

**Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Community Resources Committee
Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, Spanish Fort, AL
July 6th, 2016**

Welcome, Introductions & Overview of Agenda (Mark Berte)

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Mark	Berte	Alabama Coastal Foundation (Co-Chair of CRC)
Tammy	Herrington	Conservation Alabama Foundation (Co-Chair of CRC)
Carol	Adams-Davis	Mobile Bay Sierra Club
Hank	Caddell	Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust
Casi	Callaway	Mobile Baykeeper
Walter	Ernest	Pelican Coast Conservancy
Yael	Girard	Weeks Bay Foundation
Kara	Lankford	Ocean Conservancy
Mike	Magnoli	South Mobile County Community Development Corporation
Ryan	Mains	Alabama Coastal Foundation
Jill	Mastrototaro	National Wildlife Federation
Tina	Miller-Way	Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Jeremiah	Newell	Mobile Area Education Foundation
Michael	Pierce	MLK Avenue Redevelopment Corporation
Ilka	Porter	GulfQuest
Mitch	Reid	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Ben	Brenner	Mobile Bay NEP
Amy	Newbold	Mobile Bay NEP
Roberta	Swann	Mobile Bay NEP
ON THE PHONE		
Jeff	DeQuattro	The Nature Conservancy (Gulf)
Blakeley	Ellis	Coastal Conservation Association of Alabama
Kellyn	Garrison	The Nature Conservancy (AL)
Andrew	Whitehurst	Gulf Restoration Network

Approval of April Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve made by Kara Lankford, and seconded by Hand Caddell. Passed unanimously.

MBNEP Committee Updates (Roberta Swann) - See attached power point slides.

Recap (Tammy Herrington)

- February 16th, 2016 – group of non-profits came together to discuss forming a separate committee under the MBNEP Management Conference. Committee decided that:
 - The major focus would be education and advocacy.
 - This committee would focus on advocating for specific projects within the CCMP:
 - Habitat Conservation and Protection
 - Clean Water Future Campaign
 - Low Impact Development
 - Environmental Education and Outreach (including Monitoring)
 - Connecting Environmental Justice Communities

- March 4th, 2016 – MBNEP presented your recommendation to the Executive Committee for the creation of the Education and Advocacy Committee. Executive Committee approved the formation of the new committee.
- April 7th, 2016 – Evaluating the current EPI goals in the CCMP Exercise & Discussion of co-chair election process.
- May 13th, 2016 – Sent out a CRC meeting preferences survey
 - Day of Week – Tues (Thurs was 2nd and Wed was 3rd – however this meeting was scheduled based on Doodle Poll results
 - Time – 12-2pm (59%) with 2-4 and 3-5 pm tying for 2nd place (~41%)
 - Place – Five Rivers (47%) & Kilian Room (35%)
 - Willing to Sponsor once over next 2 yrs? (88% - yes)
 - Asked members to: *Please indicate one significant accomplishment your organization would like to see achieved by 2018.* Compiled responses (see attached slides).
- June 7th, 2016 – Co-chairs approved by Executive Committee

Workplan Discussion – Mapping Survey Results to Previously Identified Priorities (Tammy Herrington)

- The participants went through a mapping exercise where each of the significant accomplishments submitted to MBNEP through the survey were mapped to the priorities identified by the CRC on Feb 16th, 2016. This was the result of that discussion:

Habitat Conservation and Protection	
1	Close the Joe's Branch conservation Easement with Westminster Village
2	The CRC, through advocacy efforts, acquires the funding (BP restoration dollars) needed to implement top projects within watershed management plans as prioritized by the Project Implementation Committee.
3	Identify opportunities for CRC to engage/support Gulf restoration efforts
4	Bringing about some substantive local controls and standards for development within watersheds to protect streams and wetlands.
5	Preservation and protection of endangered coastal habitat, in particular beach and dune habitat.
6	Development and promotion of environmentally sustainable tourism and ecotourism as forms of economic development
7	Recommendations for Freshwater Flows to the Bay recommended as part of a statewide instream flow policy by the Alabama Water Agency Working Group. Recommended instream flow policy adopted by the Alabama legislature in 2018 legislative session
8	Leadership by the NEP committees as a review committee for restoration decisions.
9	Engagement of more stakeholder groups in the coastal restoration process.
10	I'd like to see some milestones put in place for nutrient reduction for the Bay and its watersheds
Create a Clean Water Future Campaign	
Sustainable Development & Low Impact Development	
11	Development and promotion of environmentally sustainable tourism and ecotourism as forms of economic development
12	Create model of what low impact Development looks like, and include examples of how this directly protects habitat.

13	Goal: clean energy transition projects established by 2018.
Environmental Education and Outreach	
14	Increased education and volunteer opportunities regarding our environment.
15	Education of more stakeholder groups in the coastal restoration process.
16	Every student in Alabama knows that water from their community affects the Gulf of Mexico and Mobile Bay (for most of the state)
17	Development and promotion of environmentally sustainable tourism and ecotourism as forms of economic development
Connecting Environmental Justice Communities	
Other	
18	We have identified and prioritized one specific environmental goal that the broader community has galvanized around.
19	Increased partnerships between CRC organizations outside of the CRC meeting room.

- The group then discussed dividing into two working groups (Education and Advocacy) to develop specific and measurable workplan elements. These are the participants that volunteered for each working group:

Education Working Group

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Carol	Adams-Davis	Alabama Chapter of the Sierra Club (Mobile Bay Group)
Mark	Berte	Alabama Coastal Foundation
Casi	Callaway	Mobile Bay Keeper
Walter	Ernest	Pelican Coast Conservancy
Yael	Girard	Weeks Bay Foundation
Tina	Miller-Way	Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Jeremiah	Newell	Mobile Area Education Foundation
Michael	Pierce	MLK Ave Redevelopment Corporation
Ilka	Porter	Gulf Quest

Advocacy Working Group

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Carol	Adams-Davis	Alabama Chapter of the Sierra Club (Mobile Bay Group)
Mark	Berte	Alabama Coastal Foundation
Casi	Callaway	Mobile Bay Keeper
Hank	Caddell	Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust
Tammy	Herrington	Conservation Alabama Foundation
Kara	Lankford	Ocean Conservancy
Jill	Mastrototaro	National Wildlife Federation
Mitch	Reid	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Andrew	Whitehurst	Gulf Restoration Network

Next Steps –

- Send out email with the draft minutes and ask all CRC members if they want to volunteer to work on the Education or Advocacy Working Groups to develop the CRC Workplan.
- Schedule Working Group meetings as soon as the members are able.
- MBNEP will identify goals/objectives from CCMP to review for Education and Advocacy opportunities.
- Send out Doodle Poll to schedule the next CRC Meeting (September 2016)

Additional Networking Opportunities:

- Green Drinks in Fairhope (July 12th, 5-7pm)
- Green Drinks in Mobile (July 20th, 5-7pm)
- Bay Bites Food Truck Festival (July 20th, 5-8pm)
- Pelican Paddle Canoe and Kayak race (July 23rd, 7:30am)
- Coastal Clean-up (September 17th, 8am-noon)
- Alabama Coastal Birdfest (Oct 5th-8th)
- Cocktails for the Coast (November 10th, 6-8pm)
- Bays and Bayous (Nov 30th – Dec 1st)
- MBNEP Annual Meeting (December 9th)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01pm.