



Geosyntec completed a site assessment using Region 4's preferred process resulting in regulatory acceptance without extensive site-specific risk quantification.

**Client:** City of Tallahassee

**Services Provided:**

- Ecological risk assessment
- Aquatic and terrestrial surveys
- Exposure characterization

## Project Objective

The City of Tallahassee operated a manufactured gas plant (MGP) from 1895 to the late 1950's and processed bituminous coal in a generator with brick-lined steel vessels. Steam and light fuels were applied to the coal to produce "blue gas" for lighting purposes. The manufactured gas was condensed, distilled, cooled, and purified before being pumped into containers for distribution to consumers. The chemicals of concern for this site are those typically associated with MGP sites, including metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

The City is re-developing this site into an urban park (Cascade Park) with numerous recreational facilities in the heart of Florida's capitol complex. As part of a site investigation and remediation team working for the City, The City selected Geosyntec to prepare a streamlined ecological risk assessment as part of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) under the CERCLA. Geosyntec's selection for this project was based on our extensive experience and ongoing involvement with the ecological risk assessment process development within the State of Florida and U.S. EPA Region 4.

## Geosyntec's Scope of Services

U.S. EPA Region 4 required a multi-tier (RBCA-type) ecological risk assessment due to the presence of a creek and an intermittent wetland area on the site. Geosyntec completed aquatic and terrestrial habitat descriptions and species surveys (including threatened or endangered species), and characterized potential exposures to creek and wetland sediments. The potential exposures were focused on creek and geotechnical properties of the sediment to support engineering evaluations and design.

## Notable Accomplishments

Geosyntec followed Region IV's preferred process for screening and preliminary assessment, including the use of Florida's Sediment Quality Assurance Guidelines; the site assessment was completed and accepted by the U.S. EPA and FDEP without extensive site-specific risk quantification for ecological receptors.