

### Mobile Bay National Estuary Program: Project Implementation Committee

Tensaw Theater, 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center Thursday, September 21, 2017, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

### Agenda

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Minutes: June 8, 2017
- 3. Project Implementation Reports
  - 1) Joey Nunnally, Baldwin County
    - Live Oak Landing Acquisition
  - 2) Kari Servold, Goodwyn Mills & Cawood
    - Dog River Watershed Management Plan
  - 3) Mike Eubanks, Thompson Engineering
    - Weeks Bay Watershed Management Plan
  - 4) Jacob Blandford, The Nature Conservancy
    - Fowl River: Jordan Site
    - Fowl River: O'Brien Site
  - 5) Tina Sanchez, Mobile County
    - Salte Aire
    - Bayfront
  - 6) Matthew Capps, City of Mobile
    - Three Mile Creek/Twelve Mile Creek Projects
  - 7) Eliska Morgan, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
    - Dauphin Island Access
  - 8) Dan Bond, City of Gulf Shores
    - Bon Secour Acquisition
  - 9) Ashley Campbell, City of Daphne
    - Tiawasee: Park Drive
    - Tiawasee: Mont Clair
- 4. New Business
  - Christian Miller, MBNEP Wolf Bay Watershed Management Plan- RFQ
  - Meg Goecker, Moffat Nichol Tensaw-Apalachee Watershed Management Plan
  - Judy Haner, The Nature Conservancy Lightning Point Project
- 5. Announcements
- 6. Schedule Next Meeting
- 7. Adjourn



Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Project Implementation Committee Meeting Thursday, September 21, 2017 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, Tensaw Theater



#### Attendees:

Benji Elmore (Alabama Forestry Commission) Richard Fields (Alabama Forestry Commission) Melissa Pringle (Allen Engineering & Science) Rob Howell (Anchor QEA) Dave Armstrong (ADCNR, Fresh Water Fisheries) Dan Bond (City of Gulf Shores) Mary Kate Brown (The Nature Conservancy) Evan Davis (ALDOT, Southwest Region) Carl Ferraro (ADCNR, Coastal Section) Judy Haner (The Nature Conservancy) Patric Harper (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Coastal Programs) Dina Knight (The Nature Conservancy) Casi Callaway (Mobile Baykeeper) Brett Gaar (Volkert, Inc.) Scott Phipps (Weeks Bay Reserve) Joyce Nicholas (USDA-NRCS) Shannon McGlynn (ADEM) Matthew Capps (City of Mobile) Tina Sanchez (Mobile County) Eddie Kerr (Mobile County) Joey Nunnally (Baldwin County Commission) Katie Barnes (Birmingham Audubon) Deanne Ingram (USFWS Jaime Miller (ADCNR, Marine Resources Division) Chris Plymale (U.S. EPA Region 4) Molly Martin (U.S. EPA Region 4) Casey Rains (City of Spanish Fort) Lee Walters (Goodwyn Mills & Cawood) Meg Goecker (Moffatt Nichol)

Eliska Morgan (ADCNR) Patti Powell (ADCNR) Marlon Cook (Cook Hydrogeology) Kari Servold (Goodwyn Mills Cawood) Matthew Jones (Integrated Science & Engineering) Cameron Morris (Dewberry) Ashley Campbell (City of Daphne) Steve O'Hearn (Thompson Engineering) Bud McCrory (MAWSS) Justin Casey (Ecology & Environment, Inc.) Byron Hinchey (Amec Foster Wheeler) Rhonda Bryars (Baldwin County SWCD) John Peterson (Mott MacDonald) Macy Taylor (ALDOT) Rosemary Ginn Sawyer (City of Mobile) Michael Barnett (Tetra Tech) Steve Mathies (Stantec) Loren Powers (ADPH-Baldwin County) Frank Burt (Baldwin County Commission) Jacob Blandford (The Nature Conservancy) Justin Rigdon (ADEM) Ken Leslie (Alabama Forestry Commission) L.G. Adams (ADCNR, Lands Division/ Weeks Bay Reserve) Celena Boykin (Baldwin County) Mike Eubanks (Thompson Engineering) Amy Newbold (EPA) Sherry Allison (Allen Engineering & Science) Scott Jackson (Ecology & Environment, Inc.) Randy Shaneyfelt (ADEM, Mobile) Sam St. John (Fowl River Area Civic Association)

**MBNEP Staff:** Roberta Swann, Christian Miller, Jason Kudulis, Paul Lammers, Bethany Dickey, and Jackie Wilson **Coastal Conservation Members**: Kevin Kidd, Shaila Fletcher, Eric Lucas Jr., and Jamarcus Talib

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 pm by Patric Harper. Attendees went through a round of self-introductions.

