

MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**MARCH 15, 2022
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**



Good Morning!
**Please sign-in by putting your name and
organization in the chat box.**

Please note: this meeting is being recorded



AGENDA

- Introductions/Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Report
- Committee Reports
 - Science Advisory
 - Project Implementation
 - Government Networks
 - Community Action
 - Business Resources
 - Finance
- Old Business
- New Business
- Other/Announcements
- Adjourn



DIRECTOR'S REPORT: INFRASTRUCTURE BILL



- \$909,800/year for the next 5 years
 - \$ 791,130 Available for projects/project delivery
- EPA would like to see “Transformational” project early
- Funding can be carried forward
- Project related funding preferred
- Priorities
 - Environmental Justice Communities
 - Community Resilience Related

MBNEP Exploring

- Status of Watershed Plan Implementation
- Needs in EJ Communities
- Needs for Community Resilience
- Project prioritization process



Draft Infrastructure Workplan (Under Development)	Budget Amount	Budget Narrative
<i>Living Shorelines Matching Fund (CR)</i>	325,000	50% matching fund for up to 1,000 LF at estimated \$700/LF
<i>Public Housing Green Infrastructure (EJ)</i>	300,000	Green Infrastructure/LID Installations to reduce flooding; Improve stormwater management in id at Public Housing sites
Weeks Bay: Beulah Heights- Foley \$150,000		
TMC or Lower Chasaw: Gulf Village /Central Plaza Towers \$150,000		
<i>Watershed Plan Update: Eight Mile Creek (EJ)</i>	90,000	Cost estimate: \$180,000; Leverage State CZM (\$30,000, local match of \$30,000, ADEM \$30,000)
Project Delivery	76,130	1 FTE @ 50%; 1 FTE @25%; other project support @ \$9670
Subtotal Project Related Costs	791,130	
Indirect Charges	118,670	
Total Infrastructure Budget	909,800	

ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDANCE



Year	Total Attendees
2021	165
2019	193
2018	177
2017	168
2016	146
2015	117
2014	92

