

Revitalizing Cedar Key, Florida: Workforce Development & Oyster Habitat Restoration

→ Revitalize the Cedar Key Community through
workforce development and oyster habitat restoration

US EPA Community Change Program

Summary: Engage approximately 50 oyster harvesters in job retraining to restore around 30,000 m² of oyster reef by constructing 30-60 reef elements. Harvesters will collaborate with the project team to transport and place materials for creating, enhancing, and restoring oyster reefs.

Project Partners & Roles:

1. Resource Institute (Lead Partner):

- Overall Grant Management: Oversee the grant's performance, compliance, and reporting.
- Risk Management: Manage project-related risks.
- Legal and Financial Accountability: Ensure compliance with EPA regulations.
- Subawards: Make and oversee subawards to collaborating entities, including payments to oystermen for project work.

2. University of Florida, Sea Grant (Statutory Partner):

- Community Engagement: Assist in local outreach and community involvement.

3. Ecosphere Restoration Institute (Community Engagement Partner):

- Permit Facilitation: Lead the permit acquisition process, ensuring timely approvals.

4. Cedar Key Oyster Men's Association (Community-Based Organization):

- Outreach & Education: Gain local support and ensure the project addresses community needs.
- MOU Participation: Be part of the Memorandum of Understanding with project partners.
- Feedback: Provide input on the project plan.

5. Levy County (Community Partner)

- Invited to attend and participate in regular project meetings.
- These meetings will be held at least monthly to discuss project implementation, share updates, and address any challenges, ensuring that community feedback is incorporated into project activities.
- Invited to attend any other community outreach or support events as developed or created during the project.
- Not responsible for the administration of this grant.

6. SWCA Environmental Consultants (Technical Services) via procurement:

- Bill Pine, Oyster Restoration Expert and Project Manager
- Oversee technical services, engineering, permitting, compliance, project management, restoration, and job training.