

Western Perdido Bay Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee Meeting-February 21, 2022

Meeting Attendees: Mary Kate Brown, Wade Burcham, Lani Cameron, Mike Cleveland, Linda Glass, Karen Gross, Chris Head, John LaGrone, Billy Lovelace, Gerry Manus, Christian Miller, Tommy Resmondo, Lucy Smith, Brent Spears, Jenny Williams

- **Introductions** were made. Wade Burcham announced there is a filmmaker, Randall Miller, who is interested in helping with filming as needed
- **Community Survey**

Blurb to introduce survey: The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program develops Watershed Management Plans (WMP), which provide a roadmap for restoring or conserving watersheds and improving water and habitat quality. These WMPs will chart a future course for improving or protecting the things people value most about living along the Alabama coast. We would love to hear from you; the people who work, live, and play in the Watershed

Please help us by taking this quick ten-question survey by going to <https://bit.ly/Perdido1>

QR code with the link to the survey is to the left.

The **survey will close on April 30th**

Challenge to Steering Committee: Get back 200-300 responses



Steering Committee members have a good network to distribute the watershed survey via social media. Baldwin County Sewer Service said they can also help distribute the survey through mailings.

Mike will post the survey in the following: I love Lillian, Next Door Lillian, Sweet Home Lillian, Enjoying Food Along the Coast; Lani will do Spanish Cove website & Facebook page; Lucy will do the Lillian Recreational Park; Chris will post the survey on social media sites associated with Perdido Beach, Baldwin County Sewer will put the survey on the back of their bills

- A local resident, Randall Miller, is a professional filmmaker and wants to support the effort by creating short videos
- **Vision Statement**

The steering committee reviewed vision statements and asked for feedback. Going with something along the lines of “We strive to preserve our community and culture to pass on to future generations a future with resilient watersheds, abundant wildlife, and streams and rivers open for recreation.”

Three versions of the vision statement were pieced together from the direction provided in the previous meeting. **Please pick the one** that you like best, and respond by **March 1st** utilizing this link: <https://bit.ly/Perdido2>

- **Monitoring** -Monitoring sites discussed. The question of where we want to add monitoring sites was asked of the group. Mike, John, and Nate have volunteered. Committee Members can utilize the flyers sent by Madison to enlist volunteers for the monitoring class on March 10th at the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department from 9 to 4. The link for water monitoring information is <https://mywaterway.epa.gov>
 - BCSS can provide probable locations for addresses with septic systems in the Watershed. The majority of these are clustered on the western side of Lillian.
 - There is more water quality data available than was expected. There are some gaps in areas, such as Peterson Branch. There are ~10 AWW sites with historical data. One site on Soldier Creek is active. Pathogen and WQ data record back to 2008.
 - There are currently ~5 people signed up for AWW certification. Registration flyers will be distributed to other interested individuals.
 - Several committee members are interested in participating in oyster gardening. There is also interest in living shorelines.
 - Chris Head (Perdido Beach Planning Commission) owns property on Ft. Morgan for oyster farm. Has been dealing with shoreline erosion and is interested in living shoreline. He has four additional adjacent property owners interested for a total of ~760 linear feet. Has talked to USFWS and Eric Sparks.

The next meeting is on March 21st, 2022. **Going forward, the meetings will be on the 3rd Monday of the month.** The next meeting will be MBNEP led. Leslie Gahagan will present to the group on WBWW. How the group formed, what they've accomplished, and lessons learned.