

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.)*

G4: Artificial Reef 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 – Gulf of Mexico & St. Joseph Bay

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

Many artificial reefs located in Florida waters were negatively impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. It is still unknown if oil product and dispersants are trapped within the existing reefs. This plan includes purchase and placement of 10 ecologically-approved limestone/concrete offshore artificial reefs to accelerate ecological and economic recovery from 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 \$455,000.00. This includes purchase and installation of ten (10) artificial reefs in areas of the Gulf of Mexico which have active, approved permits in place.

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 the City of Mexico Beach who holds the active, approved permits (FDEP, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, etc.) to place artificial reefs approximately 20 miles offshore. There are five (5) 1-mile radius areas, and the plan is to place 2 reefs within each square mile, for a total of 10 reef projects.

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 provide artificial reefs to attract sea habitat and enhance both the ecological and economic devastation that has occurred in Gulf County and surrounding coastal communities.

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, not conflict with, other remediation and mitigation projects needed 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 has been obtained by the City of Mexico Beach, and the reefs to be utilized are DEP/Army Corps of Engineers approved. The County would work with the City of Mexico Beach to take the necessary actions for placement of the reefs in the permitted areas.

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.)*

The Gulf of Mexico and St. Joseph Bay were directly impacted by oil product, dispersants and marine traffic during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. The proposed project will mitigate the environmental damage by creating reefs to attract marine life displaced during the disaster, and will approved our economic issues by increasing tourism which has become a major economic driver in this small, rural county.

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 approximately 20 miles off the coastline of Gulf County in the Gulf of Mexico.

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. As the permits for placement are already active, and the artificial reefs to be used have been environmentally approved by various agencies, implementation would be to receive bids for the reefs and deployment.

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 is cost effective in that it would not only mitigate the loss of marine life, but would attract fishermen and divers to our community in an effort to also mitigate the economic losses.

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 will provide new “homes” for the marine habitat, and has been very beneficial based on studies done in other artificial reef communities.

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 attracting marine life, fishermen and divers back to the Gulf Coast.

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.)*

Gulf County relies heavily on its fishing and tourism industries. All efforts made to increase/enhance the marine life are vital to the residents and visitors.

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”).

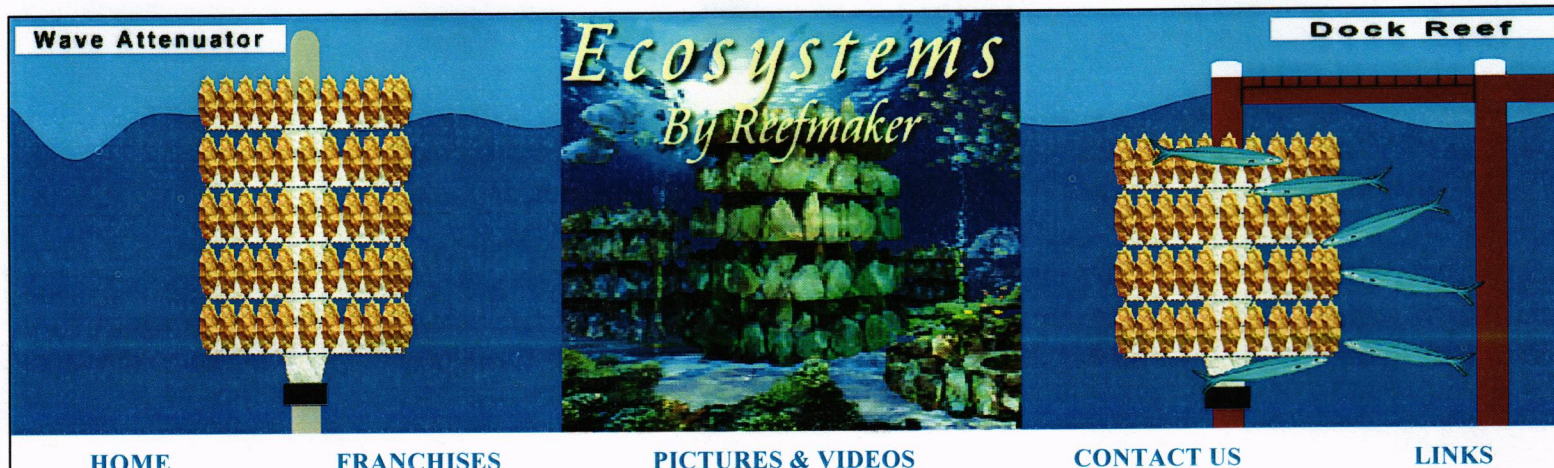
Florida Department of Environmental Protection - DWH Restoration Projects**Project Title:****County, Municipality, or Agency:****DATE:**

Cost Items	Cost Estimate
Planning	
Contracts	
Feasibility	
Engineering & Design ¹	
Planning Administration ²	5,000.00
[other]	
Planning Subtotal	5,000.00
Construction	
Contracts ³	425,000.00
Construction Administration	10,000.00
[other]	
Construction Subtotal	435,000.00
Monitoring	
Contracts	
Monitoring Administration	15,000.00
[other]	
Monitoring Subtotal	15,000.00
Project Cost	
TOTAL	455,000.00

