

**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL
ESTUARY PROGRAM
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING**



**May 29, 2020
Google Meet Virtual**



AGENDA

- Introductions/Call to Order/Welcome New Chairs
- Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2020
- Director's Report
 - Action: EPA Workplan for 2020-2021
 - Key Accomplishments this Quarter
- Committee Reports
 - Finance
 - Government Networks
 - Business Resources
 - Community Action
 - Community Resources
 - Science Advisory
 - Project Implementation
- Old Business
 - Status of Coal Ash Education Effort
- New Business
 - Action: Embrace the Gulf Proclamation
- Other/Announcements
- Adjourn

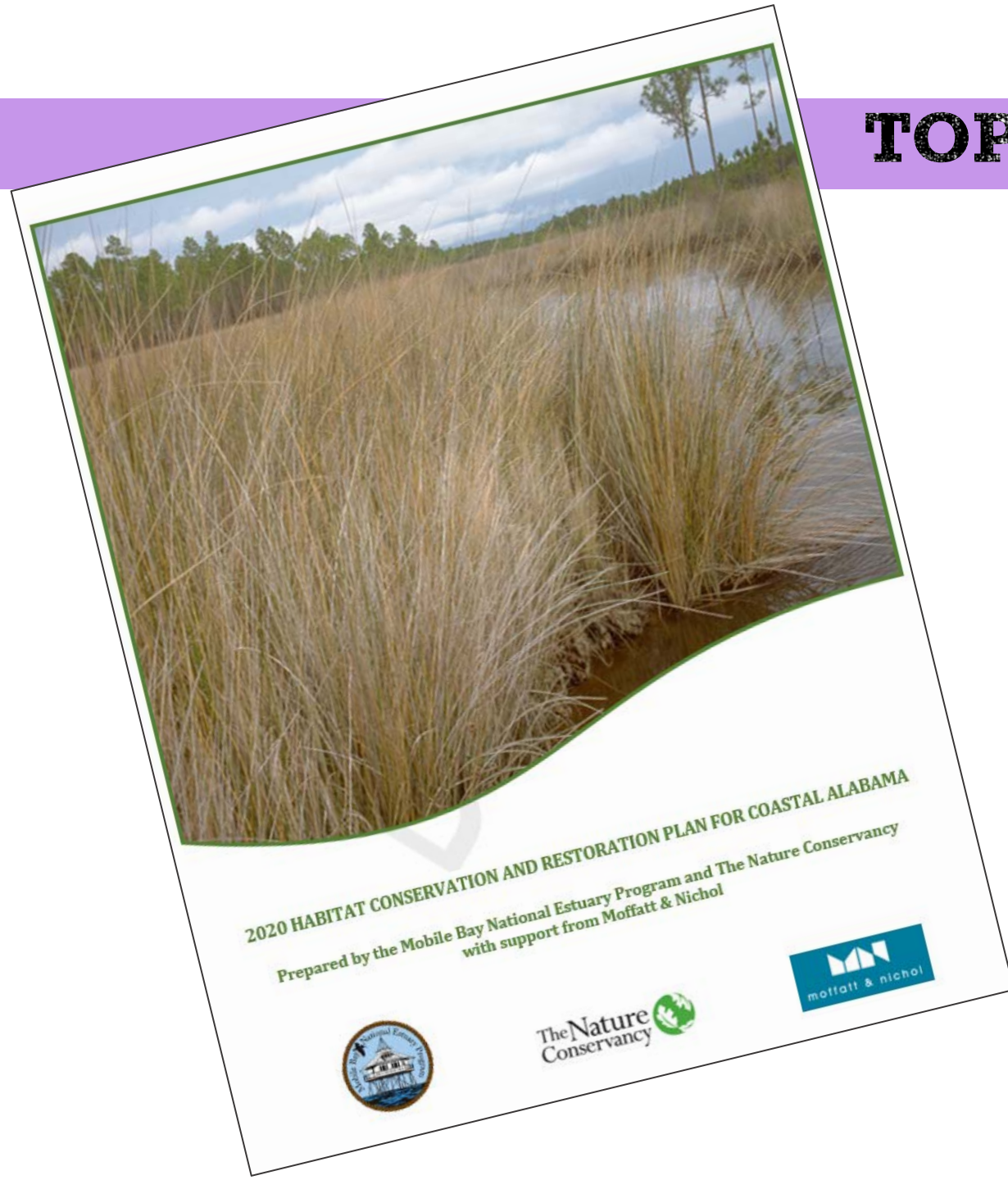
TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Habitat Trend Analysis (2005-2015) is complete.

