

GULF COUNTY RESTORE ACT PROJECT PRE-PROPOSAL FORM

Project Name: RESTORATION & SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ST. JOSEPH BAY GOLF CLUB

Submitting Entity: ST. JOSEPH BAY GOLF CLUB

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.).

THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT IS ATTACHED.

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

THE COST SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT IS ATTACHED

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

3 – 5 years The normal local & state building permits would be required and complied with. Additional, the EPA requirements will be met. The project will be feasible from a technical and environmental standpoint.

- 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.).

We have been in the golf and recreation business for over 40 years. As of November 2012, our total outstanding debt was only \$318,171 on our entire club and property which has an estimated value of many times that. With RESORE ACT funding assistance, we can and will develop our course as planned and it will be sustainable.

- 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?

This project will improve the economy, environment, biodiversity, & benefits to people & wildlife of Gulf County.

SPECIFIC BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Preserve the natural beauty of the land.
Provide wildlife sanctuaries.
Preserve open space & remnant vegetation.
Protect topsoil from degradation.
Protect water resources.
Rehabilitate degraded landscapes.
Promote physical and mental wellbeing of our members & all visitors to the club.
Promote presentation of our natural flora & fauna.
Improve air quality & moderate heat.
Beautify the environment & aid community education on environmental issues.
Impact our community through jobs, taxes, raising charitable funds, hospitality & tourism.
Provide a positive economic impact on our local community & enhance housing values near and around the golf course.

The project is consistent with the Gulf County Comprehensive Plan as follows:

Chapter 7, Goal 1: To promote recreational opportunities & open space for the current & future residents & visitors of Gulf County.

Objective 2: Gulf County will continue to implement a program to coordinate public & private resources to meet recreation demands.

Chapter 11, Policy 1.2: Gulf County recognizes existing businesses & industries are vital to the economy. Retention & expansion of existing businesses & industries & the employment opportunities they provide is essential to the overall diversification of the economic base & shall be a priority of the county.

Submitted By:

Jan Van Treese, Pres.

Signature

ST. JOSEPH BAY GOLF CLUB

1-7-13
Date

Company Name

700 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD

Address

PORT ST. JOE, FL. 32456

Address

850-227-1751

Telephone Number

info@stjoebaygolf.com

E-mail Address (if applicable)

ST. JOSEPH BAY GOLF CLUB

And

THE RESTORE ACT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The “Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourism Opportunities and Revived Economies (RESTORE) Act” will bring much needed funds to Gulf County for economic and environmental recovery of our area. Intelligent use of these funds will go a long way in improving the economic development and environmental protection and restoration of our community. The information outlined below illustrates why the ST. Joseph Bay Golf Club should share in these very important funds. Areas covered will include economic, environmental, biodiversity, benefits to people and wildlife issues, and club needs to accomplish our goals of protecting our environment and increasing tourism and economic development of Gulf County.

LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE GOLF CLUB:

Golf is a significant year around outdoor recreation activity in Gulf County. It is the only golf course in the county, also has the only public swimming pool, and has a tennis court. Recreational golf spending is an important ingredient in the economic development of our community. Restore Act funds can work to strengthen the golf course’s contribution to the success of Gulf County.

Studies indicate golf trip spending levels can be influential in the overall economic success of communities. A satisfactory round of golf is a paramount influence in the desire to return to the area. Average golf trip spending has been estimated by some studies to be in the area of \$275.00 to \$300.00 per player, per day. Trip spending by golfers include hotel/condo housing, groceries/liquor, restaurants/drinks, gas/auto services, recreation (golf & other), recreational equipment, and other retail. These expenditures, of course, multiply average spending values by rounds played. Proceeds flow to various area businesses.

While our main Gulf County recreation attraction is our beautiful bay and gulf, not everyone comes to Gulf County to spend all their time on the water. Many have told us that they would have gone elsewhere if the golf course was not available and open to the public.

Other social, environmental and economic benefits of a community golf course include:

- Employment and income benefits, both direct and indirect
- Tax benefits to local, regional and the federal government.
- Could potentially attract new firms to our area.
- Health and social benefits.
- Attracts the higher-spending social groups to the area.
- Increases local property values

The ST. Joseph Bay Golf Club has greatly improved the course and clubhouse condition the past two years, especially in light of the repressed economy, loss of members, the effect of the BP oil spill, and a resulting extremely tight budget. However, much remains to be done, and funds are needed to accomplish them. Every improvement than can be accomplished with RESTORE ACT funding will bring a corresponding increase in the benefits of existence of the club listed above. Tourism will only increase with intelligent use of RESTORE ACT funds awarded to the club.

ENVIRONMENT:

The ST. Joseph Bay Golf Club is committed to the following environmental precepts:

- Enhance the local community ecologically and economically.
- Develop an environmentally responsible golf course.
- Offer and protect habitat for wildlife and plant species.
- Provide important green space benefits.

- Use natural resources efficiently.
- Respect adjacent land use in the operation of our course & club.
- Create desirable playing conditions through practices that preserve environmental quality.
- Support ongoing research to scientifically establish new and better ways to develop and manage the course.