¹includes 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)



Artificial Reef Ecosystems

Captain's Corner



*EcoSystems, **A REEF FOR ALL REASONS!***

EcoSystems started as an artificial reef, but its usefulness quickly expanded to areas of wave attenuation, snorkeling reef, oyster reef restoration, mitigation, personal dock reef, coral reef restoration, and research tool. For our fishing related reefs go to <http://www.reefmaker.net>

EcoSystems is a culmination of 22 years of designing and deploying over 18,000 artificial reefs. Its complex (rugosity) design allows small marine animals to seek shelter and protection from larger predators. Florida Limestone rock replicates natural reef substrate and PH. EcoSystems allows all reef marine life to attach, including boring animals, something no other artificial reef has been able to do.

The complex (rugosity) design is ideal for defusing wave energy above the water line. The piling mount system guarantees the unit will stay upright and not sink into the bottom.

EcoSystems is inexpensive to manufacture and easy to install.

It can be adapted to fit any need, different shapes, different sizes, offset mounting holes, piling or pedestal mounts. Can be reconfigured to different heights, distance above the bottom and adjust the complexity (rugosity). Install it in high-wave energy areas without worry about storm event damage.

Walter Marine/EcoSystems is available worldwide. Mold rental, franchises, all phases of design, construction, and installation are

ECOSYSTEMS

By [Reefmaker](#)

Deadman's Island



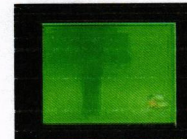
Wave Attenuator...[\[more\]](#)

What is EcoSystem?



New and Innovative Reef Design ...[\[more\]](#)

Snorkling Reef



The First of Its Kind...[\[more\]](#)

EcoSystems



Choose Your Reef Carefully...
[\[more\]](#)

Wave Attenuator



available. Contact David Walter with any questions. 251-979-2200

Ecosystem News



Ship

[271' Ship for Reef](#)



Reality Show

[Weather Channel Show](#)



Navarre Snorkeling Reef

[3 new Snorkeling Reefs for Navarre, Florida](#)



Deadman's Island

[EcoSystems Chosen for Deadman's Island](#)



New Reefs of State Pier

[Gulf State Park Pier Gets EcoSystems Reefs](#)



Snorkeling reef

[Pensacola Beach Snorkeling Reef by EcoSystems](#)



Snorkeling Reef

[Fox Tens News Report](#)



Florida Limestone Reefs

[Tropical Storm Ida](#)



BP Oil Spill

[Oil! Oil! Everywhere](#)

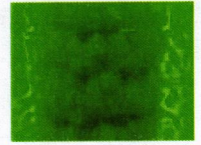


Mississippi Sound Shoreline Protection

[EcoSystems Test](#)

Shoreline Protection...[\[more\]](#)

Habitat Enhancer



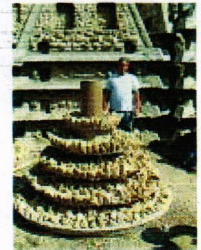
EcoSystems providing habitat for juvenile fish...[\[more\]](#)

Under Dock Reef



Catch fish from your own dock...[\[more\]](#)

Coral Reef Restoration

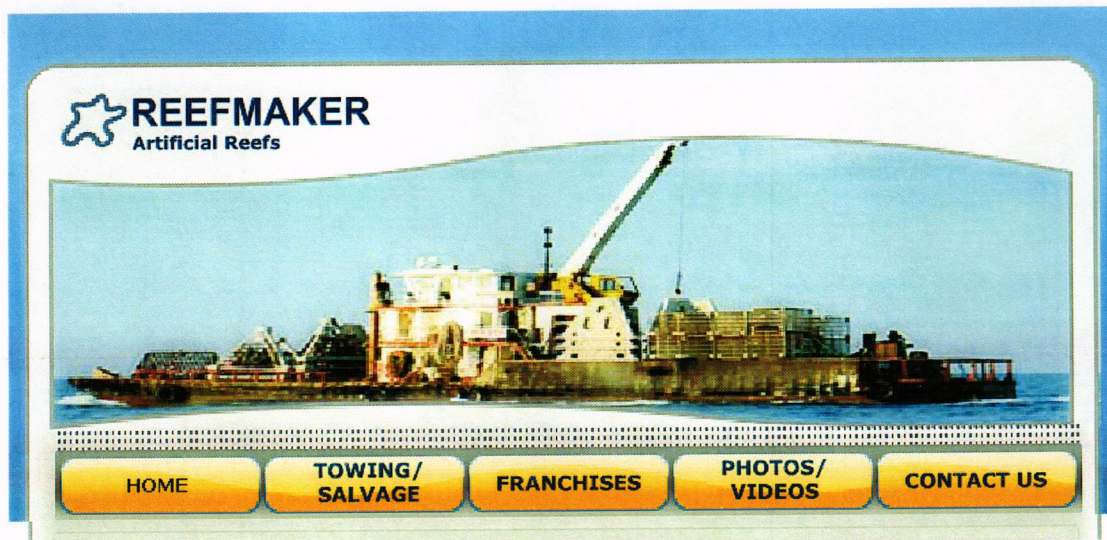


Configure EcoSystems to any size, shape or height. ...[\[more\]](#)

