

**DRAFT**  
**YEAR TWO ANNUAL WORKPLAN**  
**FISCAL YEAR 1998**



**MOBILE BAY**  
**NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM**

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**MBNEP 97-02**  
**June 1997**

**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM  
YEAR TWO ANNUAL WORKPLAN**

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## **PREFACE**

This annual workplan sets forth elements of work to be carried out by the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) for Year Two (FY98) to create and implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for Mobile Bay.

Our workplan is written for members of the Management Conference and for the wider Mobile Bay Community with an interest in the Program and the estuary. The information here also serves as an agreement between the MBNEP Management Conference and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for continued funding of the MBNEP. 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 (NEP) under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. The second section is a **Summary of Accomplishments** for Year One (FY97) of the program. This summary is followed by **Year Two (FY98) Activities** that includes details of each proposed workplan element of technical assessments, public participation items, and management items.

## INTRODUCTION

The National Estuary Program (NEP) was established by the Water Quality Act of 1987. The Act authorizes the Administrator of the U.S. 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 have been established and consist of a seventeen (17) member Policy Committee, a Management Committee, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). A description of the revised structure of the Management Conference is found in Figure 1. At its July 30, 1996 meeting, the Policy Committee approved a Management Conference Agreement for the Program. The Conference Agreement represents the commitments of Management Conference participants to the work to be accomplished over the three (3) year term of the Program. Additionally, the Conference Agreement provides an overview and schedule for work leading to a final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Mobile Bay by September 1999.

The work outlined in the Conference agreement includes the tasks necessary to fulfill the seven (7) purposes of a National Estuary Program as stated in Section 320 of the Water Quality Act of 1987. These seven (7) purposes are to:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <i>Purpose 1:</i> | <i>Assess trends in the estuary's water quality, natural resources, and uses;</i>  |
| <i>Purpose 2:</i> | <i>Identify causes of environmental problems by collecting and analyzing data;</i>   |
| <i>Purpose 3:</i> | <i>Assess pollutant loadings in the estuary and relate them to observed changes in water quality and natural resources;</i>  |
| <i>Purpose 4:</i> | <i>Recommend and schedule priority actions to restore and maintain the estuary, and identify the means to carry-out these actions (this is the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, or CCMP);</i> |
| <i>Purpose 5:</i> | <i>Ensure coordination on priority actions among federal, state and local participants in the conference;</i>  |
| <i>Purpose 6:</i> | <i>Monitor the effectiveness of actions taken under the plan; and,</i>   |
| <i>Purpose 7:</i> | <i>Ensure that federal assistance and development programs are consistent with the goals of the plan.</i>  |

On June 20, 1996, the Policy Committee established the following goals for the MBNEP:

*I. To maintain and promote wise stewardship of the water quality characteristics of the Mobile Bay Estuarine System.*

*and*

*II. To maintain and promote wise stewardship of the living resource base of the Mobile Bay Estuarine System.*

As indicated in the 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 to be sought at each step of the Management Conference.

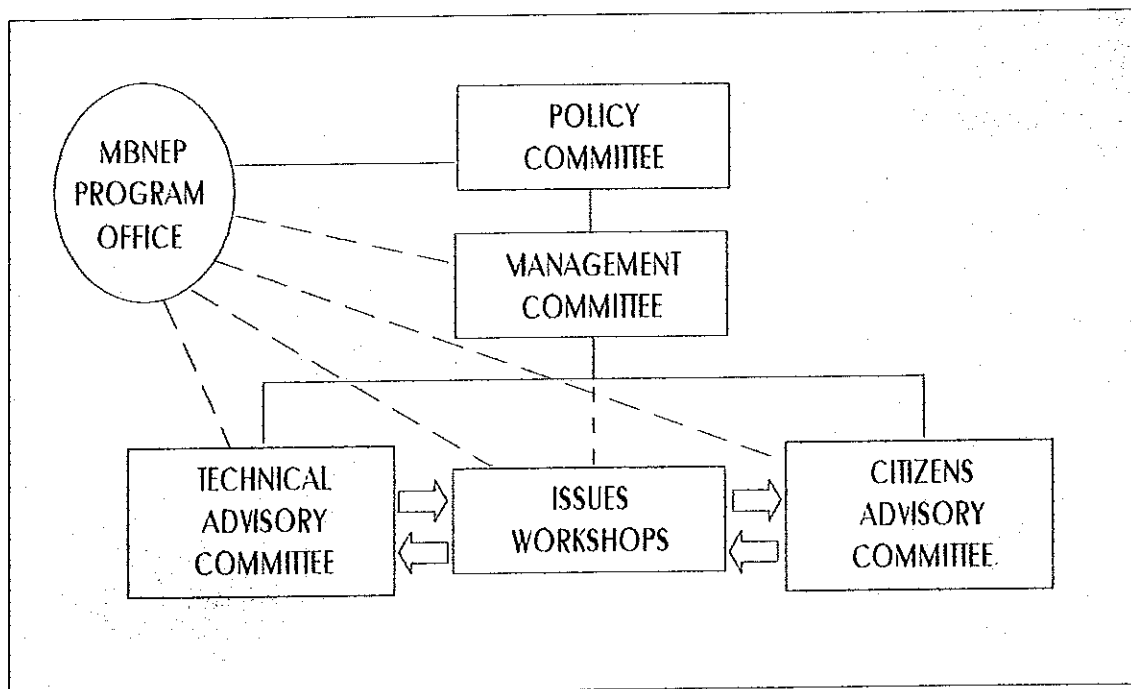


Figure 1: Management Conference Revised Structure

## SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Activities initiated and/or accomplished in Year One (FY97) are summarized by category (Scientific/Technical, Public Participation and Education, and Program Administration) in Tables 1, 2, and 3. Individual achievements or events of particular significance are described in greater detail below.

A major upheaval occurred within the program at the end of FY96 with the resignation of Ms. Sharine Kirchoff, Program Director and Ms. Justine Koscielny, Public Outreach and Education Coordinator in early October 1996. The Policy Committee choose to retain the services of an Interim Director during the process of permanent staff selection. An Interagency Personnel Act (IPA) agreement was instituted with the Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the services of Dr. Susan Ivester Rees as Interim Director. In addition, Ms. Lee Yokel was retained as Assistant to the Interim Director during the period of permanent staff selection.

In April 1997 Ms. Lisa Mills was selected to fill the position of Scientific / Technical Coordinator and Mr. Danny Calametti was selected to fill the position of Public Outreach and Education Coordinator. A decision on the permanent Program Director is scheduled to be made in late June.

Of particular significance, were the formation and development of subcommittees consisting of both TAC and CAC members charged with the tasks of further defining and refining priority issues and corresponding priority action plans for the following areas; human uses, habitat loss, living resources, and water quality. These four (4) TAC/CAC joint issue subcommittees, identified as **issue workshops**, have responded to these tasks with a high level of commitment and energy. In addition to contending with the above named tasks, each issue workshop has worked hard to identify and develop the Year Two (FY98) technical workplan items included in this document. These workplan items were then presented to and approved by the entire TAC and CAC. This restructuring provides an effective means of consensus building and communication between the two (2) committees. It also allows for a more efficient and expedient recommendation process of work items that are to be sent to the Management and Policy Committees for approval (see Figure 1).

Mobile Bay Day was held on Sunday, April 20, 1997 marking the long awaited kickoff celebration for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program. The day's activities were held at Battleship Park, located at the head of Mobile Bay between Mobile and Baldwin Counties, signifying the commitment of both sides of the Bay to the goals of the MBNEP. Approximately 5,000 people enjoyed more than 50 exhibits and demonstrations, food and fun leading to the official signing ceremony of the Conference Agreement. Dignitaries on hand for the signing included U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions, U.S. Congressman Sonny Callahan, Alabama Lt. Governor Don Siegelman, Ms. Beverly Bannister from the USEPA and numerous county and local officials. Members of the MBNEP policy committee were recognized as were new members of the MBNEP staff and Region IV EPA representatives. Especially significant were the

presentations of the first annual Mobile Bay Stewardship Awards. Established to recognize and honor entities for their accomplishment in habitat management and wildlife restoration, awards were presented in four categories: citizen, citizen organization, business/industry and local government. The days events closed with a reading of a proclamation establishing the third Sunday in April as Mobile Bay Day. The Mobile Bay Day resolution which contains the MBNEP goals was adopted by state, county and city leaders in support of the program.

During the first year of the program, the MBNEP office solicited proposals for early action plan demonstration projects and minigrants. Although a number of quality proposals were received, staff limitations prevented all of them from being acted on. Criteria for evaluating and ranking the proposals was established and the MBNEP staff, working with both CAC and TAC members, are in the process of reviewing those proposals received to date. Two proposals have been initiated as described below and plans are to get more underway early in the second year (FY98) of the program.

