

**YEAR FOUR ANNUAL WORKPLAN
FISCAL YEAR 2000**



**MOBILE BAY
NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM**
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PREFACE

This is the fourth annual Workplan for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (NEP). It describes the work items to be carried out for Year Four (Fiscal Year 2000). Fiscal Year 2000 is a transition year for the Mobile Bay NEP. Technically this is the first year of implementation—at least in terms of the level of US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding. However, the Mobile Bay NEP expects to work on the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) this fiscal year and obtain approval for the plan from the Governor of Alabama and the Administrator of EPA during the second quarter of the Fiscal Year 2001.

This workplan is submitted under the assumption that the Mobile Bay NEP Program Office will move to the Brookley Campus of the University of South Alabama and that the University of South Alabama will serve as the grantee with the concomitant expenses that are incurred in that location. Tasks remaining undone from previous years workplans are included in this workplan to provide complete coverage of tasks to be performed by the University of South Alabama as they accept transfer of the grant.

This Workplan is presented to the members of the Management Conference and is available to the Mobile Bay estuary community. The information in this Workplan also serves as an agreement between the Mobile Bay NEP Management Conference and the US Environmental Protection Agency for continued funding of the Mobile Bay NEP. A more specific Cooperative Agreement with EPA Region 4 will be the instrument for identifying and funding specific activities.

This document contains several sections. The **Introduction** provides a discussion of the establishment of the National Estuary Program, and of the Mobile Bay NEP in particular, under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. The **Summary of Accomplishments** for Year Three (FY99) follows. The **Year Four (FY00) Activities** include details of each proposed Workplan item in Required CCMP Elements, Scientific/Technical Assessments, Public Participation and Education and Program Administration.

INTRODUCTION

The National Estuary Program (NEP) was established by the Water Quality Act of 1987. The Act authorizes the Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMPs) for estuaries of national significance threatened by pollution, development, or overuse. Section 320 of the Act outlines the estuary designation process and the purposes of a Management Conference.

On September 28, 1995, EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner added Mobile Bay to the National Estuary Program. The Management Conference participants were established and consist of a seventeen member Policy Committee (now eighteen), a Management Committee, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). Subsequently, four TAC/CAC joint issue workgroups were created to further define and refine priority issues and corresponding action plans for the following areas: habitat loss, human uses, living resources, and water quality. A diagram of the management structure is found in the Appendix, Figure 1. The Policy Committee approved the Mobile Bay NEP Management Conference Agreement on July 30, 1996. The Conference Agreement represents the commitments of Management Conference participants to the work to be accomplished over the three-year planning and development phase of the Mobile Bay NEP.

The work outlined in the Conference Agreement includes the tasks necessary to fulfill the seven purposes of a National Estuary Program, stated in Section 320 of the Water Quality Act of 1987.

Section 320(b) PURPOSES OF CONFERENCE. —The purposes of any management conference convened with respect to an estuary under this subsection shall be to—

- 1. Assess trends in water quality, natural resources, and uses of the estuary;*
- 2. Collect, characterize, and assess data on toxics, nutrients, and natural resources within the estuarine zone to identify the causes of environmental problems;*
- 3. Develop the relationship between the in-place loads and point and nonpoint loadings of pollutants to the estuarine zone and the potential uses of the zone, water quality, and natural resources;*
- 4. Develop a comprehensive conservation and management plan that recommends priority corrective actions and compliance schedules addressing point and nonpoint sources of pollution to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the estuary, including restoration and maintenance of water quality, a balanced indigenous population of shellfish, fish and wildlife, and recreational activities in the estuary, and assure that the designated uses of the estuary are protected;*
- 5. Develop plans for the coordinated implementation of the plan by the States as well as Federal and local agencies participating in the conference;*
- 6. Monitor the effectiveness of actions taken pursuant to the plan; and*
- 7. Review all Federal development projects in accordance with the requirements of Executive Order 12372...to determine whether such assistance programs or projects would be consistent with and further the purposes and objectives of the plan prepared under this section.*

On June 20, 1996, the Policy Committee established the following goals for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program.

- | | |
|-----|--|
| I. | <i>To maintain and promote wise stewardship of the water quality characteristics of the Mobile Bay Estuarine System.</i> |
| II. | <i>To maintain and promote wise stewardship of the living resources base of the Mobile Bay Estuarine System.</i> |

As indicated in the Management Conference Agreement, a strong emphasis is placed on an early action agenda and support of only that research and characterization work necessary for an effective CCMP. Coordination with other ongoing resource management activities to avoid unnecessary duplication and efforts to involve all interested and affected parties will continue as the completion of the CCMP approaches and implementation of the CCMP begins.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Development of the Draft Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Draft CCMP

The Management Conference made great strides in drafting the CCMP during Fiscal Year 1999. On August 21-22, 1998, a subcommittee of 20-25, comprised of members of the Policy, Management, Technical Advisory, Citizens Advisory Committees and the Issue Workgroups attended a "Target Setting Retreat" in Gulf Shores, Alabama, facilitated by a staff member from EPA in Washington, DC. The purpose of this retreat was to draft specific, quantifiable objectives based on the action plans that the Issue Workgroups had previously developed and the technical characterization studies. Objectives were drafted for water quality, hydrological modifications, habitat loss, living resources, human uses, and education and public involvement. After the retreat, members in attendance reviewed the objectives drafted and the placement of action items under each of the objectives.

The results of the Target Setting Retreat were forwarded to the Policy and Management Committees. A joint meeting of those two committees was held on September 24, 1998 to reach consensus on quantifiable objectives for the CCMP (based on best available information as of September 24). Prior to the September meeting, the Program Office, Technical Advisory Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee and Management Committee developed draft documents for the Policy and Management Committees to discuss at the meeting, which was facilitated by RESOLVE, Inc. from Washington, DC. (RESOLVE facilitated all four joint meetings, sponsored by EPA in Washington.) The joint meeting reached consensus on many of the objectives and put several on the "backburner." The next joint Policy-Management Committee meeting was scheduled for December 17, 1998 for the purpose of reaching consensus on the action plans.

As a follow-up to the joint September meeting, each Policy and Management Committee member was assigned to a specific Issue Workgroup. Each Issue Workgroup met in the interim between the two joint meetings to review and revise objectives placed on the "backburner" and to further develop the action plans for the December 17 meeting. At the December joint meeting, consensus was reached on the majority of action plans for hydrological modifications, human uses, and habitat loss. Two habitat loss actions plans were referred to a "Wetlands Working Group" comprised of members of all Management Conference committees, for revision.

The third joint Policy-Management Committee meeting was held on January 28, 1999. Consensus was reached on action plans for living resources and education and public involvement. There was considerable discussion on the objectives for water quality and some were placed on the backburner to be addressed by the Water Quality Workgroup before the next joint meeting. Consensus was reached on some, but not all of the water quality action plans.

On February 25, 1999 the final joint meeting reached consensus on the remaining water quality objectives and action plans.

Meanwhile, all the material from the joint meetings, the technical characterization reports, and numerous other Mobile Bay NEP publications and information was delivered to Matt Drouillard of MAD Consulting Services to incorporate into the draft document itself.

Finance Plan and Implementation Strategy

A meeting entitled "Who's on First?" was held on September 11, 1998 to reach preliminary understanding on which agencies may or may not be able to commit to implementing specific action items. Primarily state and local agencies participated in the session, which addressed only water quality and living resources action plans.

A contract was executed between the Mobile Bay NEP and Battelle, Inc. to provide information to guide the Management Conference in the decision making process on the finance plan and implementation strategy. Battelle addressed two facets of implementation: (1) implementation and financing of individual action items in the draft CCMP; and, (2) the organizational structure and financing of the NEP office itself in implementation.

On May 5 and 6, 1999 an Implementation Workshop was held with agency and government representatives, facilitated by Battelle, to begin to obtain commitments from these entities to implement specific action items that are now in the draft CCMP. Battelle assisted with recommendations on the approach and next steps for follow-up discussions with these organizations and agencies to reach commitments to be included in the CCMP.

For the organizational structure of the NEP, Battelle surveyed eight other NEPs for information on organizational structure, funding, accountability, measures of success, etc. Battelle also contacted members of the Mobile Bay NEP Management Conference for their input. As a result of these activities, Battelle will provide the Mobile Bay NEP with recommendations on organizational options and funding mechanisms. With this information in hand, the Management Conference will decide the future organizational structure and funding mechanisms for the Mobile Bay NEP.

The Monitoring Program Plan and the Federal Consistency Review will also be addressed in Year Three.

Management and Program Administration

The Data Information and Management System was activated in Year Three. The Gulf of Mexico Program provided the hardware needed for the system and installed it at the site of the Mobile Bay NEP office. Ms. Holly Hall was hired half time to maintain the system and coordinate data activities with contractors and other agencies. She also created and will maintain and update the Mobile Bay NEP Website (homepage): mobilebaynep.com.

The "Inventory and Analysis of Resource Management Programs," begun in FY97, was completed in FY99 by the Dauphin Island Sea Lab/Coastal Policy Initiative. Also completed in FY99 was an economic valuation, "Toward Valuation of the Mobile Bay: A Study," by Dr.

Semoon Chang and Shelia Canode of the University of South Alabama. This contract began in FY98.

The Policy Committee of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program expanded its membership by adding Mr. David Ruple, Director of the Nature Conservancy's Grand Bay Savanna Bioreserve. Mr. Ruple had been previously involved with the Mobile Bay NEP and will represent the environmental community on the Committee, along with Ms. Myrt Jones. The Policy Committee now has 18 members.

Scientific/Technical

There were numerous scientific/technical endeavors during FY99. These activities included playing a major role in the preparation and facilitation of the accomplishments noted in Section One of this plan (i.e., the Target Setting Retreat, the "Who's on First" agency meeting, the Implementation Workshop, the joint management and policy committee meetings, and oversight of the Data and Information Management System). As stated in previous workplans, a major goal of the scientific element of the Program was to effect coordination and cooperation among existing agencies and organizations with common missions or interests. These meetings and activities provided for great strides in achieving this goal.

The Program also received a two year (\$52,500 per year) Fish and Wildlife Service Northern Gulf Coast Partnership grant through the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. This partnership involves agencies and organizations from Alabama and neighboring states. Several Year Three (FY99) workplan items are to be funded by this grant allowing other non-funded or under-funded work plan items to be implemented.

