Mon Louis Island Living Shoreline Project

Coastal Engineering Services provided for the



Mobile Bay National Estuary Program and Mon Louis Island property owners



by South Coast Engineers PO Box 72 Fairhope, AL 36533 www.southcoastengineers.com

MBNEP Project Purpose and Objectives

Purpose

Promote the wise stewardship of the water quality and living resources of the near shore area along the western shore of Mobile Bay on Mon Louis Island

Objectives

- 1. Optimize sandy areas along approximately 670 feet of shoreline
- 2. Establish a low energy inshore area to restore emergent marsh vegetation



3. Install reef structure to expand quality oyster settlement opportunities

South Coast Engineers

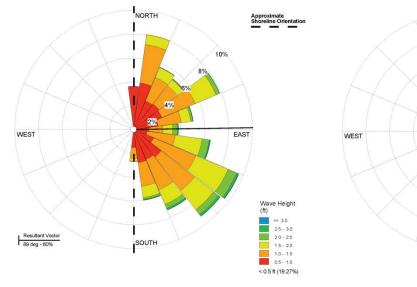
Coastal Processes

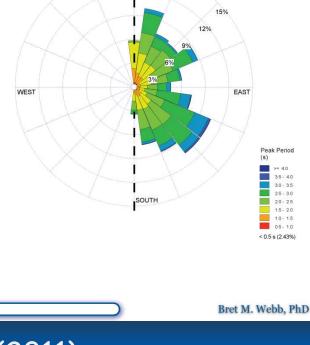
University of South Alabama Department of Civil Engineering

Mon Louis Island Community Base Restoration Meeting

> Approximate Shoreline Orientation

Wave Climate - North





NORTH



SCE

Webb (2011)

South Coast Engineers

Coastal Processes

University of South Alabama Department of Civil Engineering

Mon Louis Island Community Base Restoration Meeting

-88.000

30,480

30,440

30,400

30.360

30.320

-88.200 -88.160 -88.120 -88.080 -88.040 1 ? cy/yr Average 30,480 Annual > ? cy/yr 30.440 Mon Louis 16,232 cy/yr Sediment 30,400 Transport Alabama 30.360 Port 1,475 cy/yr **Patterns** ? cv/vr 30.320 -88.200 -88.160 -88.120 -88.080 -88.040

Bret M. Webb, PhD

-88.000

February 17, 2011



South Coast Engineers

Coastal Processes



Webb (2011)



South Coast Engineers

Oyster Habitat



Met with Marine Resources Division to discuss oyster habitat creation

Nearshore sandy beach area



Preserve existing, sandy nearshore flounder habitat



South Coast Engineers

Marsh Vegetation



Stout (1990) "Suggestions for Planting and Maintaining Wetlands in Coastal Alabama" /Knutson et al.

> <u>Average Fetch</u> 0 – 1000 m BEST 1000 – 9000 m ACCEPTABLE

> > Mon Louis Island

<u>Average Fetch</u> 72,000 ft (22,000 m) <u>Longest Fetch</u> <u>117,0</u>00 ft (36,000 m)



Marsh Vegetation

We saw both *Spartina alterniflora* and *Juncus roemerianus* at elevations ranging from about -0.5 ft up to +1.5 ft, NAVD.

... just below MLLW to just above MHHW

Stout (1990)

Spartina alterniflora – regularly flooded area of the marsh (MLW to MHW)

Juncus roemerianus - Irregularly inundated area of the marsh (MHW to high spring tide level)

