Bay County, Florida RESTORE Act Project
Pre-proposal Form
Fall 2014

Project Number *(For Staff Only)*

Bay PRP 2014-027

Submittal Date

11/03/2014

Revised 10/09/14

Purpose: This form is designed to assist citizens, businesses, public or private organizations, and local governments wishing to submit a project for consideration of funding from the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund Direct Component dollars allocated to Bay County by the 2012 RESTORE Act. Additional information on this process, including deadlines, is provided at http://baycountyfl.gov/restore/preproposal.php

Funds are provided to Bay County, as a federal grant, usually on a project-by-project basis. **Organizations wishing to manage a project must have the capacity to manage a federal grant and comply with all of its requirements.**

A maximum of $6.3 million will be available for this funding cycle. Projects not funded in this cycle may be proposed in future application cycles.

NOTE: ** Only information submitted on this form will be considered. Complete the form, save it and email it to RESTOREproposals@baycountyfl.gov. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your pre-proposal. Please note that Florida has a very broad Public Records Law and your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Criteria for eligible projects

A proposed project must meet all the following criteria in order to be eligible for Bay County's Direct Component funds:

1. Within Bay County or adjacent surface and Gulf waters, or with an identified and strong benefit to the County
2. Addresses one or more RESTORE Act eligible activities http://tinyurl.com/RESTOREActEligibleActivities
3. Addresses one or more Bay County Multi-Year Implementation Plan Objectives http://tinyurl.com/GoalsObjBayMYIP
4. Is not fully funded by another source of money
5. Has a recognizable public benefit

Project Name *(Character count limited to 250)*

Gulf World Marine Institute Marine Animal Stranding, Rehabilitation and Necrops

Project Proposer Name *(Character count limited to 50)*

Ron Hardy, Gulf World Marine Institute, Inc.

Affiliation *(Character count limited to 50)*

501(c) 3 organization/ Gulf World Marine Park,Ir

Position *(Character count limited to 50)*

President

Mailing Address

Street / P O Box

15412 Front Beach Road

City

Panama City Beach

State

FL

Zip Code

32413

E-Mail Address

ron@gulfworldmarinepark.cor

Web-Site

gulfworldmarineinstitute.org

Phone Number

850-258-0949

Fax Number

850-235-8957

Project Description *(Character count limited to 500)*

Construction of a new facility to enhance and expand existing response and rehabilitation capabilities and new public education and research programs for stranded marine animals

Project Size (acres)

1.3

Public Benefit *(Clearly and briefly describe anticipated outcomes and benefit to the public. Complete only those that apply) (Character count limited to 300 on each topic)*

Economic

Gulf World Marine Park, Inc (GWMP) has been providing marine entertainment and education programs to visitors of Bay County for generations. Over 125,000 visitors spent $6.5 million last

Environmental

GWMP has been involved in marine animal recovery since 1970 and is considered a leading exhibit and rehabilitation facility in the nation, responding to cold stunned turtles and dolphins following BP spill (Unusual Mortality Events). New Center will allow expanded UME response

Social

New Rescue Center will provide 7,000 sq ft of science, research and education space,not just for sea turtles and marine mammals, but all marine life, particularly recreational and commercial fishery. Social benefits of better understanding and helping marine life is unmeasurable, but

Other

GWMP helped establish the 501(c)3 GW Marine Institute in 2012 to better focus and separate rehab efforts and apply for federal, state and foundation grants to support and expand efforts.

RESTORE Act Direct Component eligible activity that the project undertakes *(Check only those that apply)*

Activities Eligible for Funding

- ☐ 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
- ☐ Administrative costs of complying with this subsection
- ☑ Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing
- ☑ Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region

Bay County RESTORE Act Multi-Year Implementation Plan objectives addressed *(Check only those that apply; read full text of each objective before checking the box. Full text can be downloaded at http://tinyurl.com/GoalsObjBayMYIP)*

Economic Development and Job Creation

- [x] Objective 1.1 Diversify the Economy
- [x] Objective 1.2 Contribute to infrastructure
- [ ] Objective 1.3 Expand airport economic benefits
- [ ] Objective 1.4 In-demand job training
- [x] Objective 1.5 Workforce development fund
- [x] Objective 1.6 Facilities to foster tourism and economic development
- [x] Objective 1.7 Recreation, public transportation, and opportunities for wage improvements
- [x] Objective 1.8 Conserve and protect natural resources
- [x] Objective 1.9 Promote recreational Gulf fishing
- [x] Objective 1.10 Community resilience planning

Environment

- [ ] Objective 2.1 Improve and protect the St. Andrew Bay watershed
- [ ] Objective 2.2 Improve and protect water quality
- [ ] Objective 2.3 Protect seagrass beds
- [x] Objective 2.4 Increase awareness of wildlife habitat
- [ ] Objective 2.5 Acquisition and management of coastal conservation lands
- [ ] Objective 2.6 Preserve and restore dune systems and living shorelines
- [x] Objective 2.7 Contribute to the protection and recovery of protected species
- [x] Objective 2.8 Sustainable approach to long-term collection of water data

