

# 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.

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**Project Name:** *(Include project number from DEP's existing list of submitted projects, if applicable.)*

W-3 Recreation Loss Projects: Boardwalks and Dune Crossovers

- 1. Walton Dunes Beach Access Improvements**
- 2. Montigo Avenue Beach Access Improvements**
- 3. Overflow Parking for Montigo, Santa Clara and Paleyo Beach Accesses**

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**Contact Information:**

Billy McKee, Teri Giles: 850-892-8108

Project Manager: Dave Sell, Tourist Development Council - 850-267-4578

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

- 1. Walton Dunes**, 258 Beachfront Trail, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459; Long: 86.08730994, Lat: 30.30377301
- 2. Montigo Avenue**, 3512 East County Hwy 30-A, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459; Long: 86.11803, Lat: 30.31468
- 3. Overflow Parking**, North side of County Hwy 30-A, between Santa Clara Street and Paleyo Avenue, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

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

**1. Walton Dunes.** This parcel is approximately 2.4 acres of beach and dunes. It is owned by the County but remains undeveloped at this time. With loss of recreational opportunity for both local residents and tourists, this proposal is made to offset that loss and provide for enhancement of current public access to the beach. Improvement of this beach access will provide 47 parking spaces, 2 handicapped parking spaces, a dune walkover and public restrooms.

**2. Montigo Avenue.** This parcel is less than an acre of beach and dunes. It is owned by the County but remains undeveloped at this time. With loss of recreational opportunity for both local residents and tourists, this proposal is made to offset that loss and provide for enhancement of current public access to the beach. Improvement of this beach access will provide 20 parking spaces and a dune walkover allowing beach visitors to access the beach while protecting the dunes.

**3. Overflow Parking.** This project will utilize existing right of way to provide 42 additional parking spaces for three nearby beach accesses.

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**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.)*

**1. Walton Dunes.** Estimated project costs for Planning, Construction and Monitoring is \$266,966.02 (see Budget Worksheet). Once completed, the maintenance of this facility will be minimal and absorbed into the normal operations of the Tourist Development Council maintenance staff.

**2. Montigo Avenue.** Estimated project costs for Planning, Construction and Monitoring is \$153,165.80 (see Budget Worksheet). Once completed, the maintenance of this facility will be minimal and absorbed into the normal operations of the Tourist Development Council maintenance staff.

**3. Overflow Parking.** Estimated project costs for Planning, Construction and Monitoring is \$458,889.80 (see Budget Worksheet). Once completed, the maintenance of this facility will be minimal and absorbed into the normal operations of the Tourist Development Council maintenance staff.

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#### **Anticipated Project Outcome with Respect to Screening Criteria**

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

Walton County has 11 regional beach accesses with basic facilities. County staff have constructed dune walkovers and beach accesses and are familiar with design and construction of these facilities.

**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.)*

**1. Walton Dunes.** This project will impact only 0.5 acre of the 2.4 acre site. The dune walkover will protect existing dune and the remaining beach will be preserved as dune habitat.

**2. Montigo Avenue.** This project will have minimal impact on less than one acre. The dune walkover will protect the existing dunes and the remaining beach will be preserved as dune habitat.

**3. Overflow Parking.** This project will have minimal impact. The site is cleared and being used as an access road with no existing vegetation.

**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.)*

Not applicable.

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

Yes.

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**Anticipated Project Outcome with Respect to Evaluation Criteria**

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**E1. Will restore, rehabilitate, or replace a natural resource or service<sup>1</sup> 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 beach was impacted by oil in the form of tar balls and/or mats. During the oil spill response effort, County public accesses on Walton County beaches and major parking areas were continuously utilized. This resulted in unavoidable soiling of boardwalks with oil and tar from foot traffic. Several unimproved access points were utilized by manual labor and response vehicles, degrading these areas. This proposal is to improve and enhance existing access points.

**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.)*

All Walton County beaches were impacted by tar balls and/or mats. Two of these properties are located directly on the Gulf of Mexico, and the third is immediately north of three public accesses.

**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.)*

**1. Walton Dunes.** This project does not require a FDEP permit since it is north of the CCCL (coastal construction control line). We currently have a conceptual layout of the new facility and anticipate completing the design within 45 days. Once design is complete, project construction will require 60 days to complete.

**2. Montigo Avenue.** This project will require a FDEP permit, taking approximately 60-90 days. Design will take approximately 60 days to complete, with construction requiring another 45 days to complete.

**3. Overflow Parking.** This project is proposed and is currently in the conceptual phase. It will not require a FDEP permit since it is north of the CCCL.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.)*

The County has experience constructing beach access facilities and will use the most cost-effective methods. After construction, maintenance costs will be minimal while providing the public with enhanced beach accesses.

**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.)*

The County has and continues to successfully operate 11 regional beach accesses with similar facilities.

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

The County will be able to provide beach access to the public immediately following construction.

**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 public has historically supported more public access to the beach. These projects will provide needed parking and access facilities.

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## **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**

Submit this form via email to Jessica Kanes at [Jessica.Kanes@dep.state.fl.us](mailto: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  
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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*").