Early in the program, Ms. Myrt Jones of the Policy Committee asked that the Program Office investigate the restoration of the marsh boardwalk at the U.S.S. Alabama Battleship Memorial Park as an early action plan demonstration project. The boardwalk which was used heavily by visitors to the park and by local and visiting birders had fallen in disrepair and was no longer open to the public because of safety concerns. Since the boardwalk provided an excellent opportunity for education of the northern Mobile Bay system and serves as an important stop in a birding trail throughout Alabama, the Program Office undertook the project in an effort to find cost-sharing partners for the restoration. Because of the interest in restoring the boardwalk, a fifty percent cost share for the project has been obtained from the Alabama Ornithological Society, the Coastal Birding Association, the Mobile Bay Audubon Society, the Birmingham Audubon Society, and the Battleship Commission. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has agreed to participate in the project by providing appropriate signage for the boardwalk. Most importantly, the Battleship Commission has agreed to assume all future maintenance of the boardwalk thereby assuring that the boardwalk facility and the wonderful education opportunity it provides will be available for the community's use into the future. Bids are currently being requested and it is hope that the restoration will be completed before the fall migratory season. In addition to the citizen ornithological groups mentioned above, the members of the CAC will help in the planning for the ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication.

Another successful effort involved a coalition of public and private agencies and organizations coming together to implement a pilot Christmas Tree/Wetland Restoration project. The project was initiated by Policy Committee member Win Hallet, President of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce and was coordinated by the Alabama Coastal Foundation working with members of the CAC. Modeled after successful efforts in Louisiana, 500 Christmas Trees slated for mulching by Keep Mobile Beautiful were set aside to be placed in bins constructed under the direction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These shoreline fences trap and collect sediment, thus helping to reverse coastal erosion and provide a base for wetland vegetation

growth. Another portion of the program actively involved citizens in planting marsh vegetation. Some of the partners, in addition to those mentioned above, include the Baldwin County Wildlife, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama Game and Fish and others. One site in the Weeks Bay Estuarine Research Reserve was selected for the pilot. The goal is to expand this effort to include additional sites with more trees during Year Two (FY98).



## **YEAR TWO (FY98) ACTIVITIES**

This Year Two (FY98) workplan will allow the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) to build upon Year One (FY97) activities. These activities include: refinement of program planning and organization; initial assessments and preliminary characterizations of the biological and physical resources of the MBNEP study area; evaluations of existing regulatory and management framework; and further development of a public participation strategies. Additional scientific/technical studies to address currently unknown resource issues, continuous improvement and expansion of the public participation and education activities, refinement of the program structure and activities, and the development of implementation options and funding mechanisms for the CCMP are the key elements of the Year Two (FY98) activities. The goal of these efforts is to develop a community supported and implementable CCMP by September 1999.

The MBNEP Program Budget is itemized in Table 4. A general timeline summarizing MBNEP program activities over the next three (3) years is summarized in Table 5. A milestone summary and schedule for the Year Two (FY98) annual workplan is summarized in Table 6. The budget represents a total of \$755,546.00 for the Year Two (FY98) workplan. It is important to note the Key Concepts, discussed below, that will provide the overall ideological framework for tackling the problem of 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 basinwide 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, and;
- Reliance on existing, previously underutilized data and information, combined with critical applied research to fill the knowledge gaps.

In addition, a commitment for the ongoing public participation and administrative activities are included to carry the MBNEP forward. The approach for the Year Two (FY98) funds will, therefore, encompass three (3) Key Program Areas.

#### **Key Program Areas:**

1. **Scientific/Technical Assessments.** This element builds upon activities from the Year One (FY97) workplan and addresses previously and newly identified priority issues from the joint TAC/CAC issues workshops. It consists of items that are critical to the development of the CCMP. The proposed activities are well planned, comprehensive, and farsighted.
2. **Public Participation and Education.** Public participation is a key element in consensus building and the implementation of the CCMP. Citizen educational and involvement activities are important to the consensus building process. Elements of the Year Two (FY98) budget include the publication of a community-based MBNEP newsletter, poster, brochures, workshops, and development of a citizen monitoring network.
3. **Program Administration.** The Program Office staff will continue to guide the MBNEP toward the goals of the Management Conference. Roles of the Program Office include staff support of committees, program planning, project contract procurement and coordination, interagency coordination and communication, and administrative coordination with EPA Region 4. These activities will be evaluated and refined during the Year Two (FY98). In addition, CCMP implementation and funding options will be actively examined.

## **1.0 Scientific/Technical Assessments:**

Members of the Technical Advisory Committee will continue to participate in the monthly issues workshops to identify and define priority action plans for human uses, habitat loss, living resources, water quality, and data management issues. In addition, as results from the ongoing preliminary characterization studies are received, new workplan items and/or Action Plan Demonstration Projects may be developed by these subcommittees for approval from the Management Committee.

A summary of workplan items developed and approved by the joint TAC/CAC subcommittees described above is provided below. These workplan items involve one (1) or more of the priority issues identified by citizens in a series of public workshops held in June 1996.

### **Year Two (FY98) Scientific/Technical Workplan Items**

- 1(1) Preliminary "State of the Bay" Report for Mobile Bay.
- 1.2 Modeling User Groups of Mobile Bay.
- 1.3 Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Survey.
- 1.4 Habitat Identification and Mapping Workshop.
- 1.5 Macrophytic Algal Blooms Survey.
- 1.6 Identification of Key Living Resources.
- 1.7 Investigation of Fishing Pressure.
- 1.8 Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality Parameters for the MBNEP study area.
- 1(9) Establishment of Data and Information Management System (MIS/GIS) and Data Input into MIS/GIS.
- 1.10 Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) -- Technical Tasks.
- 1.11 Development of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).

Specific workplan items developed by each of the subcommittee workshops, to date, are provided in the following section. In addition, we anticipate initiating several new technical early action projects for Year Two (FY 98). These potential projects are briefly described under the workplan item 1.10, entitled "Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) -- Technical Tasks."

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## 1.1 Preliminary "State of the Bay" Report for Mobile Bay

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference</b>

The information and recommendations from Year One (FY 97) work elements will be incorporated into a preliminary "State of the Bay" report. This report will synthesize the results of work from the individual work elements into a comprehensive document, which will be presented to the public. Specific project deliverables and schedule are to be determined.

*all to DIMS*

### Project Deliverables/Schedule:

Project Workplan.....	05/01/98
Monthly Progress Reports.....	Monthly
Draft Report.....	07/01/98
Final Report.....	09/01/98

### Project Budget:

Federal (EPA):	\$15,000
State/Local:	\$ 5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

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## 1.2 Modeling User Groups of Mobile Bay

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$60,000 (FY98 - \$30,000; FY99 - \$30,000)</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>Human Uses</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa Mills/Danny Calametti/Lee Yokel</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC/CAC</b>

Year One (FY97) efforts of the MBNEP to characterize the human uses concentrated on the identification of key stakeholders, the social and economic benefits derived from the Bay and documented the nature of the interactions between user groups or stakeholders. The Year Two (FY98) of the program seeks specifically to model the effects user groups have on the environmental quality of the Mobile Bay system. The use of opportunities the Bay offers human users is not without environmental costs. Environments are altered as a direct result of human interaction. Therefore, data are sought to model the effects user groups have in maintaining, degrading, or improving the quality of Mobile Bay as a system. This project will be executed in phases more than a two (2) year period. An estimated \$30,000 from Year Three (FY99) will be used for Objective 4 listed below. This study is a priority effort of the habitat loss subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of habitat loss. 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. Document and demonstrate the human social and physical environmental interface for each of the user groups identified during Year One (FY97).
2. Evaluate the goals of extent policy and determine the extent to which policy considerations actually promote social and physical environmental health for each user group.
3. Describe the interactive and synergistic effects on the social and physical environment of multiple and varied human users of the Bay.
4. Develop a model that documents the effects to the environment of all user groups taken together. This model can be used as a management tool to reduce the adverse and unanticipated consequences of management efforts.

