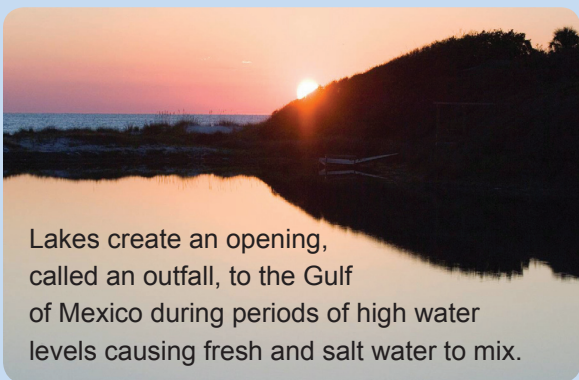


Coastal Dune Lakes

South Walton, Florida



Globally Rare



Lakes create an opening, called an outfall, to the Gulf of Mexico during periods of high water levels causing fresh and salt water to mix.

Unique Ecosystems



Found in few places around the world, 15 of these rare lakes are found along the white beaches of South Walton!!

Why are these lakes important?

- ▶ Temporary estuaries and nursery grounds are formed when the fresh and saltwater mix.
- ▶ Each lake is different due to variable salt content, dependent upon the number of outfall openings.
- ▶ Conservation efforts are needed to protect the health and longevity of these special ecosystems.

How can you help these ecosystems?

- ▶ Stay on the marked trails and boardwalks and avoid walking across dunes and trampling vegetation.
- ▶ Be respectful of the lakes and their natural processes; do not dig in or around the lake outfalls.
- ▶ The health and beauty of these lakes is very important; please be respectful and properly dispose of all trash.

For more information visit:

www.basinalliance.org
<http://walton.ifas.ufl.edu>
www.co.walton.fl.us

Photos courtesy of Moon Creek Studios.



*"When one tugs at a single thing in nature,
he finds it is attached to the rest of the world."*

– John Muir