Public Infrastructure

- [ ] Objective 3.1 Maintain water quality in Deer Point Lake
- [ ] Objective 3.2 Stabilize unpaved roads
- [ ] Objective 3.3 Upgrade sewage treatment to advanced wastewater treatment levels
- [ ] Objective 3.4 Replacement of septic tanks with centralized wastewater treatment
- [ ] Objective 3.5 Upgrading stormwater treatment facilities
- [x] Objective 3.6 Promote low impact development
- [x] Objective 3.7 Increase coastal resilience
- [ ] Objective 3.8 Support the Port Authority's efforts to add capacity and increase trade

Location

Describe Project Location *(Character count limited to 300)*

15412 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, Florida

Provide the location of the center of the project as latitude/longitude in decimal degrees (e.g. latitude 30.1312, longitude -85.7327). To determine this, go to the Bay County ArcGIS Map, (works best in Chrome or Internet Explorer browsers) put the pointer on the center of your project, and note the latitude and longitude from the bottom left corner.

Latitude

30.211608

Longitude

-85.866058

Cost

Estimated total cost of project

$2,821,000.00

Amount being requested

$750,000.00

Describe what the requested funds will be used for. *(Character count limited to 300)*

100% dedicated to construction of new Rescue Facility. Over $1.6 million already received for equipment, supplies, land and some staffing. Remainder will be provided by other grants, including potential RESTORE, and private funding opportunities.

If long term funding is needed, indicate the anticipated funding source and availability. *(Character count limited to 300)*

Continuing OMB costs and any improvements/ expansions would be the responsibility of the GWMI and other state, federal, private funding partners. Using the requested funds as match

Estimate amount of time needed to complete the project

- [x] 0 to 2 years
- [ ] 3 to 6 years
- [ ] 7 to 10 years
- [ ] 11 plus years

Matching funds

Are matching funds available?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, describe source and if the match is secured. *(Character count limited to 300)*

State,federal and local grant programs, other RESTORE related NFWF, NRDA, NOAA funding, NGO and private institutions related to marine research, education and rehab . Besides NFWF and some direct BP support for equipment and supplies, no match has been secured for the

Amount of match secured

$1,026,000.00

Percent of estimated project cost to be provided by matching funds

50%

Partnerships

Are any partnerships anticipated for this project?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, please provide name of partner(s)

NMFS, FWC, USFWS, U of F, Auburn, GWMI, local TDC/ EDC

Have funds requested for this project also been requested from another source?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If yes, indicate which source, when requested, anticipated decision and date of decision. *(Character count limited to 300)*

Is this project already fully funded by another source of money?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Bay County, Florida RESTORE Act
2014 - 2015 Full Proposal Form

Project Number:
(For Staff Only)

Bay PRP 2014-027

Submittal Date:

02/07/2015

Form Revised:

January 5, 2015

Purpose: This form is for those projects that the Bay County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee advanced from the pre-proposal phase to the full proposal phase. These projects are being considered for potential funding from the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund Direct Component dollars allocated to Bay County by the 2012 RESTORE Act.

Process: The information required by Bay County's full proposal form will build upon the information provided in the pre-proposal form. Bay County staff will provide to the project applicant the completed pre-proposal form previously submitted, merged with the blank full proposal form. Applicants will complete the full proposal form and may make changes in the merged pre-proposal form. For each proposal, only those RESTORE Act eligible activities and Bay County Multi-Year Implementation Plan objectives that are fully justified by the applicant will be considered. Each proposal must support at least one eligible activity and one objective.

The Committee will recommend projects for funding to the Bay County Board of County Commissioners. The Board will decide which projects to submit for federal funding. Information in addition to that provided in the full proposal may be required from an applicant before consideration of the project by the Board of County Commissioners and/or before the County applies for federal grant funds, especially for those projects proposed to be managed by an entity other than Bay County. For those projects selected by the Board, project proposers will be responsible for providing all project-related information required by Treasury's grant application process, described in "RESTORE Act Direct Component Guidance and Application to Receive Federal Financial Assistance".

All Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (RESTORE Act) Direct Component funds reserved for Bay County will come to Bay County in the form of federal grants on a project-by-project basis. Direct Component funds are governed by federal regulations (31 C.F.R. Part 34), as well as guidance issued by the Office of Management and Budget entitled, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" (78 Fed. Reg. 78,590; December 26, 2013).

Grant funds for each project may be managed directly by Bay County or may be passed through to qualified sub-recipients. Projects of the type that normally would be competitively bid by Bay County will be competitively bid.

Instructions: Applicants must complete this form in electronic pdf format, save it, and email it to RESTOREproposals@baycountyfl.gov. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your proposal. Please note that Florida has a very broad Public Records Law and your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

If you are using Chrome browser, you may have difficulty with the form. Do not use Chrome's default pdf reader. Adobe Reader XI or newer is needed to complete the form.
If you do not have the reader, you can download it for free from the Adobe website. For ADA compliance for the visually impaired, we recommend online conversion tools for Adobe PDF documents.

