



Florida: Living Shoreline Projects

Phase III Proposed Early Restoration Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The *Deepwater Horizon* Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees are proposing two living shoreline projects in Florida, located in Escambia and Franklin counties. As a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, benthic secondary productivity and salt marsh habitats along Florida's Panhandle suffered adverse impacts. These two proposed living shoreline projects seek to foster reef development and salt marsh habitat by constructing breakwaters and planting salt marsh vegetation.

Florida is partnering with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on the proposed Florida Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline Project. The project consists of implementing living shoreline techniques at two neighboring sites, Project GreenShores (PGS) Site II and Sanders Beach, both located in Escambia County. Living shorelines protect and stabilize coastline while creating new habitat for fish, oysters, and birds at the same time. PGS Site II is located immediately west of Muscogee Wharf in downtown Pensacola and would complete the construction of the third breakwater structure at this site. The Sanders Beach site is three miles to the west, near the mouth of Bayou Chico. The Sanders Beach site project design is in the conceptual phase but the intention is to expand on the successful Project GreenShores effort by implementing similar design and restoration techniques. Breakwaters would be constructed at both sites to protect the embayment and the created salt marsh habitat.

This project would create and restore approximately 18.8 acres of salt marsh habitat and four acres of reefs would be constructed.

The other proposed project is the Florida Cat Point Living Shoreline Project, which is located in Franklin County. This project intends to expand on an existing breakwater on-site of the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Office Complex and Nature Center in Eastpoint. The area has been the location of previous successful living shorelines projects. Breakwaters would be constructed to protect the embayment and the created salt marsh habitat. The living shoreline technique will be employed along approximately 0.3 mile of shoreline and will create approximately one acre of salt marsh habitat.

ESTIMATED COST

The Florida Pensacola Bay Living Shorelines project is \$11.6 million.

The Florida Cat Point Living Shoreline project is \$775,605.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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