



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

Project Title: Comprehensive Apalachicola Watershed Recovery and Management Plan (CAWRM Plan)

Project Location: Apalachicola – Chipola Rivers Watershed

Estimated Project Cost: \$100,000

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

Proposed Project Period: 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

- 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).*



NFWF

The RCSC proposes to develop a Comprehensive Apalachicola Watershed Recovery and Management (CAWRM) Plan for the Apalachicola River Watershed. At a minimum, the CAWRM Plan will incorporate all elements within the existing Apalachicola River and Bay SWIM Plan, including the 2016/2017 updates now in progress by the Northwest Florida Water Management District. In addition, other concerns and issues will be included based on stakeholder input including but not limited to innovative ecologically compatible agricultural practices and ecotourism.

- 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 CAWRM Plan will have a technical component that will include support documentation provided by experts in the ecology and science of the Apalachicola Basin to support the validity and environmental compatibility of the identified projects.

- 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.*

The RCSC through a contract with Lincoln Walthers Consulting, LLC and an investment of \$15,000 has initiated an extensive research and interview process with numerous stakeholders both public and private in the six riparian counties of the Apalachicola River. The interviews and respective report have cataloged the area of interest and/or concern of the individual stakeholders as well as the list of projects for the Watershed already submitted to the FDEP RESTORE Portal. This list of projects however, is only a preliminary list and the full development of the CAWRM Plan will expand and prioritize these and many other projects that will be identified during the planning process. The Public Engagement portion of the CAWRM Plan will involve:

- obtaining information needed for the Plan;
- disseminating information to watershed stakeholders, and;
- receiving input and comments as well as partner in the development and prioritization of selected projects.

- 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.).*