BIODIVERSITY:

The ST. Joseph Bay Golf Club wants to contribute to the “biodiversity” of our beautiful community by:

- Encouraging native species of plants supporting a greater diversity of insects and birds.
- Practicing cost effective course management that limits the environmental impact through the use of native turf grasses and plants that require less water, fertilizer and pesticide.
- Providing rough grassland that supports indigenous species and wildflowers and reduces rough mowing frequency thus allowing a larger arthropod population to develop, increasing the food stock for other wildlife.
- Incorporate wildlife natural corridors which allow species to move between habitats.
- Maintaining our water bodies on the course thus creating clean, unpolluted aquatic habitats. (water comes into play on 14 of the 18 holes)
- Maintaining a balance between the needs of our golfers and those of the natural environment.

BENEFITS TO PEOPLE & WILDLIFE ISSUES:

We want to better provide a diverse environment to the benefit of both people and wildlife. Through the education and training of our staff, we wish to

preserve our green space thus improving the environmental quality of our community. Our staff needs to understand how golf affects land resources and the environment. By following the latest research and instruction on the benefits of turf, trees and natural areas commonly found on golf courses, our course will:

- Provide adequate wildlife habitats. (The course has deer, exotic & other local area birds, bob cats, alligators, ducks, geese, turtles, fish, bears & fox)
- Improve community aesthetics.
- Protect our topsoil from wind and water erosion.
- Make sure our course properly absorbs and filters rain.
- Improve the air quality of our area.
- Help improve the health and reduce the stress of our golfers.
- Discourage pests that carry various diseases.
- Restore storm and animal damaged land areas.
 - Make substantial contributions to the community's economy.

CLUB NEEDS TO ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS OF RESTORING, PROTECTING AND IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND INCREASING TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF GULF COUNTY:

- Training and educational funds to train & educate staff.
- New irrigation system-pumps, sprinklers, piping & wiring for sprinklers.
- Refurbish all cart paths on the course by resurfacing.
- Replace present antiquated mowing equipment (2 greens mowers, 2 rough mowers, 1 tee box mower).
- Refinish the inside of the swimming pool (required by the Health Department), and install an ADA required lift device for the handicapped.
- Build a new equipment storage and repair facility. Currently there is no storage area to keep mowing and course maintenance equipment out of the weather.
- Replace the cart barn. The current barn is in very bad condition.

- **Replace the clubhouse roof (current roof installed in 1972)**
- **Replace 50 golf carts and 3 utility carts.**
- **Rework the 18 course greens. These are the original greens and are over 40 years old.**
- **Increase our advertising budget.**
- **Replace carpeting and ceiling in the clubhouse.**
- **Pay down current outstanding debt of \$340,000.**
- **Purchase of additional materials and treatment to accomplish our ecological and environmental goals.**
- **Replace all tables and chairs in the clubhouse.**
- **Provide new tables and chairs, as well as umbrellas for shade, around the pool area.**
- **Resurface the tennis court.**
- **Hire a fulltime Course Superintendent**
- **Hire a fulltime General Manager**
- **Cleanout weeds & dredge ponds at holes #2 & #10**

The Board of Directors of ST. Joseph Bay Golf Club

January, 2013

Cost Summary of the Project:

Training and educational funds to train & educate staff:	\$ 10,000
New irrigation system-pumps, sprinklers, piping & wiring for sprinklers:	1,500,000
Refurbish all cart paths on the course by resurfacing:	175,000

NOTE: Asphalt cart paths around the entire course are well beyond their life expectancy. Paths are affected by settling, cracking, heaving from tree roots, etc. Estimated replacement cost of the 7,000 feet of paths: \$175,000. This estimate is for the replacement of the current paths on the course and does not include the installation of new paths.

Replace antiquated mowing equipment (2 greens mowers, 2 rough mowers, and 1 tee-box mower	175,000
Refinish the inside of the swimming pool (required by the Health Dept.) & install an ADA required lift device for the handicapped:	42,000
Build a new equipment storage & repair facility. Currently there is no storage area to keep mowing & course maintenance equipment out of the weather:	60,000
Replace the cart barn. The present structure is in very poor condition:	150,000
Replace the clubhouse roof (current roof installed in 1972):	33,000
Replace 50 golf carts and 3 utility carts:	275,000
Rework the 18 course greens. These are the original greens over 40 years old.	600,000
Increase our advertising budget:	15,000
Replace carpeting and ceilings in the clubhouse:	25,000
Pay down current outstanding debt:	318,000
Purchase of additional materials and treatment to accomplish our ecological & environmental goals:	200,000
Replace all tables and chairs in the clubhouse:	8,000
Provide new tables, chairs & umbrellas around the pool area:	1,500
Resurface the tennis court:	7,200
Hire a fulltime Course Superintendent:	45,000
Hire a fulltime General Manager:	65,000
Clean out weeds and dredge ponds at holes #2 & #10:	<u>180,000</u>

TOTAL \$ 3,884,700

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, Kenneth L. Wood the undersigned authority and/or representative of the entity St. Joseph Bay Golf Club and or the individual who has submitted the Gulf County RESTORE Act Proposal/Pre-Proposal titled Golf Club Restoration + Sustainability 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.

Kenneth L. Wood
Signature of RESTORE Act Applicant

Date: 1/17/13

KENNETH L. WOOD
Printed Name