A. General Information

Name of Proposed Project:

Gulf World Marine Institute Marine Animal Stranding, Rehabilitation and Necropsy Facility

Name of Applicant:

Ron Hardy, Gulf World Marine Institute, Inc.

Project Description:

Construction of a new facility to enhance and expand existing response and rehabilitation capabilities and new public education and research programs for stranded marine animals (turtles and mammals) and other marine life in Bay County and the eastern Gulf of Mexico.

Description of Project Location: *Please provide a written description of the project's location. Please also provide a map of the project boundaries using one of the following methods: GIS, Google Earth KMZ file, parcel numbers, a sketch on a map, or a sketch with geographic reference points. Specify which method is being used. Submit the map file separately to RESTOREproposals@baycountyfl.gov, making sure to include the name of the proposal and to describe the map method used.*

15412 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, Florida (Detailed map of project site and artist rendering available upon request)

B. RESTORE Act eligible activity. *Fully justify how the proposed project qualifies as one or more RESTORE Act eligible activity. Eligibility will be evaluated by Bay County and U.S. Department of the Treasury staff.*

1. Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.

Gulf World Marine Institute (GWMI) is responsible through National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to help with the protection of endangered and protected species by conducting rescue, rehabilitation and release of stranded Sea Turtles and Marine Mammals. GWMI service area (from Ft. Walton Beach to St. Marks, Florida) has one of the highest incidence of marine animal stranding in North America. We also support and implement public information programs that help with the understanding and support of protection of these marine animals in the wild. An important part of our program is to inform locals and visitors to

2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

Marine animals, particularly dolphins and sea turtles, were one of the major species negatively impacted and documented to have been significantly harmed during and following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Gulf World and the GWMI were heavily involved in responding to this Unusual Mortality Event (UME) and mitigating damages to these animal's populations. Through construction and operation or the new Gulf World Marine Institute Marine Animal Stranding, Rehabilitation and Necropsy Facility we will be able to better respond and document mitigation of future UME's in our service area and throughout the northern Gulf of Mexico.

3. Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring.

We hold permits and/or letters of authorization to gather information about sick, injured or dead Marine Animals that is provided to NMFS and FWC. This information helps inform and forms the basis for their comprehensive conservation management plans. Cetaceans, and particularly Dolphins, are a sentinel for Ocean Health. For many years dolphins and sea turtles have been used to monitor the overall environmental health of the Gulf, and St. Andrews Bay in particular. For example, bottle nose dolphins are used to measure air quality problems in some estuaries due their susceptibility to respiratory aliments and lesions from hydrocarbon and other air/ water

4. Workforce development and job creation.

Our project is a "bricks and mortar" project, thus providing many short-term, but locally significant construction jobs to the local construction industry. In addition, our paid staff at the new facility will include Veterinarian and Veterinarian assistants, Administration staff, including Director and Assistant Director, as well as office, maintenance and response and educational/ outreach personal. We will also use a staff of trained, local volunteers. Some of the researchers using the new facility at GWMI, will also require hiring local people to help accomplish their mission. We already except many interns from local schools and universities. Many of these interns may return for

5. Improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

NA

6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure.

NA

7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure.

NA

8. Planning assistance.

NA

9. Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing.

As one of Bay County's leading iconic family-attractions, Gulf World Marine Park is a major player in the promotion of Gulf Coast Regional tourism, bringing visitors from around the state, nationally and internationally. We will promote the new institute facility as the perfect place to come and learn more about Dolphins and Turtles and the issues that face them in their natural habitat, and see first hand how they are properly handled and rehabilitated. The public will also be enlightened how they can help. The new facility will become an attraction of it's own and will be a fun place to learn and promote environmental responsibility while observing our marine animals in their natural

10. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf.

Gulf World has a reef habitat that features specimens from our local Gulf waters, many of local commercial and recreational value. The institute will provide kiosks of the reef and other Gulf habitats, and the educational script that identifies the different fish species, their characteristics, habitats and habits, and their availability to be caught or purchased locally for consumption. We suggest that our visitors try our local seafood while they are in town - where the fish are fresh and delicious, or elsewhere while visiting the Gulf of Mexico. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf in a sustainable way, in partnership with the Fresh from Florida

C. Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (RESTORE Act) Multi-Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) for Bay County objectives. *Fully justify how the proposal meets one or more MYIP objectives.*

1. Economic Development and Job Creation

Objective 1.1: Diversify the economy in areas of aerospace, medical technology, logistics, and advanced manufacturing, tourism development projects and defense.

GWMI is a leader in marine animal medical technology. The Veterinary staff at Gulf World and GWMI are some of the better equipped and trained in the US for rehabilitating and maintaining the health of marine animals. Medical technology advancements for marine animal health care can be transferred to human health. State-of-the-art equipment and qualified staff allow us to perform procedures that others can not. Through our networking with other medical staff and researchers, we will become well known and sought out for these innovations by Universities and Research Facilities from throughout the United States, to improve upon and develop new diagnostic and medical

Objective 1.2: Provide or contribute to infrastructure to attract new and technology-based industry - e.g., high-tech infrastructure hangars/facilities, industrial sites.