Transportation → dredging  
Shipping

**Project Deliverables and Schedules for Objectives 1-3 Listed Above:**

Project Workplans.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Reports.....	TBD
Final Reports.....	TBD

**Project Budget for Objectives 1-3 Listed Above:**

Federal	\$22,500
State/Local	\$ 7,500
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>

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### 1.3 Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Survey

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$150,000 (FY98 - \$90,000; FY99 - \$60,000)</b>
<b>Priority Problem:</b>	<b>Habitat Loss</b>
<b>MBNEP Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

1/2/98

Habitat loss or degradation is important to the overall health of an estuarine ecosystem. Two (2) important habitat classes are 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. They serve as a primary producer in estuarine and nearshore environments, provide habitat for many invertebrate and fish species, serve as sinks for nutrients, and stabilize sediments. The amount of wetlands lost to conversion, alteration, or degradation and the current amount and type of SAV habitat within the MBNEP study area is unknown. This project will determine the extent of wetland conversion, 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. It will be executed in phases over a two (2) year period. The study area will be divided into two (2) regions (i.e., above the causeway and below the causeway). Region one (1) will be surveyed in Year Two (FY98) and region two (2) in Year Three (FY99). All objectives listed below will be performed for each region. An estimated \$60,000 from Year Three (FY99) will be allocated for region two (2). This study is a priority effort of the habitat loss subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of habitat loss. 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. Quantify the extent of wetland conversion within the MBNEP study area by type, watershed, and cause (i.e., agriculture, oil and gas production, urban uses, pine monoculture, etc.).
2. Identify existing (including altered or degraded) wetland sites within the MBNEP study area by type, status, and location.
3. Determine the current distribution and areal coverage of SAV habitats in the MBNEP study area where data is lacking or needed.
4. Deliver this information into the Data and Information Management System of the MBNEP.

5. Identify four (4) potential restoration sites and assess the feasibility of restoring these sites by type, cost, and time and difficulty of implementation.
6. Recommend methods for restoration of these sites.
7. Rank and recommend restoration projects, based on feasibility criteria, for demonstration of restoration method.

**Project Deliverables and Schedules:**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	08/15/98
Final Report.....	09/15/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$67,500
State/Local	\$22,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>



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## 1.4 High Priority Habitat Identification and Mapping Workshop

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Priority Problem:</b>	<b>Habitat Loss</b>
<b>MBNEP Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

Protecting biodiversity and enhancing critical habitat linkage, ecosystem integrity, and environmentally endangered habitats are of vital concern to all. Thus, it is important to identify and map high priority habitats. This project will fulfill this need and provide the groundwork for any future priority action of the CCMP for maintenance and wise stewardship of any habitat important to the living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system. The MBNEP program office will sponsor a professional workshop consisting of area experts from relevant federal, state, and local agencies and/or organizations. The purpose of this workshop will be to identify and map existing sensitive/endangered habitats, natural communities, and greenbelts within the MBNEP study area. The results of this workshop will be entered into the MBNEP Data and Information Management System. This study is a priority effort of the habitat loss subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of habitat loss. 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 Objective:

1. Identify and map high priority habitats (i.e., sensitive/endangered habitats, natural communities, and greenbelts) within the MBNEP study area.
2. Deliver this information into the Data and Information Management System of the MBNEP.

### Project Deliverables and Schedules:

Project Workplan.....	10/15/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	NA
Draft Report.....	11/01/97
Final Report.....	11/30/97

### Project Budget:

Federal	\$1,500
State/Local	\$ 500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>

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## 1.5 Macrophytic Algal Blooms Survey

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Performing Organization:	TBD
Principal Investigator:	TBD
Total Funding:	\$20,000
Priority Problem:	Habitat Loss
MBNEP Project Coordinator:	Lisa R. Mills
Designated Reviewer:	TAC

High

The extent and effects of macro-algae blooms on submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) and developing marshes in Mobile Bay are not well known. This project will address this problem through a comprehensive survey of these blooms in the MBNEP study area. The study area may be divided into habitat and/or location. Two (2) developing marsh sites and two (2) SAV sites will be monitored for macro-algae bloom effects. The results of this project will be entered into the MBNEP Data and Information Management System. This study is a priority effort of the habitat loss subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of habitat loss. 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. Determine the type and extent of macro-algae blooms that occur in the MBNEP study area by SAV and marsh type, location, season, associated water and/or weather conditions, and duration of event.
2. Assess the effects of these blooms on two (2) developing marsh habitats and two (2) SAV habitats within the MBNEP study area using standard techniques designed to determine the productivity of these habitats at quarterly intervals.
3. Deliver this information into the Data and Information Management System of the MBNEP.

### Project Deliverables and Schedules:

Project Workplan.....	03/01/98
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	11/15/98
Final Report.....	12/15/98

### Project Budget:

Federal	\$15,000
State/Local	\$ 5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

*used for monitoring?  
plan?*

## **1.6 Identification of Key Living Resources**

<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Priority Problem:</b>	<b>Living Resources</b>
<b>MBNEP Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

*Low*  
*G. & J. S.*

The Marine Resources Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources collects fishery dependent and fishery independent data for assessment and monitoring of a number of important marine resources (e.g., blue crabs, oysters, shrimp, mullet, etc.). This project will address the need for monitoring key living resources that are not currently monitored within the MBNEP study area, especially in areas north of the causeway. Identification of a bioindicator species or group of species and development of a monitoring plan 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 is a priority effort of the living resource subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of living resources. 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. Coordinate existing elements for identification of key living resources (an indicator species or group of species) that are not currently monitored.
2. Develop a monitoring plan for the species that will indicate status and trends.
3. Demonstrate the feasibility of implementing this monitoring plan on a limited basis to assess the suitability of the chosen species as a bioindicator and the suitability of the plan itself.
4. Evaluate the monitoring plan and the species chosen and recommend appropriate changes, if needed.
5. If warranted, deliver results into the Data and Information Management System of the MBNEP.

**Project Deliverables and Schedules:**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	08/15/98
Final Report.....	09/15/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$15,000
State/Local	\$ 5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

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## **1.7 Investigation of Fishing Effort (Pressure)**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Priority Problem:</b>	<b>Living Resources</b>
<b>MBNEP Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

Currently, the Marine Resources Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources readily monitors catch from commercial fishermen and attempts to monitor recreational fisheries' catch data. The collection of recreational fisheries' data is difficult because recreational fishermen are numerous, widely distributed, and rarely keep records reliable for analysis. This project will investigate methods to better measure fishing catch, effort, and consequently, pressure. This information could lead to better status and trend analyses, thereby leading to better management of our economically important living resource base. This study is a priority effort of the living resource subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of living resources. 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. Examine existing licensing and record keeping requirements for the commercial and recreational fishing industries.
2. Recommend changes that would result in better measures of fishing catch, effort and/or pressure.
3. If warranted, deliver results into the Data and Information Management System of the MBNEP.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedules:**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	03/31/98
Final Report.....	04/30/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$ 7,500
State/Local	\$ 2,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

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## 1.8 Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality Parameters for the MBNEP Study Area

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$200,000 (FY98 -\$115,000; FY99 -\$85,000)</b>
<b>Priority Problem:</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>
<b>MBNEP Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

The development of a conceptual 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 MBNEP 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. This project will address these needs for development of a long-term comprehensive monitoring and management plan for water quality in the MBNEP study area. All of the objectives listed below will be conducted within the boundaries of the MBNEP study area. The project will be implemented in phases over a two (2) year period and will address key water quality parameters determined from the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of water quality. An estimated \$85,000 from Year Three (FY99) will be allocated for Objectives 5-7 (listed below). It is required that each of these objectives be accomplished within the framework of the MBNEP Data and Information Management System. This project is a priority effort of the water quality subcommittee and will build upon the results of the Year One (FY97) preliminary characterization study of water quality. 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. Initiate the modeling effort using existing data and established models (e.g., EPA "BASINS" model) with recommended refinements from the summer '97 modeling workshop and a focus on hydrodynamic aspects.
2. Develop a preliminary loadings budget using existing data including:
  - A. Total suspended solids.
  - B. Nutrients (including organics).
  - C. Toxins (at minimum).
3. Quantify contributions from point source discharges.
4. Quantify contributions from upstream river flow.

*provide load for  
CCMP*

5. Quantify contributions from non-point source discharges (including septic systems).
6. Quantify contributions from bay sediments.
7. Refine the budget and model using water quality assessment data.

**Project Deliverables and Schedules for Objectives 1-4 Listed Above :**

Project Workplans.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Reports.....	02/15/98
Final Reports.....	03/15/98

**Project Budget for Objectives 1-4 Listed Above:**

Objective 1 and 2:

Federal (EPA):	\$ 75,000
State/Local:	\$ 25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

Objectives 3 and 4:

Federal (EPA):	\$ 11,250
State/Local:	\$ 3,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 15,000</b>



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## 1.9 Establishment of Data and Information Management System (MIS/GIS) and Data Input into MIS/GIS

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

The DIMS is critical to all aspects of the MBNEP workplan. It will serve as the center for existing and ongoing data collection and storage, relative to the MBNEP. It will be GIS-based with linkages to additional data resources. It will be generally accessible, user-friendly, and designed for different levels of user applications (both technical and nontechnical) with a safe and secure system for data access and storage. The project workplan will be developed with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Decisions regarding the establishment of (and data input into) the DIMS are contingent upon the Year One (FY97) project entitled "Identification and Evaluation of DIMS (MIS/GIS)." The specific project objectives, project schedule, and project budget for the establishment of a DIMS are to be decided after the TAC reviews the DIMS alternatives provided by the aforementioned Year One (FY97) project and a system has been selected.