A \$10,400 Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant was awarded to the Program this spring. The project is a joint effort of the Mobile Bay NEP, the Weeks Bay Watershed Program, the Baldwin County public school system, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and a private engineering company. The grant money will be used to create a large pond and fringe wetlands' area at a local public school. An additional \$9,600 is anticipated at the end of this fiscal year to purchase plants for the wetlands' area and an outdoor education center.

Work continued on the \$150,000 shellfish grant awarded to the Program from the Gulf of Mexico Program at the end of FY97. This work involves the assessment and evaluation of the following: 1) effects of point and non-point source pollution reduction efforts; 2) survival and growth of oysters at formerly productive sites; and 3) new restoration and culture techniques. Ms. Holly Hall was hired to assist in coordination of these activities under this same grant.

Cooperation with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) and Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Coastal Programs, continues along several lines. There are plans to coordinate and possibly cost-share the land use planning effort. Additionally, all non-point source-related CCMP action plans will be incorporated into the Coastal Programs 6217 management plan and into ADEM's 319 state plan. ADECA, Coastal Programs, and the Mobile Bay NEP also co-hosted a Volunteer Monitoring workshop that was facilitated by the Center for Marine Conservation. Along with these activities, a Mobile Bay

NEP/ADECA subcommittee is currently guiding the process for initiation of the Year Three (FY99) work plan item entitled "Profile of User Groups in the Theodore Ship Channel / Industrial Park."

The Data and Information Management System, as mentioned previously, is in progress. Year Three (FY99) activities include a GIS base map and layers' needs assessment and cost-sharing arrangement with all interested parties in the Mobile Bay NEP area. We have entered into an MOU with Baldwin County to utilize their GIS data, which has a potential match value of approximately \$500,000. A contacts database and a scientific metadata base are near completion. In cooperation with the Gulf of Mexico Program, the metadata base will be available to the public and will be housed in their virtual data warehouse.

In addition to these achievements, an action plan demonstration project (APDP) involving the use of alternative surfaces on dirt roads and adjacent drainage ditches in Baldwin County was approved and initiated. The objective is to allow permeability and stability to dirt roads and ditches that will reduce the amount of sediments and petroleum products from road runoff and will lower maintenance costs. The APDP involving wetlands-based stormwater management in Mobile County that was initiated last year has been completed and was highly successful.

Characterization work from Year One (FY97) was completed for Living Resources and Habitat Loss. To date, we have received draft reports on the Year One (FY97) Human Uses characterization report and the Year Two (FY98) scientific work plan item entitled "Investigation of Fishing Pressure." Revised editions of these reports should be approved as complete within the next two months. A cooperative cost-sharing arrangement with the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, and the Mobile Bay NEP was set up at the end of last fiscal year to accomplish a loadings budget analysis. This analysis, that was part of the Year Two (FY98) modeling effort, was revised this fiscal year to include completion of a hydrodynamic model for Mobile Bay at no cost to the Program.

Public Outreach

The goals for the public outreach program as established by the Management Conference are to educate targeted audiences and the general public regarding the history, function and activities of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, to involve the community in activities that affect the quality of Mobile Bay and to address the priority issues and action plans established by the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan and, finally, to encourage community participation in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

In January 1999 the position of Public Outreach Coordinator changed. Since January, the public outreach has addressed all three of the Mobile Bay NEP program goals.

A portable, professional, stand-up presentation display was assembled and shown at the Home and Garden show, the Home Builders Association, Blakeley Park Anniversary, State Legislative Delegation Tour, Environmental Studies Center Open House, Earth Day and the Bon Secour

National Wildlife Refuge Dedication. More than 10,000 local residents were exposed to the Mobile Bay NEP through these efforts.

The Mobile Bay NEP participated in a nationally organized, 3-day Volunteer Monitoring workshop. Mobile Bay NEP was the sole host to a Nonpoint Source Education for Municipal Officials Workshop (NEMO). The NEMO workshop received wide media coverage by the Mobile Register and the Gulf Coast Newspaper Network chain of 7 newspapers.

Some demonstration projects continue to be difficult to complete. Successes include a storm-drain stencil project completed in Daphne and the Master Environmental educators being provided a groundwater flow model. The Teacher Education packets were completed and distributed in Baldwin County. Distribution in Mobile County will occur in June. Rotary Club Volunteers planted sub-aquatic vegetation in Mobile Bay. The boardwalk project at the Battleship USS Alabama has been revised, is within budget, the scope of work is agreed upon but the contractor has repeatedly postponed the promised start dates. The project is in progress. The restaurant placemat project is complete and at the printer. Placemats should be in at least two area restaurants tables this summer. Final copies of the video and the placemats are being completed and both should be public in June. Solicitation continues for additional APDP's.

A general information presentation including script and overhead transparencies was completed for use by members of the Speakers Bureau.

A short video intended for Public Service Announcement use is complete. The sound is revised on a separate tape. Blending of the video and audio will render the project complete and ready for public view.

The Program Director, Scientific Program Coordinator and Outreach Coordinator made many presentations at area Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, church groups, University of South Alabama study club, the American Association of Retired Persons, municipal officials and other groups. More than 1,250 area residents were exposed to the Mobile Bay NEP through these efforts. A presentation to the Baldwin County Commission was televised and played repeatedly on the local Public Access channel to broad exposure.

Media relations continue to be strong. Mobile Bay NEP representatives were quoted in numerous newspaper articles regarding environmental issues. Specific newspaper placements have included coverage of Management and Policy Committee meetings, articles prior to and following NEP sponsored workshops, coverage of Mobile Bay NEP staff changes and more. The Mobile Bay NEP Program Office is frequently called by area reporters for background information. In short, the Program is becoming established as an information resource and Program Office press releases are usually given prominent placement. Although total exposure is difficult to estimate, each newspaper placement in the Mobile Register is exposed to more than 120,000 readers and the seven papers in the Gulf Coast Newspaper Network have a combined circulation of more than 24,000.

Television coverage of Mobile Bay Earth Day included interviews with Mobile Bay NEP staff who participated in the organization and implementation of Mobile Bay Earth Day. No viewing or impact figures are available for the morning and afternoon news programs.

Public recognition efforts include presentation of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Environmental Excellence awards at the South Alabama Regional Science Fair and the Mobile Bay NEP Environmental Stewardship awards at Mobile Bay Earth Day.

Participation in the Coastal Connections newsletter continues. Only one edition has been printed since January but the circulation puts Mobile Bay NEP information in the hands of more than 2,500 citizens at each publication. Although the inaugural edition was controversial, the Mobile Bay NEP monthly calendar was expanded to include updated stories on the CCMP progress and APDP activities accompanied by photographs. The calendar is mailed to approximately 700 recipients each month.

Mobile Bay NEP Public Outreach participated in the presentation and award of a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for \$10,400 to construct restored wetlands at a Baldwin County middle school (*Please see Scientific/Technical Summary of Accomplishments*).

Monthly Citizen Advisory Committee meetings were reinstituted. Attendance and activity remains below targeted levels but minor growth is occurring.

Preparation for the distribution of the first draft CCMP and the Stakeholders Report continues. Meetings are ongoing with corroborating agencies, watershed communities have been defined and identification of key groups continues. Mail targets have been identified and refinement of the proposed mailing list continues. Plans for ten-area watershed community meetings (Local Community Initiative {LCI}) are being refined.

YEAR FOUR (FY00) ACTIVITIES

The Year Four (FY00) Workplan will build on the previous three years' efforts and will address the products and activities necessary to complete the CCMP.

The EPA allocation to the Mobile Bay NEP for the Year Four (FY00) Workplan is \$371,560. This amount will require a state and local match of \$123,853, for a total of \$495,413. In addition, there will be a carryover of approximately \$704,972 (including local match) from previous year grants.

The Mobile Bay NEP Year Four (FY00) budget is itemized in Table 1. Table 2 is a summary of the Year Four budget by origin of funds. The budget represents a total of \$1,200,385 for the Year Four (FY00) Workplan. Figure 1 is a diagram of the Mobile Bay NEP Management Conference structure.

It is worth repeating the key concepts stated in the previous workplans, which provide the overall ideological framework for managing the Mobile Bay estuarine system by consensus.

Key Concepts:

- Actions to increase public awareness of estuarine problems and active seeking of public participation in consensus building.
- Management options based on the estuary as a holistic ecological unit and promotion of basin-wide planning to manage our living resource.
- Establishment of working partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and organizations to cut across traditional jurisdictions.
- Projects to transfer scientific and management information, experience, and expertise to program participants.
- Utilization of a phased approach: first, identify and define priority problems; second, establish probable causes of the problems; third, devise alternative strategies to solve the problems; fourth, choose and implement the most effective of the strategies.
- Identification of approaches that balance conflicting human uses of the estuary.
- Utilization of collaborative problem solving, to assemble maximum expertise, to broaden the management perspective, and to secure a wide commitment.
- Reliance on existing, previously underutilized data and information combined with critical applied research to fill the knowledge gaps.

The allocation of Year Four (FY00) funds will be in four program areas:

1. **Required CCMP Components.** This section contains items necessary to comply with the requirements of a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan as defined by Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. These items do not encompass all required components, but only those not addressed elsewhere in this Workplan or those previously completed.

2. **Scientific/Technical Assessments.** Workplan items focus on identified high priority activities that are necessary for efficient implementation of the CCMP. In addition, continuation of previous years' workplan items and items that are integral to fulfillment of the CCMP objectives are included.
3. **Public Participation and Education.** Year Four will feature outreach efforts centered on the final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. New local community initiatives targeted to watersheds will be initiated. General outreach will continue to increase public awareness of the Mobile Bay NEP and collaboration with other agencies and municipalities during CCMP implementation. Program Office media, such as the monthly calendar, fact sheets, billboard efforts video and audio PSA's and video presentations will be created or refined.
4. **Management and Program Administration.** The Program Office staff will continue to guide the Mobile Bay NEP toward the goals of the Management Conference and the completion of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. Roles of the Program Office include staff support of committees, program planning, identification of additional funding sources for the development of the CCMP, project contract procurement and coordination, interagency coordination and communication, and administrative coordination with EPA Region 4 and Headquarters.