NA

Objective 1.3: Support efforts and expand economic benefits from the airport.

NA

Objective 1.4: Provide in-demand job training and align training infrastructure resources for those jobs that are in the community or are anticipated.

NA

Objective 1.5: Establish a flexible workforce development fund able to rapidly respond to specific job-training needs.

NA

Objective 1.6: Develop and promote additional facilities, attractions, ecotourism opportunities, cultural and heritage resources, and other tourism amenities to foster tourism and economic development.

Our project will create a new facility that will be available to the public, at no charge, to learn about responsible ecotourism available in Bay County and give them the opportunities to learn more about the efforts to rescue, rehabilitate and release sick and injured beached marine animals. Because of the movie Dolphin Tale 1 and , particularly, Dolphin Tale 2, that featured a good portrayal of the issues of rescuing and working with stranded marine animals, the publics interest in this process has risen dramatically. The large, female dolphin that was portrayed in both movies, "Panama",stranded in Panama City and was rehabilitated here at Gulf World. NMFS

Objective 1.7: Support recreation (including improved beach and water access), public transportation (including bike lanes), and opportunities for wage improvements that enhance the quality of life of Bay County residents and visitors.

NA

Objective 1.8: Conserve and protect those natural resources that form the basis of the tourist industry.

Our mission and the objective of GWMI is, and always has been, to "Conserve and Protect" our natural resources, with a specific emphasis to rehabilitate and restore healthy populations of Federally Protected Species (Dolphins) and Federally listed Endangered and Threatened Species (Sea Turtles). We work closely with other natural resource conservation organizations to help in support their missions. A recent example is our relationship with FWC and local organization in the "Bad to Feed" programs in our area.

Objective 1.9: Promote recreational Gulf fishing by establishing artificial reefs, highlighting recreational fish species that have fewer catch restrictions, and emphasizing the activity and enjoyment of fishing rather than particular fish species.

As stated earlier, the Reef Aquarium at Gulf World is built around Northern Gulf species, where we display and highlight local fish and promote recreational fishing. With the new GWMI facility, we will display and highlight native species of special interest (i.e., fewer catch restrictions) and promote the fun and responsible recreational fishing for catch and release species and sustainable seafood. Our objective is to also raise guest’s awareness of non-native or invasive species and the negative impacts they have on the marine environment. A good example is the invasive of lionfish in the Gulf of Mexico, and what divers can do to help report and reduce them.

Objective 1.10: Support community resilience planning for locally owned businesses to assist continuity of operations planning for post man-made or natural disasters.

NA - However, the new GWMI facility will be designed and built as an example of resiliency planning on the coast and may highlight operations and planning examples for post man-made disasters (like hurricanes and climate change) by Bay County and other local communities as an educational component.

2. Environment

Objective 2.1: Improve and protect the St. Andrew Bay watershed water quality and watershed condition taking into consideration the recommendations and priorities in the St. Andrew Bay Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan, the St. Andrew Bay Stormwater Management Plan (2009), and the Northwest Florida Water Management District Gulf restoration projects list, as well as the priority recommendations of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and fishery strategies.

NA - However GWMI may be a partner in some of these efforts as mentioned above.

Objective 2.2: Improve and protect the water quality of the St. Andrew Bay, its watershed, coastal lakes, and the Gulf near-shore waters by advancing acquisition of lands and restoration of wetlands and uplands in proximity to the Bay.

NA - However GWMI may be a partner in some of these efforts as mentioned above.

Objective 2.3: Protect seagrass beds by partnering with organizations to institute a public awareness program to inform residents and visitors about the value and potential threats to seagrass beds.

Our public awareness programs, now and at the new facility, will specifically address the importance of sea grass beds and how important it is to protect them. We will also make residents and visitors aware of the consequence if we do not protect them. All our public awareness programs, now and in the future, are used in our visits to classrooms in the public schools and other organizations as well.

Objective 2.4: Increase awareness of the beach and near-shore areas as wildlife habitat.

Our Gulf Coast beaches are a great resource to our many communities along the Panhandle. The wildlife habitats seen along our coast are also vital to the essence of our coastal heritage. This stated, The GWMI educates and promotes conservation and protection of our shorelines on various educational events and outreaches. One program that GWMI is currently implementing in the school system is educating students on the need and results of protecting local Perdido Key beach mice and their surrounding habitats (i.e. sand dunes/sea oats) to the species. The Institute also collaborates with local marine environmental agencies (NMFS Panama City Lab, FWC state-wide and locally, Panama City Beach Turtle Watch and others) to participate in World Oceans Day every year. This event

Objective 2.5: Support acquisition and active management of properties important to coastal conservation lands in order to protect the natural resources.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs as mentioned above.

