The Weeks Bay NERR is the nation’s 16th National Estuarine Research Reserve, established in 1986 to preserve a representative portion of Mobile Bay’s estuarine habitat for research and education.

The Reserve comprises 6,525 acres of estuarine lowland swamp, marsh, forested wetlands and water bottoms in both freshwater and brackish water habitats.

Weeks Bay receives waters from the Magnolia and Fish rivers and is connected by an inlet to Mobile Bay.

Weeks Bay is approximately 1,718 acres in size and has an average depth of five feet.
Weeks Bay
National Estuarine Research Reserve

Location
Alabama, Baldwin County

Relative Size
The GEM site is approximately 6,525 acres.

Weeks Bay NERR Facts:
• Habitats include: Freshwater and saltwater marshes, tidal flats, submerged aquatic vegetation, oyster reefs, tupelo and cypress swamps, tidal flats, upland and bottomland forests, riparian buffers, pine savannas, maritime forests, longleaf pines and a pitcher plant bog.
• Weeks Bay contains exceptional biological productivity and diversity and is home to unique plant habitats including rare stands of Atlantic white cedar, pitcher plant bogs and cypress swamps.
• Nearly 350 species of resident and migratory birds use the NERR for breeding, nesting, feeding, or wintering habitat.
• The Alabama Department of Environmental Management designated Weeks Bay as an Outstanding National Resource Water.
• The NERR provides habitat for the endangered Alabama red-bellied turtle and West Indian manatee.