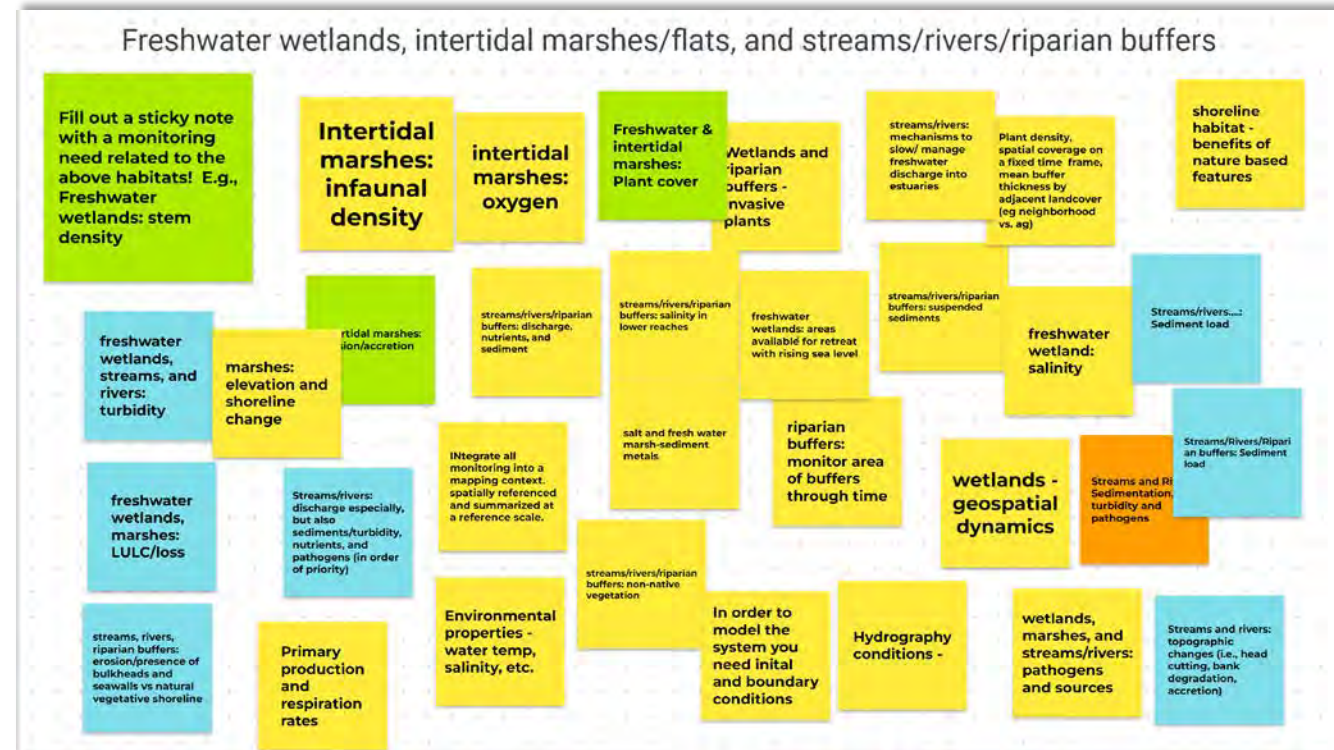


SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



SAC Meeting: February 25, 2022

- Solicited SAC members to complete an updated version of the **Stressor Matrix**
- Additional participation sought from broader scientific community through survey
 - 11 respondents** indicated willingness
- Engaged in brainstorm session to **prioritize monitoring for habitats, ES, and stressors** highlighted in 2018-2023 CCMP
- Next meeting May 20



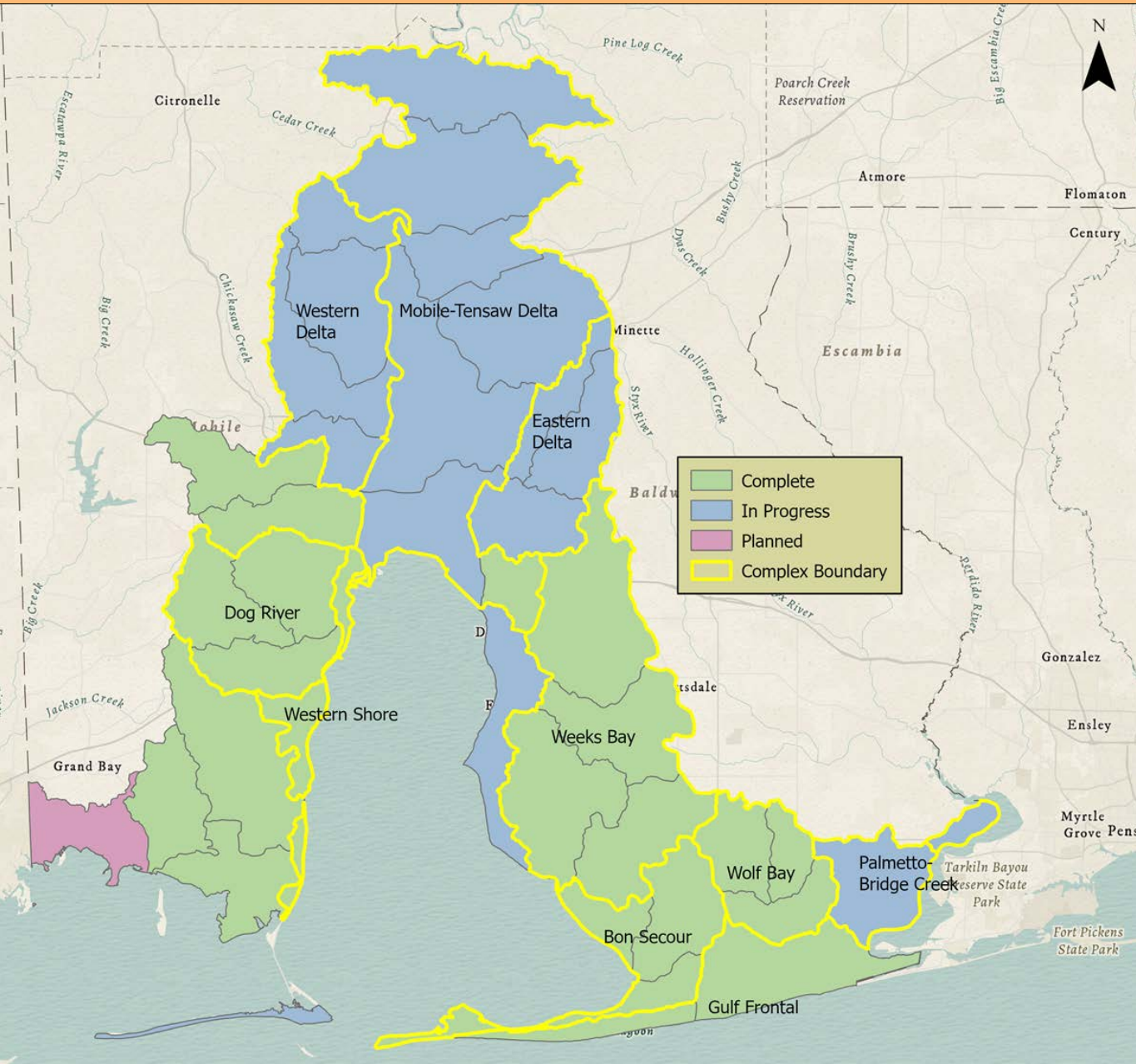
Impacted Habitats	CCMP Values	Ecosystem Services	Event/Response				Event/Response	
			Chemical contamination	Dredging/filling	Fire suppression	Fragmentation	Invasive/exotic species	Land-use change
Estuaries	ACCESS							
Estuaries	WILDLIFE							
Estuaries	HERITAGE							
Estuaries	BEACHES							
Estuaries	RESILIENCE							
Shoreline	ACCESS							
Shoreline	WILDLIFE							
Shoreline	HERITAGE							
Shoreline	BEACHES							
Shoreline	RESILIENCE							

