

# Okaloosa County Derelict Vessel Policies and Procedures

**AUTHORITY:** Any vessel in violation of Section 376.15(1) or Section 823.11(1) of the Florida Statutes may be deemed a "derelict vessel". If any vessel in a wrecked, junked, or dismantled condition is left upon any public waters or at any port or docked at private property without the property owner's consent, it may be declared a derelict vessel. Vessels entirely on land are not considered derelict. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will determine a vessel to be derelict after all available means to have the rightful owner remove the vessel have failed.

Once the FWC has declared a vessel derelict and marked it as such, FWC notifies the appropriate local government of the location of the derelict vessel. If available, FWC will notify the local government about any grant opportunities and how to apply. Also, if the vessel became derelict as a result of a natural disaster event, the local government may apply for FEMA funding to assist with the removal costs.

**METHOD OF PAYMENT:** The following is a list of Payment options;

1. Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program
2. Boater Registration Fees (County Boating Improvement Trust Fund)
3. Florida Boating Improvement Grant Program
4. County budgeted line item
5. FEMA
6. NOAA (Marine Debris Program)

**RATE OF PAYMENT:** Removal and Disposal will be based on a per foot measurement. It will be measured in a single line described and measured from the center point (center) of the bow to the center point (center) of the stern. Removal will be either land borne or water borne. Vessels entirely on land are not considered derelict.

**SCOPE OF WORK:** Removal and Disposal of damaged and or destroyed marine debris, abandoned vessels, and buoys.

1. Work may be provided under the supervision of FEMA, the State of Florida, Okaloosa County Staff, or by a monitoring firm employed by the county.
2. Work will include obtaining necessary salvage approvals through applicable State and Federal agencies including but not limited to; United States Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
3. Work will be based on reports (form # FWCDLE-048) received from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. After receipt of the

report, request for bids will be advertised and a contract awarded for removal and disposal.

4. Contractor shall furnish all labor, material, and equipment necessary for satisfactory contract performance. All material, workmanship, and equipment shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the County's Project Manager.
5. The contractor shall obtain and pay for all required licenses, permits, and inspection fees and shall comply with all federal, state, and local, laws, ordinances, regulations, and code requirements.

**COMPENSATION:**

1. Okaloosa County shall pay in accordance with the contracted price and any approved change orders. Compensation may be a lump sum not to exceed payment or it may be by multiple invoices. Payment will be made according to the Florida Prompt Payment Act, Florida Statutes 255.0705 – 255.078
2. Contractor must submit invoices for services rendered. Invoice must reference project, must include date of removal and disposal, location of disposal, and pictures with reference date shown. Invoice must reference all costs to include any change orders.

**INSURANCE:** Contractor shall meet all insurance requirements imposed by Okaloosa County Risk Management.

**SUB-CONTRACTORS:** Okaloosa County reserves the right to accept the use of a sub-contractor by the original contractor or to reject the selection of a particular sub-contractor. The county reserves the right to review the capabilities of any sub-contractor to properly perform under the requirements of the contract.

**RESATORATION OF PROPERTY:** Property, public or private, if damaged during any phase of the work or removed for convenience of the work shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the contractor in a manner acceptable to the County's Project Manager prior to final acceptance of the work.