Appendix A: Habitat Change Analysis Table

Habitat Type	HPP 2010	Radianc 2016	Change
Total Habitat Acreage (water removed)	1,850,781	1,858,603	7,822
Pine Savanna*	201,882	386,792	184,910
Longleaf Pine	616,862	575,220	(41,642)
Maritime Forest	22,598	47,277	24,679
Urban	179,428	216,981	37,553
Freshwater Wetlands*	375,101	317,834	(57,267)
Intertidal Marsh Flats	28,635	21,511	(7,124)
Beaches Dunes	5,645	2,074	(3,571)
Other**	420,630	290,914	(129,716)
	<i>pasture/hay</i>	<i>upland-agriculture</i>	
	<i>row crop</i>	<i>upland-range</i>	
	<i>east gulf coastal plain southern mesic slope forest</i>	<i>marine-subtidal</i>	
	<i>evergreen plantations</i>	<i>marine-tidal</i>	
	<i>successional shrub/scrub (utility swath)</i>	<i>estuarine-subtidal</i>	
	<i>bare soil</i>	<i>riverine-tidal</i>	
	<i>quarry/strip mine/gravel pit</i>	<i>riverine-upper perennial</i>	
**definition		<i>riverine-unknown perennial</i>	
		<i>palustrine-aquatic bed</i>	
Totals	1,850,781	1,858,603	7,822
*Treeless Wet Prairie acreage of 5,930 was removed from Pine Savanna as this habitat class is used in both Pine Savanna and Freshwater Wetlands			

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The Habitat Conservation and Restoration Plan (2020) is complete.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The Habitat Conservation and Restoration Plan (2020) is complete.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Respect the Connect: A Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan

**Implementation Status Report
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2018**



**Prepared March 2020 by
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
118 North Royal St., Suite 601
Mobile, AL 36602**

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Management Conference CCMP Update, Year Three



**Work Plan
October 1, 2020–September 30, 2021**

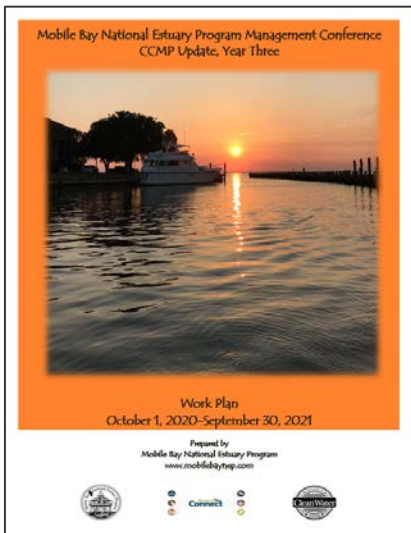
Prepared by
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
www.mobilebaynep.com



EPA WORK PLAN: ACTION REQUIRED

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Proposed Annual Work Plan- Revenues Anticipated 2020-2021

	<i>Year U1: 2018-2019</i>	<i>Year U2: 2019-2020</i>	Year U3: 2020-2021 Budget
EPA Annual Appropriation	625,000	600,000	662,000
Match (Budgeted)	354,088	384,188	422,076
Surplus/(Deficit) from previous year		22,988	
Total Available Budget	979,088	1,007,176	1,084,076