Objective 2.6: Preserve and restore dune systems and living shorelines, including oyster reefs, seagrass beds and marshes, to improve estuarine habitat and water quality, reduce shoreline erosion, increase coastal resilience and minimize the potential damage to life and property caused by coastal storms.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs as mentioned above.

Objective 2.7: Support projects that contribute to the protection and recovery of protected species listed by the state or federal government and that improve the flexibility of local infrastructure management, development, and business operations.

The heart of our mission is to work closely with state and federal agencies to protect endangered and threatened sea turtles as well as protected marine mammals. The stranding team is on call around the clock to respond to the aid of these animals. We also support projects, such as the construction of the GWMI, that accommodate for the protection and recovery of protected listed species in their development of infrastructure and business on the coast.

Objective 2.8: Support a sustainable approach to long-term collection of water quality and other important environmental data that can be used as indicators of ecosystem health and recovery and provide information for use in adaptive management.

As mentioned previously, Dolphins are a sentinel for Ocean Health. Data that we collect from both live and deceased dolphins and other marine animals is an invaluable indicator of the general health of the ecosystem. NMFS and FWC says that the stranding networks data is a very important element in their federally and state required management plans, and can be used in the adaptive management of these plans. The water quality and other environmental data we collect daily from the Gulf could be provided to others in a long term monitoring program.

3. Public Infrastructure

For this plan, public infrastructure is defined as man-made infrastructure owned by the public and/or for public use. Environmental infrastructure, such as wetlands, the seagrass beds, and other habitats, are included in the Environment section.

Objective 3.1: Maintain water quality in Deer Point Lake, the local potable water supply, at current levels or better through conservation land acquisition, septic tank removal, stabilization of unpaved roads and fertilizer application education.

NA -However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

Objective 3.2: Stabilize unpaved roads in Bay County to reduce nutrient and sedimentation input into the St. Andrew Bay system; prioritize efforts based on proximity to water bodies and other factors, including guidance in the St. Andrew Bay SWIM plan.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

Objective 3.3: Maintain and improve the water quality of the Gulf and the St. Andrew Bay system by upgrading sewage treatment facilities to advanced wastewater treatment levels or greater.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational and water collection programs (see 2.8 above).

Objective 3.4: Facilitate replacement of septic tanks with centralized wastewater treatment, prioritizing efforts based on factors including proximity to the bay system, density of septic tanks, age and condition of septic tanks, and soils.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

Objective 3.5: Maintain and improve the water quality of the Gulf and the St. Andrew Bay system by installing or upgrading stormwater treatment facilities, using the St. Andrew Bay Stormwater Management Plan (2009) and the SWIM plan for guidance and with emphasis on multi-jurisdictional approaches.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

Objective 3.6: Promote low impact development (LID) practices.

Our new facility will be designed and constructed using Low Impact Development Practices.

Objective 3.7: Increase coastal resilience and protect key public assets from coastal flooding.

NA - As mentioned previously GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

Objective 3.8: Support the Port Authority's efforts to add Port capacity and increase trade, including land acquisition for facilities, expansion of port related infrastructure, continued development of the Intermodal Distribution Center, maintaining and expanding deepwater access, and the capacity to provide alternative fuels.

NA - However GWMI may provide support in these efforts through our educational programs.

D. Budget Information

Budget justification. *Explain how the overall budget supports the proposed scope of work and identify sources of funds. Provide separate Bay County RESTORE and other funds budgets using the provided table at the back of this form. Provide the budget for each category.*

One hundred percent of the $750,000 received from this grant will be used for construction. We will use our own funds for operation, maintenance and future improvements. Support to help with the other $500,000 for construction will be solicited from other sources, including other RESTORE funds (Gulf Council and Consortium), federal and state, and local source grant programs. If that effort is not successful, Gulf World Marine Park Inc. will provide an additional $250,000 if needed. Gulf World Marine Institute, as a non-profit environmental education and research facility, will raise funds for the other $250,000 and Gulf World Marine Park Inc. will guarantee any short fall, if

Ongoing costs. *Identify ongoing costs necessary to support the project after the major grant period (e.g., operation and maintenance of facilities), and the source of funds for those costs. Specifically identify any ongoing costs proposed to be borne by Bay County.*

As stated above, no operational cost will be borne by Bay County. We will receive some operational funds from small grants, reimbursements for work done on other projects, donations and other fund-raising activities. Gulf World Marine Park has always guaranteed the operational expenses for its operations and the GWMI stranding program and will continue to supplement whatever shortfall that might occur.

E. Project milestones. *Describe the overall objective of the proposed project and criteria/measures to be used to evaluate the success in helping to restore and protect the economy and/or environment of the Gulf Coast region.*

The overall objective of the project is to build an operational building for the Institute's work that allows us to increase the amount of assistants we can give to NMFS and FWC and the Research Community needs in meeting their objectives. Part of the construction is a necropsy facility, that is very sorely needed now, because of the extreme need and limited facilities now available along the Gulf coast. Especially for Unusual Mortality Events mentioned earlier.

