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GULF COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT PRE-PROPOSAL FORM

Project Name: Demolish and remove existing structures at the Deal Tract

Submitting Entity: Friends of the St Joseph Bay Preserves

- I. Please select one or more eligible activity that the project is classified under:
- Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.
 - Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources.
 - Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring.
 - Workforce development and job creation.
 - Improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
 - Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure.
 - Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure.
 - Planning assistance.
 - Promotion of tourism and seafood in the Gulf Coast region.
- II. Please provide an executive summary of the project. Describe/quantify the economic (jobs, infrastructure, tourism, etc.) and environmental benefits (habitat, quality, knowledge, long-term sustainability, etc.).

This project will remove a concrete dock structure that extends approximately 400 lineal feet into the southern section of St Joseph Bay, at the "Deal Tract" section of the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve. The several concrete slabs of the structure have differential settlement and are unlevel as a result. Several of the concrete piers have structural cracks and are in danger of failure. A serious storm event could potentially collapse the structure damaging the seagrass beds beneath it and would necessitate removal which could further damage the fragile ecosystem beneath it. A controlled removal of the structure would mitigate this potential damage. The steel tower structure located just to the west of the dock is also in need of major repairs, and it too could be in jeopardy should a major storm event

occur on the Peninsula. As with the dock, a controlled and engineered removal of the structure would limit the effects of environmental damage to the surrounding area from a serious storm.

If feasible, local labor would be used for both the demolition and removal of the structure, as well as the Engineering required.

- III. Please provide a cost summary/budget. Detail any matching/cooperative funds available for use, and any cooperative support from governmental or other agencies.

Estimated Cost:

Concrete Dock: Engineering, demo and disposal.....	\$50,000.00
Steel Tower: Engineering, demo and disposal.....	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
Total Cost.....	\$75,000.00

Partnerships and cooperative support may be forthcoming from: Gulf County, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Office of Greenways and Trails; The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

- IV. Please provide a timeline for project completion. Explain the technical and environmental feasibility (including any permitting considerations) of the project.

It is estimated that the demolition of both the dock and the tower could occur simultaneously and should take no more than three (3) months to complete, weather permitting.

Environmentally and technically, the planned and engineered removal of the structures is more feasible than an emergency prompted removal from the sensitive sea grass beds following a severe storm event.

- V. Please provide the qualifications of the Submitting Entity, the financial feasibility/sustainability and the economic feasibility and sustainability of the project (probability of success, etc.).

The Friends of the St Joseph Bay Preserves is a not-for-profit Citizen Support Organization (CSO) that has been in existence for over nine years. It was established to protect, preserve and support the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve and the St Joseph Bay Aquatic Preserve. The Friends raise funds and provide volunteer services to help manage the Preserves and foster better understanding and enjoyment of the Buffer Preserve and the Bay.

The demolition and removal of the Deal Tract structures in a controlled and planned manner would offer a more financially feasible alternative to a removal necessitated by a severe storm event.

- VI. Please provide the anticipated results of the project, and whether it is included in a City of Port St. Joe, City of Wewahitchka or Gulf County Comprehensive and Mitigation Plan?

The project, when completed, will restore the East portion of the Deal Tract to a more natural environment without time-worn manmade structures that could potentially collapse or fail during severe Tropical Storm or Hurricane winds and wave action. The elimination of these structures will mitigate damage to the environment that would occur as a result of their collapse, as well as reduce completely the liability exposure these structures present to the curious public who may try to use them despite existing warning signs and fences.

The following Goals, Objectives, and /or Policies included in the *Gulf County Comprehensive and Mitigation Plan* may, in part, be met by implementation of this project:

Chapter 1: Land Use Element

POLICY 1.1.9 (c): *To promote the protection of wetlands and surface water resources in all coastal, inland riverine and isolated wetlands.....The County shall: require the use of vegetated buffer zones adjacent to wetlands and surface waters consistent with the following standards herein and as prescribed in Future Land Use Element 1.1.10 and 2.2.1.*

Chapter 6: Conservation Element

OBJECTIVE 1.4: *Gulf County will conserve, appropriately use, and protect its natural resources, including fisheries, wildlife, wildlife habitat, marine habitat, minerals, soils, and native vegetative communities by implementing Policies 1.4.1 through 1.4.11.*

Chapter 7: Recreation and Open Space Element

GOAL 1: *To provide recreational opportunities and open space for the current and future residents and visitors of Gulf County.*

Submitted By:



President, Board of Directors

2-26-13

Signature

Title

Date

Friends of the St Joseph Bay Preserves

Company Name

3915 Highway C 30

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Port St Joe, FL 32456

Address

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Telephone Number

ehrman.john@yahoo.com

E-mail Address (if applicable)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
RESTORE ACT COMMITTEE (R.A.C.)

1000 CECIL G. COSTIN SR. BLVD., ROOM 312, PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456
PHONE (850)229-6144 • FAX (850) 229-9252 • EMAIL: tkopinsky@gulfcounty-fl.gov

**PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY AND PUBLIC ACCESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR
GULF COUNTY RESTORE ACT APPLICANTS**

I, JOHN EHRMAN the undersigned authority and/or representative of the entity FRIENDS SJB PRESERVES and or the individual who has submitted the Gulf County RESTORE Act Proposal/Pre-Proposal titled DEMO & REMOVE EXISTING STRUCTURES AT DEAL TRACT hereby acknowledge, consent and accept the following representations that coincide with my/our submission for consideration, evaluation and possible recommendation and approval by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners for funding from the RESTORE Act distribution that strictly complies with the guidelines and regulations set forth under the Restoration and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012:

1. I/We am the authorized representative of the application/pre-proposal referenced above.
2. I/We have thoroughly reviewed and familiarized myself and/or my entity on which I have submitted the application/pre-proposal on behalf of with the entirety of the Gulf County Public Records policy.
3. I/We have thoroughly reviewed and familiarized myself and/or my entity on which I have submitted the application/pre-proposal on behalf of with the entirety of the Florida Statute Chapter 119 which controls and permits public access to information.
4. I/We hereby acknowledge, consent and agree to the controlling policies and statutes above as well as the free and open exchange of any and all submissions provided hereunder this application/pre-proposal and all information exchanged hereafter including but not limited to further amendments to these proposals as well as surveys, studies, research, data production, books, drawings, property records, work papers, county owner lists, files, forms, reports, accounts, documents, manuals, handbooks, instructions, printouts relating in any manner for the production of the application. In addition, all papers, notes, data, reference material, documentation, programs, printouts, and all other media and forms of expression that in any way include, incorporate or reflect any confidential information of what ultimately shall become the Gulf County plans for use and application of the RESTORE Act funding.
5. I/We acknowledge, agree and fully consent to cooperate with the appointed Gulf County RESTORE ACT committee, county officials and staff as a continuing obligation and condition of final review for this RESTORE Act application/pre-proposal.
6. I/We have submitted this acknowledgment to Gulf County RESTORE Act Committee and the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners for the purpose and intent of receiving an evaluation, review and possible recommendations for anticipated funding from the Restoration and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012.


Signature of RESTORE Act Applicant

Date: 2-28-2013

John Ehrman
Printed Name