

**Mobile Bay National Estuary Program**  
**CCMP 2013-2018 Priority Actions Identified at Coastal Summit, 2012**  
**Community Survey Results**

<i>Value</i>	<i>Cat</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Total</i>
Access	RES	Protect/conservate priority habitats for public benefit through land acquisition (Forever Wild, Coastal Land Trusts)	206
Access	RES	Restore living shorelines at current/future access points to mitigate the impacts of boat wakes and waves	205
Access	Stew	Develop and install interpretive signage at access points to educate about watersheds, ecosystems, and restoration efforts	203
Access	CB	Restore working waterfronts to include opportunities for public access (to include commercial fishing access)	202
Access	RES	Create a greenspace mitigation and acquisition bank for use by Industry and others	202
Access	Stew	Promote public access points that are designated as Clean Marinas	202
Access	EST	Conduct periodic monitoring of access points to evaluate condition of infrastructure/ shorelines	200
Access	Stew	Develop promotional campaign to showcase opportunities to access the estuary for recreational enjoyment	200
Access	CB	Develop conservation easement/incentive program to expand key access points in partnership with private property owners/businesses	197
Access	CB	Conduct regulatory review to identify barriers to expanding public access	197
Access	CB	Create South Alabama task force to leverage available funding for land acquisition	196
Access	CB	Diversify eco-tourism industry by providing incentives, training, and assistance	196
Access	CB	Develop or identify a one-stop shop for funding sources	196
Access	EST	Conduct a gap analysis of K - 12 environmental education curriculum to inform access planning and interpretive signage messaging	189
Access	EST	Conduct Comprehensive Public Access Needs Assessment to inform future access planning	186
Coast	EST	Undertake research to define distribution of residual oil impacts/tar mats along the AL coast	188
Coast	BC	Develop strategy for storm protection and restoration of beaches, dunes, and shorelines as a first line of defense	187
Coast	EST	Make shoreline change data available to researchers and other interests	187
Coast	RES	Identify, design and construct HIGHLY visible demonstration projects in different locations and conditions to educate public about natural/living shorelines.	187
Coast	BC	Ensure that dredged sand is restored to littoral sand transport system to nourish Gulf-fronting beaches	186
Coast	BC	Conduct workshops to educate property owners and contractors on benefits of sustainable shoreline management including use of living shoreline technologies	186
Coast	RES	Expand dune system by restoring vegetation on beaches and adjacent upland areas	186
Coast	RES	Retrofit armored bay shorelines using living shorelines and pocket beach technologies in bays & backwaters.	186
Coast	RES	Pilot experiments combining marsh creation with sand beach establishment in strategic locations	186
Coast	EST	Conduct periodic monitoring of shoreline change in coordination with monitoring of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) distribution (at least every five years)	185
Coast	EST	Identify and communicate long-term beach sand resources to resource managers	185
Coast	Stew	Expand volunteer field observer program to monitor populations of beach nesting birds, turtles and other species of concern	184
Coast	Stew	Identify, design and construct HIGHLY visible demonstration projects in different locations and conditions to natural shorelines.	184
Coast	Stew	Develop APP to inform beach goers about areas of sensitive nesting habitats	183
Coast	BC	Develop long term funding stream for ongoing shoreline restoration/maintenance	182
Coast	BC	Establish expert steering group to guide and prioritize implementation of living shoreline projects and regulatory changes needed to support these activities	180
Coast	BC	Change State regulations to allow for placement of fill seaward of MHW	175

fish	EST	Develop ecosystem health indicators and monitoring program that includes high resolution mapping of critical habitats that support fisheries. Establish a centralized location for sharing monitoring data.	172
fish	EST	Improve baseline data on fishery populations including seasonal and spatial occurrence/use by zooplankton/ichthyoplankton	170
fish	Stew	Develop Summer Camp curricula for 12-15 year olds that teaches about the connection between our coastal environment and the seafood industry	170
fish	RES	Restore streams, riparian buffers and freshwater wetlands in priority watersheds to improve watershed discharges to fishery nursery areas and SAV beds	169
fish	RES	Develop fresh/brackish water SAV restoration program	169
fish	Stew	Utilize local TV channels to air short movies that showcase local resources, issues, always including a message of action	169
fish	RES	Restore priority intertidal marshes and flats with a combination of habitat for nursery sustainability, commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and oyster farming	168
fish	Stew	Engage Industry in participating in ongoing restoration and stewardship activities	168
