



**Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
Project Implementation Committee**  
August 18, 2022, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Five Rivers Tensaw Theater



**Agenda**

Meeting Objectives:

- a) Provide update on activities related to the western shore (Mobile County).
- b) Other project status updates

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

PIC Co-Chairs:

- Judy Haner, The Nature Conservancy
- Patric Harper, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes**

**3. Old Business**

- a) Management Conference Committee Status Updates

**4. New Business**

- a) Western Shore Project Updates
  - a. Three Mile Creek Greenway & Hydrological Restoration – Matt Jollit, City of Mobile
  - b. Three Mile Creek Watershed Restoration & Brookley by the Bay – Lance Slater, City of Mobile
  - c. Mobile County Updates – Matthew Jones, Mobile County
  - d. Fowl River Coastal Spits and Wetlands – Chris Warn, Environmental Science Associates
  - e. Deer River Coastal Marsh Restoration – Mark Saunders, Thompson Engineering
- b) MBNEP Watershed Planning and Project Implementation Update
- c) Off-cycle topical meeting – next topic or destination?
- d) Next meeting **November 10**

**5. Adjourn**



# Welcome back!

This presentation provides minutes of the August 18, 2022, Project Implementation Committee. This was the Committee's first in-person meeting in over two years.

Attendees: Cassie Bates, Don Blancher, Morgan Brizendine, Scott Brown, Karina Calhoun, Ashley Campbell, Benji Elmore, Jay Estes, Walter Ernest, Paige Felts, Carl Ferraro, Casey Fulford, Leslie Gahagan, Jenn Greene, Patric Harper, Jason Herrmann, Jordan Hollinghead, Webb Jackson, Andrew James, Matthew Jones, Cade Kistler, Lianne Koczur, Jeremiah Kolb, Ken Leslie, Nicole Love, Brian Mabry, Shannon McGlynn, Sarila Mickle, Eliska Morgan, Autumn Nitz, Joey Nunnally, Chris Oberholster, Ryan Peek, Chris Plymale, Justin Rigdon, Mark Saunders, Derrick Scott, Lance Slater, Suzanne Sweetser, Will Underwood, William Walker, Lee Walters, Chris Warn, Courtney Weatherby, Connie Whitaker, Jason White, Darrel Williams. Anna Yancy, Lee Yokel

MBNEP Staff: Jason Kudulis, Christian Miller, Missy Partyka, Roberta Swann

## Project Implementation Committee Agenda



### Welcome and Call to Order:

Co-Chairs: Judy Haner, The Nature Conservancy,  
& Patric Harper, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### **Review and approval of May 2022 minutes**

### Old Business: Management Conference Committee Updates

### New Business:

- Western Shore Project Updates
- MBNEP Watershed Planning and Project Implementation Updates
- Off-cycle Topical Meeting in the Fall?
- Next Meeting November 10



The meeting was called to order at 1:02pm.

Minutes from the May 2022 meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. Don Blancher motioned to accept the minutes; Carl Ferraro seconded the motion.

Old Business: MBNEP staff provided updates for the other Management Conference committees.

- Government Networks Committee: Reviewing coastal regulations and updating the South Alabama Regulatory Review document. Their next meeting will consist of lightning rounds from municipal officials addressing challenges related to population growth.
- Science Advisory Committee: Next meeting is virtual and will be on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Committee is discussing potential negative externalities associated with restoration project monitoring beyond regulatory requirements.
- Business Resource Committee: Working on strategic planning for the committee. New CCMP process will begin in 2023. All committees will likely undertake some form of this process.
- Other Management Conference committees are meeting after the August 18th PIC.
- MBNEP staff also reminded attendees that requests for NEPORT content is underway, and any habitat projects (restoration and/or acquisition) completed in the last year can be reported. Required by EPA, the report provides an opportunity to share our collective

impact and outcomes toward improved environmental stewardship of Mobile Bay.

New Business:

Presentations focused on monitoring, planning, and restoration activities on the Western Shore (Mobile County). This continues our theme of focusing on different geographic sectors around coastal Alabama. Slides from presentations follow and supplemental notes are included as needed.

## Three Mile Creek Greenway Trail



**Project Lead:**

- City of Mobile / Matt Jollit

**Project Funding:**

- City CIP / RESTORE Bucket 1 / ALDOT TAP (Segments 6N and 1)

**Project Partners:**

- Dix.Hite+Partners: Design Team
- ADCNR (Dept of Treasury): Oversight, Approval, and Funding
- ALDOT (FHWA): Oversight, Approval, and Funding

**TMC Watershed Plan Objective**

- Develop 10 miles of continuous greenway and restore natural channels and riparian buffer where feasible
- Install environmental education signage in six existing or proposed parks

Jenn Greene with the City of Mobile provided an update for the Three Mile Creek Greenway and Hydrological Restoration projects.

### TMC WMP Objectives

1. Develop 10 miles of continuous greenway and restore natural channels and riparian buffer where feasible
2. Develop a strategy for implementing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
3. Achieve State water quality standards for warm water fisheries
4. Eliminate all known illicit connections/sanitary inputs
5. Reduce amount of trash in waterways by 75%
6. Maintain design level of service for flood protection from USACE dams
7. Install environmental education signage in six existing or proposed parks

## Three Mile Creek Greenway Trail



### Project Metrics

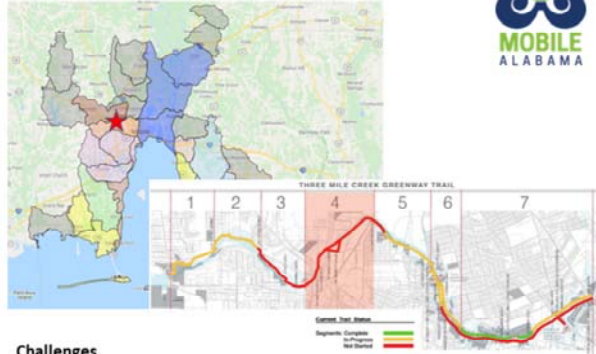
- Installation of four miles of trail and associated amenities with current funding

### Project Status:

- ALDOT TAP Grant:
  - Segment 6N: Construction Packet Approved by FHWA / ALDOT
  - Segment 1: Design 90% Complete
- RESTORE Grant (Segments East of I-65):
  - Segments 5 and 7N Construction Design 90% complete
  - Segment 6N construction packet under review with Treasury
- Segments 1 & 2 (Segments West of I-65)
  - Segments 1 & 2 Construction Design underway

### Timeline of Activities

- Segment 5/7N Review Submittal: October / November 2022
- Segment 1 & 6N Construction Bid: October 2022



### Challenges

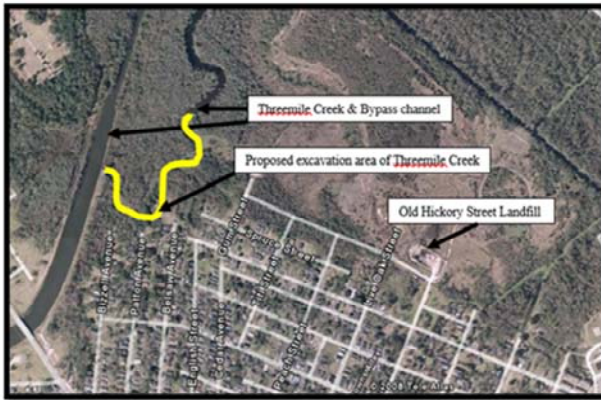
- Grant navigation: Approvals to move forward on construction bidding.

