Lat: 30.381169 Long: -86.859498

Brief Project Narrative: *(Describe what the project will do.)*

This project involves design, permitting and construction of a Dune Walkover Complex including entrance/driveway and parking area, restroom facility, pavilions with boardwalk connections, and dune walkover with access to the shoreline. Project benefits include additional controlled access to the shoreline to enhance human use of the natural resource and protection of coastal resources resulting from provision of controlled access.

Estimated Project Costs: *(Describe the costs of the project, including any assumptions for contingency and ongoing operations and maintenance. Identify other available funding sources such as matching funds, in kind contributions or state or federal dollars. If possible, attach a schedule of anticipated costs, by year, over the anticipated project life.)*

Engineering, Design and Permitting: \$110,000

Construction: \$858,103.06 (Includes typical construction contingency percentage)

Sea Turtle & Shorebird monitoring required during construction as part of permitting : \$15,000

Construction Inspection Engineering Services: \$55,000

Total Estimated Project Costs: \$1,038,103.06

Ongoing operations and maintenance costs will be absorbed in the operating budget of the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners.

No other sources of matching funds have been identified.

Anticipated Project Outcome with Respect to Screening Criteria

S1. Technically and administratively feasible: *(Briefly describe the critical technologies involved and any relevant past experience with similar projects.)*

This project is expected to be both technically and administratively feasible as it is duplication of two currently existing facilities located in close proximity. The proposed improvements were included in the Master Plan created for the Park.

The county has undergone recent design and permitting of similar facilities within Navarre Beach and will be consulting with qualified design/engineering firms with relevant experience and qualifications to ensure successful design and permitting.

S2. Provides environmental benefits: *(Briefly describe the nature, magnitude, and timing of any environmental benefits attributable to the project and any potential environmental costs 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 aligns with the Gulf of Mexico Strategic Plan since it will allow continued preservation of the frontal dunes, a defense against erosion, while giving visitors comfortable access to the beach. Currently, there is an increasing demand for access to the pavilions in the Navarre Beach Park and the current supply of parking facilities and pavilions is often inadequate during peak tourism seasons.

Environmental benefits of the project include enhancement of human use/recreation opportunities as additional coastline will be easily accessible by the public. Protection of coastal resources is provided by controlled access to the shorelines.

There is no anticipated environmental costs associated with implementation of the project nor loss of habitat.

S3. Does not conflict with any ongoing or planned response or remediation work: *(Briefly describe ongoing response activities in the project implementation area, if any, and why the project does or does not interfere with that work.)*

This project does not conflict with any ongoing response activities.

S4. Complies with applicable and relevant federal, state, local, and tribal laws and regulations: *(No information is needed for this screening criteria.)*

If implemented, all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations will be followed.

Anticipated Project Outcome with Respect to Evaluation Criteria

E1. Will restore, rehabilitate, or replace a natural resource or service¹ believed/demonstrated to have been injured as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill or associated response activities: *(Briefly describe the nature of any relationship between the new/improved resources or services and those adversely impacted by the oil spill.)*

This project will provide additional opportunities for coastal access, provide human use recreation opportunities and may replace access and opportunities otherwise lost as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and/or associated response activities.

E2. Is located in, or nearby, resources or services injured by the deepwater horizon spill: *(Briefly describe where the project would be implemented with respect to past/ongoing remediation work.)*

This project is located directly on the Gulf of Mexico, gulf side which was directly impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

E3. Is ready for implementation, e.g., design, permitting, and necessary impacts assessments have been completed: *(Briefly describe where in the permitting process the project stands along with an estimated date of when the project can be implemented if it is not currently ready.)*

Preliminary design plans are in existence and would need to be revised based on current site conditions and to current permitting standards.

If this project was selected for early restoration funding, the project could begin in as little as three months beginning with a four month design phase, then a four month permitting phase and approximately one year for construction.

E4. Is cost effective: *(Briefly describe why you think the project is cost effective. Discuss whether this project is more cost effective than alternative projects which would provide similar resource or service benefits.)*

The budget for this project is based on current construction estimates and is believed to be cost effective in terms of its benefits to providing additional recreation opportunities and protection of coastal resources.

E5. Has a high potential for long-term success as demonstrated by incorporating established/reliable methods and technologies: *(Briefly describe if/how critical methods and technologies that will be used to implement the project could be considered reliable or proven.)*

Based on the county's prior experience in implementation of similar projects and outcomes, we believe that utilization of best practices will result in long-term success of the project.

E6. Is likely to provide benefits rapidly following implementation: *(Briefly describe the anticipated change in benefits anticipated over time.)*

Upon completion of the project, visitors will immediately be able to access the coast and experience recreation benefits.

The existing two pavilions located on the gulf within the park rented approximately 175 times in 2010. Based on these statistics it is expected that there is an additional need for new pavilions.

¹ In this form, "Services" (or "natural resource services") refers to the functions performed by a natural resource for the benefit of another natural resource and/or the public. Services can be "ecological services" – physical, chemical or biological functions that one natural resource provides for another (such as provision of food) – or "human services" – the use of natural resources used by humans that provide value to the public (such as hunting and fishing).

E7. Has a high likelihood of public acceptance: *(Briefly describe evidence to support the given answer based on surveys or results and assessments from past projects. Known or likely opposition to a project should be recognized.)*

The public has supported similar public access projects on Navarre Beach in the past.

This project was initially proposed in the Navarre Beach Park Master Plan which was conducted after a lengthy public involvement process.

A recent survey conducted indicated that support facilities, trails/walkways and dune walkovers were ranked in the top six types of facilities desired for the Navarre Beach Park. <http://www.santarosa.fl.gov/parks/LWCFSurveySummary.pdf>

There is no known opposition to the proposed project.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

Submit this form via email to Jessica Kanes at Jessica.Kanes@dep.state.fl.us . If you have any questions or concerns about the process for submitting a project, please contact:

Jessica Kanes
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Specialist I
(850) 670-7707
Jessica.Kanes@dep.state.fl.us
Apalachicola NERR/FDEP
108 Island Drive
Eastpoint, FL 32328

A current summary of projects is accessible through the Florida DEP's website at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/projects.htm> (click on "View the list of restoration project ideas").