FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners February 16, 2022





Coastal Conservation Association Florida to Restock Redfish in Okaloosa County

Niceville, Fla. – A donation, by a private party, to Coastal Conservation Association Florida (CCA Florida) leads to the first redfish restocking initiative in Choctawhatchee Bay.

Because of a \$25,000 donation to CCA Florida, the Coastal Resource Team of the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Department, Destin-Fort Walton Beach Tourism will assist with the transport of 10,000 juvenile redfish between four and eight inches in length. The release will take place from the shore at Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park in Niceville.

"The release is a beneficial project for the health of the Choctawhatchee Bay area fisheries and we are fortunate to have CCA Florida as a meaningful partner in this conservation effort," said Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners Chairman Mel Ponder.

Coastal Conservation Association of Florida invites the public, community partners and media to be a part of the conservation event at noon on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Children are encouraged to attend. Anyone who is interested in physically taking part in the release, should wear athletic attire and water shoes.

Contact Amanda Krpan for additional details at <u>akrpan@ccaflorida.org</u> or view the Save The Date flyer <u>HERE</u>. Date, time and location are subject to change. Follow along on Facebook <u>@CCA_Florida</u>.

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About CCA Florida -The Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) was founded in 1977 after drastic commercial overfishing along the Texas coast decimated redfish and speckled trout populations. One of 19 state chapters, CCA Florida became the fifth state chapter in 1985. A 501(c)3 non-profit, the purpose of CCA is to advise and educate the public on conservation of marine resources. Through habitat restoration projects, water quality initiatives and fisheries advocacy, CCA Florida works with its over 18,000 members including recreational anglers and outdoor enthusiasts to conserve and enhance marine resources and coastal environments. Join the conversation on Facebook or learn more at ccaflorida.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT APRIL SARVER AT (850) 585-7059 OR AT ASARVER@MYOKALOOSA.COM