### Next Steps over next 3 months

- Segments 1 and 6N Construction Bid Release
- Segments 5 & 7N Design and Easement Completion / Submittal to ADCNR for Review

Awaiting approval from RESTORE to begin construction on additional segments. Real estate acquisitions on other portions are underway. Segment 6N and 1 are ready to go to construction hopefully by the end of 2022.

## Three Mile Creek Hydrological Restoration



**Project Lead:**

- City of Mobile / Matt Jollit

**Project Funding:**

- NFWF (GEBF)

**Project Partners:**

- Moffatt & Nichol: Design Team
- NFWF: Oversight, Approval, and Funding

**TMC Watershed Plan Objective**

- Maintain design level of service for flood protection from USACE dams

Initial funding in today's construction market is not sufficient to cover full project as intended. Have made progress securing additional funds with intention to go to bid soon.

## Three Mile Creek Hydrological Restoration



### Project Metrics

- Remove 30 years of silt and debris accumulation from the intersection of the historic streambed and the USACE bypass channel

### Project Status:

- Received tentative approval for construction funding shortfall
- Obtained USACE Approval

### Timeline of Activities (Anticipated)

- Complete E & D and secure all construction funding
- Currently Obtain all Permanent Drainage Easements (PDE) from adjacent property owners
- Bid and Begin Construction in 4th QTR 2022

### Next Steps over next 3 months

- Complete PDEs acquisition
- Release Bid and begin Construction



Have permits in place.

Questions: Dredge disposal area? Upland disposal sites identified.



## Three Mile Creek Watershed Restoration



**Project Lead:**

- City of Mobile, Lance Slater

**Project Funding:**

- RESTORE Bucket 3 / CoM CIP

**Project Partners:**

- Geosyntec: Design Team (Lake Design 30-100%)
- McCrory & Williams: Design Team (12mile)
- McCrory & Williams: CE&I (Lake/12mile)
- MBNEP: Invasive Species Monitoring
- ADCNR (Dept of Treasury): Oversight, Approval, and Funding

**TMC Watershed Plan Objective**

- 12Mile: Stabilize approx. 8200 linear feet of stream bank/channel, reducing erosion
- Langan Lake: Remove approx. 185k-300k yd<sup>3</sup> of sediment
- 12Mile/Langan: Invasive species abatement

Lance Slater with the City of Mobile provided an update on Three Mile Creek Watershed restoration.

## Three Mile Creek Watershed Restoration



### Project Metrics

- Reduced turbidity within stream
- Upgraded stormwater system
- Cubic yards of sediment removed
- Removal of invasives - Acres

### Project Status:

- **12Mile Creek:**
  - Phase 1: Bid opening 7/27, contract in routing
  - Phase 2: Plans and Documents in ADCNR/RESTORE review
- **Langan Lake Dredging:**
  - Phase 3: Plans and Documents will be submitted 8/15 for review.

### Challenges

- RESTORE Process
- Construction cost increase

### Next Steps over next 3 months

- 12Mile Phase 1: Construction
- Phase 2 & 3: RESTORE review/Bid process

### Timeline of Activities

- 12Mile Phase 1: NTP +11months
- 12Mile Phase 2: Phase 1 +2months
- Lake Design: Phase 1 +2months

Lance also shared an update on Brookley by the Bay.

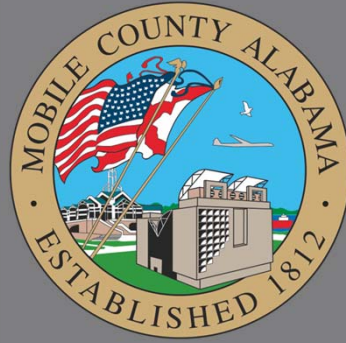
- Currently in master planning. Holding public workshops. Expect a plan by February 2023. Envisioning a regional park.

Questions:

- Can you update on Perch Creek improvements? The City is working to repurpose the decommissioned wastewater plant along the Bay and DIP. Concept is bay access with an observation platform. Have some funding in place but costs have increased beyond current amount available. Have been successful in acquiring additional funds but still have some work to do.

# Mobile County Project Updates

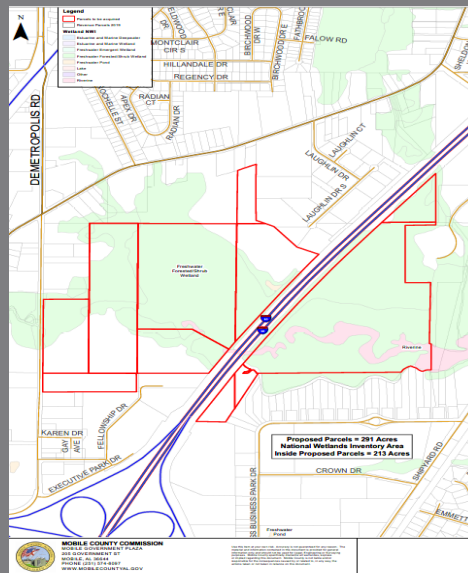
- Lower Halls Mill Creek Acquisition
- Bayfront Park Improvements
- Toulmins Spring and Gum Tree Branch Restoration



# Lower Halls Mill Creek Protection

## Project Update:

- Phase 1 Environmental Assessment in process
- Mobile County is coordinating with South Alabama Land Trust for conservation easement
- Mobile County hopes to close in the next couple of months



Matthew Jones and Karina Calhoun with Mobile County provided their updates.

County is close to acquiring nearly 300 acres adjacent to I-10 near Tillmans Corner. They are working with SALT on a conservation easement. High quality wetlands and riparian area on Halls Mill Creek.

# Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvements

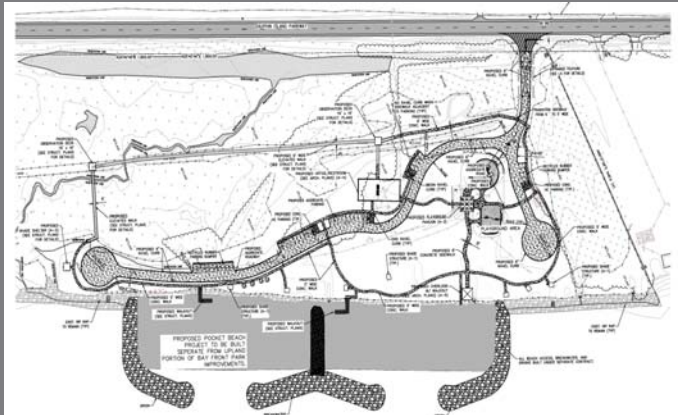
## Project Update:

### Phase 1: Beach Installation

- Mobile County closed the Park March 31, 2022, to begin beach construction
- Contractor: Esfeller Construction Co.
- Estimated Completion: October 2022

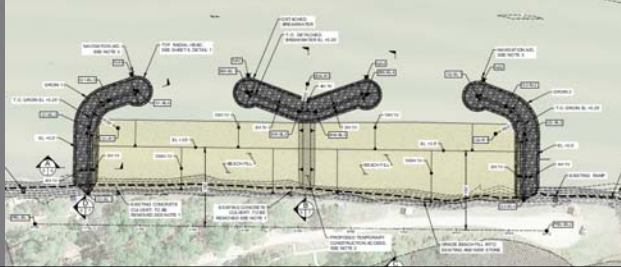
### Phase 2: Park Improvements

- Landside improvements will begin once beach installation is complete.



