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## GULF COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT PRE-PROPOSAL FORM

**Project Name:** Indian Head Adventures: Kayak Ecotours of the Dead Lakes

**Submitting Entity:** Matthew S. Godwin

**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.).**

As an environment and ecosystem, the Dead Lakes are a unique and unspoiled example of Florida's natural beauty. The haunting scenery and diverse wildlife make for a nature experience like no other. However, at present, there are no means by which visitors that are either unfamiliar with the area, or lack the proper equipment, may experience the Lakes beyond the limited view from the boat ramps or camping areas. Indian Head Adventures would outfit visitors and provide various guided tours of Dead Lakes and the Chipola and Apalachicola rivers of northern Gulf County. Recent research performed for Gulf County shows ecotourism as a top source of growth for us. In this report, a majority of visitors said they consider themselves "explorers" and "adventures." I would seek to cater to these individuals with tours focused on activities such as bird and wildlife watching and nature photography. The activities would promote the public's knowledge of the area, help to promote county wide tourism and have a positive impact on local businesses such as lodging and dining.

By partnering with the Gulf County TDC, employing a social media plan, and developing a business website, I hope not only to attract visitors to our county, but to attract and provide a service for new visitors to Wewahitchka and the surrounding area. I also intend to target visitors other than the fisherman the area traditionally enjoys as clientel. The service will be of minimal impact to the enviroment; we will use existing public launches, and private property along Dead Lakes, to access the waterways.

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

7 Wildness System Kayaks.....	\$7,000.00
Trailer for 6 Kayaks.....	\$2,000.00
20 PFDs in various sizes.....	\$2,000.00
10 paddle sets.....	\$1,000.00
Other safety equipment (whistles, First Aid kits, etc.....)	\$1,000.00
Marketing and Website Development.....	\$3,000.00
Legal fees for disclaimer, LLC, insurance premium, etc.....	\$4,000.00
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	\$20,000.00

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

Within six weeks of receiving funding, all equipment will be purchased, website will be constructed and online, and tours will be available.

**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.).**

I presently live on Dead Lakes, and have for the past 3 years. I have boated, kayaked, canoed, hunted and fished on Dead Lakes for over twenty years. I have guided visitors on several occasions, both via paddling and powered vessels, including members of the National Audubon Society. I have references available upon request. I worked for the Coca-Cola company for 15 years, including as a route salesman and trainer for route salesmen. Through this, I have experience maintaining profits, marketing, scheduling, and logistics.

**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?**

Indian Head Adventures will provide visitors with the opportunity to experience a part of our county that very few of them are able to now. I will seek to partner with other ecotour guide services, fishing guides, lodging, and tourist oriented businesses, in both the north and south ends, to promote Wewahitchka and Gulf County as an ecotourist destination. Ideally the business will eventually provide direct employment opportunities for locals in the form of guides and other staff. The more we share and promote our unusual and breathtaking natural habitats in Gulf County, the more we can separate ourselves from other visitor destinations in the area. By providing a service that appeals to the adventurers and explorers attracted to Gulf County, Indian Head Adventures will bring tourist dollars to our county, while maintaining the environment and way of life that makes us unique.

**Submitted By:**

Matthew Godwin  
**Signature**

1/15/13  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name**

248 Clark St.  
**Address**

Wewahitchka, FL 32465  
**Address**

(850) 819-3053  
**Telephone Number**

matthewsgodwin@gmail.com  
**E-mail Address (if applicable)**



**Indian Head is located on family owned property at 248 Clark Street, Wewahitchka, FL and is a potential launch/tour site. It is featured in a past brochure/map of the Dead Lakes that is distributed at many locations in Gulf County.**



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

1000 CFCIL 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, Matthew Godwin the undersigned authority and/or representative of the  
entity Matthew Godwin and or the individual who has submitted the Gulf County  
RESTORE Act Proposal/Pre-Proposal titled Indian ~~Head~~ Adventures

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.

Matthew Godwin  
Signature of RESTORE Act Applicant

Date: 1/16/13

Matthew S. Godwin  
Printed Name