



RESTORE Act Project #16 in Multi Year Implementation Plan

City of Milton - North Santa Rosa Regional Water Reclamation Facility

Project Description

This project aims to construct a new wastewater treatment plant that would serve the City of Milton, the Berryhill area, the East Milton area, NAS Whiting Field, and all industrial parks and economic development site acreage currently available in Santa Rosa County.

Need: A new wastewater treatment plant is critical infrastructure necessary to foster economic growth in the region and to reduce known source pollution in the Blackwater River. The current system serves the City of Milton, the Berryhill and East Milton area, and NAS Whiting Field. A new plant would also serve areas proposed for future economic development purposes, including Whiting Aviation Park and parcels along the I-10 corridor. Projected growth in the population creates the need for available work through industrial projects, none of which can be sustained as the current facility is nearing capacity. The County's population and household count continue to increase at a substantial rate (15% growth from 2010 to 2017). Growth is expected to continue, adding another 32% between now and 2040. A recent analysis prepared as part of the Florida Chamber Foundation's Florida 2030 report projects Santa Rosa County will need 20,146 net new jobs by 2030, or an annual job creation of 883. This project is paramount if that goal is to be met.

This project also addresses needed water quality improvements that will have lasting ecological impact throughout the wider Northwest Florida region. The current WWTP, located in downtown Milton is permitted for a maximum discharge capacity of 2.5 million gallons per day (MGD). Under the existing permit, treated sanitary effluent is discharged directly into the Blackwater River. Additional expansion(s) at the existing site are not feasible due to regulatory constraints and site conditions. With existing flows in the 2.2 MGD range, the plant is nearly at capacity. During periods of rainfall or other surge events, the plant will often operate at or above this limit.



RESTORE DIRECT COMPONENT ALLOCATION: \$6.5 M