Currently under construction. Estimate beach portion in October. Parkside improvements will be Phase II.

# Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvements



# Storm Water Management and Improvements for Toulmins Spring and Gum Tree Branch

## **Purpose**

- Develop engineering & design plan, specifications, and environmental permitting to guide future implementation of the restoration and drainage improvements in Toulmins Spring and Gum Tree Branch

## **Timeline:**

- Advertised for RFQ - August 5, 2022
- Mandatory Pre-Submittal Meeting - August 19, 2022
- Statements of Qualifications Due - September 7, 2022
- Short List Notifications – September 28, 2022
- Short List Interview – October 11, 2022
- Consultant Selection – October 14, 2022



RESTORE Bucket 3 funded project.

## Questions:

- What is the status of the Dauphin Island Causeway project? Engineering and design is ongoing. The County is working with the Corps to use beneficial material from the Turning Basin expansion to build marsh. Anticipate construction in 2023. Material will be brought by barge.

# Fowl River Marsh and Shoreline Stabilization and Restoration



MBNEP PIC Meeting

August 18, 2022

Chris Warn  
Environmental Science Associates (ESA)



BVA



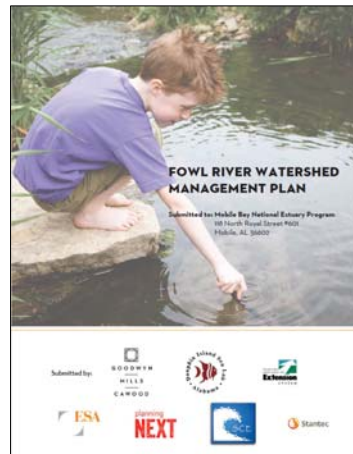
thompson  
ENGINEERING

Chris Warn with Environmental Science Associates provided an update on the Fowl River Spits project.



## Background – WMP

- Priority action identified in the Fowl River Watershed Management Plan (2016)
  - Stabilize and restore important coastal spits and wetlands within the lower reaches of Fowl River
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF)
- Project Elements:
  - Marsh Study (2019)
  - Engineering and Design (ongoing)
  - Construction (TBD)



Source: MBNEP



## Project Development – Marsh Study

- MBNEP Science Advisory Committee (SAC) coordinated research effort
  - Characterize the status and health of the wetlands in the brackish zone
  - Understand the causes of wetland decline observed in many areas of the River
  - Three integrated components:
    - Vegetation: impacts of processes on wetlands
    - Sediments: sediment starvation
    - Hydrology: saltwater intrusion, flooding, nutrients, and wave energy
  - Inform best-practice engineering designs for wetland restoration and protection



The Marsh Study identified stressors to inform engineering and design. Beginning with the 2016 WMP project recommendation, supplemental project activities have been ongoing since 2017.

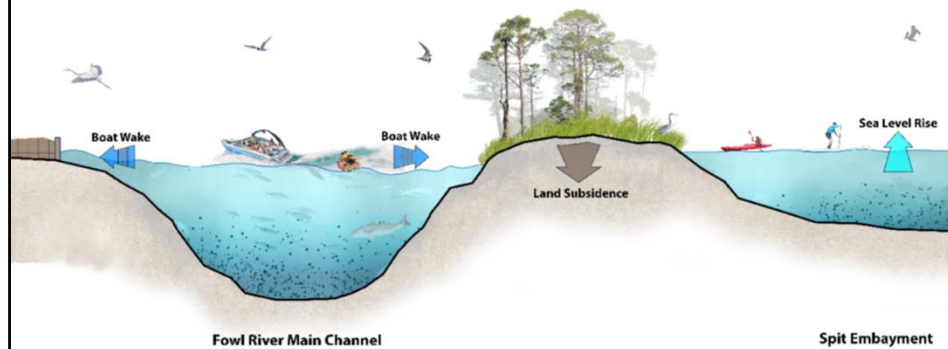
# Engineering and Design

- Project Objectives:
  - Identify final shoreline restoration locations with input from WMP and Marsh Study
  - Develop an engineering and design plan to stabilize and enhance priority coastal spits and shorelines of Fowl River from negative impacts associated with sea level rise, increased salinity, and boat wakes
  - Protect **7,600 feet of shoreline**
  - Restore and enhance coastal marsh
  - Develop all documents necessary to secure permits from regulatory agencies



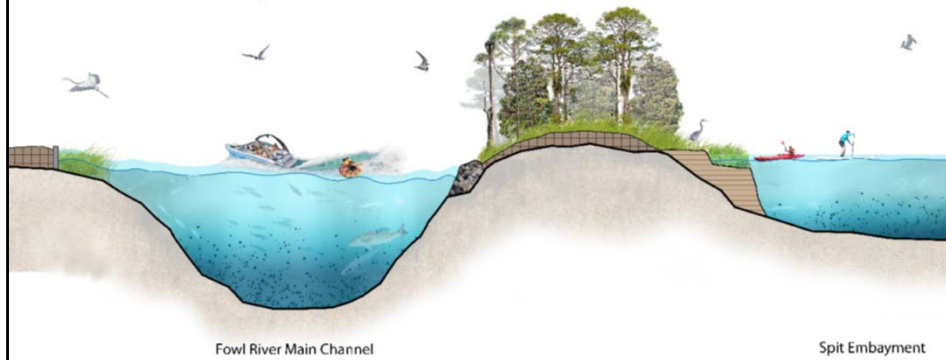
## Understand the system to inform design

- Stressors/Issues
  - Sediment delivery—more coming from bay than upstream
  - Subsidence and sea level rise—marshes drowning in place
  - Salinity
  - Boat wakes
  - Existing bulkheads



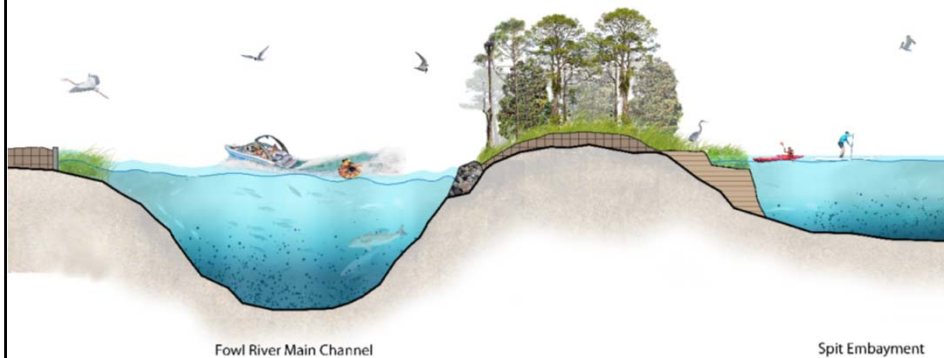
# Vision

- A holistic, nature-based engineering approach to:
  - Stabilize coastal spits and shorelines
  - Restore and enhance habitat
  - Provide long-term sustainability of ecosystem services
  - Support estuarine living resources and the Fowl River Community



