

Dr. Bart Carey Memorial Reef Franklin County, Florida

On September 20, 2020, Dr. Bart Carey passed away leaving behind family, friends and loved ones that mourn the loss of a life that ended far too soon. Bart was 49 years old. In an effort to honor Bart and his immense contributions to society, a memorial reef is being planned off of Franklin County. Bart was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman, and spent much of his time off the coast of Franklin County and Carrabelle.

The Dr. Bart Carey Memorial Reef will be deployed on the Carrabelle 10 Mile Reef, which has an active permit under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Department of the Army permit number SAJ-2001-00310 (SP-JML). A copy of the permit, provided by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), has been attached with this project description summary.

The Dr. Bart Carey Memorial Reef will consist of several 10-foot tall limestone and concrete pyramid reef structures (tetrahedrons), and one 15-foot tall limestone pyramid reef structure with an engraved plaque that will serve as the memorial. These pyramid structure are acceptable reefing materials and meet all permit conditions. These structures are favored by many agencies as they provide excellent habitat for marine species, they are designed to prevent scouring and settling, and they have been proven to withstand storm events.

This request is for Franklin County to apply as the applicant for the 2021 FWC Artificial Reef Grant which will be due in March 2021. Franklin County has applied for and been awarded this FWC grant in the past. The family of Dr. Carey and the Coastal Conservation Association Florida will assist Franklin County with all aspects of the grant application related to the artificial reef. Donations above and beyond the grant award are currently being made to the Coastal Conservation Association Florida in honor of Dr. Carey, so a strong financial match will be included with the grant application.