

Coastal Dune Lake Advisory Board
70 Logan Lane
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

June 11, 2013

Walton County Board of Commissioners
District One - Bill Chapman
District Two - Kenneth Pridgen
District Three - Bill Imfeld
District Four - Sara Comander
District Five - Cindy Meadows

Dear Commissioners,

The board members of the Coastal Dune Lake Advisory Board voted to support the Coastal Dune Lakes Culverts to Bridges Project, on May 23, 2013. The restoration project on Draper, Big Redfish, Little Redfish, Alligator and Deer lakes, all globally rare & imperiled coastal dune lakes, will remove the existing culverts and replace them with span bridges. By removing the un-natural restricted barrier, the northern fresh water & southern brackish water sections of the lakes will reconnect as one. This project will help to restore the estuarine habitat, provide additional storm water capacity, and provide spawning areas for many species. As the lakes return to their natural state, they will provide additional recreational opportunities as well as protection to those living on their shores. It will benefit the community by returning the lakes to a more natural state.

The Coastal Dune Lake Advisory Board believes that this project is an important step to restore these rare water bodies. We also ask that the Board of County Commissioners fund the surveying of this project so that the DEP permitting process can start and this project can move from a concept to a shovel-ready project. We ask that this project be submitted as a Walton County NRDA project as well as a Restore Act project or any other funding source available to Walton County.

Thank you,

Marsha Anderson
Chairwoman, Coastal Dune Lake Advisory Board