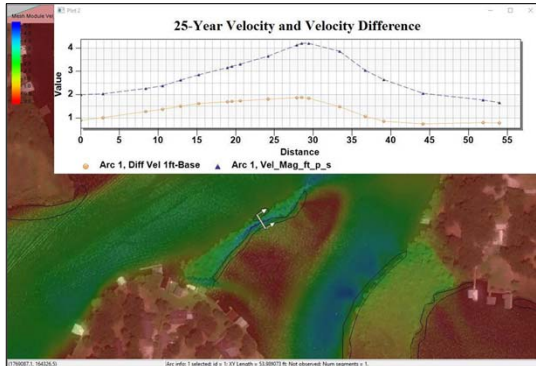
# Challenges

- Extensive SAV footprint around priority spits
- Regulatory agencies concerns over SAV impacts
- Geotechnical investigations revealed soft sediments
- Funding considerations

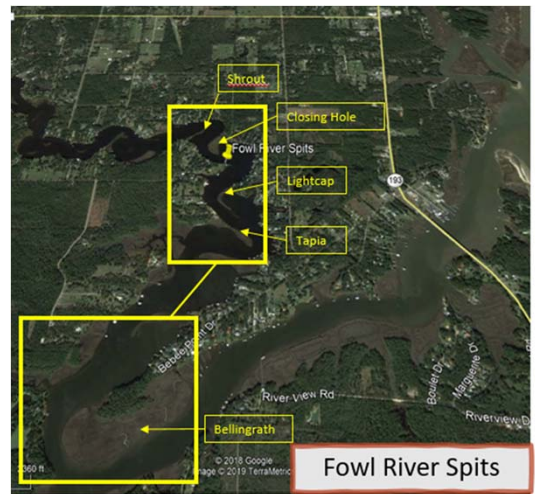


# Addressing Challenges

- Extensive SAV footprint around priority spits
  - Modeling analysis to prioritize restoration locations
  - Potential loss to SLR and increased velocities
- Funding considerations
  - Original project footprint had high cost per acre construction fees



Source: Hydro-Engineering Solutions



- Protect ~~7,600~~ 12,600 feet of shoreline
- Restore and enhance ~40 acres coastal marsh

Reviewing estimated cost per acre, it made sense to include a fifth marsh spit, across from Bellingrath at the confluence with West Fowl River, to increase restoration outcomes and overall cost savings. Using a hydrologic model provided validity to priority and watershed impact if target marsh spits failed.

# Proposed Solutions

- Design Approach

- Engineer with nature to assist marsh health
- Stabilization structures only where needed
- Phased and adaptive approach to construction
  - Thin layer sediment placement
  - Limited shoreline stabilization
    - Coir logs and hay bales
    - Timber wave screens
    - Riprap



Source: MBNEP Living Shorelines Guide

Minor use of riprap where most vulnerable or where a spit has already lost structural integrity. Timber wave screens are the primary means to reduce wake energy and will be strategically placed as needed.



## Proposed Solutions – Phased Adaptive Approach

- **Phase 1 – Construction**
  - Account for the effects of the last 50 years of SLR and the next 20-25 years of projected SLR in two separate thin-layer placement events
  - All five spits receive 6-to-8-inch layer of sediment
  - Shoreline stabilization in critical areas
- **Phased 2 – Adaptive Management**
  - Monitor vegetation recovery and adjust design for thin layer placement thickness in subsequent events
  - Augment shoreline stabilization structures based upon monitoring results



## Project Status

- Completed 60% Design
- Submitted permit applications:
  - USACE – preparing for Phase I CRA
  - USFWS – coordination on red bellied turtle
  - ADEM – awaiting variance approval and permit
  - NMFS –received concurrence
  - ADCNR – have landowner agreements and signed submerged lands impact certificates
  - Mobile County – received concurrence and awaiting permit
- Next steps
  - 100% design
  - Construction phase procurement
  - Start construction



Permitting and final design continue. Construction funding has been secured. The project team hopes to move forward with procurement activities to be better prepared when a permit is awarded.

The project team ideally would like to get construction underway this the winter to avoid summer recreational traffic and turtle nesting season. Contingent on permit\*

## Acknowledgements

- Fowl River Marsh and Shoreline Stabilization and Restoration Design Team:
  - MBNEP: Roberta Swann, Jason Kudulis, Bret Webb, PhD, PE
  - Project Team: ESA, Thompson Engineering, Barry Vittor and Associates
  - Modeling Input: John Curry, PE
- Fowl River Marsh Study Team:
  - Barry Vittor and Associates: Tim Thibaut
  - Cook Hydrogeology: Marlon Cook
  - Dauphin Island Sea Lab: Ruth Carmichael, PhD; Jeff Coogan; Josh Goff
  - MSU Northern Gulf Institute: Just Cebrian, PhD
  - University of South Alabama: Alex Beebe, PhD; Bret Webb, PhD, PE; Dr. Brian Dzwonkowski, PhD; John Lehrter, PhD; Stephanie Smallegan, PhD, PE
- Fowl River Watershed Management Plan Team:
  - GMC, DISL, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Stantec, Planning NEXT, South Coast Engineers (SCE), ESA



[cwarn@esassoc.com](mailto:cwarn@esassoc.com)



**DEER RIVER  
COASTAL MARSH RESTORATION**

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION  
NFWF

Noble Bay National Estuary Program

thompson  
ENGINEERING

ESA

CREATE A  
Clean Water  
FUTURE

MBNEP PIC MEETING – AUGUST 18, 2022

Mark Saunders with Thompson Engineering provided an update on the Deer River Marsh and Shoreline Restoration Project.

# PURPOSE, GOALS, AND GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

**Project Purpose:** Improve water quality in Deer River and protect critical habitat for fish and shellfish.

**Project Goals:** Restore hydrology and ecosystem function of Deer River and Protect priority salt marsh.

**Project Objectives:** Stabilize and enhance up to 5,600 feet of shoreline along the western shore of Mobile Bay.

Protect 275 acres of coastal priority saltmarsh, reestablish 18+ acres of marsh habitat.



