



NFWF | Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

FLORIDA

Lake Wimico Acquisition and Management

This project will acquire and manage a 20,161 acre parcel that surrounds Lake Wimico, a shallow natural lake in southern Gulf County. The property is composed of extensive estuarine and freshwater marsh, cypress swamps and some pinelands that flow into Apalachicola Bay. Acquisition of the property will expand the Box-R Wildlife Management Area (Box-R WMA) and the Apalachicola River Wildlife and Environmental Area (ARWEA). Preservation and management of the Lake Wimico parcel will protect water quality and freshwater flows into the Apalachicola River, Apalachicola Bay, and Gulf of Mexico, enhancing habitat for migrating fish (including Gulf sturgeon) and the historic Apalachicola Bay oyster fishery.

Outcomes of this project are in line with the priorities defined in the Florida Restoration Strategy and Surface Water Improvement and Management plans for Apalachicola – Chipola Watershed. This project will help implement and begin to address some of the top priority natural resource outcomes identified for this watershed as outlined in the Florida Restoration Strategy.



Credit | Kierstyn Cox, TNC

Above, an aerial view of the proposed property which will be incorporated into the existing Box-R WMA and ARWEA overseen by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENTS:

The Nature Conservancy

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$12,225,000

PARTNERS:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

LOCATION:

Gulf County, Florida

AWARD DATE:

August 2018

STATUS:

Active



The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, supports projects to remedy harm and eliminate or reduce the risk of harm to Gulf Coast natural resources affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. To learn more about GEBF and view a comprehensive project map go to www.nfwf.org/Gulf