South Coast Engineers

4-12-2012

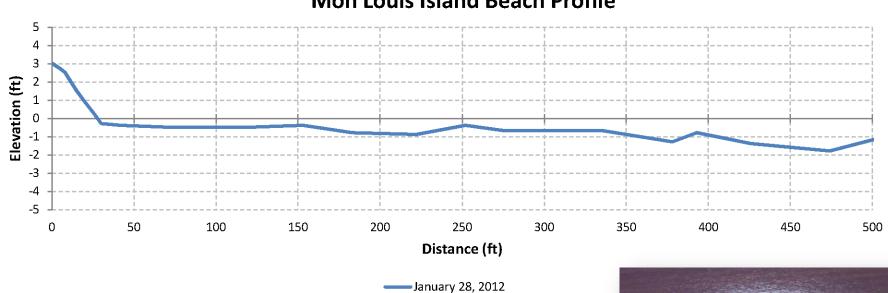
MLI project site

Goat Island





Beach Profile Elevations



Mon Louis Island Beach Profile

Sand Collection





Specific Components of the Design

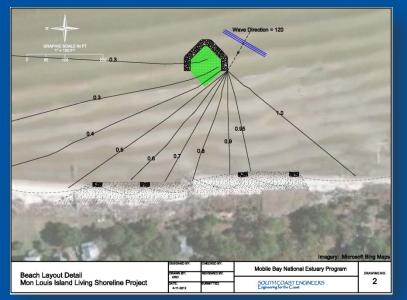
1. Sand beach nourishment with a nearshore, headland breakwater system for shoreline stabilization

- 2. An offshore island with a rock breakwater, sand fill and marsh plantings
- 3. Two submerged rock breakwaters in shallow water farther offshore for oysters