1.0 Required CCMP Components

"Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plans: Content and Approval Requirements" (EPA Guidance Document 842-B-92-002) lists the required contents of a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, as follows:

- Management Conference Membership List
- Summary of Characterization Findings
- Statement of Priority Problems
- Environmental Quality Goals and Objectives
- Base Program Analysis
- Action Plans
- Finance Plan and Implementation Strategy
- Monitoring Program Plan
- Federal Consistency Review
- Summary of Public Involvement and Review

The workplan items in this section will address those required elements that have not already been completed or are not addressed elsewhere in this workplan. A summary of workplan items developed and approved by the Management and Policy Committees is provided below.

Year Four Required CCMP Components:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Writing the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan1.2 Design and Printing of Various Mobile Bay NEP Documents1.3 Finance and Implementation Plan |
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Specific workplan items are provided in the following section.

1.1 Writing the CCMP

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$25,000
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Program Director
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference

During Year Three, while the scientific, technical and public outreach programs continued, the Management Conference reached consensus on quantifiable objectives and action plans for the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). MAD Consulting Services was contracted to develop an outline and draft CCMP, based on EPA guidance, the scientific/technical studies completed and those underway, the "Stakeholder Report" (Year Two (FY98), Item 2.11), the finance plan and implementation strategy, and the Public Participation Strategy. The initial draft CCMP has received review of the Management Committee and the Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees. As a result of this review, MAD Consulting Services was contracted to revise the document and provide a second draft for internal review. Sections of the CCMP which have been revised include the Habitat Loss and Living Resources Sections. The Introduction and Water Quality, Human Uses, and Hydrologic Modification sections still require substantial revision. Sections of the CCMP not yet completed in Year Three that need to be added include the Public Education and Public Involvement, the Monitoring Strategy and the Federal Consistency Report.

A preliminary draft of the CCMP is scheduled to be released to the public in late summer, 2000. Either in-house or contract services will be required to prepare this public review draft and continue to add information to the draft CCMP that becomes available after that release. In addition, a compilation of the public comments received and proposed responses will be prepared. A revised draft is scheduled to be available to the Management Conference by the winter, 2000, which will include all the required sections of the CCMP. When the Management Conference approves this final draft, it must undergo the formal approval process required by the US EPA, before it is accepted by the Governor and EPA Administrator.

Project Objectives:

1. With the Program Director, coordinate with contractors (primarily Monitoring Program Plan, and Federal Consistency Report), Program Staff, Workgroup Chairs to create a final CCMP based on timely and accurate data.
2. Write the final draft (for the Management Conference) and final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan in "camera-ready" format.
3. Ensure program data and information is incorporated in the Data and Information Management System of the Mobile Bay NEP.

Project Deliverables/Schedule:

Final Draft CCMP.....	Fall, 2000
Final CCMP.....	July, 2001

1.2 Design and Printing of Mobile Bay NEP Documents

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$50,000
NEP Funding:	\$40,000
Outside Funding:	\$10,000
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Program Director
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference

It will be necessary to provide sufficient copies of MBNEP documents to the Management Conference and to the public. These documents include, but are not limited to:

- Final Draft and Final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan
- Technical Reports
- Federal Consistency Review

Number of copies for each publication will vary, depending on the document in question and the overall priority within the publication budget. The highest priority will be given to the CCMP.

Project Objectives:

1. Layout, design, printing of various MBNEP documents.

Project Deliverables/Schedule:

TBD

1.3 Finance and Implementation Plan

Performing Organization:	Battelle
Principal Investigator:	Mr. Mark Curran
Total Funding:	\$5,815
NEP Funding:	\$5,815
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Program Director
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference

This work item covers the completion of the Finance and Implementation Plan which was begun in Year 3 of the program with the award of a contract to Battelle in the amount of \$43,999. Of this amount \$5,815 remains to be expended during Year 4 of the program.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

2.0 Scientific / Technical Assessments

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members and the Scientific / Technical Program Coordinator will be responsible for coordination and oversight of implemented scientific / technical actions. Initiation, coordination, and oversight of scientific / technical projects and / or assessments listed in this workplan also fall under the purview of the Scientific / Technical arena. In addition, as results from scientific / technical assessments are received, revisions to developed action plans that were based on previous assumptions will be made as needed. An EPA grant worth approximately \$31,560 to monitor atmospheric deposition has been awarded to the Mobile Bay NEP for FY00 and included in the grant account. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the Mobile Chamber of Commerce have committed assistance in accomplishing atmospheric monitoring in both counties. This endeavor also will be the responsibility of the Mobile Bay NEP Scientific / Technical program.

A summary of workplan items developed and approved by the TAC is provided below. Some of these workplan items identify NEP funding and outside funding to accomplish tasks. As we enter implementation, there is a greater need to seek and acquire outside funding for the Program. If additional opportunities and funding become available, new workplan items may also be developed by the TAC for approval from the Management and Policy Committees.

Year Four (FY00) Scientific/Technical Workplan Items:

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| 1.1. | Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic (SAV) Survey |
| 1.2. | Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality Parameters for the MBNEP Study Area |
| 1.3. | Land Use Planning Effort |
| 1.4. | Atmospheric Deposition Monitoring Support |
| 1.5. | GIS and Web Site Maintenance and Continued Development |
| 1.6. | Monitoring Program Implementation |
| 1.7. | Monitoring Program Development |
| 1.8. | Sediment Characterization |
| 1.9. | Shellfish Grant |
| 1.10. | Living Resources Data Synthesis/Analysis |

All scientific / technical efforts will be coordinated with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated and to maximize resources. Specific workplan items developed by the TAC are provided in the following section.

2.1 Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Survey

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$315,000
NEP Funding:	\$190,000
	Previous Grant Year dollars - \$165,000; FY98
	FY00 NEP dollars - \$25,000
Outside Funding:	\$125,000
	\$50,000 - identified via GMP assistance
	Additional undetermined amount of funding
	pledged from ADECA
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	- Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

Habitat loss or degradation is important to the overall health of an estuarine ecosystem. Two (2) important ecosystems are emergent wetlands (including marshes and forested wetlands) and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV). An estimated 90% of commercial fish and shellfish landed in Alabama rely on wetlands for critical habitat during their life cycles. Submerged aquatic vegetation play a pivotal role in determining the productivity and water quality of estuarine environments. Both ecosystems serve as primary producers in estuarine and nearshore environments, provide habitat for many invertebrate and fish species, serve as sinks for nutrients, and stabilize sediments. The amount of emergent wetlands lost to conversion, alteration, or degradation and the current amount and type of SAV habitat within the MBNEP study area is unknown. This work element is based on the uncompleted Year Two (2) Workplan Item 1.3. It is designed to determine the extent of emergent wetland conversion, emergent wetland alteration or degradation, and current SAV areal coverage and composition (within the MBNEP study area) for development of CCMP action plans related to habitat.

In addition, there is a concern among citizens and scientists in the Mobile Bay NEP area that the cumulative loss of wetlands and wetland functions (both regulated and non-regulated) is a problem in our region. However, there are no hard data to show the extent of the problem. A technical assessment of the problem is needed before any real management actions can be agreed upon by the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay NEP. This project will begin work to determine the extent of wetland and wetland functions' loss within watersheds of the Mobile Bay NEP for those areas that are in need of an evaluation. This assessment will include wetlands that are currently regulated and wetlands that are not subject to any permitting process. Key products will include a GIS map illustrating status and trends, an advanced identification of wetlands for management and, possibly, land use planning purposes, specific watershed management mechanisms to alleviate the problems, and specific recommendations for restoration of key wetland habitats within the Mobile Bay NEP area. The advanced identification work for the non-surveyed parts of Baldwin County is likely to be funded by an

EPA grant awarded to the Baldwin County Planning Department. The Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs have tentatively committed to assisting the Mobile Bay NEP in partial funding of this item. In addition, ADECA, Coastal Programs, has included several of the objectives listed below as part of their FY00 workplan and Section 309 and 6217 ADEM, Coastal Programs work focuses on better wetlands management. Hence, all efforts will be closely coordinated with Baldwin County, ADECA, and ADEM to avoid duplication and to maximize resources. The Mobile Bay NEP will focus efforts on SAV objectives, Non-regulated Wetland's Objective 2, and Regulated Wetland's Objective 2, until additional outside funding is secured. This work item is a priority effort of all workgroups (i.e., habitat loss, living resources, water quality, hydrological modifications, human uses, and education). It is anticipated that this work item will require at least three (3) years of effort with additional funding for each year. It is required that each of these objectives be accomplished within the framework of the Mobile Bay NEP DIMS. Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with any other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated.

SAV Objectives:

1. Determine the current distribution and areal coverage of SAV habitats in the Mobile Bay NEP area where data is lacking or needed (Year Two Item). **NEP funds**
2. Deliver this information in GIS and a standardized database format into the Mobile Bay NEP DIMS. **NEP funds**
3. Identify four (4) potential restoration sites and assess the feasibility of restoring these sites by type, cost, and time and difficulty of implementation. **NEP funds**
4. Recommend methods for restoration of these sites. **NEP funds**
5. Rank and recommend restoration projects, based on feasibility criteria, for demonstration of restoration method. **NEP funds**

Non-Regulated Wetland's Objectives:

1. Define wetland habitats, functions, and activities that are not currently regulated and, therefore, do not undergo any permitting process. **ADECA Coastal Programs**
2. Determine status and trends: Quantify the extent of wetland's loss or conversion within the Mobile Bay NEP study area by habitat type, watershed, and cause. **NEP plus outside funds**
3. Produce a GIS map layer and attribute file portraying the above information. **NEP plus outside funds**
4. Develop specific recommendations to alleviate the loss of wetlands within the confines of the Mobile Bay NEP. **ADECA Coastal Programs**

Regulated Wetland's Objectives:

1. Determine the extent and cause of cumulative loss of beneficial wetland within the Mobile Bay NEP area. **Outside funds**

2. Develop baseline information on the level of wetland functions within individual watersheds (as prioritized by the Mobile Bay NEP Management Conference) in Mobile County (similar to the ADID project in Baldwin County). **Outside Funds (assistance in obtaining \$50K committed)**
3. Establish the threshold acreage needed to sustain baseline wetland functions within individual watersheds of the Mobile Bay NEP. **This objective will require considerable outside funding, beyond that noted above, and, therefore, is not anticipated to be accomplished in FY00**
4. Produce a GIS map layer and attribute file portraying the above information. **NEP plus outside funds**
5. Examine the effectiveness of existing wetlands' regulations (e.g., enforcement, understandability, meaningful penalties, etc.). **ADECA Coastal Programs**
6. Develop specific watershed management recommendations to alleviate the loss of wetlands' functions for individual watersheds within the confines of the Mobile Bay NEP. **ADECA Coastal Programs**