F. Natural Resource Projects.
Is this project designed to protect or restore natural resources?

☑ Yes

☐ No

If yes, provide a brief summary demonstrating how the project is based on Best Available Science. Projects approved by the Board of County Commissioners will be required to complete the Treasury's three-pronged test (see below).

1. *maximizes the quality, objectivity, and integrity of information, including statistical information;*

2. *uses peer-reviewed and publicly available data - cite peer-reviewed, objective, methodologically sound literature sources that support the conclusion that the proposed scope of work is an effective way to achieve the stated objectives, when available*

3. *clearly documents risks and uncertainties in the scientific basis for such projects*

Programs to recover, rehabilitate, release and protect marine animals (dolphins and sea turtles) used by GWMI utilize the the best available science, peer reviewed, and statistically valid data and information.

Risks and uncertainties in activities and techniques are closely monitored and enforced by NMFS and FWC.

G. Treasury RESTORE Act Environmental Checklist. *Review Treasury's RESTORE Act Environmental Checklist (attached to this form) and list and discuss any of the federal acts and executive orders the applicant anticipates as issues for the proposed project. If any of the items on the checklist apply to a project, additional information and actions may be required at a later stage.*

We see no issues in review of the Treasury's RESTORE Environmental Checklist.

H. Economic Development.
Is this an economic development project?

☑ Yes

☐ No

If yes, applicant must specify economic development benefits. Applicants stating economic development as an objective for their project may be required to conduct a formal economic impact analysis of the proposed project or provide data for an economic analysis.

Construction of Research facilities will provide jobs and support the local construction industry. Visiting public and researchers will provide opportunities for other local businesses in supporting and catering to there specific needs.

Because of the new and unique nature of the GWMI programs, there is not specific data on projected attendance and participation that can be provided at this time for a formal economic impact analysis of the proposed project, but can be researched and provided if required.

I. Job Creation.
Is this project claiming to create jobs?

☑ Yes

☐ No

If yes, describe how jobs are to be created and the types of jobs.

Short term jobs with the construction of the building. Long term jobs with the operations of the rehabilitation, research and education facility.

Number of jobs to be created: 90

Job creation schedule for three consecutive years:

Year 1 80

Year 2 8

Year 3 2

Average wage for each created job: $31,000.00

Total cost of the proposed project: $2,600,000.00

J. Complementary Projects.
Please describe if the project complements other funded or planned projects. For each complemented project, describe the project, the purpose of the project, the organization conducting the project, the funding source (if known), and the budget (if known).

None to our knowledge, except as described above for supporting program partnership or educational promotion or deemed complimentary by the Bay County RESTORE Act Advisory Committee and County Commission.

K. Project readiness and feasibility

State whether the project is ready to start when funds are available. State the amount of time anticipated after funding is available that the major work of the project can start.

Once project is approved and funded, we will only need to complete the construction drawings and secure a building permit from City of Panama City Beach to begin construction. This should not take more than 90 to 120 days and construction should be completed within one year.

Permits. Does the proposed activity require any federal, state or local permits?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, list local, state, tribal and/or federal permits required for this project and the status of each permit.

City of Panama City Beach. Will file as soon as we are notified that we were approved for the grant. No state or federal permits required, to our knowledge.

Will this project use the requested funds for land acquisition? (Landowner must be a willing seller.)

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If yes, provide the following information.

Legal rights that will be acquired.
Fee Simple

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Easement

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If a blend of fee simple and easement or other situation, please explain.

Long term Lease.
The property is owned by Gulf World, Inc. The non-profit Gulf World Marine Institute will have a long term lease to build and operate a Rescue and Rehabilitate Center. This lease area will include the new structure, parking and the area housing all the existing rehabilitation pools and ancillary equipment.

If easement, describe life and terms of the easement.

Lease will be for the number of years that will satisfy the requirements of Bay County and/or the Treasury Department.

Entity that will hold title.

Gulf World Marine Park, Inc

Easement acreage 0.08

Fee simple acreage 0

Is a recent independent appraisal of the property available?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If yes, state appraised value.

Is a title opinion or certificate available?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Material risks. *List the possible material risks, e.g., operational, legal, regulatory (including permits), budgetary or ecological risks that may affect the project. For each identified risk, provide a brief discussion of mitigation strategies that the applicant may need to address in order to implement and/or maintain the proposed activity.*

There are no material risks associated with this project that we are aware of.

Describe the likelihood of project accomplishing its main purpose. Provide justification for statements.

There is a 100% likelihood of project accomplishing its main purpose of providing a new Marine Animal Response and Restoration facility with research and educational outreach capabilities, if funded through this grant proposal. Gulf World, Inc has been in successful business operation in Bay County for 45 years. Gulf World and GWMI have been very successful in accomplishing their respective duties and missions assigned to us by NMFS and FWC for many years as well. This grant and constructed facility will allow us to assume many more responsibilities for these agencies programs, especially with the necropsy center. The project, which will allow GWMI staff to conduct

Does the applicant plan to contract out any work proposed in this application?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, describe the applicant's contracting strategy, schedule, and plan to effectively monitor and manage contractor performance.

