



Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF) Florida 2016 Project Pre-proposal

Project Title: Indian Creek Park Expansion

Project Location (include watershed, see <http://www.protectingourwater.org/watersheds/map/>):

Estimated Project Cost: \$5,000,000

Additional Funding Sources (anticipated source and amount, if applicable):

Proposed Project Period: June 2016-June 2018

Project Lead Agency/Organization: Apalachicola Riverkeeper

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	EMAIL and/or PHONE	ROLE
Apalachicola Riverkeeper	Dan Tonsmeire	Dan@apalachicolariverkeeper.org (850) 508-7787	Coordinator
Florida Trust for Public Lands	Greg Chelius	Greg.Chelius@tpl.org	Land Acquisition agent

Partner Organizations (if applicable):

Pre-proposal Project Narrative

- 1. Project Description:** *Please provide a brief narrative that outlines the conservation outcome(s) of the project and the proposed scope of work for achieving project outcome(s). Briefly describe how the expected outcome(s) will remedy harm to natural resources of a type affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, consistent with the conservation priorities for the GEBF (e.g., barrier islands, beach/dune habitat, coastal marsh, bays and estuaries, coastal and marine living resources).*

Indian Creek Park was purchased by TPL using FCT funding in 2005. The purpose of the park was to remove development from the near shore area that was impacting the water quality and degrading the land on the Eastern Shore of Apalachicola Bay. Since that time, the park has been cleaned up and maintained by Franklin County. Under a project from USFWS and NFWF, the shoreline along the bay has restored using a living shoreline technique permitted by the Florida DEP and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The primary purpose of this proposal is to expand the park from its current two acres to 7 acres under fee simple



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acquisition and an additional 25 acres using a combination of conservation easements connecting the park with existing buffers set aside by developments along Indian Creek in Eastpoint Florida.

2. **Strategic Significance:** *Briefly describe the strategic significance and priority of the project, including how the project relates to established or emerging plans. In Florida, specifically identify connections between the project and the plans being considered as part of the state's GEBF Restoration Strategy (visit "View a list of plans" at http://dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/nfwf_projects.htm).*

Protecting the shoreline of Apalachicola Bay and the tributaries and wetlands to the Bay has been actively pursued by the NFWFMD in conjunction with its local partners. Franklin County has a 50' vegetative buffer along the wetlands and water around Apalachicola River and Bay, but these restrictions have been difficult to enforce. Land acquisition and conservation easements has been shown to be the best means for long term protection. This project expands on an existing effort.

3. **Project Development Work Completed to Date:** *To the extent that preliminary planning or budgeting work for this project has been performed, please briefly describe that work and attach supporting documentation if available. If further planning and development work is required for certain components of the project, please describe the work needs to be performed and when that work is expected to be complete. If an Applicant is invited to submit a full proposal, that full proposal must reflect reasonable management plan, scope and cost certainties regarding the work to be performed. For projects that may require distinct steps to complete, NFWF encourages the submission of separate project proposals for one or more project components. These may include preliminary design, planning and development work needed to inform later project phases.*

A preliminary plat map showing the parcels has been developed. Only a portion of the property owner have been contacted and are interested in selling their property. Additional work to collect all property owners contacts and make offers will be necessary to complete the preliminary design.

4. **Supporting Material:** *In order to assist NFWF with scheduling and coordinating the required consultation and technical review activities should a full proposal be invited, please list any supporting materials that would be expected to be submitted at that time (e.g. engineering and design documents, construction plans and specifications, real estate appraisals, etc.).*

Land tax assessments and owners names

5. **Other (Optional):** *Provide any further information important for the review of this pre-proposal.*