PIC Meetings: September 30, 2021 & March 10, 2022

- Themed agendas to focus on a topic or watershed
 - Sept: invasive species
 - March Perdido Watershed
- Planning another off-cycle topical meeting
 - Stream restorations
 - City of Orange Beach resource management



WATERSHED PLANNING UPDATE



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

RESTORATION PROJECTS UPDATE



D'Olive

- Pine Run emergency repair underway
- Canterbury construction begins April 1

Lower Fish River

- Selected three stream segments for E&D in the Magnolia River Watershed

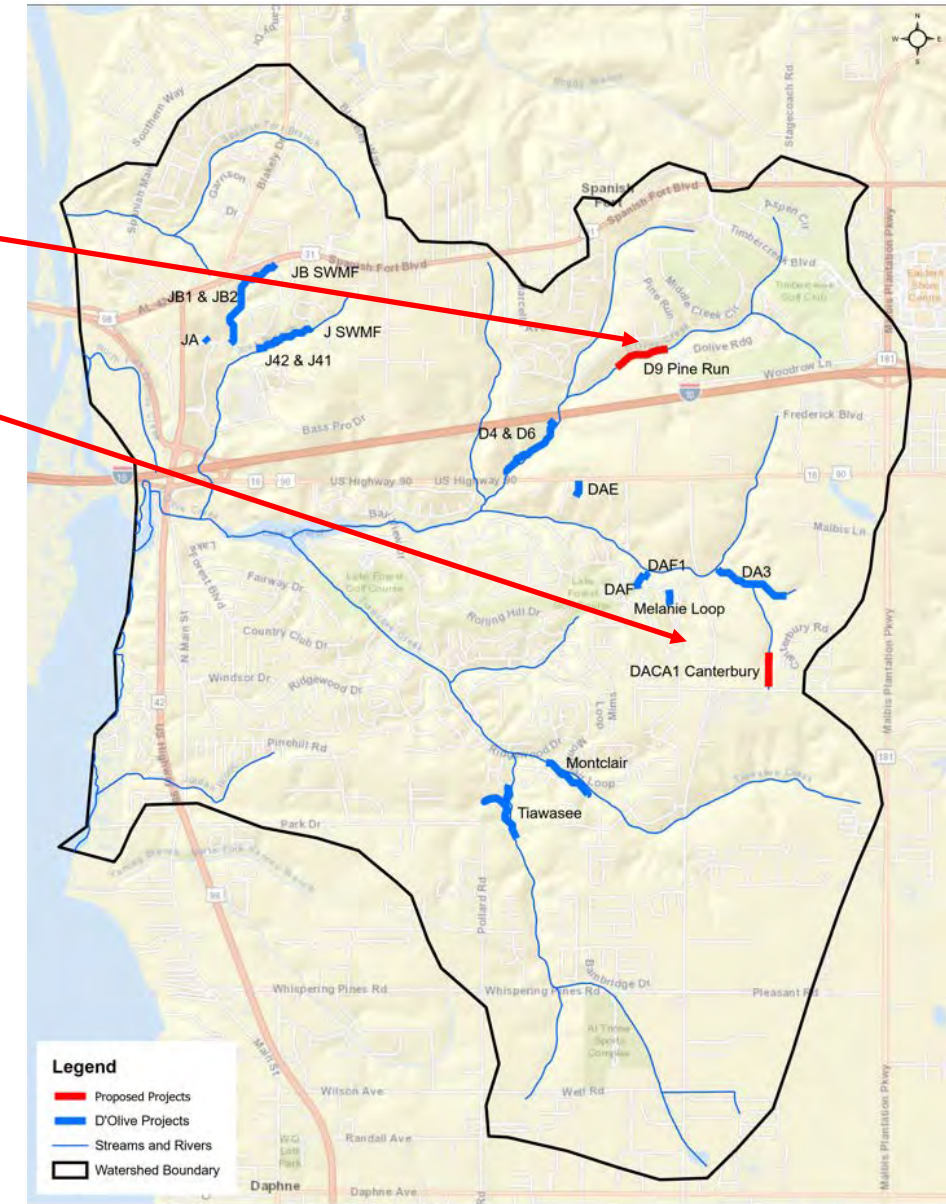
Marlow construction begins next week; pre-proposal submitted for Phase II.