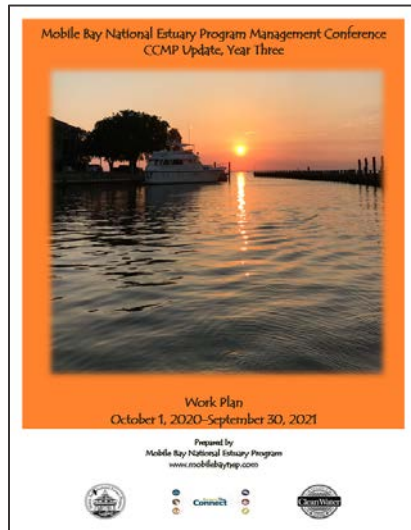


EPA WORK PLAN: ACTION REQUIRED

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Proposed Annual Work Plan
2020-2021

as of: 5/29/2020

			EPA Related Funding 2020-2021
Estuary Status and Trends			25,000
EST	2.1	Using D'Olive Watershed Index, determine the most cost-effective metrics for evaluating trends in habitat condition.	10,000
EST	2.1	Develop mechanism for communicating volunteer and other environmental monitoring to general public.	15,000
Ecosystem Restoration and Protection			30,000
ERP	2.3	Three Mile Creek Watershed- 12 Mile Creek construction, Other	10,000
ERP	2.7	Garrows Bend Watershed- Invasive species management- Helen Wood Park	15,000
ERP	5.2	Access Enhancements: ADA Accessibility Mats	5,000
Technical Assistance and Capacity Building			50,000
TAC	1.2	Set up Peer Lending and marketing program to support oyster farmers.	50,000
Education and Public Involvement			48,031
EPI	2.1	Support the continued education and engagement of the MBNEP Management conference	10,000
EPI	2.2	Develop interpretive signage which combines heritage and environmental education	5,000
EPI	3.1	Produce a semi-annual Newsletter in partnership with ADCNR	10,000
EPI	3.1	Create community education materials with video to communicate issues and accomplishments	10,783
EPI	3.2	Execute the TRASH MOB	5,000
EPI	5.1	Support community events through sponsorships and outreach materials which promote the six values of the CCMP	7,248
MPA: Management, Project Delivery, Administration			931,045
MPA	1	MBNEP Salaries, Fringe, Operating Costs	789,644
MPA	2	Indirect Costs to DISL	141,401
Grand Total Work Plan Budget 2020-2021			1,084,076



MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Government Networks Committee

