

## RESTORE Act – Public Comment Samples

In preparation for submitting its final RESTORE Act Plan, Levy County is accepting public comment on Plan projects for 45 days (**January 8, 2018 thru February 20, 2018**). Positive comments about the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve and its project will help ensure that it is funded. Your comments can be brief one-liners or passionate, long letters. All comments will be included in the Levy County RESTORE Plan submission. You may comment on one or all the Plan projects but we would especially like your endorsement of the Preserve. Below are some sample comment email/letters. Feel free to use these samples as starting points for your own email/letter. Public comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- Email: [restoreact@levycounty.org](mailto:restoreact@levycounty.org) (please also cc: wgpfl.org)
- Mail: RESTORE Act-P.O. Box 310 Bronson, FL 32621 (Attention: Tisha Whitehurst)

### Sample #1

To Whom It May Concern,

I care deeply about the wildlife and natural areas in Levy County. The 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was a horrible tragedy, and it is imperative that we use the **RESTORE Act** restoration funds resulting from the spill to improve the water quality, restore wildlife habitats locally, and promote education and research so we can repair the Gulf Coast as a whole.

I support the Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve project. I encourage you to select and fund projects that will help our fish, wildlife, and natural areas. Such projects will benefit the environment, improve quality of life for locals, attract visitors and in turn boost our economy.

Sincerely,

### Sample #2

To Whom It May Concern,

The Withlacoochee Gulf Preserve (WGP) is a valued part of the Yankeetown Florida community. The Preserve itself is a wonderful place for nature photography, walking, and bird watching. These experiences are enhanced by the Preserve's developed infrastructure (e.g., observation tower, saltwater pond board walk, trails).

The WGP Education Center is an underdeveloped resource at the Preserve. It is currently used as a venue for presentations on nature and other topics. Presentation speakers come from the local science community, and organizations like the Audubon Society and the Florida Public Archaeology Network.

With funding the Education Center could be more. It could have interactive exhibits and workstations, better AV technology, and field equipment to support science research and education. Levy County's RESTORE Act Plan project #3 would be a great step forward in helping to develop this resource. I wholeheartedly support the WGP proposal.

Sincerely,