#### 2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Harper asked for any deletions, additions, changes to the minutes from June 8, 2017. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. Carl Ferraro made the motion, which Brett Gaar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 3. Project Implementation Reports

#### 1) Joey Nunnally/Commissioner Frank Burt, Baldwin County

• Commissioner Burt presented photos, drone footage, and historical information on Live Oak Landing and its acquisition/restoration that began in 2011.

#### 2) Kari Servold, Goodwyn Mills & Cawood

• The Dog River Watershed encompasses 93 square miles. Sewage overflow has affected its water quality. Urbanization is affecting stormwater runoff and habitat preservation. The Watershed Management Plan draft was opened in September for a public comment period.

#### 3) Mike Eubanks, Thompson Engineering

• The Weeks Bay Watershed Management Plan was started in January 2016 and the report is being finalized now. The Watershed is 130,000 acres and includes 9 municipalities. Issues that have affected the water quality in the Watershed include: population growth/urban development, some agricultural practices, and stormwater runoff. The plan will identify projects that address nutrients, sediments, and the source of pathogens in the watershed.

#### 4) Jacob Blandford, The Nature Conservancy

• Jacob presented updates on two (private owner) living shorelines projects on Fowl River. The focus of these projects was bulkheads that were failing. TNC worked with the manufacturer of the gabion baskets to come up with a design that uses gabion baskets of different heights that create a step-down that mimics the slope of a living shoreline, and then is anchored to the bulkhead. The second landowner did some dredging as well as the gabion baskets. The leftover dredge sediment was donated by the landowner to be relocated to the first site project to help with some shoreline degradation.

See attached presentation for before and after photos.

#### 5) Tina Sanchez, Mobile County

- In 2015 the County was awarded a grant from NFWF to acquire the Salte Aire parcel. Goat Island was purchased about six months later. The last 10 months have been used to develop a restoration plan for the shoreline. The project will stabilize the shoreline and reestablish the tidal marsh. The recessed shoreline would be reestablished by placement of sediments borrowed from the Fowl River Channel dredged material disposal area. Project will move forward within the next year.
- The Bayfront Park project will provide public access improvements, marsh restoration, and habitat preservation. Phase I is the engineering and design phase and will be starting soon.

### 6) Matthew Capps, City of Mobile

• This project develops a continuous, 20-mile-long trail system along the banks of Three Mile Creek. This project allows the City of Mobile to link several ongoing trails, greenway, park

upgrades, and Complete Street initiatives. The "Greenway" will revitalize parks and promote exercise and healthy living, connect citizens to services and public amenities, and draw tourists and citizens for recreational use. Phase I of the Mobile Greenway involves the first one mile, connecting Tricentennial Park, Mobile Infirmary, USA Hospital, and the Health Department. Matthew showed several maps and diagrams on where the trails will run.

#### 7) Eliska Morgan, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

• Dauphin Island Access (Mid-Island Project): The project includes acquisition of three parcels (A, B, and C) that will offer public parking, restroom facilities, and boat launch. The project's goals are improved public access, preservation of natural habitats for wildlife and beach habitats. *See attached maps.* 

#### 8) Dan Bond, City of Gulf Shores

• Bon Secour Acquisition: This project will protect and restore 836 acres consisting of 2 large tracts and 18 parcels. The lands are primarily wetlands – freshwater emergent, estuarine emergent or freshwater forested. The properties will be protected for conservation purposes, and a comprehensive management plan will be developed and implemented. Due diligence activities are underway- boundary surveys, title work, and environmental site assessments.

#### 9) Ashley Campbell, City of Daphne

• Tiawasee: Park Drive and Mont Clair- addresses issues downstream from subdivisions: 900 linear feet in between Estates of Tiawasee and Lake Forest.

#### 4. New Business

#### 1) Christian Miller, MBNEP

- Wolf Bay Watershed Management Plan RFQ
  - Pre-submittal conference was September 5th. The statement deadline has been extended to the last Friday in October. Issues that were discussed water quality, access, land-use change over time, sea level rise. Minutes from the pre-submittal meeting will be posted to the MBNEP website soon. www.mobilebaynep.com

#### 2) Meg Goecker, Moffatt Nichol

- Tensaw-Apalachee (MTA) Watershed Management Plan
  - The 10 sub-basins that make up the Watershed consists of 41% wetlands and 46% uplands. Almost 75% is in public ownership Federal, Forever Wild, and State owned. Some issues found in this study stormwater erosion, development pressures, and downstream watershed impacts. Stakeholders were asked what their major issues were habitat conservation and management, hydrology, access, and monitoring. Task suggestions are synthesize current science knowledge, engage landowners, and invasive species mapping.
  - The study has grouped the Watershed into 3 sub-watersheds. The NEP should start with the two side watersheds first, then discuss when to do the middle section. *See attached map.*

#### 3) Judy Haner, The Nature Conservancy

• Lightning Point Update: There have been 7 proposals, 3 for interview, and the awarded firm will be announced soon. Project consists of parcel acquisitions around the mouth of the Bayou for protection, restoration, and enhancement of the shorelines.