Merceria Ludgood
Billie Jo Underwood

Executive Committee

Chris Blankenship
Chris Thomas

Business Resources Committee

Jennifer Denson
Darrelyn Dunmore
Eliska Morgan
~~Vacant~~

Frank Smith

Project Implementation Committee

Judy Haner
Patric Harper

Science Advisory Committee

John Lehrter
Amy Hunter

Community Resources Committee

Casi Callaway
Tina Miller-Way
~~Vacant~~

Walter Ernest

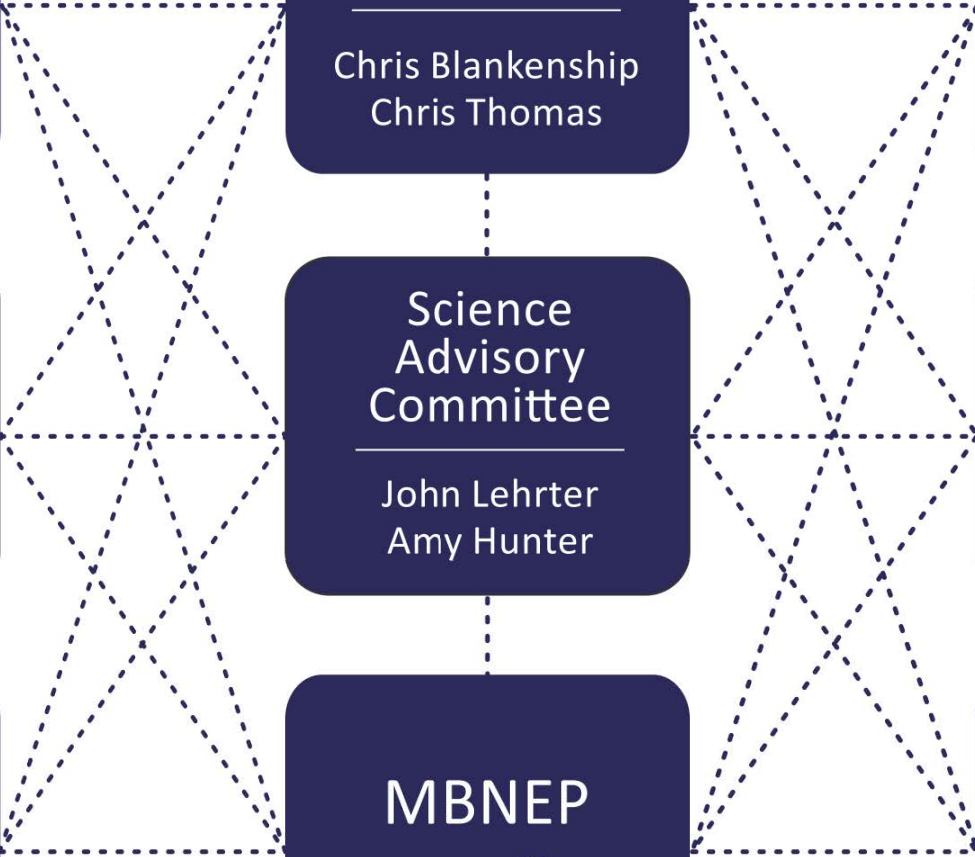
Finance Committee

David England
Jennifer Denson
Helene Hassell

MBNEP Staff

Community Action Committee

Mimi Fearn
Leslie Gahagan



BUDGET VS. ACTUAL – AS OF APRIL 30, 2020



Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Budget vs. Actual- All Grants FY 19-20

As of: **4.30.2020**

<i>Project/Activities</i>	<i>Beginning Budget</i>	<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>Cash Balance</i>	<i>Total Enc.</i>	<i>Available Bal.</i>
Ecosystem Status and Trends	213,581.99	-	174,692.99	77,541.00	136,040.99
Ecosystem Restoration and Protection	8,613,532.67	1,604,375.11	7,018,507.56	6,398,845.53	2,214,687.14
Technical Assistance and Capacity Building	21,784.00	5,966.10	15,817.90	5,966.10	-
Education and Public Involvement	213,992.00	155,421.31	58,570.69	191,628.07	22,363.93
Program Planning and Administration	2,725,254.55	1,535,222.18	1,166,411.20	2,665,975.00	35,658.38
TOTAL	11,788,145.21	3,317,912.98	8,449,798.23	9,356,883.98	2,424,548.33

<i>EPA TOTAL</i>	<i>1,986,264.00</i>
<i>EXTERNAL TOTAL</i>	<i>6,482,552.17</i>
<i>CARRY OVER BALANCES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS</i>	<i>3,319,329.04</i>
	<i>11,788,145.21</i>

Met March 13

- Two public awareness campaigns were introduced
 - Embrace the Gulf 2020
 - “Take Back our Coast”
- ADEM provided an update on the State’s Revolving Loan Fund

Met May 4

- Bob Snow, P.E. presented findings from the Structural Integrity Review of Alabama Power’s Plant Barry coal ash pond closure plan



Met April 28

- Focused on learning about the status of Alabama's oyster industry.
- Presentations by Jason Herrmann, ADCNR-MRD; Bill Walton, AUMERC; LaDon Swann, MASGC

Next steps

- Hosting a panel discussion w/ local oyster farmers to discuss their needs and where they may leverage BRC members' talents
- MESC received \$23,000 grant from AL Power as match for funding to purchase farmed oysters for restoration (due to COVID market collapse)

Participants: 24





May 12, 2020 Meeting Overview

- **Theme:**
 - Trash, Data, & Volunteers
- **Presenters:**
 - Don Bates, Osprey Initiative
 - Tina Miller-Way, Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Participants: 15

The screenshot shows a video player interface with two slides. The top slide is a title slide for CAME (Citizens Archive for Mobile Bay Estuarine Organisms) at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Alabama. It features the CAME logo, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab logo, and the text "A new citizen science program at DISL". Below this, it lists presenters Tina Miller-Way and Lauren Still, along with their affiliations and contact information. A small logo for the State of Alabama is also visible. The video player shows a progress bar at 46:54 / 1:24:38. The bottom slide is titled "The Five Sectors" and lists five categories: Litter Traps, Tactical Cleanups, Data Collection, Consulting, and Specialty materials handling. Each category has a small representative image. The Osprey logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide. The video player shows a progress bar at 16:42 / 1:24:38. On the right side of the video player, there are two video thumbnails: the top one shows Tina Miller-Way and the bottom one shows Don Bates.