Oyster Reef



Oyster Reef Restoration...[\[more\]](#)



Artificial Reefs



Walter Marine/"Reefmaker" deployed its first reef in 1986 and today is the largest artificial reef builder in America. Reefmaker has deployed over 25,000+ reefs and owns four (4) patents. Research has proven our reef units outperform all others in natural substrate, complexity/rugosity, durability, size, production of fish, estuary substitute and wave attenuation.

Over the years artificial reefs have evolved from dumping unwanted junk into the water to custom designed reef systems mimicking natural reefs in substrate, size, appearance and durability. Today's reef systems are designed for specific tasks, such as specific species habitat, wave attenuation, oyster

Artificial Reefs For Sale

Purchasing an Artificial Reef

How Does The Private Reef Building System Work?

[more](#)



Florida Limestone Artificial Reef

The "Florida Limestone" reef was developed over a three-year period and deployed as a new reef unit in 2007. It preformed better than we ever hoped, producing fish in record time. It's cave-like structure is ideal for Grouper and Snapper love it.



\$1,495

[more](#)

Eco Systems

EcoSystems, This is our newest reef designed for inshore habitat, shoreline protection, Coral reef restoration, and mitigation.



POR

[more](#)

Florida Special Artificial Reef

Florida Special Artificial Reef. Over 10 feet tall with 12 foot triangular base. Heavy steel (3/4 to 1 inch) panels. (This reef is on sale for \$1200 for a limited time)



\$1,395

[more](#)

Memorial Reef

Wonderful way to remember a loved one. Check out our full range of services



\$1,595

[more](#)

Grouper Reef

restoration, estuary enhancement, coral reef repair, recreational diving, fishing reefs, fishery management, barriers to protect endangered habitat, snorkeling reefs and as integral parts of pier construction.

The largest challenge to providing a substitute for natural reefs is the substrate. Man is not able to duplicate nature's perfect surface for reef flora and fauna to live on. No concrete reef can ever mimic a natural reef in biotic structure.

The solution is to use natural material. The reefs shown on the right have evolved from years of research and development. While all our reefs have alternate substrate, the best artificial reef material is natural soft rock. Here on the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Coasts, Florida Limestone rock, comprised of ancient clam shells, is the perfect substrate for marine life.

Our patented process of attaching soft rock to the concrete structure assures durability while increasing the surface area of the concrete structure, therefore attracting and providing habitat for all marine life associated with the natural reefs in the area, including boring animals, never before seen on a manufactured artificial reef.

Grouper Reef designed exclusively for Grouper

[more](#)



\$1,395

FAD

Fish Attractor Device

[more](#)



\$150

Artificial Reef News

Ship for Sale

Ship for sale as artificial reef

[more](#)



Salvage

Vessel Salvage

[more](#)



Snorkling Reef

Pensacola gets first snorkling reef

[more](#)



Artificial Reefs Help Economy

Economic Impacts of Artificial Reefs

[more](#)



Texas Reefs

Texas purchases 400 reefs for S.A.L.T. reef site 20 miles off Sabine Pass

[more](#)



Okaloosa County reefs

Okaloosa County gets 32 "Florida Limestone Reefs"

[more](#)



Deadman's Island

EcoSystems Chosen for Deadman's Island

[more](#)



Reefmaker Reality show

Gurney Productions Pilot for a Reality Show

[more](#)



Our latest research has focused on an environmentally friendly replacement for bulkheads. In use in Annapolis, Maryland and Deadman's Island historic site in Gulf Breeze, Florida as a wave attenuator and oyster restoration tool.

Our reef is the only artificial reef approved for use as a snorkeling reef in USA because it is able to withstand surf and storm events. Visit our EcoSystems website <http://www.reefmaker-ecosystems.com/> for more information.

[more](#)

University of Florida

More Reefs for Grouper Study

[more](#)



Fox Ten News Report

Fox Ten News Report on Snorkling Reef

[more](#)



Reefmaker Units in California

Florida Limestone reefs to be deployed in California

[more](#)



85 lb Cubera Snapper

Graint Cubera Snapper caught on Reefmaker reef

[more](#)



BP Oil Spill

Oil Spill Effects on Reef Building

[more](#)



Launching of Freedom tug

"MARANATHA" chosen to move "Freedom" tug

[more](#)



Gulf State Park

New Artificial Reefs at Gulf State Park Fishing Pier

[more](#)



Gulf State Park Pier

Reefs At New Pier

[more](#)



4 ton WADs

Wave Attenuator Devices for largest shoreline protection project in Alabama

[more](#)



NEW REEF REGULATIONS

Florida Corps of Engineers passes new reef regulations

[more](#)



Riviera Beach Maritime Academy