Non-regulated and Regulated Wetland's Objectives:

1. Identify existing (including altered or degraded) wetland sites within the Mobile Bay NEP study area by type, status, and location. **NEP plus outside funds**
2. Produce a GIS map layer and attribute file portraying the above information. **NEP plus outside funds**
3. Identify four (4) potential restoration sites and assess the feasibility of restoring these sites by type, cost, and time and difficulty of implementation. **Outside funds**
4. Recommend methods for restoration of these sites. **Outside funds**
5. Rank and recommend restoration projects, based on feasibility criteria, for demonstration of restoration method. **Outside funds**
6. Develop outreach materials. **Public participation funds**

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

TBD

2.2 Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality Parameters for the Mobile Bay NEP Study Area

Performing Organization:	Tetra Tech, Inc.¹
Principal Investigator:	Mohammed Lalou
Total Funding:	\$185,000
NEP Funding:	\$135,000 Previous Grant Year Carryover - \$85,000; FY00 NEP Dollars - \$70,000
Outside Funding:	\$65,000
Priority Problem:	Water Quality, Hydrologic Modifications
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

The development of hydrodynamic and water quality model(s) for understanding the Mobile Bay estuarine system is crucial to a comprehensive watershed approach to water quality management. Modeling allows regulators and managers to focus on the most critical issues impacting the Mobile Bay NEP study area, thereby reducing the cost of regulation, monitoring, management, and enforcement. The establishment of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) and the watershed's assimilative capacity is important in determining the impacts of long-term growth.

¹During Year Three a workplan item was initiated with the award of a contract to Tetra Tech, Inc. in the amount of \$115,000. Thirty-five thousand dollars of this contract remains to be expended during Year Four of the program. The Year Three workplan item identified the following objectives:

- Development of a preliminary loadings budget using existing data and including total suspended solids, nutrients, and toxins.
- Quantification of contributions from point source discharges.
- Quantification of contributions from upstream river flow.
- Quantification of contributions from non-point source discharges (including septic systems).
- Quantification of contributions from bay sediments.
- Development of a mathematical model capable of predicting water quality parameters and sediment deposition and movement based on modification in point and non-point source loadings.
- Refinement of the budget and models using water quality assessment data.

Year Four workplan element 2.2 is a continuation of the Year Three (FY99) workplan item will be focused on building upon Year Three modeling efforts. This includes refining and running the model to address selected questions and issues from Year Three. All work will be conducted

within the boundaries of the Mobile Bay NEP study area and will entail continued coordination and involvement by all interested stakeholders. This project is a priority effort of the water quality and hydrological modifications' workgroups. It is required that each of these objectives be accomplished within the framework of the Mobile Bay NEP Data and Information Management System (DIMS). Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated. Another contractual vehicle will be required to initiate and complete this Year Four workplan item.

General Project Objectives:

1. Continue water quality assessment and modeling efforts as necessary.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

TBD

2.3 Land Use Planning Effort

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$10,000
NEP Funding:	\$0
Outside Funding:	\$10,000 - FWS Grant Funds
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

As determined in the third year of CCMP development, major contributors to water quality degradation, erosion, and habitat loss in the Mobile Bay NEP area are unplanned urban and/or suburban growth. The problem can be defined as increasing habitat fragmentation (i.e., loss of corridors and riparian buffers) due to incompatible federal and state policies regarding growth management, inconsistent zoning and land use regulations, removal or reduction of buffering functions, and the lack of enforcement power for existing regulations and/or ordinances. This problem relates not only to loss of habitat but also to water quality and living resources issues. An examination of existing federal, state, and local regulations, legislative limitations and / or provisions, other states' plans, and relevant scientific information during the third of CCMP development produced recommendations to aid Mobile and Baldwin counties with their respective land use management plans. This workplan item is designed to coordinate efforts among relevant agencies, organizations, and others for implementation of those land use planning recommendations (to include greenbelt and/or greenway strategies). Due to similar missions, goals, and objectives, work on this effort has been and will continue to be closely coordinated with ADECA and ADEM to avoid duplication and to maximize resources. This study is a priority effort of the water quality, habitat loss, living resources and human uses' workgroups. Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with any other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated.

Project Objectives:

1. Aid in facilitation of a planning task force of appropriate county, city, state, federal officials and the private sector representatives (to include meeting logistics and support).
2. Facilitate the implementation of planning strategies.
3. Coordinate efforts to implement specific recommendations for the design and implementation of consistent, enforceable, countywide land use management (including sound planning and widespread, diverse education) as determined in the Year Three (FY99) Land Use Planning Effort workplan item.
4. As appropriate, deliver this information into the Data and Information Management System of the Mobile Bay NEP.

Project Deliverables and Schedules:

TBD

2.4 Atmospheric Deposition Monitoring Support

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$56,430
NEP Funding:	\$42,080
Outside Funding:	\$14,350 – Additional State / Local Funds (committed per year for next four years)
Priority Issues:	Water Quality and Living Resources
MBNEP Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference

The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) has determined the need for a National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) National Trends Network (NTN) monitoring site and a Mercury Deposition Network (MDN) monitoring site. The Mobile Bay community has requested more monitoring of atmospheric deposition due to concerns about increased macrophytic algal blooms along the Mobile Bay I-10 "bay way" and an increase in mercury fish advisories on several rivers and Gulf Coastal waters. Existing information gathered for these areas indicates non-point sources and data from these monitoring sites could assess the amount of loadings from the atmosphere. These data will be used in the Mobile Bay NEP's EFDC water quality modeling effort (currently under contract with TetraTech, Inc.) and EPA's REMSAD modeling effort. The water quality model will be used in TMDL assessments and subsequent permitting processes and non-point source control plans by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and EPA. Several action plans in our draft Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan require these data for implementation. In addition, the Greater Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce has expressed interest in using these data in future planning and management activities.

EPA has awarded the Mobile Bay NEP funding for atmospheric deposition monitoring. In addition, the Air Division of ADEM has committed time and effort in sampling, analysis and maintenance of these sites. A memorandum of agreement will be developed for each committed agency / organization to ensure maintenance of the site. This project is a priority effort of the water quality and living resources' workgroups. It is required that each of these objectives be accomplished within the framework of the Mobile Bay NEP Data and Information Management System (DIMS). Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated.

Specific objectives:

1. Maintain the monitoring sites to include sample collection and analysis according to standard protocols.
2. Report analyses' results on a prescribed basis to EPA, ADEM, the general public, and any other appropriate agency.

3. As appropriate, deliver this information into the Data and Information Management System of the Mobile Bay NEP.

Project Deliverables/Schedule:

TBD

2.5 GIS and Web Site Maintenance and Continued Development

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$37,500
Outside Funding:	\$20,000 - FWS Grant Funds \$17,500 – State / Local FWS Required Match (obtained)
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

Information that is easily understood and user-friendly is vital to the Mobile Bay NEP Data Information and Management System (DIMS). Geographic information systems (GIS) are visual and meet these criteria. Not only does this informational tool prove useful to scientists but also to the general public for conceptual understanding. The purpose of this work item is to continue maintenance and development of the Mobile Bay NEP's GIS and web site. This project is a priority effort of all workgroups (i.e., habitat loss, water quality, hydrological modifications, living resources, human uses and education). Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated.

Project Objectives:

1. Maintain and update the Mobile Bay NEP web site on at least a monthly basis.
2. Maintain and continue development of the Mobile Bay NEP GIS as information becomes available.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

TBD

2.6 Monitoring Program Implementation

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$97,500
NEP Funding:	\$75,000
Outside Funding:	\$22,500 - FWS Grant Funds
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference

The results from the monitoring plan to be developed as a required CCMP component of the Year Three work plan will address the following: 1) measure effectiveness of management actions and programs implemented under the CCMP; 2) provide essential information to be used to redirect and refocus the CCMP during implementation; and 3) provide accountability to elected officials and the public relating to progress under the CCMP. Prior to this effort the Mobile Bay NEP adopted a comprehensive monitoring strategy developed by a volunteer group as a starting point. The monitoring plan developed in Year Three will clearly state objectives, establish linkages among participants, and provide flexibility to adapt to new knowledge or changing conditions. A detailed scope of work is not possible until the results of the monitoring plan contract are available in October. It seems clear, however, that implementation of these recommendations will require extensive communication with participating agencies, expertise in data management and analysis, and the ability to synthesize complex data into an easily understood format. It is required that each of these objectives be accomplished within the framework of the Mobile Bay NEP DIMS. Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated. To prevent gaps in the ongoing data management effort, funding for a 90-day continuation of the existing DIMS person is included under this work plan item.

General Project Objectives:

1. Coordinate existing agency data gathering efforts.
2. Maintain a centralized data storage system for use of examination trends in "environmental indicators" and "action indicators."
3. Develop and maintain a feedback mechanism to make information available and understandable to agencies, public officials and the general citizenry.
4. Facilitate any additional data gathering, as necessary.

Project Deliverables and Schedules:

TBD

2.7 Monitoring Program Plan

Performing Organization:	Hutchings & Associates, LLC
Principal Investigator:	Mr. Tom Hutchings
Total Funding:	\$63,858
NEP Funding:	\$63,858
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

The MBNEP has adopted a previously developed Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy as a starting point for the MBNEP Monitoring Program Plan. This effort has involved the following approaches: interagency cooperation, agency/industry cooperation, volunteer monitoring, and a data management system. To date, the interagency approach has been developed and initiated and a volunteer monitoring coordinators' group has been formed. The data management system is to be incorporated into the MBNEP Data-and Information Management System.

A contract was awarded to Hutchings & Associates, LLC in Year Three of the Program in the amount of \$63,858. All of the obligated monies will be expended in Year Four of the Program.

