



April 26, 2017

Florida Trustee Implementation Group
Water Quality Subcommittee
C/O Phil Coram, Program Administrator
Deep Water Horizon Unit
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd. MS#240
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Subject: Letter of Support for Restoring Lost Use: Public Waterway Access to Escambia River and Escambia Bay (Swamp House Marina) Project

Dear Mr. Coram,

The University of West Florida (UWF) is pleased to provide this letter fully supporting Escambia County's proposed water quality and ecosystem restoration project which plans to correct issues with UWF and FDOT areas upstream of Escambia County's Swamp House Marina Fish Camp Road Bridge project. The problems are creating environmental and public access issues for the Ferry Pass Bayou and Escambia Bay water systems. This issue was a result of the historic rainfall and subsequent flooding, which occurred in April/May of 2014.

The grant, which Escambia County is requesting, will restore the quality of the water and surrounding ecosystem from areas to the south of UWF, all the way through to the Swamp House Marina/Ferry Pass Bayou including UWF, Escambia County and FDOT properties. Additionally, the project will restore the ability of the public to have easy access to the State of Florida waterways.

UWF appreciates the opportunity to support Escambia County's efforts to correct the severe water quality and ecosystem damage caused by the past major flooding. Should you need further information please contact our Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Peter Robinson, at 850-474-2435 or by email at probinso@uwf.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Cunningham", is written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Steve Cunningham
Vice President

cc: Dr. Martha Saunders, UWF President
Mr. Mort O'Sullivan, UWF BOT Chair