The construction of the building will be contracted out. The building process will be monitored very closely and we will insure all the proper documentation will be filed and approved during construction.

L. Project Management.

Does the applicant propose to manage the proposed project?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, provide the following information. A Financial Risk Assessment may be required prior to provision of funds.

1. Name of proposed manager/manager organization - (manager must have the capability to manage a federal grant and comply with all requirements)

Ron Hardy, President Gulf World Marine Institute. CPA John Juchniewicz, Carr, Riggs, Ingram, Inc

2. Has the proposed manager agreed to manage the project if funded?

☑ Yes

☐ No

3. *Describe demonstrated applicant experience managing grants and contracts, financial history and track record, etc. and in completing similar projects – size, type, cost, length of time.*

Ron Hardy, project manger has owned and operated Gulf World Marine Park for 30 years where he has managed several federal grants. The largest was a Federal Prescott Grant from NMFS for $100,000 and another for $90,000. The managing and required reporting was his responsibility. He owned Hydrospace dive shop and supervised the construction of a new $250,000 facility. In the year 1999 he received a USDA guaranteed construction loan for Gulf World Marine Park for $5,000,000 and was responsible for construction supervision and all Government required reporting.

4. *Describe the capability to maintain the project after completion – technical, fiscal aspects, organization stability.*

The GWMI organization has an active Board of Directors and management team. 90% of our needed equipment is in place and in use. Please remember this is an ongoing operation and we have animals in rehabilitation and on going research and education as we speak. This new building will allow the organization to expand our research and perform necropsy's on site instead of having to travel to other locations where these type facilities are available on an availably and/ or pre-paid basis. Gulf World Inc and GWMI has demonstrated over their many years of operations to have the technical and fiscal aspects and organizational stability, both separately and collaborative,

5. *Describe the proposed approach to manage the project if funded.*

This would be a typical approach and critical path outline we would follow.
> Pre-construction
> Design
> Developmental Order
> Permitting
> Construction oversight and final inspection

M. Outreach.
Describe any planned outreach efforts related to the project.

Our project is the construction of a new facility and we have been promoting to the public the importance of what we can accomplished with its completion. It will provide GWMI the capabilities to expand our staff and programs for our education and outreach mission. It will attract and excite both visitors and researchers from all over the country. We will continue to develop and provide programs and services to the visiting public, local for schools in Bay and surrounding counties, community clubs, etc. The new 55 seat auditorium will be available to provide special

Cost Appendix Sheet

Cost Item	Cost Estimate	
Project Costs	**Bay County RESTORE Funds**	**Other Funds**
Personnel and Fringe		
Travel		
All Equipment greater than $5,000		
Supplies		
Contractual costs		
Construction costs	750000	490000
Administrative costs		10000
Estimated Project Cost by Source	$ 750000	$ 500000
Total Estimated Project Cost	$ 1250000	
Estimated Costs by Year		
Year 1		
Year 2		
Year 3		
Year 4		
Year 5		
Year 6		
Major Types of supplies and Estimated Costs		
Ongoing costs.	**Bay County Funds**	**Other Funds**
Estimated annual ongoing costs after project end.	0	250000
Estimated number of years for ongoing costs.	0	on going for years
Total Estimated Ongoing Cost by Source	$ 0	$ 0
Total Estimated ongoing Cost	$ 0	

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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Tallahassee, Florida
32399-1600
Voice: (850) 488-4676

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(800) 955-8771 (T)
(800) 955-8770 (V)

MyFWC.com

February 6, 2015

Mr. Ron Hardy
Gulf World Marine Park
15412 Front Beach Road
Panama City, FL 32413

RE: Letter of Support for Sea Turtle Project, Bay County Direct Component Funds

Dear Mr. Hardy:

I am pleased to provide a letter of support for the non-profit Gulf World Marine Park, Inc's application for Bay County Direct Component funds available through the RESTORE Act. As Biological Administrator for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), I have observed personally the good work done by your organization during crisis situations and as part of routine operations to rehabilitate marine turtles. GWMP is one the only organizations in Bay County authorized by FWC to hold marine turtles for education and rehabilitation. As the primary facility working in the mid-panhandle counties, GWMP's efforts to hold and care for marine turtles during multiple cold stun events and the Deep Water Horizon oil spill have been critical to enabling four species of threatened and endangered marine turtles (loggerhead, green, Kemps ridley, and even hawksbill sea turtles) to be treated and released back into the wild.

The coastal nearshore waters, bays, and estuaries in the Florida Panhandle provide important foraging and developmental habitat for threatened loggerhead sea turtles, endangered green, and Kemp's ridley turtles. As this area continues to develop, there will be additional encounters between these animals and humans. Such encounters do not always end well for the sea turtles, and I know GWMP has treated many turtles that were hooked incidentally during fishing or injured by boats. The Direct Component funds being requested will enhance GWMP's ability to respond to large scale events by providing an area for triaging incoming patients. The additional 7,000 square feet will also enhance research and educational programs about marine life and habitats, including marine turtles.

