

# Florida: Okaloosa County Projects

## Phase III Proposed Early Restoration Project

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The *Deepwater Horizon* Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees are proposing two recreational use projects in Okaloosa County. As a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the public's access to and enjoyment of their natural resources along Florida's Panhandle was denied or severely restricted. These two proposed recreational use projects seek to enhance and/or increase the public's use and/or enjoyment of those natural resources.

The proposed Norriego Point Restoration and Recreation project is located in Destin. The purpose of this project is to protect, stabilize, and re-establish the recreational opportunities of Norriego Point. The project would involve the construction of several erosion control structures to dissipate wave energy and protect the fill placed landward of the revetment to restore and expand the land area lost over time, approximately eight acres. Two new embayments will provide additional swimming areas as well as more space for boats and kayaks to pull in. Other facilities will include a picnic pavilion with restrooms, showers, and drinking fountains; educational signage; a multi-use trail, bike racks, and vehicle parking along the access road adjacent to the park land.

The proposed Northwest Florida Estuarine Habitat Restoration, Protection, and Education (Fort Walton Beach) project is located on Fort Walton Beach. The project would create an educational and interactive boardwalk, approximately 8,390 ft long, which would allow public access to areas of Santa Rosa Sound. In addition, the project would take advantage of access

and equipment availability to conduct several small natural resource and habitat enhancement projects including a 0.1 acre expansion of an existing intertidal oyster reef and an approximately 0.4 acre restoration of a degraded salt marsh by planting appropriate native vegetation in Santa Rosa Sound. These resource enhancements would provide additional educational opportunities along the new boardwalk.

### ESTIMATED COST

The Norriego Point Restoration and Recreation project is \$10,228,130.

The Northwest Florida Estuarine Habitat Restoration, Protection, and Education (Fort Walton Beach) project is \$4,643,547.





**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**  
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