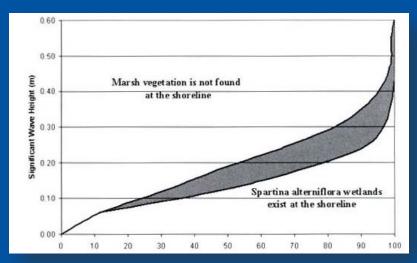


Engineering Tools

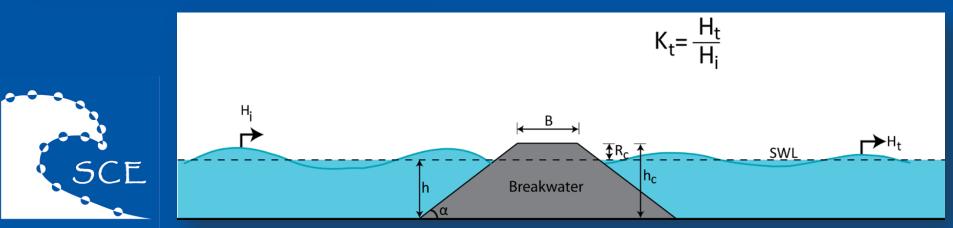
Wave Diffraction



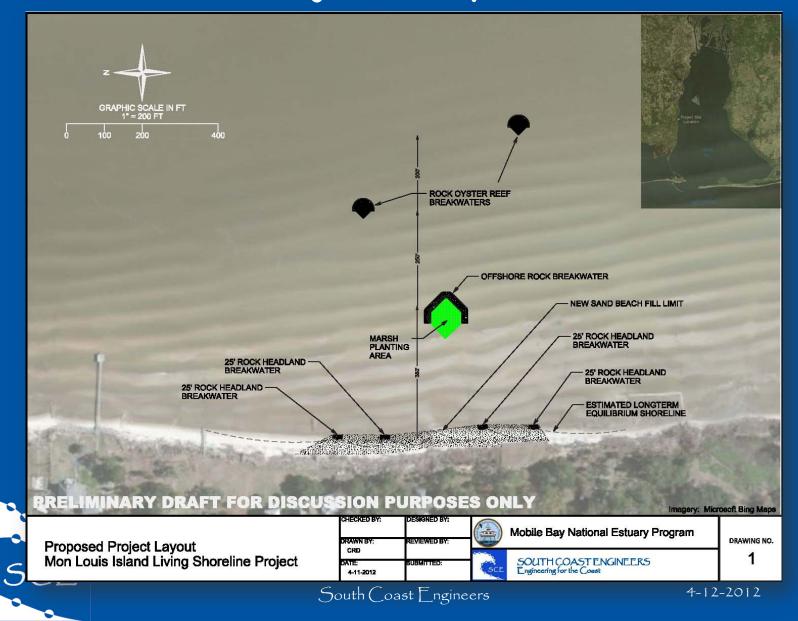
Wave Tolerance of *S. alterniflora*



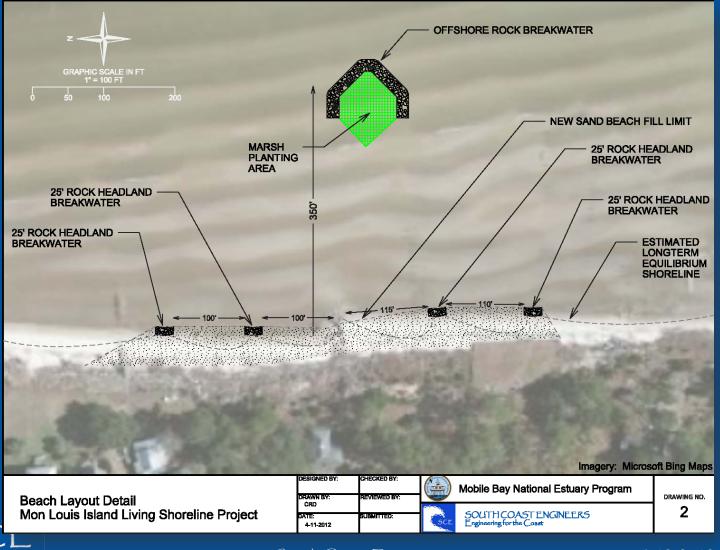
Wave Transmission



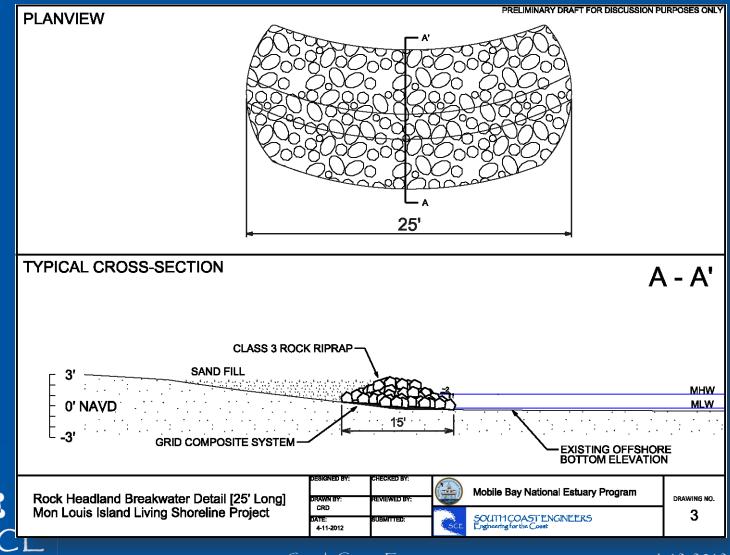
Project Layout



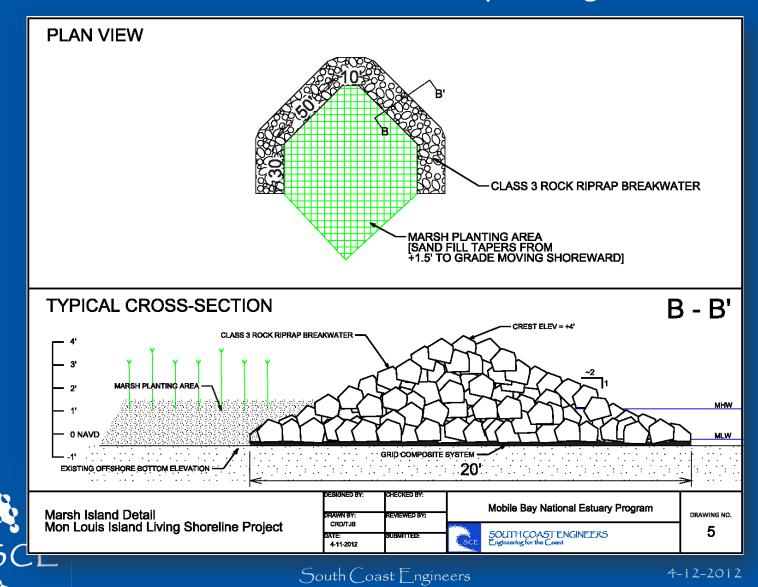
Sand beach nourishment with a nearshore, headland breakwater system for shoreline stabilization



