



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

Project Title: Apalachicola River Drainage System Conference

Project Location: Apalachicola – Chipola Rivers Watershed

Estimated Project Cost: \$40,000

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

Proposed Project Period: Fall 2016

Project Lead Agency/Organization:

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	EMAIL and/or PHONE	ROLE
Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) for the Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition (RCSC)	Janice Watson	JWatson@thearpc.com 850-488-6211 x. 103	ARPC Finance Director RCSC Administrator
	Joe Crozier	JCrozier@thearpc.com 850-488-6211 x. 104	ARPC Environmental Planner
	Chad Taylor	cctandassociates@gmail.com 850-526-0176	RCSC Coordinator ACFS Governing Board Member

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).*



To coordinate and facilitate a national conference to be held in the Apalachicola Basin in recognition of the 40th Anniversary of the 1976 Apalachicola River Drainage System Conference held in Gainesville, Florida. Invitations to the conference would be targeted to all the Public/Private Apalachicola Watershed Stakeholders on the National, State and Local levels and would mimic the conference held in 1976.

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).*

The timing of securing the funding to hold this type of conference in 2016 is critical as it will be a necessary information exchange during the final stages of development of the USACE Water Control Manual; the current legislation that has been filed on behalf of the needs of the Apalachicola Watershed by US Representative Gwen Graham and the on-going Florida / Georgia Litigation.

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.*

Initial discussions with potential speakers and the formulation of a tentative agenda is underdevelopment by the Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition in cooperation with the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Stakeholders (ACFS) Apalachicola Caucus Policy Group.

The conference will provide a compendium of information concerning the intrinsic and extrinsic values of the Apalachicola Drainage System. Various topics will be covered including the legal, economic, managerial, and environmental aspects of the Apalachicola Basin. The principal aim of the conference will be to ultimately present a multidisciplinary base of information that can be used in future planning and management decisions.

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.).*

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