Thank you for all you, your staff, and your organization have done for the protection and conservation of Florida's threatened and endangered marine turtles. Staff at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission looks forward to working with you for many more years on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Robbin N. Trindell

Robbin N. Trindell, Ph.D.
Biological Administrator

ec: Mrs. Meghan Koperski, FWC
File, MTP#091

Gulf World Marine Park, Inc.
Profit & Loss
GULF WORLD MARINE INSTTUTE PROJECTED THREE (3) YEAR BUDGET
January through September 2014

	2015	2016	2017
Income			
400.00 · Internet income	0	2,500	10,000
401.00 · Visit Donations	0	5,000	35,000
402.00 · Gift Shop Sales	0	10,000	25,000
403.00 · Grants	10,000	249,400	42,000
404.00 · General Donations	20,000	25,000	50,000
405.00 · Other Income	5,000	10,000	15,000
Operating Income	**35,000**	**301,900**	**177,000**
Operating Income	**35,000**	**301,900**	**177,000**
406.00 - Gulf World Contributions	**148,000**	**140,650**	**99,400**
Total Income	**183,000**	**442,550**	**276,400**
Expenses			
600.00 · Advertising	5,000	10,000	15,000
602.00 · Bank charges	0	500	1,000
603.01 · Credit Card Fees	0	1,000	3,000
606.00 · Contributions / Donations	0	1,000	1,000
616.00 · Dues and subscriptions	500	750	750
620.00 · Freight	1,500	1,500	2,000
622.00 · Animal food	1,200	1,500	2,000
622.40 · Animal Transport	2,500	2,500	2,500
623.00 · Stranding expense	5,000	6,000	6,000
624.00 · Insurance	1,000	2,500	2,500
628.00 · Legal and accounting	1,350	1,500	2,000
630.00 · Licenses and permits	250	250	300
631.00 · Vet. Medical Supplies	6,000	6,500	7,000
632.00 · Miscellaneous expense	500	1,000	1,000
633.00 · Meals for stranding Staff	500	1,000	1,000
634.00 · Office expense	3,500	4,000	4,200
643.00 · New Equipment	7,500	207,000	5,000
642.00 · Postage & shipping	500	750	750
644.00 · Repairs and Maintenance	4,000	5,000	5,500
645.00 - Diagnostics	3,000	3,000	3,500
649.00 · Seminars, conferences	3,000	3,500	3,500
656.00 · Operating supplies	1,500	3,000	3,000
656 00 · Payroll Expenses	125,000	165,000	190,000
657.00 · water test	500	500	600
664.00 · Licenses & Taxes	200	300	300
668.00 · Telephone	500	1,500	1,500
674.00 · Utilities	5,000	7,500	7,500
676.00 · Vehicle expense	3,500	4,000	4,000
Total Expense	**183,000**	**442,550**	**276,400**

Gulf World Marine Park, Inc.
Profit & Loss
January through September 2014

Contingent on the new facility opening in mid 2016 and starting to take income from that source. Also we believe we will receive an equipment grant in 2016. In 2017 we will start a normal partten of operation with expected income and expenses from operation.

HOLMES
JACKSON
DECATUR
GRADY
OKALOOSA
WALTON
331
79
90
10
231
85
F L O R I D A
GADSDEN
319
10
Tallahassee
20
WASHINGTO
CALHOUN
20
L E O N
Walton
Beach
98
10
71
B A Y
B A Y
65
LIBERTY
F L O R I D
WAKULLA
GULF
FRANKLIN
98
Gulf World Marine Park
Stranding Response Area

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov

F/SER32: EF

To whom it may concern:

Gulf World Marine Park (Gulf World) responds to stranded, sick, and injured marine mammals as partners in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program, Southeast Region Stranding Network since 1984. They are authorized under Section 112c of the Marine Mammal Protection Act through a Stranding Agreement with NMFS Southeast Region to conduct dead and live animal response and rehabilitation.

Gulf World has played a key role responding to stranded dolphins and whales during the ongoing unusual morality event in the northern Gulf of Mexico. This unusual mortality event began in February 2010 and currently includes almost 1,300 stranded animals. It is the largest die-off of bottlenose dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico and is unprecedented both in duration and scale.

Gulf World is also one of only three authorized marine mammal rehabilitation facilities in the northern Gulf of Mexico and the only facility authorized in northwest Florida. They have cared for more than 15 stranded animals undergoing rehabilitation in the past 9 years and have provided permanent care for multiple animals that have been deemed non-releasable after rehabilitation, either due to ongoing medical issues or their very young age.

Sincerely,

Erin Fougères, Ph.D.
Southeast Region
Stranding Program Administrator

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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Tampa

Brian Yablonski
Vice Chairman
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Biological Administrator

ec: Mrs. Meghan Koperski, FWC
File, MTP#091