Specific objectives to be accomplished include:

1. Develop a monitoring plan for fecal coliform in public swimming areas.
2. Develop a monitoring plan specifically dealing with harmful algal blooms.
3. Refine and continue to develop the monitoring strategy to include details such as testable hypotheses, an environmental indicator system, cause and effect analyses, and a timetable for analyzing data and assessing program performance.
4. Develop a communications strategy to make information readily available and understandable to public officials and the general citizenry. This strategy should include an interface with and access through the MBNEP DIMS.
5. Develop a monitoring plan summary to be included in the CCMP, including a requirement for annual reporting on progress.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Project Workplans.....	30 Days
Progress Reports.....	Midterm
Draft Report	120 Days
Final Report	180 Days

2.8 Sediment Characterization Analysis

Performing Organization:	Woopert, LLP
Principal Investigator:	Mr. William Spearman
Total Funding:	\$37,500
NEP Funding:	\$37,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

The MBNEP preliminary characterization of water quality has identified a lack of sediment data analysis and understanding for the MBNEP study area. In addition, EPA, through its National Sediment Quality Survey (NSQS), designated the Mobile Bay hydrologic unit as an "Area of Probable Concern" with respect to sediments. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management, in its ALAMAP-C report for 1993-94, characterized certain locations as having moderate to poor sediment quality. The EPA NSQS data set appears dated and limited in comparison to information sources identified in the water quality characterization study. Therefore, uncertainty remains in our understanding of the condition of sediments in Mobile Bay.

Sediment quality has been identified by citizens and scientists as issues of concern for the MBNEP. If certain areas are identified as having poor sediment quality, then steps to identify probable causes and possible health risks associated with these sediments should be undertaken. All work should be closely coordinated with the MBNEP Data and Information Management Systems (DIMS) and a MBNEP Peer Review Technical Subcommittee will guide this process.

A contract in the amount of \$50,000 was awarded to Woolpert, LLC in Year Three of the Program. Of that obligation, \$37,500 remains to be expended during Year Four.

Project Objectives:

1. Expand the EPA National Sediment Inventory database to include all available relevant data.
2. Assess the data quality of the aforementioned data, including the EPA National Sediment Inventory database.
3. Attempt trends analysis on existing data, if feasible.
4. Determine the need for additional data to perform an overall evaluation of the status of Mobile Bay sediment quality.
5. If necessary and feasible, develop a program to determine probable causes of contamination and possible health risks associated with poor sediment quality.
6. Prepare a status report for EPA that describes the project, presents information on cost and effectiveness, suggests improvements to the approach based on lessons learned, the start and end date of the project, the recipient or entity conducting the work, and identify a point of contact for further information.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Project Workplan.....	30 Days
Progress Reports.....	Midterm
Draft Report.....	120 Days
Final Report.....	180 Days
Report to EPA.....	200 Days

2.9 Shellfish Grant Activities

Performing Organization:	Auburn University Marine Extension Research Center
Principal Investigator:	Mr. Rick Wallace
Total Funding:	\$23,763
NEP Funding:	\$0
Outside Funding:	\$23,763
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

As part of a grant to the MBNEP from the Gulf of Mexico Program, a contract was awarded to AUMERC in the amount of \$65,560 for a survey and research program to explore the potential for enhancing or re-establishing oyster reefs in Bon Secour Bay, Alabama. Of these obligated funds, \$23,763 remain to be expended in Year Four of the Program. The goal of the project is to determine the density and size structure of oysters on Fish River Reef relative to historical surveys and to determine if low oxygen (hypoxia) is a major constraint to restoring Fish River Reef.

Project Objectives:

1. Assess the current status of the Fish River Reef oyster population.
2. Monitor growth and survival of oysters planted on bottom and on shell pads 8 and 16 inches above the bottom.
3. Monitor temperature, salinity and oxygen levels 8 and 16 inches above the bottom.
4. Monitor currents at the site at selected intervals.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Project Work Plans.....	30 days or as needed
Progress Reports.....	Quarterly

2.10 Living Resources Data Synthesis/Analysis

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$40,000
NEP Funding:	\$40,000
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Scientific / Technical Coordinator
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

This work element will be based upon the recommendations from the Living Resources characterization study performed in Year Two of the Program. An example of a possible recommendation is to perform fish population status and trends analyses on existing data sets. The results from this work element may be useful in the refinement of the monitoring plan and will provide the groundwork for any future priority action of the CCMP for maintenance and wise stewardship of the living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system. This study will be closely coordinated with the MBNEP Data Information and Management System. Efforts will be made to coordinate the project with other similar, ongoing programs and projects to build upon and ensure that efforts are not duplicated.

Project Objectives:

TBD

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

TBD

2.11 Advanced Program Demonstration Projects

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$48,615
NEP Funding:	\$48,615
Outside Funding:	\$TBD
Priority Problem:	All
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	TBD
Designated Reviewer:	TAC, CAC

The year 4 workplan includes the completion of advanced program demonstration projects (APDPs) funded by EPA in previous year grants. These projects must demonstrate activities that are being considered for implementation through the CCMP for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program. The projects to be initiated will be identified through a cooperative effort of the citizens and technical committees and will be approved by the Management Conference.

Project Objectives:

TBD

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

TBD

3.0 Public Participation and Education Strategy

The Year Four (FY00) Workplan includes implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. Successful implementation of the CCMP requires a sound Public Participation and Education program. Public information is required by EPA mandate, included in Management Conference consensus action items and recognized in nearly every action plan.

The primary environmental issues for the Mobile Bay area, Habitat Loss, Hydrological Modifications, Living Resources, Human Uses, Water Quality and Public Education, were identified through public workshops in Mobile and Baldwin counties in the summer of 1996 and refined by more than two years of Management Conference consideration.

Each of these issues requires Public Participation and Education effort as outlined in the Action EPI-2 Supplement. Communication and public outreach will keep Mobile Bay NEP participants informed of the wide variety of activities resulting from CCMP implementation. Media coverage and public support are dependent on a sound program of Public Participation and Education.

The Action Item EPI-2 Supplement specifically names several action items requiring specific public outreach support.

Water Quality	Coastal construction line Introduced or exotic species
Ballast discharge Recreational & commercial waste Inadequate on-site septic tanks Constructed wetlands Groundwater Erosion & sedimentation	Living Resources Endangered & threatened species Harvesting regulation & enforcement
Habitat Loss	Human Uses
Greenbelts & riparian corridors Best Management Practices Wetlands Feeding, breeding & nesting Bird habitats High priority, critical habitats SAV habitats Marsh habitats	Airborne deposition Redevelopment Sustainable development Land use planning Litter Public Access Camping & recreational Land Use Stormwater management Water conservation

It is also likely that the Hydrological Modification issue will require some form of public outreach. Each of the actions listed above call *specifically* for at least one aspect of the Public Participation and Education program.

By cooperating with the Public Outreach Taskforce, CAC, ADECA Coastal Programs and others, a variety of communications tools will be available to reach the CCMP goals.

Existing outreach efforts, including press releases, newspaper articles, Citizens Advisory Committee activities, workshops, public speaking and other activities will be expanded to include additional public outlets. Specific target audience members will include;

1. Specific groups with environmental interest or influence
 - Industrial and commercial sites
 - Real estate developers
 - Federal, state and county environmental agencies
 - Municipal government officials (Mayors, City Councils, County Councils)
 - Municipal employees (water treatment, wastewater, garbage disposal, landfills, building inspectors, highway construction and maintenance, etc.)
 - Chambers of Commerce
 - Contractors and builders
 - Golf Courses
 - Geographic environmental groups (Dog River CWR, Mobile BayWatch, etc.)
 - General environmental groups (Audubon Society, Sierra Club, etc.)
 - Environmental action committees (Prichard Brownfields, Ozone Non- Attainment, Eastern Shore C of C Environmental Committee, etc.)
 - Professional organizations (American Society Hazardous Materials Managers, Certified Environmental Trainers Association, etc.)
2. Civic clubs and social organizations
3. Public and private schools
4. Media
5. General public with no specific self-interest

Outreach efforts for Year Four include the publication and distribution of the CCMP, continuation of the expanded monthly calendar, television and radio efforts. One important element is the implementation of Local Community Initiatives. The LCI program is designed to inform the public of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan and generate support for the CCMP and environmental issues in general.

Elements of the Public Participation and Education work plan will include broad support for listed action plans as well as the following activities;

1. Participation on environmental action committees (local and state level)
2. Participation in civic and professional organizations
3. Expanded calendar to targeted audience
4. Fact sheets
5. Site visits by Program Office personnel
6. Presentations by Program Office personnel
7. Presentation by speakers bureau
8. Distribution of grade-specific educational material

9. Site visit by trained personnel to area schools
10. Organization and presentation of educational workshops
11. Participation in area, state and national workshops
12. Press conferences and press releases to media
13. Public meetings (Local Community Initiatives)
14. Program Office publications in Year Four will include:
 - a. Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (final draft and distribution)
 - b. CCMP Executive Summary (continuing distribution of Year 3 (FY99) publication)
 - c. Stakeholder Report (continuing distribution of Year 3 publication)

Goals and objectives for Public Participation and Education are established by the Management Committee and supported by the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Three goals highlight the public participation and education program.

- To educate targeted audiences and the general public regarding the history, function and activities of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
- To involve the community in activities that affect Mobile Bay and to address the priority issues and action plans established by the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan
- To encourage community participation in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

Community participation represents a large element of the overall Public Participation and Education Strategy. Existing public participation efforts will continue to be supported. Examples of existing public participation include local chapters of national organizations such as the Audubon Society and the Sierra Club. The Mobile Bay NEP entertains APDP grant proposals, speaks at special events and attends meetings of these groups. Also, more local, watershed-based environmental organizations exist such as the Dog River Clear Water Revival and the Friends of the Tensaw River. Existing municipal environmental groups include the Prichard Brownfields Restoration Group, the Mobile Chamber of Commerce Ozone Task Force and the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee. Mobile Bay NEP staff attends and participates in these and other groups.

Mobile Bay NEP has participated in the organization of environmental efforts including the Fly Creek Restoration group and the Magnolia River Property Owners group.

The Local Community Initiatives will allow for even greater public participation, especially in areas that relate directly to the CCMP. A full LCI implementation plan, including immediate and long-term community participation is being developed.

All of the following work plan items support the Public Participation and Education Strategy (PPES), item 3.0.