#### 4. Announcements

Mobile Baykeeper Apple Snail Round-up event, October 14th. Massive One Mile Creek cleanup, October 28th. Rain barrel workshop at Daphne City Hall, September 23rd.

#### 5. Schedule Next Meeting - January 2018

#### 6. Adjourn

Mr. Harper asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 pm. Casi Calloway made the motion, which was seconded by Randy Shaneyfelt.

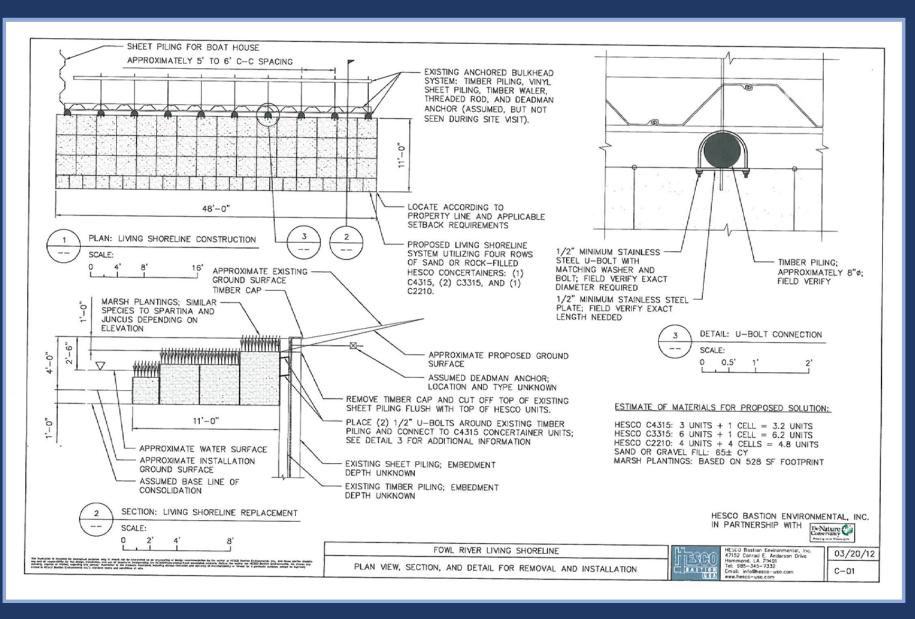


Alternatives to bulkheads for private landowners

Jacob Blandford



# **Engineering Design**



### Site Location and Plan- Fowl River 2014

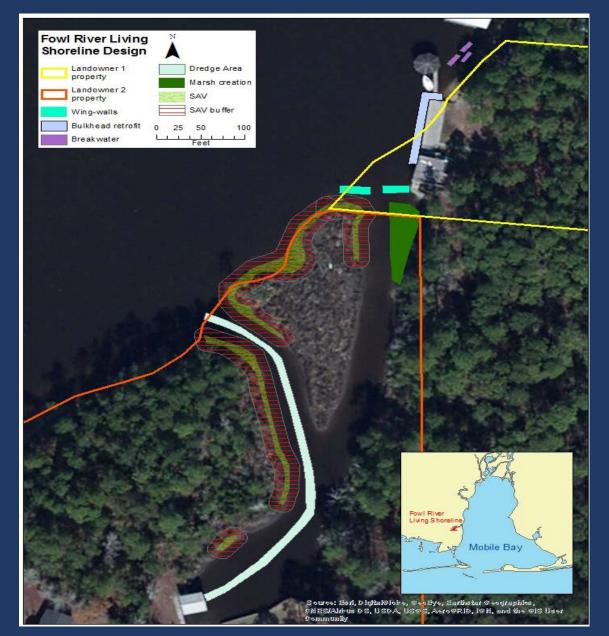




### Site Location and Plan- Fowl River 2017



## Site Location and Plan- Fowl River 2017













30°15'08.50" N 88°07'46.25" W

Eye alt 2.46 km 🔘

