

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)

Restoration Project Information Sheet

A General Information

Organization Okaloosa County			
Contact Name (First Last) Hofstad John		Title Public Works Director	
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B Project Information

Project Name Okaloosa County Nearshore Artificial Reef Construction			
Location (e.g. John Smith National Wildlife Refuge) Gulf of Mexico, Okaloosa County, nearshore south of Henderson Beach State Park			
State(s) (Use 2-letter abbreviations separated by commas) FL		County/Parish Okaloosa	Watershed/Basin Gulf of Mexico
Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Project Size (Choose one) 0.25 miles acres tons	Affected Area 40 acres

C Project Description

Please provide more information about the proposed project. (Limit 2,750 characters.)

This scope of this project includes the siting, design, permitting and construction of a nearshore artificial reef that will be accessible from shore and designed for use by snorkelers, kayakers, fishermen and divers. The project can be completed in 12 months. The construction of the reef will be permitted as a structure rather than "dredge and fill" which significantly reduces the permit acquisition timeline. Relatively new and innovative reef systems will be used that have proven to be very effective, durable with little or no maintenance costs. The project can be phased to add additional reefs piggybacking on data derived from the Planning results in the first Phase. This project will incorporate the use of Eco Systems reef systems. The Eco Systems artificial reef system design offers small marine species shelter and protection. Florida limestone rock replicates natural reef substrate and pH desirable by seed organisms necessary to sustain a healthy reef structure that closely mimics natural reef habitats. The piling mount system guarantees the unit will stay upright negating settling and allows for repetitive maintenance and/or repair. Eco Systems are relatively easy to install. They are adaptable to incorporate special user needs by employing variable shapes, sizes, offset mounting holes, and piling or pedestal mounts. They can be reconfigured to different heights, distance above the bottom and adjustable complexity. The structural design is ideal for defusing wave energy. They can be installed in high-wave energy areas without significant storm event damage to the structure. The Okaloosa County Artificial Reef Program has managed over 1500 artificial reef construction projects and deployments and can organize the project to utilize local contractors with the expertise and experience to execute projects in our unique regional marine environment. The manufacturer of the Eco System reef system is also located in the oil-spill impact area and has installed the Eco Systems in nearshore waters in various locations off of neighboring Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. The project will contract local consultants experienced with streamlining reef area permitting and the Okaloosa County reef program will provide site-specific permitting, state regulatory coordination, deployment and construction oversight as well as management of all other project related activities.

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Restoration Project Information Sheet *(continued)*

D	Project Type(s)	(Check all that apply)	
		☒ Restoration	☐ Debris Removal
		☐ Protection	☐ Land Acquisition
			☐ Maintenance/Management
			☒ Education
E	Project Habitat(s)	(Check all that apply)	
		☐ Upland	☒ Marine/Estuarine Wetlands
		☐ Riverine	☐ Freshwater Wetlands
			☐ Beach/Dune
			☒ Subtidal (Nearshore/Offshore)
F	Resource Benefit(s)	(Check all that apply)	
		☒ Marine Mammals	☒ Shellfish
		☒ Birds	☐ Terrestrial Wildlife
		☐ Reptiles/Amphibians	☒ Corals
		☒ Fish	☐ Vegetation
			☐ Water Column
			☐ Sediment/Benthos
			☐ Shoreline
			☒ Human Use (Recreational, Cultural)
		Will the project directly benefit State- or Federally-listed species? If so, please list them. If not, please indicate N/A.	
G	Project Status	Property/Resource Acquisition N/A	Time to Implementation 7-12 months
		Project Planning/Design In Progress	Time to Project Completion 1-5 years
		Project Permitting Not Started	
		Is this project included under a regional or statewide plan? Yes	
		If so, please list: Included in the County's five-year capital improvement plan	
H	Project Costs	Estimated Cost \$275,000.00	Funding Available \$0.00
I	Project Partners	Partner 1 Organization FWC	
		Partner 1 Contact Jon Dodrill	Partner 1 Involvement Planning/permitting
		Partner 2 Organization FDEP	
		Partner 2 Contact Sally Cooley	Partner 2 Involvement Planning/permitting
		Partner 3 Organization ACOE	
		Partner 3 Contact Steve Andrews, Jr.	Partner 3 Involvement Planning/permitting

Disclaimer:

The submission of project information does not guarantee project funding. Projects will be evaluated using criteria identified in OPA, NEPA, implementing regulations, and related laws. Selection and funding determinations will be made by the Trustee Council.