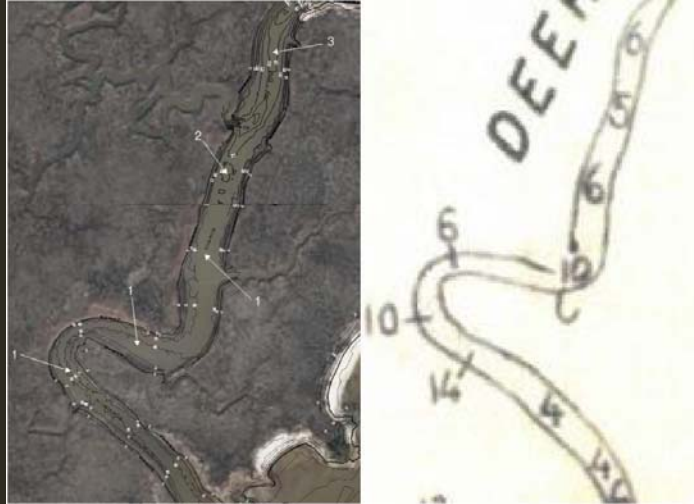
## DEER RIVER HISTORY



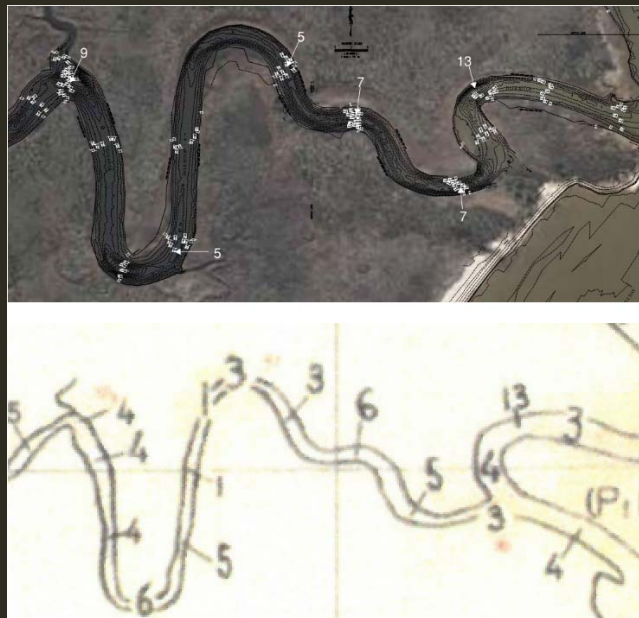
Shoreline continues to be impacted by erosion from wind, storms, and wakes. Average recession of 12 feet per year.

# DEER RIVER ENHANCEMENT

- Restore Historic (1960) Depths in Middle Fork
- Reduce Flow through Breach
- Increase Flow to Industrial Canal
- Improve Water Quality & Habitat



Channel has been silted in over time due to inadequate flushing and sediment from the bay pushing in during extreme events.



Project will reestablish hydrologic connectivity. Initially wanted to close the existing breach on the bay fronting shoreline as well but unfortunately the team could not secure landowner access.

1960 bathymetry versus 2020. Will restore to historic depths.



# MARSH ENRICHMENT

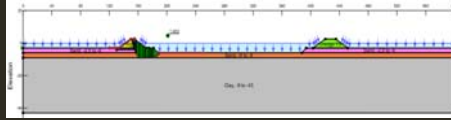
- Increase Elevation of Marsh
- 50 +/- Acres @ 0.5' Thin-layer Disposal
- 50,000 CY Dredged Material
- Long-term Resilience to Sea-level Rise



Dredge material from Middle Fork will be beneficially used to raise the elevation of 51 acres of marsh.

# DESIGN CHALLENGES

**Geotechnical**  
Soft soil conditions



**SAV (Seagrass)**  
Seagrass along shoreline



**Cultural Resources**  
Potential site located on north shoreline

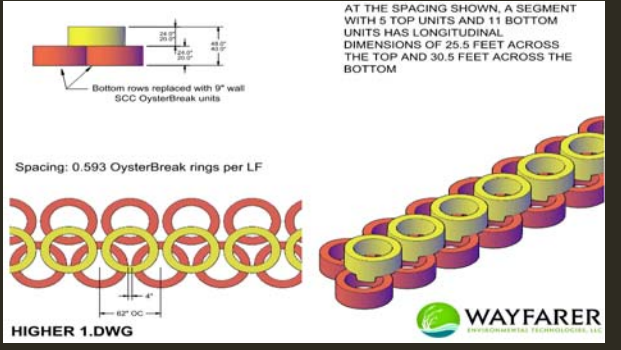
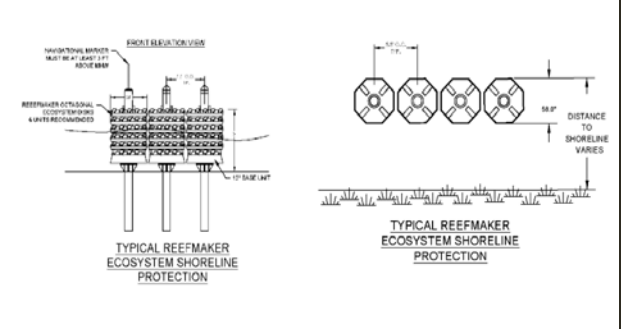
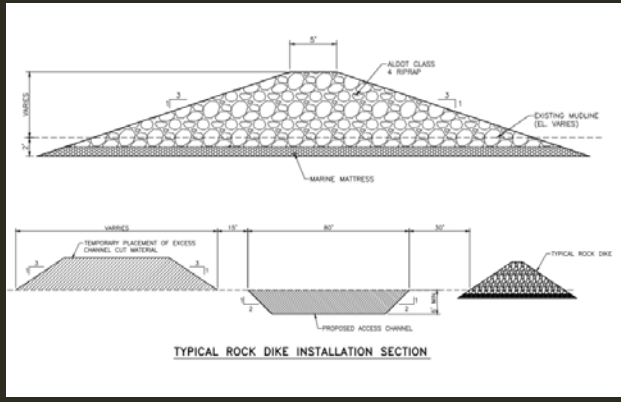


**Land Access**  
Difficulty obtaining access agreement for all parcels




Seagrass from early surveys (2019) found more significant plots established but after Sally there was a distinct reduction.

# BREAKWATER OPTIONS REVIEWED




Alternative Analysis Report reviewed multiple breakwater materials and shoreline stabilization options.

MOBILE DISTRICT COE COMMITTED TO 200,000 CY OF DREDGED MATERIAL




## MOBILE HARBOR APPROVED PLAN

- ❑ Channel Deepening: 50 feet Bay/ 52 feet Bar
- ❑ Channel Widening: 3 mi. long, 100 ft wide
- ❑ Turning Basin Modification
- ❑ Bar Channel Bend Easing



CONSTRUCTION	
Phase 1	Bar Channel
Phase 2	Bar Channel Widener
Phase 3	Deepening Upper Mobile Bay
Phase 4	Deepening and portion of Mobile Bay
Phase 5	Deepening Upper Mobile Bay
Phase 6	Turning Basin