Year Four Public Participation and Education Workplan Items

- 3.1 CCMP Communication Plan
- 3.2 Local Community Initiatives
- 3.3 Communication Plan For Monitoring & GIS/DIMS
- 3.4 Newsletter
- 3.5 CCMP Implementation
 - 3.5.1 Fact Sheets
 - 3.5.2a Highway/Roadside Communication
 - 3.5.2b Highway/Roadside Identification
 - 3.5.3 Short Video
 - 3.5.4 Long Video
 - 3.5.5 Radio Advertisements
 - 3.5.6 Workshops
 - 3.5.7 Trade Shows & Public Display
- 3.6 Speakers Bureau
- 3.7 Mobile Bay Earth Day/Bayfest Events
- 3.8 Storm Drain Stenciling APDP
- 3.9 Local Community Initiative Minigrants

3.1 CCMP Communication Plan

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$5,000
NEP Funding:	\$5,000
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Management Conference

Distribution of the final copy of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan will be modeled on efforts to distribute the first draft, which will occur in Y3. Distribution and public communication efforts of the final CCMP will include but not be limited to:

- CCMP Signing Ceremony
- Press conference
- Press releases
- Placement of paper copy in libraries
- Placement of paper copy in Universities and Colleges
- Placement of paper copy in area agencies
- Broad distribution by mail to targeted recipients
- Inclusion on Mobile Bay NEP website
- Links to other selected websites
- Information campaign to selected business and industry
- Local Community Initiatives *

Project Objectives:

1. To effectively and completely distribute the final CCMP to all targeted audience.
2. To effectively publicize the final CCMP in the local media.
3. To effectively place paper copies of the final CCMP at targeted locations.

Project Deliverables And Schedules:

Publicize final CCMP	2nd Quarter FY4
Distribute final CCMP	2nd Quarter FY4
<i>Estimated mailing expense, 4th class book rate = 3 pounds / \$2.08 x 1,100 = \$2,500 +/-</i>	
CCMP Signing Ceremony	Upon Final Publication
<i>Estimated space rental, gifts, blow-up copies, etc. = \$2,500 +/-</i>	
Conduct community meetings	2nd Quarter FY4 *

* This item is dependent on CCMP publication and distribution dates and is fully covered in 3.2

3.2 Local Community Initiatives

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$7,500
NEP Funding:	\$7,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Management Conference

To promote the Mobile Bay NEP and the action items included in the draft and final CCMP, the Program Office will develop a Local Community Initiatives program. These initiatives will build local support for the CCMP by featuring action items addressing local concerns. The first round of Local Community Initiatives will be practiced in Y3 with the publication of the first draft of the CCMP. Like the draft CCMP, revisions to the Local Community Initiative efforts are expected. This work plan addresses the final round of revised Local Community Initiatives. The Local Community Initiatives are designed to comply with EPA mandates requiring public notice, to inform and educate the public about the CCMP and to solicit and encourage public support for the CCMP.

Specific local communities have been identified based on subwatershed data. The Public Outreach Coordinator, with key members of the local community, other local agencies and ADEM will conduct two rounds of at least one meeting in each of the ten subwatersheds. The first round, conducted with the draft CCMP, will occur in Y3. The critical final round of LCI presentations will occur after publication of the final CCMP.

The Mobile Bay NEP staff will identify and invite potential responsible parties and community thought leaders to the LCI meetings. The general public will be included in the LCI meetings by public notice, advertising and other methods of communication.

Project Objectives:

1. To inform local leaders and general public about CCMP.
2. Identify CCMP issues of concern and related action plans relevant to each watershed area.
3. Identify CCMP action items beyond the scope of subwatershed control, thereby highlighting the need for cooperation and collaboration.
4. Generate support for CCMP from local communities with goal to obtain commitments for funding and implementation of specific action items.
5. Identify mechanisms for continuing involvement of the local community.
6. Implement mechanisms to promote continued active involvement of the community.

Project Deliverables and Schedules:

Revise local community identity and data base.....2nd Quarter FY4
Database research, purchase and printing = \$2,500 +/-

Revise white paper on each local community2nd Quarter FY4
Community research and preparation/printing of paper = \$2,500 +/-

Conduct community meetings2nd Quarter FY4 *
Presentation materials tailored to specific community, enlargements = \$2,500 +/-

* *This item is dependent on CCMP publication and distribution dates*

3.3 Communication Plan For Monitoring & GIS/DIMS (EPI-3)

Performing Organization:
Principal Investigator:
Total Funding:
Priority Issues:
MBNEP Coordinator:
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:

MBNEP Program Office
N/A
Included in 2.6
All
Public Outreach Coordinator
CAC & TAC

The development of a monitoring plan is a required component of the CCMP. One element of the Public Participation and Education Strategy is to support the monitoring program by communicating the monitoring and monitoring results to the public. The monitoring program and the communication program will create awareness about the Mobile Bay NEP and the implementation of CCMP action plans.

The monitoring program will include cooperation with all existing monitoring efforts. In addition to cooperation with existing monitoring programs, efforts will be made to identify additional monitoring opportunities and to establish new citizen monitoring programs.

An important communication tool for this program will be the Data and Information Management System. The DIMS will allow water quality and living resources data to be compiled and made accessible to a wide range of individuals. Anticipated users will range from policy makers and agency representatives to citizens and students. Users will also include groups outside of the defined NEP boundaries who are interested the Mobile Bay NEP effort. The DIMS will allow the Mobile Bay NEP to serve as a clearinghouse for citizen concerns.

This program will support efforts to educate citizens about reportable violations and the proper reporting methods for various agencies.

Project Objectives:

1. Communicate ongoing monitoring efforts to the public.
2. Develop a DIMS Users Guide to facilitate public understanding and access to the monitoring program and monitoring results
3. Communicate to target audiences and the public the wide range of living resource and water quality data available through the World Wide Web.
4. Develop additional support materials such as slide presentations added to the Speakers Bureau inventory, charts displaying GIS/DIMS capabilities and grade specific materials relating directly to GIS/DIMS for area teachers to use.

Project Deliverables:

Communicate ongoing monitoring efforts to the public.....2nd Quarter FY4

Conduct GIS/DIMS-specific training workshops for publicQuarterly
Workshop educational materials, speakers fees, workshop promotion = \$1,500 +/-
 Develop & print DIMS User Guidebook2nd Quarter FY4
Estimated 12 page, 8 ½ x 5 ½, stapled, soft cover, 500 copies = \$2,500 +/-
 Develop teacher materials3rd Quarter FY4
Estimated one-page, bi-fold brochure for teachers & students = \$1,000
 Additional support materialsOngoing

3.4 Newsletter and Expanded Calendar

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$10,500
NEP Funding:	\$6,000
Outside Funding:	\$4,500 ¹
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC

The Mobile Bay NEP will continue joint efforts with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and the Alabama Coastal Foundation to publish four issues of the Coastal Connection newsletter during the program year. Each issue will contain highlights of Mobile Bay NEP activities, especially regarding implementation of the CCMP.

In addition to the joint newsletter, production of the expanded calendar will be continued.

Project Objectives:

1. Continue to expand and maintain joint mailing list.
2. Identify existing newsletters and work to include MBNEP articles.
3. Solicit topics from Management Conference and other sources.
4. Print and distribute four quarterly newsletters.
5. Print and distribute expanded calendar.
6. Use post-consumer recycled paper and bio-degradable inks

Project Deliverables:

Help produce and distribute Coastal Connections newsletters.....Quarterly
Mobile Bay estimated cost share @ \$500/qtr = \$2,000 +/-
Special editions of Coastal ConnectionsAs Warranted
Mobile Bay estimated cost share = \$1,000 +/-
Create and distribute expanded calendarMonthly
Printing @ \$250 x 12 = \$3,000 +/-

¹ A Memorandum of Agreement between the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, ADECA Coastal Programs and the Alabama Coastal Foundation includes commitments from ACF and ADECA to pay specific costs related to the production of the Coastal Connections newsletter.

3.5 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement)

Performing Organization:

MBNEP Program Office

Principal Investigator:

N/A

Total Funding:

See Combined Estimates

Priority Issues:

As identified

MBNEP Coordinator:

Public Outreach Coordinator

MBNEP Designated Reviewer:

CAC, TAC & MC

To support the CCMP action items that require Public Participation and Education components, a variety of communication tools must be available to the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program. By cooperating with the Public Outreach Taskforce, CAC, ADECA Coastal Programs and others, several existing methods of communications will be available. However, some communications tools must stand alone as features to support the implementation of the CCMP and specific CCMP action items.

The following 3.5 sub-items are for the specific means of communications listed and for the amounts of communications listed. Obviously, full attention to each specific action item requiring Public Participation and Education efforts (please see 3.0 or Action Item EPI-2 Supplement) is impractical. For instance, a separate video or audio campaign for each of the 30 +/- items listed is impractical. Therefore, decisions must be made regarding content and placement of the following communication tools.

3.5.1 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – FACT SHEET

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$2,500
NEP Funding:	\$2,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Fact sheets will be developed to provide a more detailed explanation of issues concerning the environment and the goals of the Mobile Bay NEP. The Fact Sheets will enhance understanding and awareness of priority issues. The Fact Sheets will include a map of the study area, emphasizing the area featured, as well as a synopsis of the Mobile Bay NEP activities for readers who may not have seen other Mobile Bay NEP materials. The combined efforts of both the TAC and CAC will help ensure an effective message while the Public Outreach Coordinator will be responsible for graphic development, printing and distribution.

Project Objectives:

1. Design and print 2-color, 8 ½ x 11, 2-sided fact sheets.
2. Use post-consumer recycled paper and bio-degradable inks

Project Deliverables:

Design and print Fact SheetsAs Warranted
2,000 @ \$250 / run x 10 Fact Sheets = \$2,500 +/-

3.5.2 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – HIGHWAY COMMUNICATION

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$5,000
NEP Funding:	\$0
Outside Funding:	\$5,000
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Billboard placement is available on a Public Service Announcement basis like radio and television. The responsibility to the advertising party is to create and make available a printed billboard cover that can be used when billboards become available for PSA use.

EPA guidelines are specific about billboard usage with regard to visual pollution. Billboards are NOT prohibited by EPA guidelines.

The reusable billboard covers should be capable of installation and removal as many as 15 times giving the Mobile Bay NEP 30 possible exposures. To qualify as a Public Service Announcement, the exposure times and locations are dependent upon available space.

Metal road signs announcing the Mobile Bay NEP study area can be placed at strategic locations along highways and roadways entering the study area. Mobile County has agreed to provide the signs. The general promotion of the permanent signs will serve as a constant reminder to citizens entering the Mobile Bay NEP study area.

