

Okaloosa County News Release

March 19, 2014

Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us

NR13-34

Okaloosa County Granted Permits for Artificial Reefs

The US Army Corps of Engineers has granted the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners permits for four artificial reef deployment areas. Deployment areas are located in state waters west of Destin Pass. Each deployment area is 40 acres in size and located 2 to 3 miles offshore. Each deployment area will eventually contain nine individual reefs, and construction begins this summer.

Materials used for the construction of the reefs has been donated by the Air Force Research Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base, Mid-Bay Bridge Authority and the City of Fort Walton Beach. Materials include massive concrete pieces of various sizes, concrete culverts, bridge pilings and pre-fabricated reef modules.

Funding for the construction of the reefs will be provided by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Program and the Tourist Development Department. The deployment areas are defined with the following corner locations:

Fish Haven 13

NE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.358333° N, Longitude: 86.545833° W

NW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.358333° N, Longitude: 86.550016° W

SE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3547° N, Longitude: 86.545833° W

SW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3547° N, Longitude: 86.550016° W

Fish Haven 14

NE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.354166° N, Longitude: 86.612483° W

NW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.354166° N, Longitude: 86.616666° W

SE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.350533° N, Longitude: 86.612483° W

SW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.350533° N, Longitude: 86.616666° W

Fish Haven 15

NE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3667° N, Longitude: 86.7041° W

NW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3667° N, Longitude: 86.7083° W

SE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3630° N, Longitude: 86.7041° W

SW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3630° N, Longitude: 86.7083° W

Fish Haven 16

NE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3500° N, Longitude: 86.7791° W

NW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3500° N, Longitude: 86.7833° W

SE Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3630° N, Longitude: 86.7041° W

SW Site Corner: Latitude: 30.3464° N, Longitude: 86.7833° W

###