



Douglas E. Barr
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

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August 9, 2011

Ms. Mimi Drew
Special Advisor to Secretary Herschel Vinyard
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard M.S. 49
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Subj: Support for The Nature Conservancy's Early NRDA Funding Projects

Dear Ms. Drew :

The Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) is pleased to write this letter of support for The Nature Conservancy's projects submitted to the State of Florida for consideration of Early Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) funding arising as a result of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Specifically, we are supportive of the *Living Shoreline and Oyster Reef Restoration in Pensacola Bay* and the *Rattlesnake Bluff Road and Riverbank Restoration* projects.

The NFWFMD manages land adjacent to these projects and is very supportive of the proposed restoration activities and we are confident that they will be designed and implemented to meet restoration goals and criteria authorized under the Framework for Early Restoration Addressing Injuries Resulting from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

As an integral natural resource manager in the Pensacola Bay region we are happy to support the *Living Shoreline and Oyster Reef Restoration in Pensacola Bay* and *Rattlesnake Bluff Road and Riverbank Restoration* proposed NRDA projects. We look forward to opportunities where we can offer assistance to help implement these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William O. Cleckley".

William O. Cleckley, Director
Division of Land Management and Acquisition

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