Project Objectives:

1. Design and print 2, reusable billboard covers with general Mobile Bay NEP / CCMP data
2. Make the covers available to area agencies for use when signs are available for PSA
3. Design and print 10 permanent, metal roadsigns
4. Place the roadsigns on major highways entering Mobile Bay NEP study area

Project Deliverables:

Design and print reusable billboard covers.....1st Quarter FY4
Approximate cost = \$2,500 +/-
Design and print permanent roadsigns.....1st Quarter FY4
Approximate cost is \$250 each x 10 = \$2,500

3.5.3 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – SHORT VIDEO

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$2,500
NEP Funding:	\$2,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Year Three efforts proved that accomplishing a professional 30-second short video for use in public service announcements is difficult to accomplish for free. The value of a general, informative short video is apparent in the broad range of attention that can be gained by television distribution. A short, 30-second video can be offered to all local television stations for use as a public service announcement. Also, the short format will allow the video to be used if specific advertisements are placed, either by the Mobile Bay NEP or a sponsoring business or agency.

Project Objectives:

1. Create two 30-second video Public Service Announcements
2. Distribute the PSA's to local TV stations

Project Deliverables:

Create 30-second videos.....2nd and 3rd Quarters FY4
Approximate cost = \$1,250+/- each = Approximately \$2,500 +/-

3.5.4 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – VIDEO

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$10,000
NEP Funding:	\$10,000
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Attention to well-produced video materials is proven. The Mobile Bay NEP will benefit from having a professional video presentation available for public viewing. A 10 or 12 minute long video highlighting the Mobile Bay NEP will contribute to the success of the total CCMP distribution and implementation. The video can be available for showing at all public speaking engagements, as a preview to Local Community Initiative meetings and for use by Management Conference members and the Mobile Bay NEP Speakers Bureau. The video will also be available for public presentation as a public service announcement or as a paid placement, either by the Mobile Bay NEP or a sponsoring business or agency.

The lowest estimates of production cost are about \$1,000 per minute of video. Some production concerns may offer matching services to help hold down Mobile Bay NEP costs.

Project Objectives:

1. Create one 10 - 12 minute informational video
2. Distribute the video

Project Deliverables:

Create video.....2nd Quarter FY4

Approximate cost = \$10,000 +/-

3.5.5 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) - NEWSPAPER ADS

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$1,500
NEP Funding:	\$1,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Newspaper advertisement pays for newspapers. Press releases and public service announcements are free placements but some control of location, content and timeliness is lost when no fees exchange hands. Furthermore, special editions and inserts are often bargain advertisement purchases. 120,000 view the Mobile Register daily and the Gulf Coast Newspaper Network editions are viewed by about 30,000 twice weekly.

Project Objectives:

1. Be prepared to purchase small, specialty newspaper advertisement
2. Public Outreach Coordinator to produce camera-ready ads

Project Deliverables:

Advertisements.....As needed
Approximate cost = \$150 each x 10 = \$1,500 +/-

3.5.6 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – RADIO PRESENTATION

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$1,500
NEP Funding:	\$1,500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Radio advertisement and Public Service Announcements are some of the most widely distributed of all promotional materials. The Mobile Bay NEP will benefit from having a series of professional audio presentations available for public use. A series of 30-second and 60-second audio tapes will be available for PSA play as well as serving for advertising spots paid either by the Mobile Bay NEP or a sponsoring business or agency.

Project Objectives:

1. Prepare radio PSA's and advertisement
2. Distribute and place PSA's and advertisement

Project Deliverables:

Advertisements.....As needed
Approximate cost = \$150 each x 10 = \$1,500 +/-

3.5.7 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – WORKSHOPS

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$2,000
NEP Funding:	\$2,000
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Workshops and educational seminars will be used to educate Mobile Bay stakeholders and others in this area. The Program Office will seek to coordinate with other organizations or agencies to host or co-sponsor these workshops. The workshops will be designed to seek input from the community and report the results to the Management Conference.

Project Objectives:

1. Prepare, organize and promote workshops
2. Conduct 4 workshops

Project Deliverables:

Workshop on specific CCMP support topic.....Quarterly
Approximate cost = \$500 each x 4 = \$2,000 +/-

3.5.8 CCMP Implementation (EPI-2 Supplement) – TRADE AND DISPLAY

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$2,000
NEP Funding:	\$2,000
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC, TAC & MC

Participation in trade shows and festivals provides regular exposure for Mobile Bay NEP and can serve as additional outlet for distribution of CCMP-related materials. Examples of shows and festivals attended during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of Y3 include home and garden shows, boat shows, women's shows, legislative delegation visit, environmental studies center and schools.

Project Objectives:

1. Prepare, organize and update trade display and hand-out materials
2. Attend 10 trade or informational displays during FY4

Project Deliverables:

Trade displays at specific eventsAs needed
Approximate cost = \$200 each x 10 = \$2,000 +/-

3.6 Speakers Bureau

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$500
NEP Funding:	\$500
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC - TAC

The Speakers Bureau will reach a variety of grassroots organizations throughout the study area. Volunteers will be provided with presentation materials to accurately communicate Mobile Bay NEP goals to diverse audiences. Additional Speakers Bureau members will be recruited from the Management Conference to speak on specific issues.

Project Objectives:

1. Locate and contact target groups and solicit speaking engagements
2. Revise and update list of speakers for the Speakers Bureau
3. Identify underrepresented areas and recruit additional speakers
4. Incorporate new presentations as they become available
5. Report to Management Conference on effectiveness of Speakers Bureau.

Project Deliverables:

Generate speaking opportunities.....	Continuing
Track speeches, Q & A, and evaluations	Quarterly
Recognize speakers in publications	Continuing
Prepare and update necessary speakers materials.....	As needed
<i>Budgeted expense as needed for overheads, slides, display materials & handouts</i>	

3.7 Mobile Bay Earth Day/Bayfest Events

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$1,000
NEP Funding:	\$500
Outside Funding:	\$500
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC

Earth Day is a nation-wide environmental celebration. This workplan item will support implementation of the CCMP by communicating measures that will reach program goals. Participation will build on continued efforts to foster positive relationships with key environmental citizen organizations.

Additional Earth Week opportunities will be explored including possible participation in school functions, other environmental or agency public forums, workshops and more. A CAC subcommittee will coordinate Earth Day activities and make recommendations for participation in other events. This subcommittee will also work with the Program Office to conduct the year 2000 Stewardship Awards program.

BayFest is an annual fall event drawing thousands to downtown Mobile. Past events exposed Mobile Bay NEP to hundreds of families by participation in children's activity area.

Funds will be used to promote the Stewardships Awards and to support Earth Day activities such as possible tent rental, special signs and science fair awards.

Project Objectives:

1. Gain Mobile Bay NEP exposure by working with participating organizations to facilitate the annual event as well as other, related Earth Day events
2. Gain Mobile Bay NEP exposure through the Stewardship Awards program
3. Gain Mobile Bay NEP exposure participating in children's activity area during 3-day BayFest
4. Use the exposure to increase awareness of the Mobile Bay NEP and the CCMP while recognizing those individuals and groups who demonstrate support for CCMP principles

Project Deliverables:

Recruit CAC members to serve on subcommittee.....	1st Quarter
Review Stewardships Award program	1st Quarter
Earth Day	April, 2000

Stewardship Awards and Earth Day activities.....2nd Quarter
BayFest4th Quarter
Budgeted expense as needed for overheads, slides, display materials & handouts

3.8 Storm Drain Stenciling APDP

Performing Organization:	Auburn University Marine
Principal Investigator:	Mr. Rick Wallace
Total Funding:	\$4,742
NEP Funding:	\$4,742
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	Water Quality
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC

This APDP was awarded to AUMERIC in Year Three of the Program at a cost of \$5072. Obligated funds in the amount of \$4,742 remain to be expended during Year Four of the Program. The goal of the project is to raise the overall awareness of non-point source pollution with special emphasis on preventing pollution from entering water-bodies through storm drains.

Project Objectives:

1. Provide education on non-point source pollution.
2. Provide training, guidance and materials to groups who wish to undertake a storm drain stenciling project.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Deliverables include a 'Power Point' presentation, a storm drain stencil, and necessary supplies.

3.9 Local Community Initiative Minigrants

Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$35,788
NEP Funding:	\$35,788
Outside Funding:	\$0
Priority Issues:	As identified
MBNEP Coordinator:	Public Outreach Coordinator
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	CAC

Minigrant project proposals will be solicited starting in March 2000 and will be due in October 2000. These projects must directly relate to the MBNEP study area. Each project will address at least one of the priority issue areas and facilitate public education about this issue and the environment of the MBNEP. The projects will address a specific technical question, a new management technique, or manage a known problem within the watershed. These projects will be selected through the Technical and Citizens Advisory committees and with the assistance of the rest of the Committees. Projects must be ready to begin at the time of the proposal and can be completed within six month's time. No matching funds are required and the maximum funding per project is \$7000.

Project Objectives: The description of the objectives and the benefits of each project will be included in each of the proposals.

Project Deliverables and Schedule

TBD

4.0 Management and Program Administration

The MBNEP Program Office works closely with all of the MBNEP Management Conference committees and answers directly to the Policy Committee (Figure 1). Task 4.1 will provide resources for the Program Office to continue program planning, implementation, evaluation, and reporting. Staff will provide organizational and logistical support for all of the Management Conference committee meetings and coordinate/communicate as necessary with appropriate groups, including user groups, state, local and Federal agencies, and professional groups relevant to CCMP development and implementation.

Staff will:

- Prepare following year workplans and budgets;
- Prepare annual EPA Cooperative Agreement grant applications;
- Administer grants/contracts;
- Amend the Cooperative Agreement workplan as necessary;
- Monitor projects including coordination of workplans, progress reports, and draft/final reports with principal investigators;
- Coordinate project workplans and activities with other local, state and Federal agencies; and,
- Provide for overall Program coordination.

Program staff will participate in regional, state, and national conferences and meetings relevant to estuarine management. EPA has earmarked \$10,000 of program funds for travel related to outreach and technology and information transfer. Attendance at Association of National Estuary Programs workshops and EPA workshops/meetings will be stressed. The remaining portion of the funds will be utilized as earmarked.