### Project Budget:

Federal	\$37,500
State/Local	\$12,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

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**1.9 Establishment of Data and Information Management System (MIS/GIS) and Data Input into MIS/GIS**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>TAC</b>

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### 1.10 Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) -- Technical Tasks

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Performing Organization:	TBD	<i>reduce and or defer</i>
Principal Investigator:	TBD	
Total Funding:	\$75,000	
Priority Issues:	All	
MBNEP Coordinator:	Lisa R. Mills	
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	MBNEP Management Conference	

Several known priority problems are occurring within the MBNEP study area that are readily apparent even before characterization. Early action projects that can demonstrate or assess the effectiveness of small-scale remedial strategies, while providing information that can be applied basin-wide, are known as Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs). Several of these APDPs are integral to some of the Year Two (FY98) technical workplan items described above or to previously proposed strategies from other similar, ongoing efforts. Specific project deliverables, schedules, and budgets are to be determined.

#### Potential Project Objectives:

1. Restore several previously identified and prioritized wetland/SAV sites to assess recommended restoration methods (see Objectives 5, 6, and 7 of the above workplan item entitled "Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Survey").
2. Implement, on a small-scale, the previously recommended monitoring plan for (a) key species to assess the suitability of the chosen species as a bioindicator of the Bay's health and of the plan itself (see Objectives 3 and 4 of the above workplan item entitled "Identification of Key Living Resources").
3. Implement, on a small-scale, aspects of a previously developed water quality monitoring plan for Mobile Bay to assess potential interagency cooperation and application of this plan basinwide.
4. Assist efforts to increase shellfish beds for safe harvest by 10% (through cultch planting or bed restorations) as charged by the Gulf of Mexico Program's Shellfish Challenge.

#### Project Deliverables/Schedule:

Project Workplan.....	TBD
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	Quarterly
Draft Report.....	TBD
Final Report.....	TBD

**Total Project Budget:**

Federal (EPA):	\$56,250
State/Local:	\$18,750
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$75,000</u>

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**1.11 Development of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$?</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinators:</b>	<b>Lisa R. Mills and Danny Calametti</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference</b>

This effort will assist the Management Conference with the Development of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The Management and Policy Committee, with assistance from the Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees, will determine the scope of the activities that are ultimately selected. These activities may include final resource characterization, technical investigations to resolve unknown problems, interagency coordination for CCMP development, and action plan demonstration projects (APDPs). The project schedules and deliverables are to be decided as needed.

**Project Deliverables/Schedule:**

Draft Report.....	12/15/98
Final Report.....	TBD

**Project Budget:**

Federal (EPA):	\$ ?
State/Local:	\$ ?
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ ?</b>

## **2.0 Public Participation and Education Activities:**

The MBNEP is committed to the successful development of a truly consensus-based CCMP based on the integral participation of the public in all aspects of planning and implementation. A key component of that effort will be a continuation of the joint issue workshops established in Year One (FY97).

The primary Year Two (FY98) focus of the public outreach and education efforts will be to fully implement the Public Participation Strategy finalized late in Year One (FY97). The continuing goals are to: 1) educate the public (including elected officials) on the goals and purpose of the MBNEP; 2) educate the Mobile Bay community of the parameters of the study area and the nature of some of the challenges facing the bay system, and; 3) allow the community to provide direct input in the development of the management solutions.

Developing a strong grassroots involvement will continue to receive primary emphasis as the most effective means to build true community consensus. Special efforts will be made to target environmental groups, associations, schools, and small and/or disadvantaged communities. Public participation and education activities will embrace and enhance the following three (3) objectives established in Year One (FY97):

1. Inform the public about the presence and purpose of the MBNEP
2. Implement regular mechanisms to keep the public interested and involved in the developing CCMP through opportunities for public input
3. Report on the progress of the MBNEP to the Mobile Bay community.

All scientific/technical elements of the public participation and education program will be coordinated with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). A summary of Public Participation and Education workplan items for Year Two (FY98) is provided below.

### **Year Two (FY98) Public Participation and Education Workplan Items**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2.1  | MBNEP Newsletter  |
| 2.2  | MBNEP Brochure and Poster   |
| 2.3  | MBNEP Portable Information Display  |
| 2.4  | MBNEP Fact Sheets   |
| 2.51 | MBNEP Public Participation Strategy - Citizens' Monitoring Program        |
| 2.6  | MBNEP Speakers Bureau   |
| 2.7  | MBNEP Issue Workshops   |
| 2.8  | MBNEP Workshops   |
| 2.9  | MBNEP Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) - Public Education Tasks |
| 2.10 | MBNEP Participation in Mobile Bay Day                                     |

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| 2.7  | MBNEP Issue Workshops   |
| 2.8  | MBNEP Workshops   |
| 2.9  | MBNEP Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) - Public Education Tasks |
| 2.10 | MBNEP Participation in Mobile Bay Day                                     |

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## 2.1 MBNEP Newsletter

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Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principal Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$8,000
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Danny Calametti
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Citizens Advisory Committee

During Year Two (FY98), the MBNEP will seek to enhance the newsletter's effectiveness as a communication tool in a number of ways. Opportunities to improve the quality of the product (adding more color, increasing the number of pages, adding full-color graphics, etc.) will be evaluated and implemented as warranted. These changes will be in addition to continued joint efforts with existing partners (Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and the Alabama Coastal Foundation) in publishing six (6) newsletters during the program year.

Each issue will highlight Year Two (FY98) MBNEP activities leading toward the development of the CCMP as well as additional information about the unique features and characteristics of the study area. The initial production of approximately 2,000 copies per newsletter may be expanded as opportunities arise to reach new audiences. Regular features, written in an easy to understand style and targeted to the general community, will be continued. The inclusion of a small map of the study area and synopsis of MBNEP activities will be added for those readers who may not have seen other MBNEP materials. Efforts will be made to target specific audiences by further expanding the mailing list and by providing articles to be included in other newsletters. The overall effectiveness of the joint newsletter will be evaluated during Year Two (FY98) with recommendations issued for changes as necessary.

### Project Objectives:

1. Continue to expand and maintain joint mailing list.
2. Identify existing newsletters and work to include MBNEP articles.
3. Solicit suggestions for future topics from the Management Conference and other sources.
4. Print and distribute six (6) bimonthly newsletters during Year Two (FY98).
5. Conduct a reader survey to aid in evaluating the effectiveness of joint newsletter in communicating MBNEP messages to target audiences.
6. Modify plan for newsletter preparation for Year Three (FY99), if warranted.



**Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

First Newsletter.....	11/01/97
Second Newsletter.....	01/01/98
Third Newsletter.....	03/01/98
Reader Survey.....	03/01/98
Fourth Newsletter.....	05/01/98
Recommend Changes if Warranted.....	06/01/98
Fifth Newsletter.....	07/01/98
Sixth Newsletter.....	09/01/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$6,000
State/Local	\$2,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$8,000</u>

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## **2.2 MBNEP Brochure and Poster**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee</b>

During Year Two (FY98), the MBNEP will produce additional brochures and may produce a second poster to further enhance the communication of program goals and progress to the community. These tools will be targeted based on needs identified by the Management Conference, Speakers Bureau members, and other interested parties. Distribution will include but is not limited to Speakers Bureau presentations, public facilities, and public events.

A special CAC subcommittee working with representatives from the MBNEP Speakers Bureau will oversee design and production with support from the Program Office. The quantity produced will be determined by factors such as the size of the target audience, production quality, CAC subcommittee recommendations and guidance by the program office. CAC subcommittee recommendations will determine production of a second program poster based on an identified need and target. This poster will serve as a companion piece to existing communication tools, reinforcing MBNEP mission and goals.

### **Specific Project Objectives:**

1. Identify additional brochure topics and target audiences.
2. Evaluate possible formats and make recommendation to CAC.
3. Develop summary of brochure(s)' content, including strategy for reaching any special audience and work with the CAC subcommittee to draft copy to present to Management Conference for review.
4. Produce brochure(s) and poster if needed and distribute to target audiences.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Determine topics, targets and format.....	01/01/98
Draft Brochure(s).....	02/01/98
Final Brochure.....	04/01/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$6,000
State/Local	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$8,000

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### 2.3 MBNEP Portable Information Display

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee</b>

During Year Two (FY98), additional graphics will be created to update the portable information display. The focus will be to communicate progress toward development of the CCMP and/or to target specific constituencies with a MBNEP message. The new panels will be designed to complement the original graphic pieces and allow more flexibility in reaching target audiences. Working with the support and guidance of CAC/TAC committees, the program office will be responsible for production.