fish	Stew	Promote the inclusion of an "Alabama Conservation Education" curriculum unit in schools as a core course of study for all grades k-12 to educate about the watershed, estuary, fishery, pollution and connection between up and downstream environments	168
fish	CB	Create an "Adopt a Watershed" program with Universities to increase resources available for watershed planning and management	167
fish	EST	Compare historical fishing sites to historical shoreline with that of today's shoreline and fish production	167
fish	EST	Conduct socioeconomic research on attitudes, perceptions and beliefs related to fisheries (including assessment of business losses to commercial fishing and support services)	167
fish	Stew	Develop outreach to improve understanding of "wise use" of our fishery resources	167
fish	CB	Engage recreational and commercial fishermen in collaborating for data gathering	166
fish	EST	Conduct research to determine how water quality, bathymetry changes, hydrological dynamics and connectivity affect freshwater and marine fishery resources	166
fish	EST	Measure ecosystem services provided by fisheries habitats	166
fish	EST	Conduct a metaanalysis, or systematic review, of historic data, bathymetry, water quality change and other research to develop a status and trends baseline for fishery	166
fish	Stew	Expand access to affordable fishing opportunities including shoreline, pier, and boat access and promote to under-served populations	166
fish	Stew	Engage citizens in collecting biological and water quality data for monitoring and research purposes	166
fish	Stew	Develop hands on opportunities and experiences for learning about our fishery resources that are accessible to all and particularly underserved populations	166
fish	Stew	Create outreach campaign targeting younger adults to connect them to the fishery	166
fish	CB	Strengthen environmental education programs by building collaboration and partnerships with higher education institutions	165
fish	EST	Conduct research for aquatic species of concern, including Tarpon (the State Fish) to identify key habitats, role of estuarine environment in species health, etc.	165
fish	CB	Encourage collaboration between agencies and academia, and stakeholders (ex. community of practice/MBNEP)	164
fish	CB	Develop consistent funding streams for research and monitoring of fisheries	164
fish	CB	Develop safe harbor in Bayou La Batre and Bon Secour River	164
fish	CB	Improve management of catches and creel limits on game fish	164
fish	CB	Pilot a "model working waterfront" initiative that provides low interest loans and support services to new or existing fishermen	164
fish	CB	Support and expand Alabama Rivers and Streams Network- A statewide partnership including USFWS, CWP, TNC, GSA, ADCNR, NRCS	163
fish	CB	Promote the use of decision support tools to local governments and planners to improve coastal resource management actions	163
fish	CB	Expand partnerships with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for developing and conducting training, technical assistance, and other educational programming about the estuary/our fish nursery	163
fish	CB	Identify ways to mitigate the rising cost of insurance for commercial fishermen	163
fish	CB	Develop comprehensive sediment management plan	162

fish	CB	Adopt AL Aquatic Nuisance Species plan	162
fish	CB	Build coalition of Commercial and Recreational Fishermen to cooperatively address fishery issues of common interest (use Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission as model)	162
fish	CB	Pilot consortiums in priority watersheds to plan for and maintain watersheds through collaboration across geopolitical boundaries	162
fish	CB	Use marine spatial planning techniques to more efficiently balance conservation, restoration and multi-uses of our fishery resources	162
fish	CB	Use model products and other outreach materials to educate local governments and resource managers about Sea Level Rise scenarios and their impacts on local fishery resources	162
fish	EST	Validate Hydrogeomorphic Approach for Assessing Wetland Functions Model (HGM) with on the ground research on pristine and impacted areas	162
fish	CB	Develop watershed management plans for each HUC - 12 discharging into salt waters to identify/remediate negative impacts of upstream inputs on fishery health	161
fish	CB	Develop/update aquatic and upland habitat inventory with identification of potential sites for restoration, protection and enhancement	161
fish	CB	Develop incentive program for modernizing and improving fishery infrastructure and training to build a more resilient industry	161
fish	CB	Develop policies needed to create Fisheries Industry Parks, (including oyster farm enterprise zones) that provide land/water/access for lease and support existing and new business development	161
fish	CB	Support additional State capacity for fishery stock assessments and monitoring (ADCNR-MRD and ALDPH)	159
fish	CB	Improve access to streams for better monitoring	158
fish	CB	Adopt slot limits on Speckled trout to build larger average fish stocks	158
HC	Stew	Develop interpretive signage that will complement electronic GPS/smart phone links to encourage education on-site.	159
HC	BC	Create driving/walking/biking/canoe-kayaking trails on historical and ethnic and religious themes to encourage eco-heritage tourism on and around the estuary (Native American, African-American, Civil War, etc.).	158
