

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.)*

Alternate Water Supply

Contact Information:

Paul Lackemacher, Bay County Utilities Director
3410 Transmitter Road, Panama City, FL 32404

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

North West Florida Water Management Land
Highway 2301, Bayou George, FL
Latitude 30.347 Longitude -85.555

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

Currently, water is supplied from an intake and pumping station located in the southern portion of Deer Point Reservoir. During Hurricane Opal, a storm surge caused salt water intrusion into the fresh water supply. Since then, there have been some near disaster type incidents concerning this resource, including the BP Deepwater Horizon spill. The Utility has looked at many alternatives for the current supply and studies have indicated that a new second intake and pump station located at the north inland end of the reservoir near mouth of the main tributary Econfina Creek would be less affected by a breach.

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.)*

\$25,000,000.00 total estimated project cost.

\$5,000,000.00 grant from NFWFMD is anticipated.

*See attached project schedule

Anticipated Project Outcome with Respect to Screening Criteria

To provide an Emergency Alternate Drinking Water Supply for the 150,000 plus citizens of Bay County, FL.

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

This project is technically and administratively feasible as it is redundant to current facilities as a safer alternate supply to existing infrastructure that could be exposed to damage from the spill in the Gulf of Mexico in relation to a breach or structural failure of existing barriers.

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 will minimize potential damage to freshwater resources from contaminated sea water.

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.)*

No conflict.

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

The Northwest Florida Water Management District supports the concept.

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.)*

To minimize contamination of the potable water supply to an incident such as the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

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).

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.)*

St. Andrews Bay is the outfall for Bay County's potable water supply. St. Andrews Bay was exposed to damage from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill as the Gulf tide waters flow into the Bay. Oil from the spill, in conjunction with any breach of the Reservoir Dam structure, is a public health issue due to the critical nature of the water supply.

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.)*

An emergency Alternate Water Supply has been in the works for several years. Until recently, groundwater was considered and was in the permitting process. A recent court hearing ruling on an appeal of the permit eliminated this option. The project is believed to be the only option for a safe Alternate Water Supply for Bay County.

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.)*

Installing a pump intake station, in a safer portion of the reservoir, will be more cost effective than the original groundwater plan.

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.)*

Systems such as this project have a life expectancy, typically, of fifty (50) years or more.

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

After implementation, Bay County citizens will have a back-up supply that would be used if the current pumping station experiences contamination.

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 local and state government agencies support the need for the project. Currently, County and State are in discussions of funding and land acquisition and the project has an anticipated completion date within the next 2-5 years.

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:

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Environmental Specialist I
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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").