#### **Project Objectives:**

1. Develop list of topics, potential graphics, and target audiences.
2. Present draft panels and messages to management conference for input.
3. Oversee production and train Speakers Bureau members as needed.
4. Utilize portable display at conferences, meetings and events.

#### **Project Deliverables and Schedules:**

Complete additional Graphic Panels.....	02/01/98
Report to Management Committee list of completed engagements and events.....	09/01/98

#### **Project Budget:**

Federal	\$1,125
State/Local	\$ 375
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>

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## 2.4 MBNEP Fact Sheets

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti / Lisa Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee Technical Advisory Committee</b>

In order to provide a more detailed explanation of issues concerning the Mobile Bay estuarine system and the goals of the MBNEP, additional fact sheets will be developed. The fact sheets will serve to enhance the public's understanding and awareness of certain priority issues. They will be utilized in a variety of ways in support of the public outreach and education effort. Four (4) to six (6) priority issue summaries will be written and distributed leading up to the "State of the Bay" report. The focus may highlight an area of concern or report on positive preliminary results of research on one (1) or more priority problems. The fact sheets will include a map of the study area, emphasizing the area featured, as well as a synopsis of the MBNEP activities for readers who may not have seen other MBNEP materials. The combined expertise of both the TAC and CAC will help insure an effective message while the program office will oversee actual development. Options include using in-house facilities to produce a very cost effective product, contracting out to produce a promotional type flier, or a combination of both. The quantity will be determined based on the production option, size of the target audience, and other variables. Distribution will be designed based on the most cost effective means to reach the target audiences.

### **Specific Project Objectives:**

1. Develop a standard format for fact sheets.
2. Identify potential target audiences and topics.
3. Draft copy and submit to TAC and CAC for review.
3. Produce and distribute as needed.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Copies of completed Fact Sheets.....as available

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$3,750
State/Local	\$1,250
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$5,000

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## **2.5 MBNEP Public Participation Action Plan for Year Two (FY98)**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee</b>

Continued implementation and evaluation of the Public Participation strategy will be a key activity of the Year Two (FY98) workplan. The MBNEP will also evaluate the effectiveness of the Year One (FY97) public participation strategy and implement changes as deemed necessary. This evaluation may be accomplished in a variety of ways that may include public surveys, input from Management Conference members and other interested groups, and discussions with peer contacts at other National Estuary Programs. Changes in the public participation strategy will be designed to aid in the development of an implementation strategy for the CCMP and will be included as part of the Year Three (FY99) workplan.

As part of the Public Participation Strategy Year Two (FY98) implementation, a list of public involvement projects will be developed for consideration by the CAC with input from the Management Conference. Recommendations will be made concerning those projects that can be acted upon during Year Two (FY98). These may include a Citizens'/Boaters' Guide, Citizens Watch Water Quality Monitoring Program, Informational Clearing House, Citizen Survey or other projects in support of the development of the CCMP.

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Work with CAC and TAC to move forward on specific projects.
2. Solicit and evaluate feedback during all phases of implementation
3. Present report and recommendations to Management Conference.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Initial Year Two (FY98) project list with recommendations.....	10/15/97
Draft feedback instruments and target audiences.....	11/01/97
Implement evaluation program.....	on-going
Report and Recommendations Toward CCMP Implementation.....	06/01/98

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## 2.5 MBNEP Public Participation Strategy

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Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principle Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	TBD
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Danny Calametti
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Citizens Advisory Committee

Continued implementation and evaluation of the Public Participation strategy will be a key activity of the Year Two (FY98) workplan. The MBNEP will also evaluate the effectiveness of the Year One (FY97) public participation strategy and implement changes as deemed necessary. This evaluation may be accomplished in a variety of ways that may include public surveys, input from Management Conference members and other interested groups, and discussions with peer contacts at other National Estuary Programs. Changes in the public participation strategy will be designed to aid in the development of an implementation strategy for the CCMP and will be included as part of the Year Three (FY99) workplan.

As part of the Public Participation Strategy Year Two (FY98) implementation, a list of public involvement projects will be developed for consideration by the CAC with input from the Management Conference. Recommendations will be made concerning those projects that can be acted upon during Year Two (FY98). These may include a Citizens'/Boaters' Guide, Citizens Watch Water Quality Monitoring Program, Informational Clearing House, Citizen Survey or other projects in support of the development of the CCMP.

### Project Objectives:

1. Work with CAC and TAC to move forward on specific projects.
2. Solicit and evaluate feedback during all phases of implementation
3. Present report and recommendations to Management Conference.

### Project Deliverables and Schedule:

Initial Year Two (FY98) project list with recommendations.....	10/15/97
Draft feedback instruments and target audiences.....	11/01/97
Final document.....	12/01/97
Implement evaluation program.....	on-going
Report and Recommendations Toward CCMP Implementation.....	06/01/98



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## **2.51 MBNEP Public Participation Strategy - Citizens Monitoring Program**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b><del>TBD</del> 10,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti / Lisa Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee Technical Advisory Committee</b>

During Year Two (FY98), a CAC subcommittee will develop and if approved, implement plans in cooperation with existing water quality monitoring programs to recruit additional volunteers to canvas selected locations throughout the study area. The goal will be to establish a synoptic data gathering system around the bay and its tributaries.

The MBNEP efforts will focus on coordination of existing programs, filling identified gaps, enhancing program operations and communicating results to the public.

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Conduct public meetings, coordinated with existing monitoring programs to define criteria: locations, water quality parameters, sampling time/schedule, etc.
2. Identify equipment needs, materials and other budgetary support.
3. Recruit volunteers and coordinate training with existing programs using instructors certified according to Alabama Water Watch Protocol.
4. Implement program and monitor results.
5. Communicate results to the public via available news media, newsletters and other sources.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Training Volunteers.....	11/30/97
Implementing Monitoring Program.....	01/01/98
Communicate Results.....	As Available

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## 2.6 MBNEP Speakers Bureau

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee</b>

The Speakers Bureau, implemented at the end of Year One (FY97), will be vital in reaching a variety of grassroots organizations throughout the study area. It is critical that volunteers have the proper knowledge and experience to accurately communicate MBNEP goals to diverse and sometimes antagonist audiences. All Speakers Bureau members will be encouraged to complete a certification process, including attending a speaker training session, in order to insure a consistent, professional delivery reflecting the goals and mission of the MBNEP. Certification will focus not only on the mechanics of speech making but more importantly on the knowledge of the specific subject matter as well as a broad general knowledge of issues related to the MBNEP. No!

Initial training and certification will be conducted in-house by MBNEP staff or designated Speakers Bureau members. An advanced speaker training program designed to benefit both the experienced and the novice speaker will be developed in cooperation with a professional communication consultant. In addition to improving individual speaking skills, the primary goal will be to help prepare Speakers Bureau members for an active and critical role leading up to CCMP implementation. Additional activities during Year Two (FY98) will be to evaluate the effectiveness of program materials as well as individual presentations.

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Begin certifying volunteers for speeches and audiences.
2. Continue to contact target groups and solicit speaking engagements
3. Identify under-represented areas and recruit additional speakers.
4. Solicit proposals and draft schedule for advanced training.
5. Report to management conference on effectiveness of speakers bureau.

**Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Prepare Plan for Year Two (FY98).....	10/01/97
Conduct Advance Speakers Training.....	05/01/98
Status Report and Volunteer Recognition.....	09/01/98

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$ 3,000
State/Local	\$ 1,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$ 4,000</u>

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## 2.7 MBNEP Issue Workshops

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti/Lisa Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee/ Technical Advisory Committee</b>

The issue workshops hosted jointly by the CAC and the TAC to facilitate the development of action items related to the preliminary priority items will be continued as part of the Year Two (FY98) workplan. Additional emphasis will be placed on increasing citizen participation and on enhancing the public educational component. The MBNEP staff will continue to facilitate in close cooperation with the respective CAC/TAC co-chairs.

Work items and areas of additional concern will be presented to the CAC and TAC for consideration. The need for additional issue workshops as well as opportunities for potential action plan demonstration projects (APDPs) will be evaluated and pursued by the MBNEP staff as appropriate.

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Coordinate monthly meetings and facilitate communication with the management conference.
2. Draft and issue requests for proposals relating to CCMP issues and to potential APDPs. .
3. Plan and implement additional workshops as needed.

### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Submit Status Reports for Inclusion in the Newsletter.....	Bimonthly
Forward Recommendations for APDPs.....	As Needed
Hold Additional Workshops.....	As Needed
Submit Proposed Work Items.....	06/01/98

### **Project Budget:**

Federal	\$0
State/Local	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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## 2.8 MBNEP Workshops

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Performing Organization:	MBNEP Program Office
Principle Investigator:	N/A
Total Funding:	\$30,000 <i>was fed!</i>
Priority Issues:	All
MBNEP Coordinator:	Danny Calametti/Lisa Mills
MBNEP Designated Reviewer:	Citizens Advisory Committee/ Technical Advisory Committee

During Year One (FY97), a number of workshop/forums were implemented in response to specific issues raised during the TAC/CAC issue workshops or from other avenues. Year Two (FY98) activities will include a continuation of these efforts either in the form of repeating workshops in additional locations or addressing new issues.

The workshops/forums will also be designed to effectively seek input from the community and incorporate the results in continued efforts of the Management Conference. A minimum of six (6) workshops will be held, covering a variety of topics and targeted at audiences throughout the study area. Some potential topics locations are outlined below.

### Potential Workshop/Forums:

- Speakers Bureau!!*
1. Soil Conservation and Erosion Control may be held in Mobile County and address the impacts of sedimentation throughout the study area, the importance of good soil conservation and erosion control methods and the role of individual citizens, business and industry in addressing this issue.
  2. A Wetlands Workshop designed to inform the public about the types and importance of wetlands throughout the study area may be held in south Mobile County.
  3. Alabama Yards and Neighborhoods would promote the concept of sustainable landscaping to target groups such as individual home owners and property managers, landscape professionals, and public and private organizations involved in land management and real estate. Four (4) sites could be targeted in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.
  4. A Citizen Bay Watch Monitoring workshop would focus on regulatory monitoring and developing monitoring actions to coordinate with existing agencies and regulations.
  5. A Citizens Monitoring Program for Habitat Restoration could focus on evaluating restoration sites as identified in workplan item number 1.10 entitled "Action Plan Demonstration Projects - Technical Tasks."

6. Shellfish Bed Restoration could be developed as a workshop designed to dovetail existing regulatory and enforcement efforts with pollution source identification, remediation, fundraising and coordination skills of various federal, state and local organizations. The results would be to develop a systematic, goal-oriented approach to Shellfish Restoration Efforts.

**Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Project Workplan.....	TBD
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	Quarterly
Draft Report.....	TBD
Final Report.....	TBD

**Total Project Budget:**

Federal	\$22,500
State/Local	\$ 7,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

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## 2.9 MBNEP Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) - Public Education Tasks

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti/Lisa Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee/ Technical Advisory Committee</b>

Efforts will continue in Year Two (FY98) to solicit and identify additional CCMP related activities with wide public exposure. Requests will be issued seeking community groups or individuals to initiate Mobile Bay related projects designed to heighten the public's awareness of the estuary and translating public concerns into meaningful actions.

A CAC subcommittee will coordinate public education related APDPs with support from the MBNEP office. All technical components will include a review by the TAC. The selection criteria as established during Year One (FY97) will remain in place during Year Two (FY98).

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Monitor on-going action of Year One (FY97) APDPs and report to the Management Conference.
2. Work with CAC / TAC issue workshops to identify potential APDPs and develop.
3. Select and initiate additional projects, recommending funding levels and parameters.
4. Report results to Management Conference

### **Project Deliverables / Schedule:**

Identify Potential APDPs .....	11/01/97
Project Workplans.....	02/01/98
Bimonthly Reports Beginning.....	04/01/98
Final Report to Management Conference.....	08/31/98

### **Project Budget:**

Federal	\$11,250
State/Local	\$ 3,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>

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## **2.9 MBNEP Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs) - Public Education Tasks**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principle Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Danny Calametti/Lisa Mills</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>Citizens Advisory Committee/ Technical Advisory Committee</b>

Efforts will continue in Year Two (FY98) to solicit and identify additional CCMP related activities with wide public exposure. Requests will be issued seeking community groups or individuals to initiate Mobile Bay related projects designed to heighten the public's awareness of the estuary and translating public concerns into meaningful actions. In order to maximize the \$15,000 appropriated for educational APDPs efforts will be made to develop partnerships and share resources.

A CAC subcommittee will coordinate public education related APDPs with support from the MBNEP office. All technical components will include a review by the TAC. The selection criteria as established during Year One (FY97) will remain in place during Year Two (FY98).

### **Project Objectives:**

1. Monitor on-going action of Year One (FY97) APDPs and report to the Management Conference.
2. Work with CAC / TAC issue workshops to identify potential APDPs and develop.
3. Select and initiate additional projects, recommending funding levels and parameters.
4. Report results to Management Conference

### **Project Deliverables/Schedule:**

Identify Potential APDPs .....	11/01/97
Project Workplans.....	02/01/98
Bimonthly Reports Beginning.....	04/01/98
Final Report to Management Conference.....	08/31/98



### **3.0 Program Administration Activities:**

In addition to the normal day-to-day activities of program administration, the Program Office will initiate three (3) management activities during the Year Two (FY98). The first, which will be a recurring activity of the Program Office, will involve an in-depth review of the previous year's activities. The intent of the first year review will be to assess and analyze MBNEP actions and processes to date to determine whether changes to structure or function may result in a more efficient and responsive program. The other activities that will be initiated deal with the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Decisions need to be made early on as to the structure of the body that will ultimately implement the CCMP. Options range from housing the CCMP within a state agency to housing the plan within a nonprofit organization. Secondly, and at least as important, is how the implementation of the CCMP will be funded. A decision must be made by the Management Conference as to the structure for implementation of the CCMP before the CCMP is finalized. These activities will be implemented by the Program Office during Year Two (FY98) according to the following details.

### **3.1 Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Year in Review 1997**

<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>Program CCMP Development/ Program Operation</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Assistant to the Director</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference</b>

The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) is the first in a group of Tier 5 NEPs given three (3) years to develop a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Out of the selected groups receiving the NEP nomination in September 1995, the MBNEP has been fraught with the most difficulties. These adversities include changing grantees and losing the entire, though not complete, Program Office staff. Other notable differences of the MBNEP that separate them from other NEPS are committee development, members, and structure. A "Year in Review" of the program will comprehensively (1) assess and analyze MBNEP actions to date, (2) assess and analyze MBNEP responses to crises, (3) assess and analyze current MBNEP processes to confirm, deny, and/or suggest changes within the structure and functioning of the program. Rather than develop a mid-course correction, this document is designed to be holistic in its approach to collectively assess both the positive, as well as, negative steps taken by the program.

#### **Project Objectives:**

1. Comprehensively review all program activities, not limited to, but including issues concerning; formation of Program Management Conference, Program Office staff, grantee selection, conference structure, kickoff, cooperative agreements with state agencies, interaction with EPA Region 4, budgetary allocations - funding sources and uses.
2. Objectively grade each item reviewed with a developed scale.
3. Make recommendations to the existing conference structure, functions, and activities.

#### **Project Deliverables and Schedule:**

Draft Report.....	11/15/97
Final Report.....	12/15/97

**Project Budget:**

Federal	\$5,625
State/Local	\$1,875
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$7,500</u>

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### **3.2 Development of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$215,000</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinators:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Staff</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference</b>

This effort will assist the Management Conference with the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Implementation of the CCMP requires both a “home” for the plan as well as a funding mechanism to get the job done. This work element includes investigating possible scenarios for housing the MBNEP CCMP, investigating possible funding mechanisms for various action items within the MBNEP CCMP, and developing recommendations for the Management Conference. Other activities of this work element may include final resource characterization, technical investigations to resolve unknown problems, interagency coordination for CCMP development, and action plan demonstration projects (APDPs). The Management and Policy Committee, with assistance from the Technical and Citizen Advisory Committees, will determine the other activities to be selected. The project schedules and deliverables of these other activities are to be decided as needed.

#### **Project Objectives:**

1. Review options considered by other NEPs for the implementation of the CCMP.
2. Develop a list of ‘pros’ and ‘cons’ for each implementation option as they would apply specifically to the MBNEP.
3. Recommend at least two (2) implementation options for consideration by the Management Conference.
4. Review funding mechanisms used by other NEPs for the implementation of the CCMP
5. Develop a list of ‘pros’ and ‘cons’ for each funding mechanism as they would apply specifically to the MBNEP.
6. Recommend the best funding mechanism for consideration by the Management Conference.
7. Develop additional technical investigations and APDPs via Issues Workshops and citizen groups for development of the CCMP.

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### 3.2 Implementation Options for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>Program Office and Management Committee</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
<b>Priority Issues</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Program Director</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference and EPA</b>

The ultimate goal of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program is the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). This plan will guide future activities that will ensure the promotion and enhancement of the wise stewardship of the water quality and living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system. Implementation of the CCMP requires both a 'home' for the plan as well as a funding mechanism to get the job done. This work element will investigate possible scenarios for housing the MBNEP CCMP and make a recommendation to the Management Conference.