Fowl River

- 60% design and permitting ongoing; planning outreach ahead of construction; NFWF awarded Phase II funding.

Deer River

- Conducting supplemental field work to inform additional restoration alternatives; Phase II and NCRF funding awarded.



GNC Meeting: March 11, 2022

- EPA Region 4 provided an overview of State Revolving Fund provisions in Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act
- ADEM discussed upcoming coastal trash abatement program
- Overview of Upper Mobile Bay beneficial use wetland creation project.



COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE



CAC Meeting: February 8, 2022

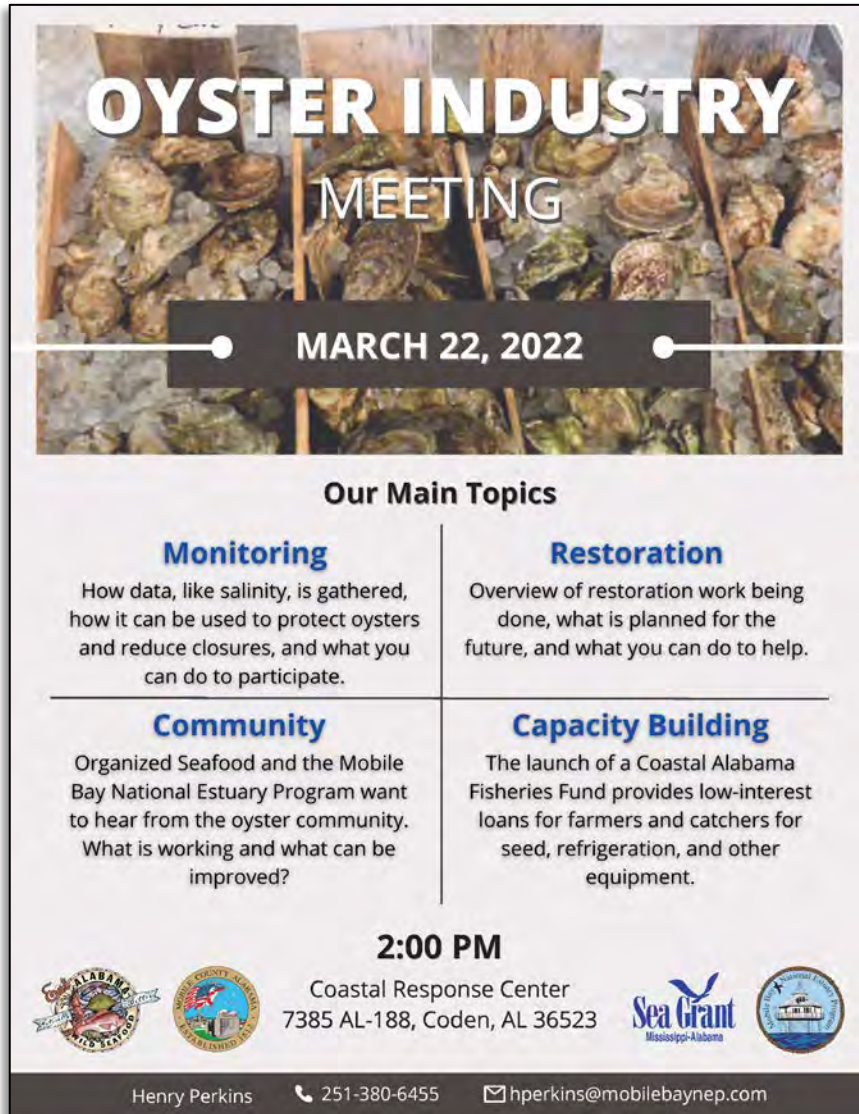
Topic: Grassroots organizations involved in the CAC shared:

- Strengths and weaknesses related to growing and retaining their memberships
- Details on methods and strategies proven to be successful in
 - Recruiting and retaining the members of individual Grassroots organizations
 - Keeping members engaged
 - Increasing the communities' awareness of the organization
 - Involving members in local volunteer programs and activities

Next Meeting May 10, 2022

- Discuss needs of individual volunteer water quality monitor groups for the purpose of **increasing the monitoring network across Coastal Alabama**



A poster for the Oyster Industry Meeting. The top half features a close-up image of oysters in wooden crates. The text "OYSTER INDUSTRY MEETING" is overlaid in large white letters. Below this, a black banner with white text reads "MARCH 22, 2022". The bottom half of the poster is divided into four sections: "Monitoring", "Restoration", "Community", and "Capacity Building", each with a brief description. At the bottom, it lists the time "2:00 PM", the location "Coastal Response Center, 7385 AL-188, Coden, AL 36523", and logos for the Alabama Department of Natural Resources, the Coastal Response Center, Sea Grant Mississippi-Alabama, and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program. Contact information for Henry Perkins is also provided.

OYSTER INDUSTRY MEETING

MARCH 22, 2022

Our Main Topics

Monitoring How data, like salinity, is gathered, how it can be used to protect oysters and reduce closures, and what you can do to participate.	Restoration Overview of restoration work being done, what is planned for the future, and what you can do to help.
Community Organized Seafood and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program want to hear from the oyster community. What is working and what can be improved?	Capacity Building The launch of a Coastal Alabama Fisheries Fund provides low-interest loans for farmers and catchers for seed, refrigeration, and other equipment.

2:00 PM
Coastal Response Center
7385 AL-188, Coden, AL 36523

Henry Perkins | 251-380-6455 | hperkins@mobilebaynep.com

BRC Meeting: February 8, 2022

Ongoing Projects

Coastal Alabama Fisheries Fund Update

- ***First loan has been issued!***
 - Farmer has purchased enough new cages to double his production and create two full time jobs
- ***Oyster Industry Meeting scheduled for March 22nd***
 - Co-Hosting with Organized Seafood Alliance
 - Outreach to oyster catchers and farmers to engage the community in the loan fund, restoration work, and water quality monitoring

New Projects

Alternative packaging exploratory committee formed

- First meeting March 28th
- General goal to increase long term use of biodegradable/recyclable packaging



FC Meeting: February 14, 2022

Infrastructure Bill Spending

- Explore match funding with partners to stretch funds
- Strategically invest in environmental management to create projects that can sustain funding, especially through public housing and development
- Create these impacts within a 5-year period