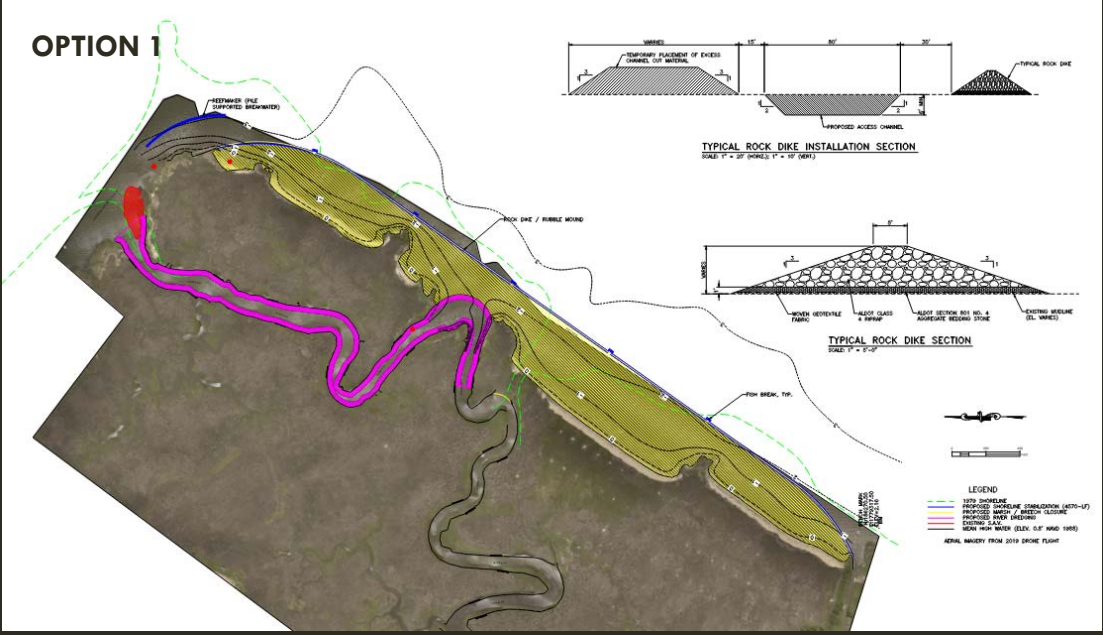


**FULLY FUNDED COSTS: \$365.7M**

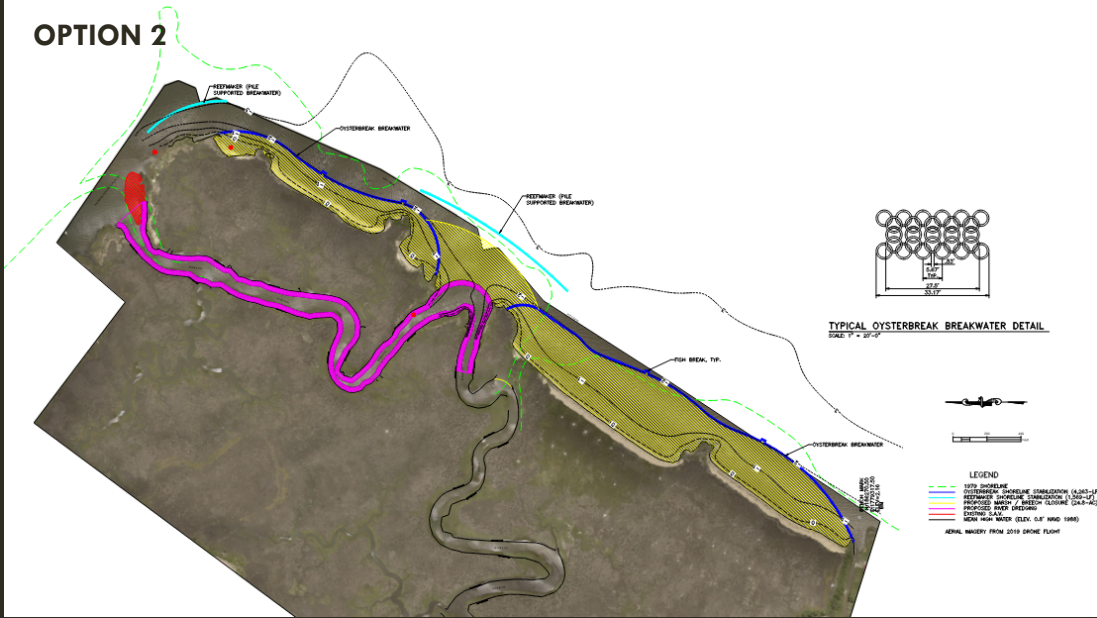
*Federal Share:	\$274.3M
*Non-Federal Share:	\$91.4M

Working with Corps of Engineers to utilize 200,000 cubic yards of beneficial material from the Turning Basin Project.