#### **Project Specific Objectives:**

1. Review options considered by other NEPs for the implementation of the CCMP.
2. Develop a list of 'pros' and 'cons' for each option as they would apply specifically to the MBNEP.
3. Recommend at least two (2) options for consideration by the Management Conference.

#### **Project Deliverables Schedule:**

Draft Report.....	08/31/98
Final Report.....	09/30/98

#### **Project Budget:**

Federal	\$5,625
State/Local	\$1,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>

**Project Deliverables/Schedule for Objectives 1-6:**

Draft Report.....08/31/98  
Final Report.....09/30/98

**Project Deliverables/Schedule for Objectives 7:**

Draft Report.....TBD  
Final Report.....TBD

**Project Budget for Objectives 1-6:**

Federal	\$11,250
State/Local	\$ 3,750
Total	<u>\$15,000</u>

**Project Budget for Objective 7:**

\$150,000
<u>\$ 50,000</u>
\$200,000

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### **3.3 Analysis of Funding Mechanisms for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan**

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>Program Office and Management Committee</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
<b>Priority Issues</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Program Director</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>MBNEP Management Conference and EPA</b>

The ultimate goal of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program is the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). This plan will guide future activities that will ensure the promotion and enhancement of the wise stewardship of the water quality and living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system. Implementation of the CCMP requires both a 'home' for the plan as well as a funding mechanism to get the job done. This work element will investigate possible mechanisms for funding the various action items within the MBNEP CCMP and make a recommendation to the Management Conference. It is expected that a combination of mechanisms involving State, local, public, and private funds will ultimately be recommended to the Management Conference.

#### **Project Specific Objectives:**

1. Review funding mechanisms used by other NEPs for the implementation of the CCMP
2. Develop a list of 'pros' and 'cons' for each funding mechanism as they would apply specifically to the MBNEP.
3. Recommend the best funding mechanism for consideration by the Management Conference.

#### **Project Deliverables Schedule:**

Draft Report.....	08/31/98
Final Report.....	09/30/98

#### **Project Budget:**

Federal	\$5,625.00
State/Local	\$1,875.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>

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### 3.4 Administrative Support for the Management Conference

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<b>Performing Organization:</b>	<b>MBNEP Program Office</b>
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$161,525</b>
<b>Priority Issues:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>MBNEP Coordinator:</b>	<b>Susan Ivester Rees</b>
<b>MBNEP Designated Reviewer:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

The MBNEP Program Office works closely with all of the MBNEP Management Conference committees; and answers directly to the Policy Committee (Figure 1). Task 3.4 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 and Federal agencies, and professional groups relevant to CCMP development and implementation. Staff will: 1) prepare following year work plans and budgets; 2) prepare annual EPA Cooperative Agreement grant applications; 3) administer grants/contracts; 4) amend the Cooperative Agreement workplan as necessary; 5) monitor projects including coordination of workplans, progress reports, and draft / final reports with principal investigators; 6) coordinate project workplans and activities with other local, state, and federal agencies; and, 7) provide for overall Program coordination.

Program staff will participate in regional, state, and national conferences and meetings relevant to estuarine management. \$10,000 of program funds are specially earmarked for travel related to outreach and technology and information transfer. Attendance at Association of National Estuary Programs workshop and EPA workshops/meetings will be stressed. The remaining portion of the funds will be utilized as earmarked. The additional \$5,000 in travel funds will be used for travel associated with routing program administration, coordination with EPA Region 4, the Gulf of Mexico Program, and other Federal, state and local agencies.

In addition to the above, each of the four (4) Program staff will be assigned particular duties and responsibilities, including (but not limited to) the following:

**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 coordinated 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 the exchange of information relevant to the development of an effective CCMP.



**Public Outreach and Education Coordinator:** 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.

**Scientific/Technical Coordinator:** Coordinates and supervises the development of MBNEP scientific and research 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.

**Professional Secretary:** 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 / Schedule:**

Program Quarterly Reports.....	quarterly
Program Final Report.....	08/31/98
Management Conference Meeting Minutes.....	monthly
Updates to Management Conference Directory.....	as available

**Project Budget:**

Federal (EPA):	\$ 140,764
State/Local:	\$ 46,921
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 187,685</b>

**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM  
YEAR TWO ANNUAL WORKPLAN**

**LIST OF FIGURES**

Management Conference Revised Structure.....	4
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**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM  
YEAR TWO ANNUAL WORKPLAN**

**APPENDIX**

**TABLE 1**  
**SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Developed the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Structure including priority issues' subcommittees (i.e., water quality, living resources, habitat loss, human uses, and data management) consisting of both TAC and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) members and development and adoption of bylaws.
2. Identified and evaluated a data and information management system.
3. Surveyed and evaluated regulatory and base program entities that impact living resources and water quality within the geographic boundaries of the MBNEP.
4. Initiated a preliminary characterization study of water quality for the MBNEP.
5. Initiated a preliminary characterization study of living resources for the MBNEP.
6. Initiated a preliminary characterization study of habitat loss for the MBNEP.
7. Initiated a characterization study of human uses for the MBNEP.
8. Hosted several workshops dealing with environmental issues and development of workplan items (i.e., wetlands, modeling, shellfish bed restoration, etc.)
9. Initiated several Early Action/Demonstration Projects (see Public Participation and Education Activities for details).

**TABLE 2**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Hosted a kickoff ceremony and celebration.
2. Produced and distributed several fact sheets highlighting the MBNEP and providing information about priority issues.
3. Produced and distributed program brochures and posters.
4. Created a wall display for use in various community events and conferences.
5. Initiated a partnership to produce joint, bi-monthly newsletter promoting MBNEP mission, goals and opportunities for public involvement.
6. Issued news releases and wrote articles for other print sources, providing information about meetings and activities.
7. Worked closely with the Citizens Advisory Committee, facilitating meetings and assisting with other activities.
8. Served as community clearinghouse, responding to requests from interested groups and individuals for resources and assistance outside the NEP guidelines.
9. Attended numerous public meetings and events, making presentations about the MBNEP and identifying common missions and possible partnership opportunities.
10. Included public education topics as a part of the issue workshop agendas to increase citizen understanding of issues being discussed.

**TABLE 3**  
**MANAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Establishment of Program Office at Faulkner State Community College Fairhope Campus with additional space.
2. Hiring of Interim Staff which carried program forward.
3. Program structure change through the establishment of joint TAC/CAC issue subcommittees on Water Quality, Habitat Loss, and Living Resources.
4. Hiring of two permanent office staff with two members to be hired by the end of the fiscal year. This is in concert with the interim staff.
5. Office networking through a LAN system.
6. Development of Internet capabilities and local homepage.
7. Changes and additions to the Policy Committee.
8. Changes and revisions to the First Year Annual Workplan.
9. Cost saving agreements with Faulkner State Community College.

**TABLE 4**  
**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM SECOND YEAR BUDGET**  
**5 JUNE 1997**

WORK ELEMENT		FEDERAL(75%)	NONFEDERAL(25%)	TOTAL
1.0	SCIENTIFIC / TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS			
1.1	State of the Bay Report	15,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00
1.2	Human Uses: Modeling User Groups of Mobile Bay	22,500.00	7,500.00	30,000.00
1.3	Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Survey	67,500.00	22,500.00	90,000.00
1.4	High Priority Habitat Identification and Mapping Workshop	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
1.5	Macrophytic Algal Blooms Survey	15,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00
1.6	Identification of Key Living Resources	15,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00
1.7	Investigation of Fishing Effort (Pressure)	7,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00
1.8	Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality Parameters for the MBNEP Study Area	86,250.00	28,750.00	115,000.00
1.9	Establishment of data and Information Management System (MIS/GIS) and Data Input into MIS/GIS	TBD	TBD	TBD
2.0	APDPs	56,250.00	18,750.00	75,000.00
2.1	CCMP Development			
	Scientific/Technical Coordinator*	37,151.00	12,383.00	49,534.00
			<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>431,542.00</b>
2.0	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION			
2.1	Newsletter	6,000.00	2,000.00	8,000.00
2.2	Program Brochure and Poster	6,000.00	2,000.00	8,000.00
2.3	Portable Information Display	1,125.00	375.00	1,500.00
2.4	Fact Sheets	3,750.00	1,250.00	5,000.00
2.5	Public Participation Strategy	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Citizens Monitoring Program	TBD	TBD	TBD
2.6	Speakers Bureau	2,250.00	750.00	3,000.00
2.7	Issue Workshops	0	0	0
2.8	Workshops	22,500.00	7,500.00	30,000.00
2.9	APDPs	11,250.00	3,750.00	15,000.00
	Public Outreach/Education Coordinator*	32,489.00	10,830.00	43,319.00
			<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>113,819.00</b>
3.0	PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION			
3.1	MBNEP Program Year in Review, 1997	5,625.00	1,875.00	7,500.00
3.2	CCMP Implementation Analysis	5,625.00	1,875.00	7,500.00
3.3	CCMP Funding Analysis	5,625.00	1,875.00	7,500.00
3.4	Program Administration			
	Director	52,864.00	17,621.00	70,485.00
	Assistant to the Director	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Secretary	17,748.00	5,916.00	23,664.00
	Travel - Training	7,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00
	Travel - Outreach & Technology	7,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00
	Rent (Furnished)	22,500.00	7,500.00	30,000.00
	Office Supplies	7,500.00	2,500.00	10,000.00
	Copier & Fax Maintenance	2,502.00	834.00	3,336.00
	Phone (monthly)	3,600.00	1,200.00	4,800.00
	Internet (monthly)	1,800.00	600.00	2,400.00
	Computer Software	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
	Mailing List Maintenance	750.00	250.00	1,000.00
	Postage	11,250.00	3,750.00	15,000.00
	Subscription Dues	750.00	250.00	1,000.00
	Meeting/Workshop Advertising	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
	Meeting Space Rental	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
			<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>210,185.00</b>
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>755,546.00</b>