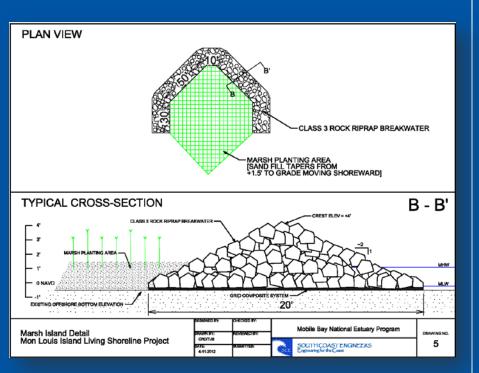
Sand beach nourishment with a nearshore, headland breakwater system for shoreline stabilization



An offshore island with a rock breakwater, sand fill and marsh plantings



An offshore island with a rock breakwater, sand fill and marsh plantings



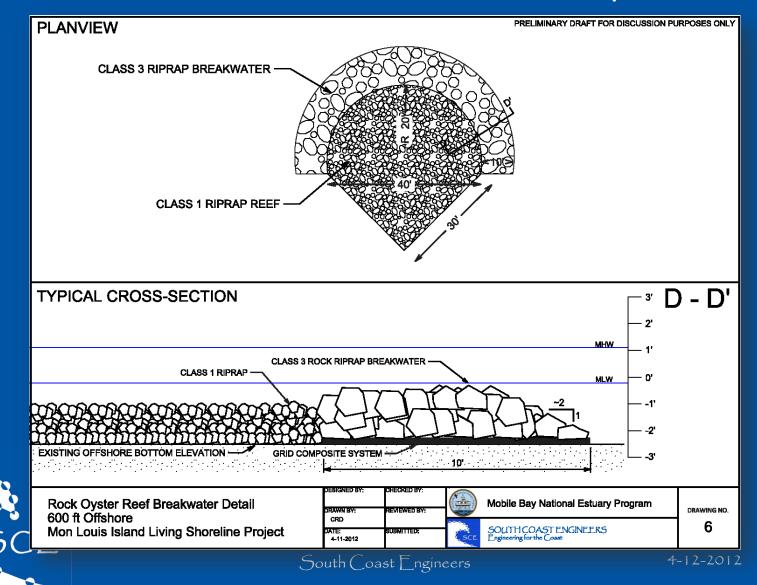
We decided that sand should be added to the back of the main offshore breakwater, where we are creating a "marsh island," to raise the elevation to the upper end of the range we observed at Goat Island, or about +1.0 ft, NAVD.

We suggest having some higher and lower spots in elevation on the design plans, which could be constructed by volunteers.

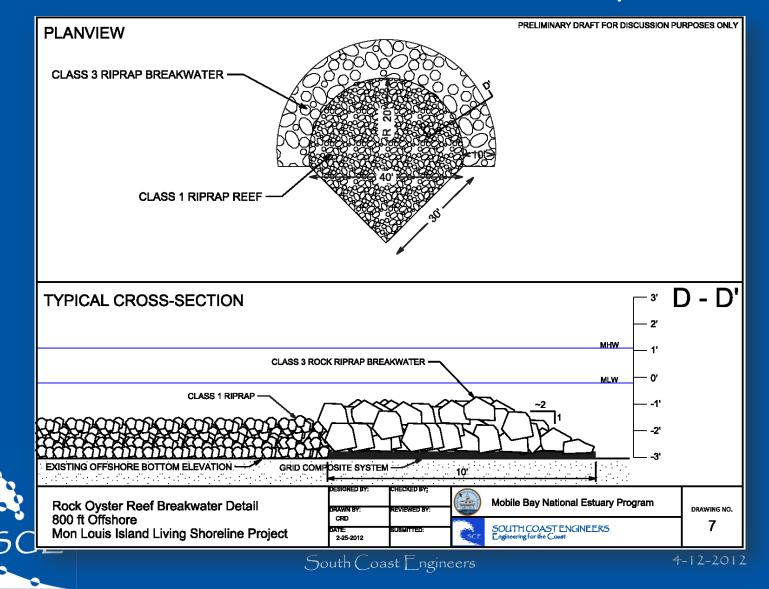
We also suggest planting both *Spartina alterniflora* and *Juncus roemerianus.*



Two submerged rock breakwaters in shallow water farther offshore for oysters



Two submerged rock breakwaters in shallow water farther offshore for oysters



South Coast Engineers



PO Box 72 Fairhope, AL 36533 www.southcoastengineers.com