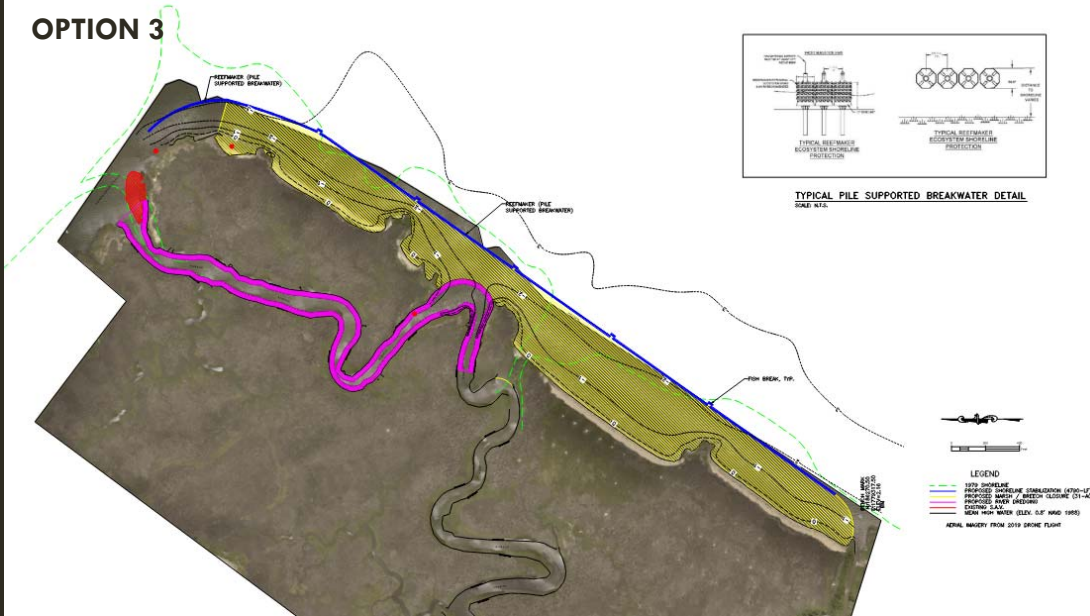
# OPTION 1



# OPTION 2

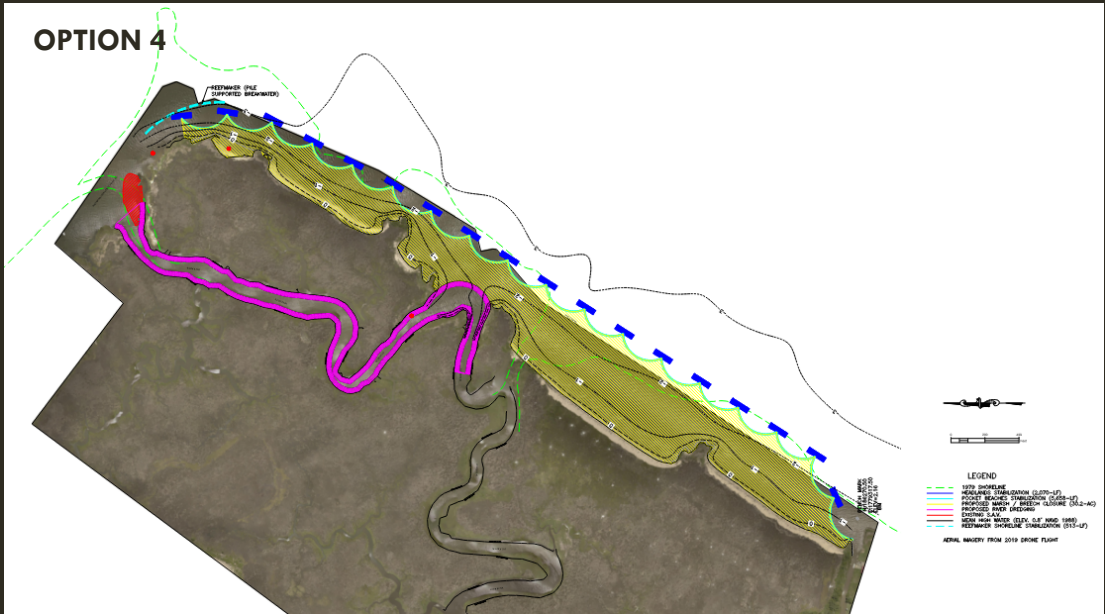


# OPTION 3

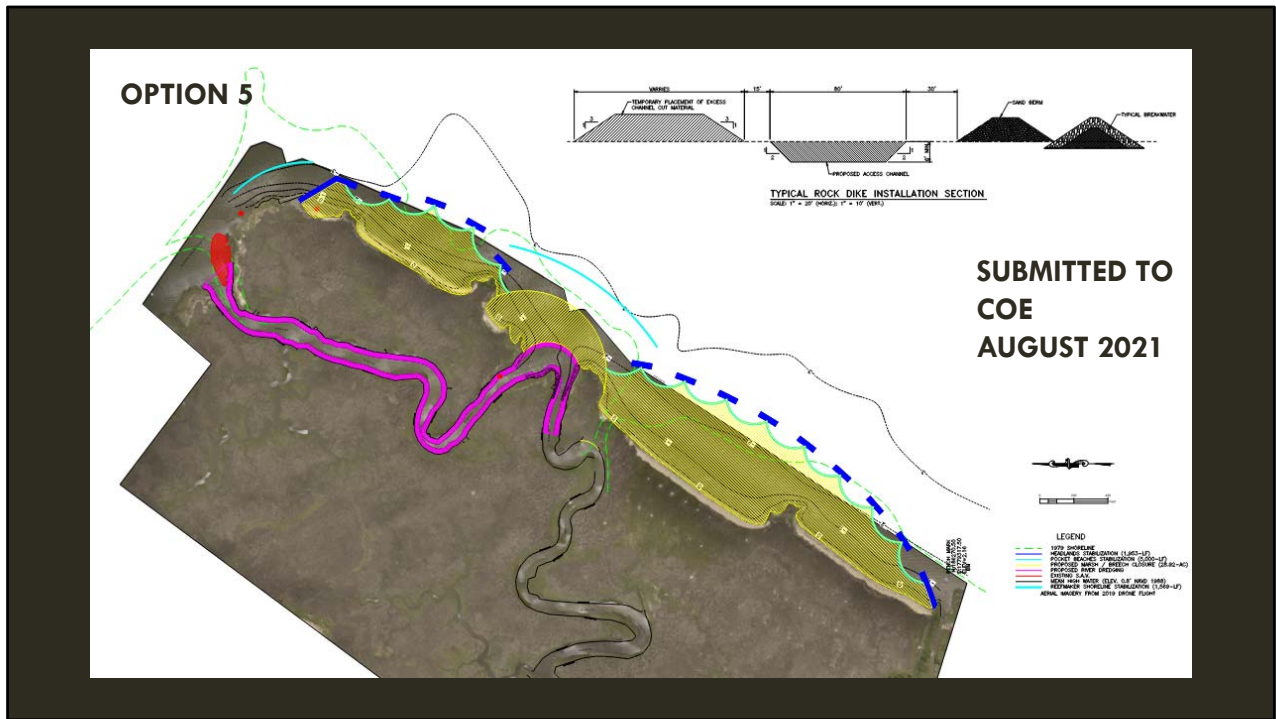




# OPTION 4



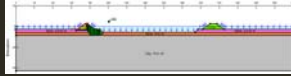




This was preferred option by the applicant. Was close to receiving permit but was unable to successfully obtain construction access from the landowner.

# DESIGN CHALLENGES (REVISITED)

**Geotechnical**  
Soft soil conditions



**SAV (Seagrass)**  
Seagrass along shoreline

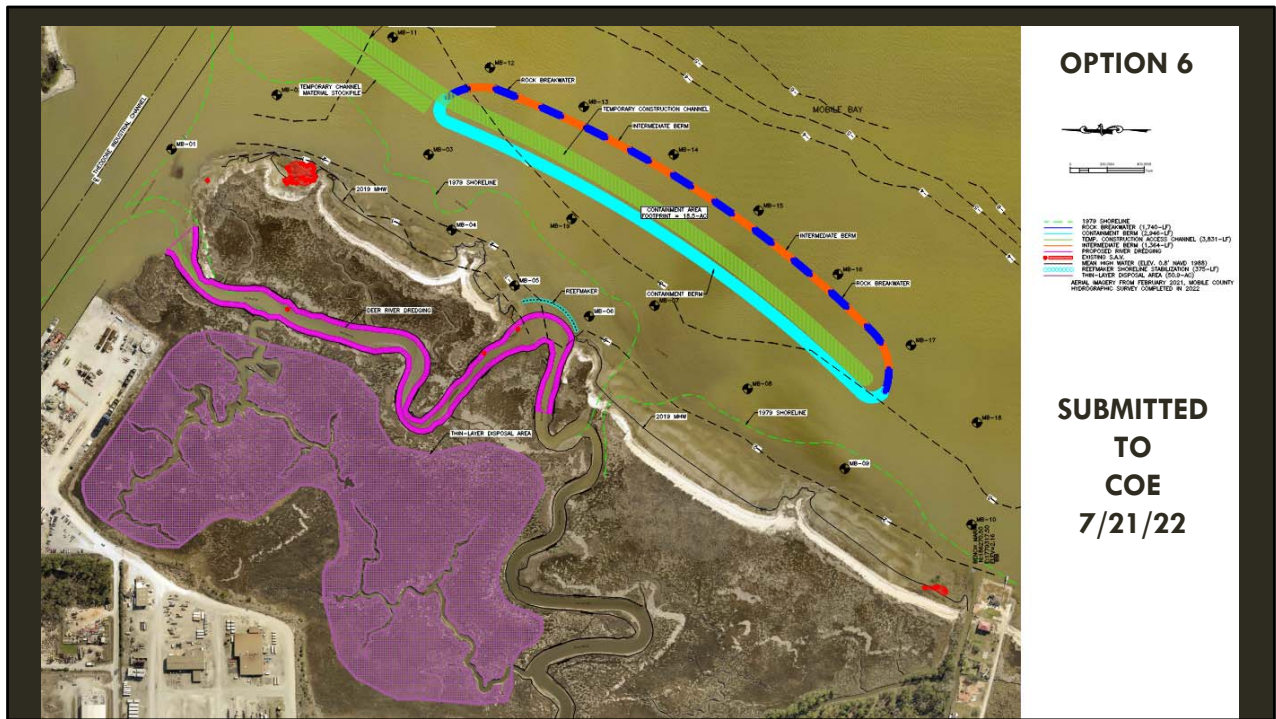


**Cultural Resources**  
Potential site located on north shoreline



**Land Access**  
Difficulty obtaining access agreement for all parcels





The project was redesigned using state water bottoms to create an offshore marsh island. Protecting this large tract of priority marsh was critical and the team had to pivot to move this important project forward. Still intend to utilize Corps material to create the marsh.