HC	BC	Establish human connections to the water by creating new forms of access: boat tours, pocket parks, etc.	158
HC	EST	Research best practices for protecting archaeological and historical resources adapting best practices from elsewhere to protect cultural resources.	158
HC	EST	Compare heritage tourism's economic impact to the impacts of other forms of tourism	158
HC	BC	Develop Economic incentives for protecting cultural resources, including use of conservation easements and community recognition programs	157
HC	EST	Conduct a Heritage Landscapes Inventory for each county to determine the value of each landscape and to identify issues relating to its preservation.	157
HC	Stew	Create an "Adopt a Cultural Pearl" program to encourage business support and ongoing stewardship for protecting priority cultural properties, archaeological and historical sites, etc.	157
HC	Stew	Encourage and coordinate festivals and other public activities on the waterways of the area that celebrate the cultural/natural connection.	157
HC	EST	Conduct a (long-term longitudinal) study of the use of the estuary based on primary documentary and archaeological data.	156
HC	EST	Conduct a meta analysis of economic studies that quantify value of heritage tourism	156
HC	Stew	Develop program to educate about the interrelationship of culture and history in the coastal zone to diverse groups, including the local populations, snowbirds, tourists, and newcomers to the area	156
HC	BC	Create a collaborative coalition including Dept. of Tourism, Welcome Centers, Mobile Area Lodging Association, Seafood organizations, homeowners' associations, and others to promote cultural/heritage tourism along with natural and recreational attractions.	155
HC	BC	In coordination with curriculum coordinators, adapt lesson plans to include culture/heritage content for multiple grades, include on-line lesson supplements, and incorporate into AL Science and Technology Initiative	155

HC	EST	Conduct a toponymy or place names study of the estuary to identify their origins, meanings, cultural themes, ethnic settlement patterns and how communities through time utilized estuarine resources for survival and enjoyment.	155
HC	Stew	Create educational opportunities that provide experiences for the business community to connect with our estuary's cultural and natural resources.	155
HC	Stew	Explore non-print media and social media to inform the public on educational and tourism possibilities.	155
HC	Stew	Establish electronic format for submission of cultural data and identified opportunities for protection.	155
HC	Stew	Add cultural content to the biennial Bays and Bayous conference	155
HC	BC	Restore connections between heritage and culture of the lower Mobile Tensaw Delta through preservation of key sites (Africatown, Indian and Civil War artifacts)	154
HC	BC	Incorporate heritage and cultural significance in restoration planning (Three Mile Creek)	154
HC	BC	Develop partnerships with Chambers of Commerce and others who benefit from and can assist with promotion and resource development for the preservation needs related to our culture & heritage.	154
HC	BC	Establish a collaboration of coastal environmental practitioners and historic preservationists to investigate opportunities for communicating the value of coastal Alabama's heritage to its present day activities and promote preservation and protection actions	154
HC	Stew	Promote information on cultural sites of interest in the region through a variety of electronic media	154
HC	Stew	Develop outreach program that promotes public contributions to archaeology and cultural knowledge base of the community including an oral history program that solicits interviews with all segments of the community to explore individuals' relationship to the estuary.	154
HC	BC	Develop a FAQ response about historical and archaeological sites, artifacts, cemeteries, and historic protection laws and make accessible through electronic media	153
HC	BC	Promote the incorporation of culture and heritage in community, economic, transportation and other planning processes.	153
HC	BC	Garner Congressional support by visits to Delta	152
HC	BC	Incorporate and expand information on cultural sites of interest in the region (linking to Encyclopedia of Alabama) in the Habitats Tool	152
HC	BC	Investigate alternatives for mitigation for Section 106 (National Historic Preservation Act) issues	147
HC	BC	Confer with Alliance of National Heritage Areas (& with Mississippi NHA)	147
Resil	RES	Restore salt marshes	161
Resil	RES	Protect undeveloped lands that contribute to aquifer recharge	160
Resil	RES	Conserve and restore maritime forests throughout the estuary	160
Resil	BC	Host a joint state watershed management meeting with water management stakeholders to share tools, best management practices, water policy and water supply data/information.	159
Resil	Stew	Educate the public about "what is in it for me" to increase stewardship and encourage good decisions about environmental impacts. Educate public about the definition of resilience, stresses on issues of resilience, drivers to increase awareness and knowledge	159