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE



August 11, 2020 Meeting

- **Theme:** Invasive Species
- **Presenters:** Katie Dylewski, MBNEP

November 10, 2020 Meeting

- **Theme:** Native Plant Species
- **Presenters:** Judy Stout, Master Gardener

January 2021 Meeting

- **Theme:** Rain Gardens
- **Presenters:** Bob Howard, Master Gardener





- Elected Walter Ernest IV as Co-Chair to replace Dr. Tina Miller-Way of Discovery Hall, who resigned.
- Met virtually on May 27 with 11 members participating.
- Refined the CRC Work Plan with potential activities and metrics geared towards the problems of trash, litter, and marine debris and grouped under:
 - **Action**
 - **Policy/Legislation**
 - **Education (and Awareness)**
 - **Enforcement**
- Developed a “To Do” List for member organizations and their CRC representatives to get things rolling.
- Scheduled the next CRC Meeting for Wednesday, July 15 from 1000-1130.

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



- Met May 22, 2020
- The matrix subcommittee met May 7th
- The committee continues to focus on development of a stressor matrix linking pressures to habitats and ecosystem services.
- Planning an off-cycle meeting this summer to spotlight four different watershed modeling efforts.

Participants: 30

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE



May 20, 2020 meeting focused on Project Updates

- **MBNEP:** Restoration Team Update
- **TNC:** Lightning Point
- **ADCNR:** Point aux Pins and D'Olive Bay Dredging
- **Mobile County:** Dauphin Island Causeway and Bayfront Park
- **City of Daphne:** Tiawasee Creek Stormwater Facility Enhancement and Forever Wild D'Olive Bay Land Acquisition
- **City of Foley:** Bon Secour Headwaters Restoration

Participants: 70+



Looking east across Phase 1, East Marsh Creation Area- old meets the new

Photo by Mike Hardy, Moffatt & Nichol

Status of Coal Ash Education Effort

EMBRACE THE
GULF
2020



PROCLAIMING 2020 AS THE YEAR TO EMBRACE THE GULF AND RECOGNIZE THE GULF OF MEXICO'S IMPORTANCE TO THE NATION.

WHEREAS, it is with pride that we recognize 2020 as the Year to Embrace the Gulf and acknowledge the Gulf of Mexico's importance to the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico is an ocean basin bounded on the north, northeast, and northwest by the Gulf Coast of the United States, on the south and southwest by Mexico, and on the southeast by Cuba; and the Gulf of Mexico is bordered by five Gulf Coast states: Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; and the Gulf region contributes to the nation's economy, security, energy, environment, heritage, beauty, diversity, and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico's watersheds covers more than half of the continental United States and the Mississippi River drains more than one-third of the nation, and it is characterized with diverse flora and fauna, provides food, shelter, and habitat to marine and estuarine organisms, shorebirds, waterfowl, and wildlife, and the Gulf Coast supports our nation's seafood industry through commercial fishing but also provides recreational adventures; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico is more than just a pretty picture; it provides thousands of miles of beautiful, affordable shoreline living, and the Gulf Coast region is also one of the most culturally diverse regions in the nation with millions of residents tracing their heritage to Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and the Gulf Coast embraces a variety of traditions and invokes a strong sense of place; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Coast tourism generates hundreds of billions of dollars each year, and if the Gulf area were a country, our economy would rank among the top 10 worldwide, and by increasing awareness of the Gulf of Mexico's many treasures and limitless value, we ensure a sustainable future; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM'S MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, hereby acknowledges and observes 2020 as "The Year to Embrace the Gulf" and encourage the citizens of Alabama to commemorate its observance.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2020

by the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Management Conference Executive Committee



**OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS
ADJOURN**