# CURRENT STATUS - AND - WHAT'S NEXT

Revised Application Submitted 7/21/2022

Public Notice Issued 8/16/2022

30% Designs Prepared

Awaiting Public/Agency Comments

**JOINT APPLICATION AND NOTIFICATION**  
**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
THIS FORM IS TO BE USED FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE POLITICAL BOUNDARIES OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

1. DATE: July / 21 / 2022  
month day year

2. APPLICANT INFORMATION:  
 Name: Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
 Mailing Address: Attn: Ms. Roberta Swann  
119 N. Royal Street, Suite 601  
Mobile, Alabama 36602  
 Telephone Numbers and Email (during business hours):  
 A/C: (251) 431-6409 Primary  
 A/C: (251) \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary  
 Email: rswann@mobilebaynep.com

3. DESIGNATION OF AGENT, STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION:  
 I hereby designate and authorize \_\_\_\_\_  
Thompson Engineering, Inc.  
Write Name of Designated Agent  
 to act on my behalf in the processing of this permit application as to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of the application.  
*Roberta Swann* 7/25/22  
Signature of Applicant Date

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In addition to required area description of the project, include all aspects of the project, size of any structures such as piers, wharfs, bulkheads, pipelines, how the dimensions (in feet/meters) exist and volume (in cubic yard method(s) of construction and how the site would be accessed (1).  
See attached sheets

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**CESAM RD-A**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2019-61005-DCH**  
 August 16, 2022

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND**  
**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**REQUEST TO DREDGE AND DISCHARGE FILL MATERIAL IN MIDDLE FORK DEER RIVER AND MOBILE BAY TO PROTECT AND RESTORE ADJACENT TIDAL MARSH IN HOLLINGERS ISLAND, MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT:** Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
 Attention: Ms. Roberta Swann  
 119 N. Royal Street, Suite 601  
 Mobile, Alabama 36602

**AGENT:** Thompson Engineering, Inc.  
 Attention: Mr. Stephen O'Hearn  
 2970 Cottage Hill Road, Suite 190  
 Mobile, Alabama 36606

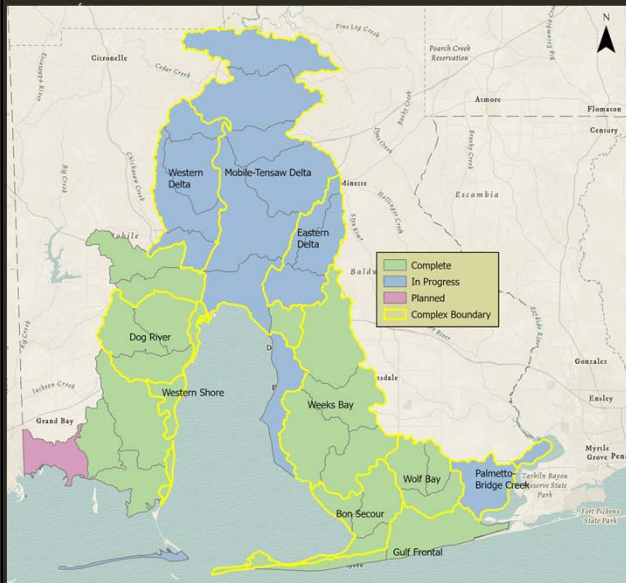
**LOCATION:** Mobile Bay; East of Daughlin Island Parkway, within Section 17, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, at Latitude 30.5171957, Longitude -88.0966997, Hollingers Island, Mobile County, Alabama.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** The basic project purpose is to restore, enhance, and protect an existing tidal marsh and river system. The overall project purpose is to protect an eroding shoreline, restore eroded tidal marsh, enhance existing tidal marsh, and re-establish historic depth and flow within Middle Fork Deer River on the west shoreline of Mobile Bay.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant proposes to stabilize 5,000 feet of eroding shoreline to protect an existing 275-acre tidal marsh, restore nineteen (19) acres of tidal marsh through beneficial use of dredged material, enhance approximately 51 acres of existing tidal marsh, and to improve water quality by restoring historic depth and flow within the waterbody. The project would utilize 50,000 cubic yards of sediment dredged by the applicant from Middle Fork Deer River and approximately 200,000 cubic yards of sediment dredged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from the Mobile Ship Channel Turning Basin, to provide fill material for restoration/enhancement of the tidal marsh system. The project involves 1) Installation of 375 linear feet (0.5 acres) of pile-supported breakwater, 2) Construction of a temporary 2,950 linear feet (2 acres) sand berm containment dike to contain dredged material, 3) Installation of 3,100

ADEM Form 100-618 (ADEM-COE Joint Application) Page

# Watershed Planning Update



Watershed	Status
Western Shore	Complete
Gulf Frontal	Complete
D'Olive Update	Complete
MTA Delta	In progress – Final Summer '22
Eastern Shore	In progress – Final Summer '22
Dauphin Island	In progress – Final Summer '22
Perdido	In Progress
Western Delta	In Progress
Eastern Delta	In Progress
Grand Bay	On Deck

MBNEP staff provided an update on watershed planning and other ongoing restoration activities in addition to Fowl River and Deer River.

- Community engagement components of plans in progress were delayed by the pandemic. Progress is being made and outreach opportunities are coming back online.
- Anticipate draft documents on the street before the end of the year for Dauphin Island, Eastern Shore, and MTA Delta.
- Western Perdido early 2023.
- Western Delta is more recently getting underway.
- Eastern Delta and Grand Bay will be the last two. Looking to coordinate efforts with Mississippi for Grand Bay.
- The Marlow Stream Restoration Project is near substantial completion. Other stream restoration projects in D'Olive and Magnolia River are working to secure landowner access before proceeding with design and permitting.

## Project Implementation Committee Agenda



### Welcome and Call to Order:

Co-Chairs: Judy Haner, The Nature Conservancy,  
& Patric Harper, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### **Review and approval of May 2022 minutes**

### Old Business: Management Conference Committee Updates

### New Business:

- Western Shore Project Updates
- MBNEP Watershed Planning and Project Implementation Updates
- Off-cycle Topical Meeting in the Fall?
- Next Meeting November 10



Following MBNEP project updates discussion pointed to what content the committee would like to see moving forward. In 2022, so far, we have taken a deeper look at projects by geographic area. Is this something we want to continue with to all are examined? The Project Implementation Committee can connect subject matter experts to have meaningful project discussion. If you have questions or would like to have in-depth discussions on issues of concern, successes, lessons learned, monitoring, etc. we can make that a priority. Should we explore holding joint meetings with other committees to have brainstorming and open exchange at the intersection of science and resource management? With interest shown, MBNEP will connect the co-chairs to further discuss and report back to the respective committees. These topics and more will be important to the creation of the next Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan – that process will begin 2023.

Review of watershed management plans – reassess and reprioritize project needs and available funding opportunities. If we get one crack each funding round where and to what should that be best allocated? What goals or combination of project do we want to implement to produce system-wide results?

Will also work to schedule another committee off-cycle site visit – there was interest in learning more about oyster management and harvest. Will connect with Marine Resources Division to see what availability they have during the coming season.

Carl Ferraro made a motion to adjourn was made at 2:21pm. Lee Walters seconded.