Resil	BC	Develop and facilitate implementation of model ordinances and incentive packages that institutionalize the use of low impact development practices in communities.	158
Resil	EST	Conduct periodic monitoring of shoreline change in coordination with monitoring of SAV distribution (at least every five years)	158
Resil	EST	Consolidate hazard data (SLR, temperature, flood, climate) and forecast impacts to be used by planning bodies and elected officials.	158
Resil	Stew	Organize annual forum to address how residents are utilizing natural resources (Book: Tragedy of the Commons) and how to use them responsibly.	158
Resil	EST	Develop mechanism for monitoring number of communities that have incorporated adaptation planning and resiliency measures into existing operational frameworks	157
Resil	Stew	Develop (3) social marketing campaigns to increase public stewardship	157
Resil	BC	Develop plans to protect sensitive habitats through regulation and incentives, including an evaluation plan for tracking progress/success.	156

WQ	EST	Develop a Mobile Bay water quality monitoring program that targets watersheds based on areas under most and least stress (build off of Healthy Watersheds Initiative currently in process)	160
WQ	EST	Study impacts of causeway/ship channel on hydrologic function of the estuary	159
WQ	EST	Develop long-term monitoring program of SAV as indicator of water quality	158
WQ	EST	Characterize nutrients in terms of their sources, transport, fate and effects on the estuary to develop an understanding of relationships between freshwater inflow, sediments, nutrients, physical processes, and biological communities with the goal of developing nutrient criteria for the State of Alabama	158
WQ	EST	Develop a "Scorecard of Estuary Health" to improve dissemination of information related to water quality/estuary health. Provide annual updates and publish a comprehensive State of the Bay every three years	156
WQ	EST	Develop a better understanding of water quantity and withdrawal on the overall WQ of Mobile Bay. Determine the minimum amount of freshwater inflow necessary to sustain a healthy estuary	156
WQ	Stew	Minimize impacts of contaminated stormwater runoff through voluntary initiatives that reduce the incidence of litter and other sources of non-point source pollution (storm drain marking, working with retailers/municipalities to increase trash collection and recycling opportunities; reduce use of single-use plastic bags)	156
WQ	Stew	Promote Alabama Smart Yards/Smart Yard Healthy Gulf	156
WQ	Stew	Expand opportunities for community members to participate in protecting water quality through volunteer monitoring activities	155
WQ	BC	Promote the need to emphasize Water Quality as a goal of the State Water Resources Management Plan to government officials/legislators	154
WQ	BC	Pursue the development of "Green Port" status for ports within the estuary through assessment of needs and development / implementation of consistent green Port policies to improve bay sediment and water quality	154
WQ	BC	Develop alternatives for financing stormwater management activities on an ongoing basis and pilot in conjunction with watershed management planning efforts	154
WQ	BC	Create prioritized list of Watersheds for planning efforts	153
WQ	BC	Develop mechanism for increasing resources to support additional enforcement of water quality regulations	153
WQ	RES	Restore streams (including system hydrology where feasible), riparian buffers and freshwater wetlands in priority watersheds to improve watershed discharges to fishery nursery areas and SAV beds	153
WQ	Stew	Create an outreach campaign that brands our coastal quality of life with water quality	153
WQ	Stew	Identify and evaluate current educational programs related to water quality, identify the gaps, and create new programs to address those gaps	153
WQ	EST	Develop a quantitative understanding of water quality impairments in priority watersheds	152
WQ	BC	Develop a comprehensive mapping/GIS tool to provide information on water quality by watershed (ex. FloridaWaterAtlas.org)	151
WQ	RES	Restore hydrology to Choccolatta Bay/John's Bend/Justins Bay by opening up the Causeway	151
WQ	RES	Restore priority watersheds in urban areas through development and implementation of comprehensive watershed management plans that target reductions in non-point source pollutants	151
WQ	RES	Develop fresh/brackish water SAV restoration program that coordinates activities with development and implementation of watershed management plans in Coastal HUC 12s	151
WQ	BC	Develop and facilitate implementation of model ordinances and incentive packages that institutionalize the use of low impact development practices in communities.	150
WQ	BC	Expand stormwater management training opportunities (Green infrastructure, LID, cost of LID v. traditional development) through the use of electronic media	149
WQ	BC	Synthesize existing water quality research and monitoring data to establish quantitative baselines for measuring progress and identifying data gaps	148
WQ	BC	Establish procedure for/prepare Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans at the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 12 scale that are based on quantitative data on impairments/health, address EPA's nine key elements, and include a multi-year monitoring plan	148