In addition to the above, each of the four Program staff will be assigned particular duties and responsibilities, including (but not limited to) the duties as described in work item 4.1

4.1 Management and Administrative Support for the Management Conference

Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$363,252
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Program Director
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Management Conference

Program Director: Responsible for ensuring completion of the commitments set forth in the MBNEP Management Conference Agreement. Provides staff support for each committee and subcommittee of the Management Conference and coordinates activities to ensure successful and timely completion of scheduled deliverables identified in the annual workplan. Responsible for the financial planning of the Program. Serves as point of contact for media and other external inquiries, and provides liaison between the MBNEP Management Conference and other National Estuary Programs for exchange of information relevant to the development of an effective CCMP.

Scientific Program Coordinator: Coordinates and supervises the development of MBNEP scientific and technical programs. Performs key tasks related to the development of action items required for CCMP development and building consensus among the Mobile Bay community. Works closely with the Program Director to coordinate and support Management Conference committee meetings and any other business. Initiates contact with area professionals and professional organizations involved in estuarine management. Performs technical reviews of project products and other efforts and reports related to the Mobile Bay estuary.

Public Outreach and Education Coordinator: Promotes the active involvement of citizens and the community in the development and implementation of the Mobile Bay NEP CCMP. Coordinates and supervises the development of MBNEP outreach and education programs. Performs key tasks related to educating the public and building consensus among the Mobile Bay community. Translates information pertaining to the MBNEP into lay terminology and prepares printed and electronic media educational materials to be used in public outreach efforts. Works closely with the Program Director to coordinate and support Management Conference committee meetings and any other business. Initiates contact and educates interest groups on the MBNEP.

Administrative Assistant: Works closely with the Program Director and Staff. Conducts general secretarial and receptionist duties. Responsible for general office management. Provides staff and logistical support to Management Conference committees and subcommittees and is responsible for the accurate preparation of meeting minutes and other reporting requirements as a result of such meetings. Assists in the development and quality control of work standards.

Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Program Quarterly Reports.....	Quarterly
Year-end Report.....	Sept. 30, 2000
Management Conference Meeting Minutes.....	Monthly
Updates to Management Conference Directory.....	As Needed

TABLE 1
MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM FOURTH YEAR (FY00) BUDGET

WORK ELEMENT	(\$1,200,385 Total)
<u>1.0 REQUIRED CCMP COMPONENTS</u>	
1.1 Writing CCMP	\$ 25,000
1.2 Printing	\$ 40,000
1.3 Finance and Implementation Plan	\$ 5,815
SUBTOTAL 1.0	\$ 70,815
<u>2.0 SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL COMPONENTS</u>	
2.1 Wetlands and SAV Survey	\$190,000 (includes \$165,000 prior year \$)
2.2 Assessment/Modeling WQ Parameters	\$155,000 (includes \$85,000 prior year \$)
2.3 Land Use Planning Effort	No NEP \$(FWS grant \$10,000) ¹
2.4 Atmospheric Deposition Monitoring Support	\$ 42,080
2.5 GIS/Web Maintenance and Development	\$ 10,000 (FWS grant \$22,500; local \$17,500) ¹
2.6 Monitoring Program Implementation	\$ 75,000 (plus addn'l FWS \$22,500) ¹
2.7 Monitoring Program Development	\$ 63,858
2.8 Sediment Characterization	\$ 37,500
2.9 Shellfish Grant	No NEP funds ²
2.10 Living Resources Data Synthesis/Analysis	\$ 40,000
2.11 APDP	\$ 48,615
SUBTOTAL 2.0	\$684,288
<u>3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION</u>	
3.1 CCMP Communication Plan	\$ 5,000
3.1.1 Community Outreach Activities	\$ 22,500
3.2 Local Community Initiative	\$ 7,500
3.3 Communication Plan for Monitoring & DIMS	\$ 0 ¹
3.4 Newsletter and Expanded Calendar	\$ 6,000
3.5 CCMP Implementation	
3.5.1 CCMP Implementation – Fact Sheets	\$ 2,500
3.5.2 CCMP Implementation – Highway Communication	No NEP funds ²
3.5.3 CCMP Implementation – Short Video	\$ 2,500
3.5.4 CCMP Implementation – Video	\$ 10,000
3.5.5 CCMP Implementation – Newspaper Ads	\$ 1,500
3.5.7 CCMP Implementation – Workshops	\$ 2,000
3.5.8 CCMP Implementation – Trade and Display	\$ 2,000
3.6 Speakers Bureau	\$ 500
3.7 Participation in Mobile Bay Earth Day/Bayfest Events	\$ 500
3.8 APDP – Storm Drain Stenciling	\$ 4,742
3.9 Local Community Initiative Minigrants	\$ 35,788
SUBTOTAL	\$ 82,030

4.0 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

4.1 Program Staff	
4.1.1 Director	\$ 25,000 (5 months)
4.1.2 Administrative Asst.	\$ 6,566 (4 months)
4.1.3 Scientific Program Coordinator	\$ 13,500 (4 months)
4.1.4 Public Outreach Coordinator	\$ 15,000 ¹
4.1.5 USA Project Coordinator (1.5 months)	\$ 21,541
4.1.6 USA Grant Administration Specialist (6 months)	\$ 14,938
4.1.7 Data Coordinator (1/2 time)	\$ 16,398 ² (12 months)
4.1.8 Benefits	\$ 24,486 ³
4.2. Travel—Outreach & Technology Transfer	\$ 11,200 ^{*,4}
4.3 Telephone/Internet	\$ 5,600
4.4 Postage	\$ 5,723
4.5 Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 2,000
4.6 Service Contracts on Equipment	\$ 3,000 ⁵
4.7 Rental Equipment	\$ 3,000
4.8 Rental Facilities (Meetings)	\$ 750
4.9 Subscription Dues	\$ 1,500 ⁶
4.10 Other Contractual Service	\$ 1,000
4.11 Office Supplies	\$ 6,500
4.12 Office Rent	\$ 18,000
4.13 Office Equipment	\$ 11,500
Administrative Cost	\$156,050 ⁷

SUBTOTAL 4.0 \$ 363,252

TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET \$1,200,385

* All salaries are based on date of hire through the end of the fiscal year.

Notes for Scientific/Technical Components:

¹ Fish & Wildlife Service Grant cancelled by letter dated 26 April, 2000.

² This workplan item is funded by a Grant from the Gulf of Mexico Program. The required EPA state/local match amount has been committed. Total grant amount is \$65,560. \$23,763 remains to be expended in FY2000.

Notes for Public Participation and Education Components:

¹ Included in 2.6.

² Highway signs to be provided by Mobile County.

Notes for Program Administration:

¹ Estimated expense based on potential outsource or shared personnel expense.

² Data Coordinator funded by Shellfish Grant (1/2 time) and Program (1/2 time). Shellfish funding not shown.

³ Employee benefits estimated at 25% of salary per USA policy.

⁴ Monthly contracts of \$48/copier and \$25/fax plus copies over and above contract amount (16¢/copy). FY99 amount was 9,000.

⁵Copier: 12 months @ 242.00.

⁶ Increased to add basic membership in Association of National Estuary Program (ANEP).

⁷ Administrative cost 13% of total program cost as indirect.

TABLE 2
FUNDING TABLE FOR YEAR FOUR (FY00)

Source of Funds	Amount
(1) EPA Federal Grant Funds for Year Four:	
Base Funding	\$300,000
Travel	10,000
CWAP Supplement	30,000
Air Deposition Monitoring Grant	31,560
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$371,560
(2) State/Local Required Match for EPA Grant for Year Four:	123,853
<u>Total FY99 Funds for Year Four (FY00)</u>	<u>\$495,413</u>
(3) Carryover Funds from Previous Grant	
Federal Funds from Previous Grant	528,729
State/Local Funds from Previous Grant	176,243
<u>Total Funds from Previous Grant</u>	<u>\$704,972</u>
<u>TOTAL NEP FUNDS FOR YEAR FOUR</u>	<u>\$1,200,385</u>

Match Information	Total	Percent
EPA GRANT		
Total Year Four (FY00) Federal Funds	\$ 900,289	75
Total Year Four (FY00) Non-Federal Match	\$ 300,096	25
TOTAL	\$1,200,385	100

TABLE 3
EXPENDITURES BY OBJECT CLASS CATEGORY

Component	Contract	Salaries	Fringe	Travel	Supplies	Other	Indirect
1.0 CCMP	\$ 70,815						
2.0 Scientific/ Technical	\$652,053						
3.0 Public Participation/ Education	\$ 82,030						
4.0 Program Administration	\$ 1,000	\$146,931	\$36,733	\$11,200	\$13,000	\$30,573	\$156,050
Program Totals	\$805,898	\$146,931	\$36,733	\$11,200	\$13,000	\$30,573	\$156,050

TABLE 4
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR YEAR 4 (FY00)

Workplan	NEP FY00 Funds	NEP Carry-over	Outside Funds	Outside Match
Item	(EPA & Match) Needed		Committed	Committed
1.1	\$25,000			
1.2	\$40,000			\$10,000
1.3	\$5,815			
2.1	\$25,000	\$165,000		\$125,000
2.2	\$70,000	\$85,000		\$65,000
2.3			\$100,001	
2.4	\$31,560			
2.5		\$225,001	\$17,500	
2.6	\$75,000		\$225,001	
2.7	\$63,858			
2.8	\$37,500			
2.9		\$23,763		
2.10	\$40,000			
2.11	\$48,615			
3.1	\$5,000			
3.2	\$7,500			
3.3				
3.4	\$6,000	\$4,500		
3.5.1	\$2,500			
3.5.2		\$2,500		\$2,500
3.5.3	\$2,500			
3.5.4	\$10,000			
3.5.5	\$1,500			
3.5.6	\$1,500			
3.5.7	\$2,000			
3.5.8	\$2,000			
3.6	\$500			
3.7	\$500			\$500
3.8	\$4,742			
3.9	\$35,788			
4.0	\$395,487			
Totals	\$456,517	\$250,000	\$580,766	\$17,500
				\$203,000

¹These workplan items are included in the scope of work of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Grant. The total funding amount of the FWS grant equals \$70,000 (\$52,500 – Federal; \$17,500 – State/ Local Match). Workplan Item 2.5 includes \$17,500 obtained in-kind match, which fulfills the total match requirements for this grant.