

Priority 5:
Sand Dune & Vegetation Project

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.)*

G1: Sand Dune & Vegetation Project

Contact Information:

Towan Kopinsky, Gulf County Grant Coordinator
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Room 312
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

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

Gulf County, Florida – Beacon Hill, St. Joe Beach, Windmark, Highland View, Cape San Blas, Indian Pass

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

In 2005, 7 miles of sea oats were planted in conjunction with the nourishment project in the Cape San Blas area. Gulf County's sand dunes, sand fencing, sea oats and other native vegetation were directly impacted by oil product, vehicular traffic and foot traffic by response teams during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

The proposed project would evaluate and restore sand dunes, sand fencing, sea oats and other native vegetation to mitigate the damages related to the oil spill.

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.)*

The estimated cost of this project is \$800,000.00. This includes installation of sand fencing, sea oats and other native vegetation along Gulf County beaches.

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 would involve coordination with FDEP and U.S. Fish & Wildlife to ensure that the work is done according to their regulations (not during protected habitat nesting seasons).

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 would replenish native vegetation (rare and protected sea oats, for example) that is the natural habitat for protected species including turtles, beach mice and birds which make Gulf County their homes.

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 would enhance other beach renourishment work performed/to be performed by the County.

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

All necessary permitting/permission would be received in advance from all agencies involved.

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.)*

Gulf County's sand dunes, sand fencing, sea oats and other native vegetation were directly impacted by oil product, vehicular traffic and foot traffic by response teams during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. The proposed project would evaluate and restore sand dunes, sand fencing, sea oats and other native vegetation to mitigate the damages related to the oil spill.

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.)*

These projects would take place along the coastline immediately adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico. Gulf County has approximately 30 miles of shoreline affected during this disaster.

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.)*

No work has begun on this project, as it is contingent upon receipt of funding.

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).

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.)*

This project could be done in conjunction with the beach renourishment project to streamline costs, if the renourishment project is funded.

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.)*

This project would replace lost vegetation and enhance rebuilding of sand dunes along the shoreline to provide enhanced protection and habitat for the wildlife.

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

This project would provide immediate benefits by replacing lost/damaged vegetation for the long list of endangered species found in Gulf County.

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.)*

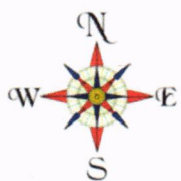
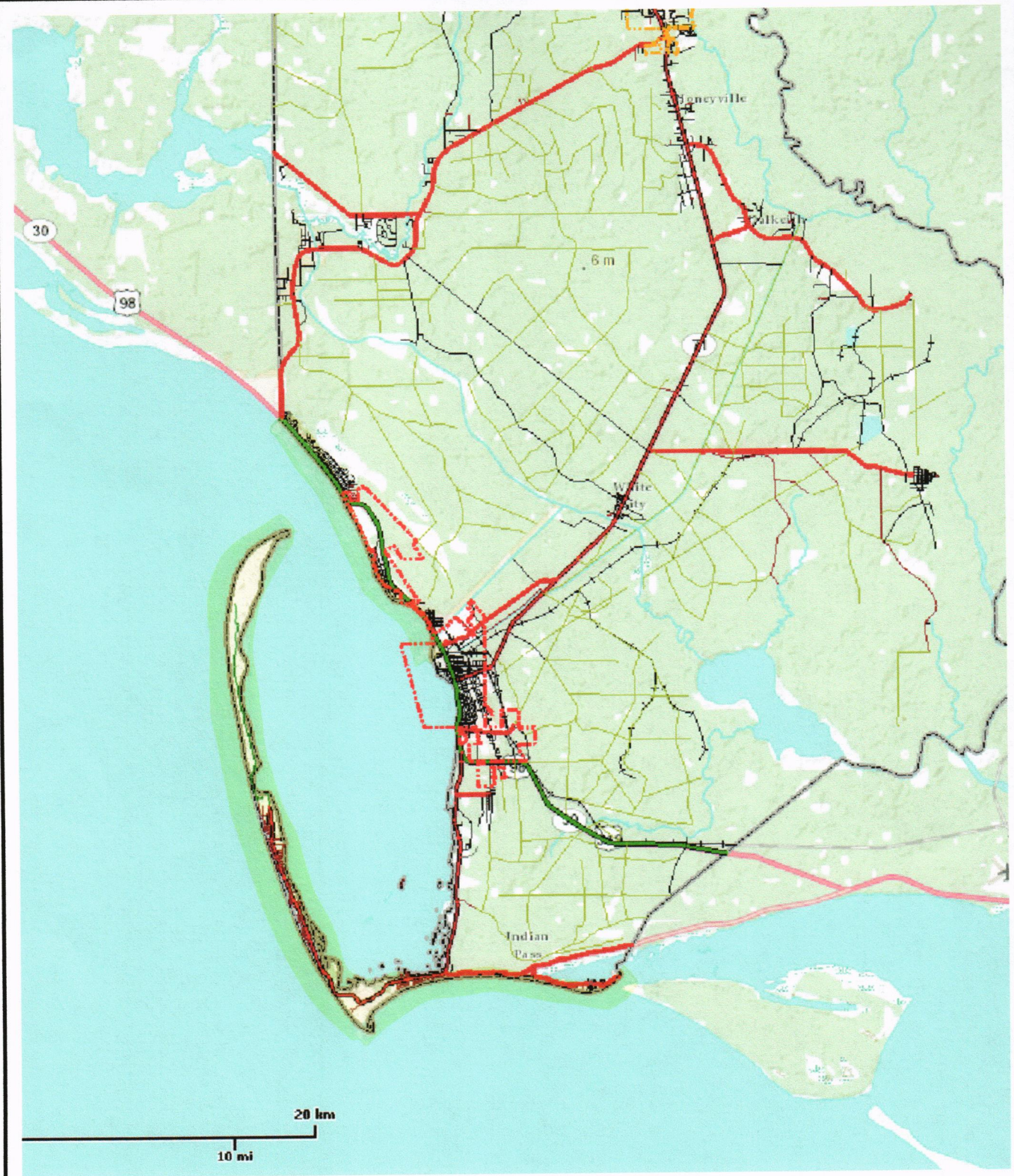
Many Gulf County beaches are still very native in that our building restrictions deter congestion. The public voice is to maintain and protect the beaches as they are, which includes the protection of property and wildlife.

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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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").



Gulf County



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Florida Department of Environmental Protection - DWH Restoration Projects

Project Title:

County, Municipality, or Agency:

DATE:

Cost Items	Cost Estimate
Planning	
Contracts	
Feasibility	50,000
Engineering & Design ¹ & Permitting	40,000
Planning Administration ²	
[other]	
Planning Subtotal	90,000
Construction	
Contracts ³ Sand Fencing, Sea Oats, Vegetation	675,000
Construction Administration	25,000
[other]	
Construction Subtotal	700,000
Monitoring	
Contracts	10,000
Monitoring Administration	
[other]	
Monitoring Subtotal	10,000
Project Cost	
TOTAL	800,000

¹ includes data collection, design, permitting, landrights, bid documentation prep, etc. necessary to bring a project to contract readiness

² Administration costs for each section include overhead and indirect costs to conduct that portion of project implementation

³ Should include construction cost detail such as projected unit costs for each construction item, mob/demob, plantings, and any corrective actions (if applicable)