Development of long-term financial plan for MBNEP sustainability

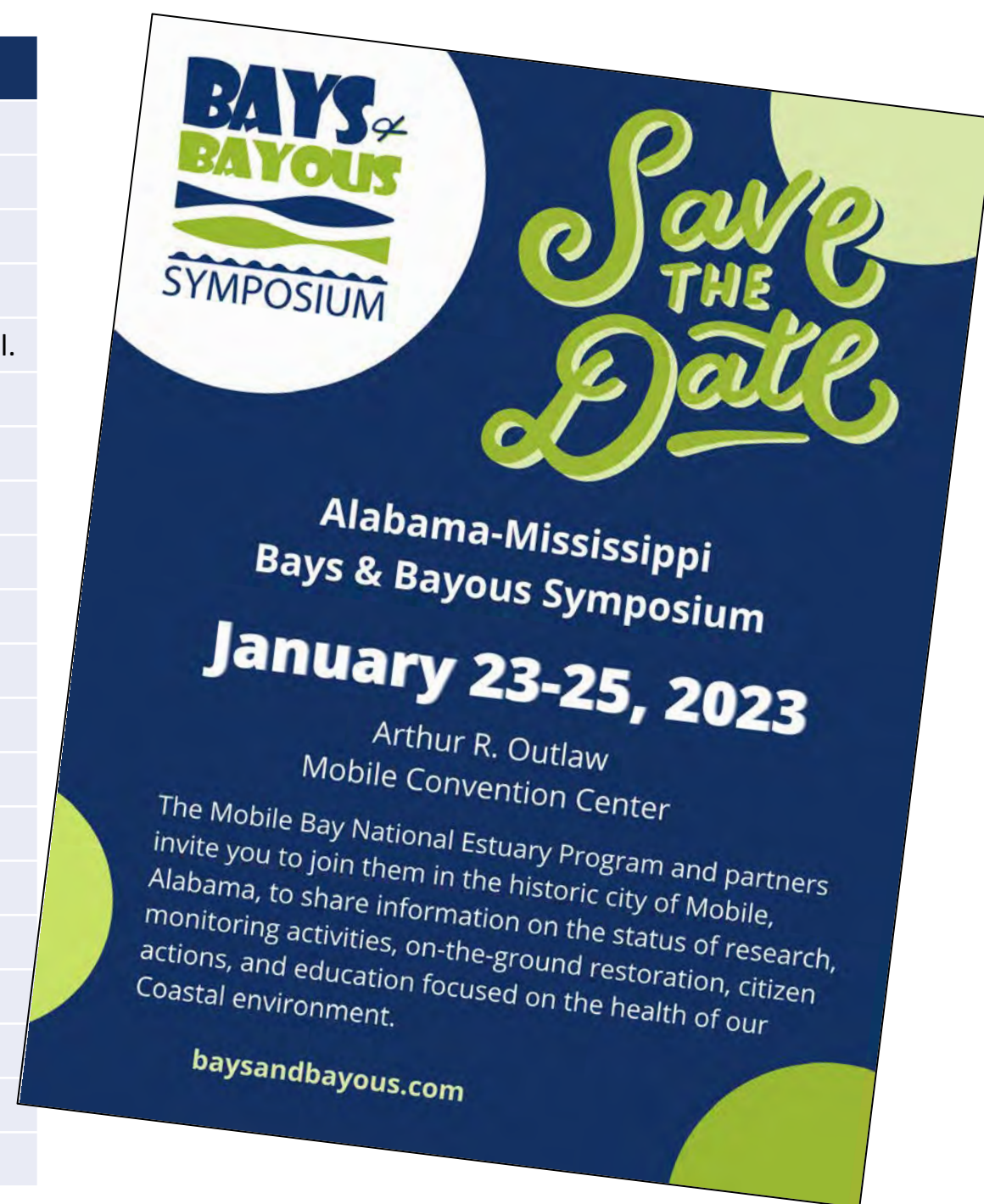
- Diversifying state level funding
- Increase scope of services
- Coordinating asks across events, partners
- Broader scope of partnerships
- Early stages of planning



"Great plan. Could we get some more details?"

Bays & Bayous 2022 Steering Committee

Becky Allee- Program Comm. Co-Chair	NOAA CSC
Laura Bowie	Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Just Cebrian	Northern Gulf Institute
Jennifer Denson	Partners for Environmental Progress
Jim Franks	USM Center for Fisheries Research & Devel.
Ayesha Gray- Program Comm. Co-Chair	Grand Bay NERR
Judy Haner	The Nature Conservancy
Marian Hanisko	NOAA
Amy Hunter	ADCNR RESTORE Coordinator
Julian Lartigue	NOAA RESTORE Science Program
Tina Miller-Way	DISL-Discovery Hall
Amy Newbold	EPA- Gulf of Mexico Program
Dan Petrolia	MSU
Sean Powers	USA Marine & Environmental Sciences
Steve Sempier	MASGC
Lee Smee	DISL- University Programs
Roberta Swann	Mobile Bay NEP
LaDon Swann	MASGC
Angela Underwood	The Weeks Bay NERR
John Valentine	DISL



BAYS & BAYOUS
SYMPOSIUM

Save THE Date

**Alabama-Mississippi
Bays & Bayous Symposium**

January 23-25, 2023

Arthur R. Outlaw
Mobile Convention Center

The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program and partners invite you to join them in the historic city of Mobile, Alabama, to share information on the status of research, monitoring activities, on-the-ground restoration, citizen actions, and education focused on the health of our Coastal environment.

baysandbayous.com

- OTHER
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ADJOURN

Upcoming Meetings:

Thursday, May 26

Friday, August 26

Friday, December 2