*Handwritten:* \$450K

TABLE 5  
MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM  
TIMETABLE FOR SECOND YEAR ANNUAL WORKPLAN

Milestone/Project	1997		1998						
	10/97	11/97	12/97	01/98	02/98	03/98	04/98	05/98	06/98 07/98 08/98 09/98
Quarterly Reports	*10/97			*****01/98		*****04/98		*****07/98	*****10/98
Year in Review 1997 Report			*****12/97						
Draft Third Year Workplan									
Final Third Year Workplan					*****03/98				
Draft CCMP							*****06/98		
Program Inventory	*10/97								*****12/98
Public Participation Strategy		*****12/97							*****10/98
Data Management Strategy	TBD								
Technical Workplan Reports									
"State of the Bay" Report									*****09/98
									*****09/98



**TABLE 6**  
**MILESTONE SUMMARY AND SCHEDULE**  
**PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998**  
**Prepared 5 June 1997**

Activity.....	Target Date
<b><u>Work Element 1.0: Scientific/Technical Assessments</u></b>	
<b>Task 1.1 State of the Bay Report</b>	
Project Workplan.....	05/01/98
Monthly Progress Reports.....	monthly
Draft Report.....	07/01/98
Final Report.....	09/01/98
<b>Task 1.2 Human Uses: Modeling User Groups of Mobile Bay</b>	
Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	TBD
Final Report.....	TBD
<b>Task 1.3 Wetlands and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Survey</b>	
Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	08/15/98
Final Report.....	09/15/98
<b>Task 1.4 High Priority Habitat Identification and Mapping Workshop</b>	
Project Workplan.....	10/15/97
Draft Report.....	11/01/97
Final Report.....	11/30/97
<b>Task 1.5 Macrophytic Algal Blooms Survey</b>	
Project Workplan.....	03/01/98
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	11/15/98
Final Report.....	12/15/98
<b>Task 1.6 Identification of Key Living Resources</b>	
Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	08/15/98
Final Report.....	09/15/98

**TABLE 6 - MILESTONE SUMMARY AND SCHEDULE (Continued)**

**Task 1.7 Investigation of Fishing Effort (Pressure)**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	03/31/98
Final Report.....	04/30/98

**Task 1.8 Assessment and Modeling of Priority Water Quality**

**Parameters for MBNEP Study Area**

Project Workplan.....	10/01/97
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	02/15/98
Final Report.....	03/15/98

**Task 1.9 Establishment of Data and Information Management**

**System (MIS/GIS) and Data Input into MIS/GIS**

Project Workplan.....	TBD
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	TBD
Final Report.....	TBD

**Task 1.10 Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDPs)**

Project Workplan.....	TBD
Quarterly Progress Reports.....	quarterly
Draft Report.....	TBD
Final Report.....	TBD

**Task 1.11 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan**

Draft Report.....	12/15/98
Final Report.....	TBD

**Work Element 2.0: Public Participation and Education**

**Task 2.1 Newsletter**

Bimonthly.....	beginning 11/01/97
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**Task 2.2 Program Brochure and Poster**

Determine Topics, Targets, and Format.....	01/01/98
Draft Brochure.....	02/01/98
Final Brochure.....	04/01/98

**TABLE 6 - MILESTONE SUMMARY AND SCHEDULE (Continued)**

**Task 2.3 Portable Informational Display**

Complete Additional Graphic Panels.....02/01/98  
 Report to Management Conference List of Completed Engagements and Events.....09/01/98

**Task 2.4 Fact Sheets**

Copies of Completed Fact Sheets.....As Available

**Task 2.5 Public Participation Strategy**

Initial Year Two Project List with Recommendations.....10/15/97  
 Draft Feedback Instruments and Target Audiences.....11/01/97  
 Final Document.....12/01/97  
 Implement Evaluation Program.....on-going  
 Report and Recommendations Toward CCMP Implementations.....06/01/98

**Task 2.5.1 Citizens Monitoring Program**

Project Workplan.....10/01/97  
 Training Volunteers.....11/30/97  
 Implement Monitoring Program.....01/01/98  
 Communicate Results.....as available

**Task 2.6 Speakers Bureau**

Prepare Plan for Second Year.....10/01/97  
 Conduct Advanced Speakers Training.....05/01/98  
 Status Report and Volunteer Recognition.....09/01/98

**Task 2.7 MBNEP Issue Workshops**

Submit Status Reports for Inclusion in the Newsletter.....bimonthly  
 Forward Recommendations for APDPs.....as needed  
 Hold Additional Workshops.....as needed  
 Submit Proposed Work Items.....06/01/98

**Task 2.8 MBNEP Workshops**

Identify Workshops and Develop Implementation Plans.....ongoing  
 Report Results.....09/30/97

**Task 2.9 MBNEP Action Plan Demonstration Projects**

Identify Potential APDPs.....11/01/97  
 Project Workplan.....02/01/98  
 Bimonthly Reports Beginning.....11/01/98  
 Final Report to Management Conference.....08/31/98

**TABLE 6 - MILESTONE SUMMARY AND SCHEDULE (Continued)**

**Work Element 3.0: Program Administration**

**Task 3.1 MBNEP Program Year in Review, 1997**

Draft Report.....	11/15/97
Final Report.....	12/15/97

**Task 3.2 Implementation Options for the MBNEP CCMP**

Draft Report.....	08/31/98
Final Report.....	09/30/98

**Task 3.3 Analysis of Funding Mechanisms for the MBNEP CCMP**

Draft Report.....	08/31/98
Final Report.....	09/30/98

**Task 3.4 Program Administration**

Program Reports.....	quarterly
Program Final Report.....	08/31/97
Management Conference Meeting Minutes.....	as available
Updates to Management Conference Directory.....	as available

# MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM YEAR TWO ANNUAL WORKPLAN

## DOCUMENT CONTRIBUTORS

The MBNEP Program Office staff would like to thank the following individuals for their efforts in producing the work items in this document. As always, their perserverence and diligence is greatly appreciated by the program.

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NEP RAMS (SUGGESTED):

EDUCATION

DESCRIPTIVE SIGNAGE

- ANTI-LITTER
- NON-POINT SOURCE
- SOIL CONSERVATION
- BULKHEAD IMPACTS
- REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION SIX AND
- "COAST WEEK/BAY WEEK" - 9/23-10/1
  - KICKOFF AT DAUPHIN ISLAND SEA LAB
  - WATER CONSERVATION
  - NATIVE PLANT SALE/LANDSCAPING
  - NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT
- CULMINATES AT WEEKS BAY AND COASTAL CLEANUP (EMPHASIS ON MOBILE BAY)

LAND ACQUISITION

- WETLANDS
- BEACH/SHORELINE ACCESS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- REVIEW OF ORDINANCES/AUTHORITIES
- INTERAGENCY COORDINATION
- GIS EXPANSION/UPDATES

SHORE LINE EROSION

- TRIBUTARIES
- WETLAND/SAV IMPACTS
- BULKHEAD IMPACTS

TARGET PROGRAMS

NUTRIENT ENRICHMENT

- RPC-6 LOADINGS
- DELTA INFLUENCE
- MOBILE/BALDWIN LOADINGS

PUBLIC HEALTH

- SWIMMING
  - MONITORING NEEDS?
- SEAFOOD SAFETY
  - "SENTINEL" PROGRAM?
- SEDIMENT CONTAMINATION
  - CORING PROGRAM?
  - SEPTIC TANK MANAGEMENT