Government Networks Committee
March 22, 2019
Original Oyster House, Spanish Fort, AL
Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Merceria Ludgood, Mobile County Commission
NFWF/RESTORE update

Chris Blankenship, ADCNR
Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan Update

Christian Miller/Roberta Swann
CCMP Input

Opportunities

• Regulatory Changes
• Incentives/Innovative Financing
• Education
• Legislative Action
• Infrastructure Improvements

Challenges

• Political Will/Buy-In
• Funding
• Development Pressures
• Inconsistencies/Lack of Regulations
• Stormwater Management

Draft CCMP released for 45-day public comment period on February 1st
### Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

**TAC-3  Build capacity of local governments to manage and enhance coastal environmental resources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.1</th>
<th>Improve elected officials' understanding of the relationship between land use, water resources management decisions, and environmental impacts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Create a library of short videos to educate elected officials and municipal staff about best practices for resource management and protection (ex. Dune Overlays, stormwater, LID)</td>
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<td>b. Create an inventory of decision support tools useful for better resource management, including hydrologic models of each watershed</td>
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<td>c. Conduct local government and resource manager training on use of decision support tools, including development of video training on use of hydrologic models</td>
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## Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

### TAC-3  Build capacity of local governments to manage and enhance coastal environmental resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.2</th>
<th>Improve regulatory framework to better protect coastal resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>Maintain South Alabama Regulatory Review Database for stormwater management and coastal resource protection</td>
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<td>b.</td>
<td>Assess enforcement of existing ordinances</td>
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<td>c.</td>
<td>Develop recommendations for improved enforcement of existing ordinances, where appropriate</td>
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<td>d.</td>
<td>Educate elected officials about existing ordinances for reducing non-point source pollution and support changes to improve effectiveness</td>
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<td>e.</td>
<td>Build inventory of model ordinances based on management measures required under Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (ACNPCP) and USEPA and NOAA Office of Coastal Management criteria.</td>
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<td>f.</td>
<td>Develop strategy for adoption of model ordinances as needed by watershed and across geopolitical boundaries</td>
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<td>g.</td>
<td>Create new regulations or incentives to protect habitats most stressed along the coast (streams and rivers/riparian buffers, fresh water wetlands, intertidal marshes and flats)</td>
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<td>d.</td>
<td>Facilitate adoption of policies by state agencies to use third party data, including but not limited to volunteer monitoring data, as part of their monitoring strategies</td>
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Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

**TAC-3 Build capacity of local governments to manage and enhance coastal environmental resources**

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<th>3.3</th>
<th>Support the Coastal Alabama Stormwater Team to better coordinate stormwater management activities throughout the Mobile Bay Watershed to improve the quality of water flowing into coastal waters</th>
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<tr>
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<td>a. Conduct an assessment of communities throughout the Greater Mobile Bay Watershed to determine opportunities for partnership on outreach and education materials</td>
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<td>b. Recruit communities to provide content for the CCWF website</td>
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<td>c. Recruit communities to join the CCWF campaign</td>
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<td>d. Distribute stormwater related videos to educate elected officials</td>
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Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

### TAC-3 Build capacity of local governments to manage and enhance coastal environmental resources

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Discussion of Electing/Rotating GNC Chairs

Roberta Swann/Christian Miller - MBNEP
Tackling Lower Alabama’s Litter Problem
The Problem

- Coastal populations are increasing = increased land development = increased volumes of stormwater runoff = increased amounts of pollutants entering coastal waters
The Problem

- Regulatory efforts designed to mitigate littering have not been effective.
- Litter is not classified as an impairment for listing waterways on the State’s 303(d) list.
Addressing the Problem

• MBNEP, the City of Mobile, and other partners sought to address litter in the lower reaches of Three Mile Creek

• Initial efforts culminated at “Clean up the Bottom” in 2011

• Success spurred subsequent clean-ups across Mobile and Baldwin counties
Addressing the Problem

- Clean-ups also focus on building pride in and connecting communities to natural resources
- Clean-ups have coincided with efforts to educate and empower communities to protect TMC
  - Leadership Academy
  - Creek Fest
Watershed Planning

- MBENP employs a holistic watershed approach to improve water quality
- Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans are being developed for all watersheds with tidal influence
Watershed Planning

- Watershed Plans identify critical issues and corrective actions.
- Problems identified in WMPs vary but one issue has remained constant across all watersheds: Trash and litter entering waterways.
- WMPs for Three Mile Creek and Fowl River have established goals of reducing trash/litter by 75%.
Creating a Clean Water Future

- In 2014 a coalition of community leaders convened to assist local governments charged with managing stormwater.

- The resulting campaign was named **Create a Clean Water Future**.

- Create a Clean Water Future provides resources to municipalities and raises awareness of stormwater impacts.
Dog River Tackles Litter

- Dog River Clearwater Revival was the first local organization to employ low-cost litter catchment which proved ineffective.
- DRCR partnered with the City of Mobile to install a large-scale litter trap:
  - 400 cubic yards/year
Birth of the Litter Gitter

• In 2016 MBNEP partnered with PEP and Thompson Engineering in the Assault on Maple Street

• This opportunity was used to test a prototype litter trap, the “Litter Gitter”

• Through trial and error the Litter Gitter has been refined and installed in multiple waterbodies
  • Three Mile Creek
  • Dog River
  • Bon Secour
Birth of the Litter Gitter

Maple Street Tributary before
Birth of the Litter Gitter

Maple Street Tributary after
Expanding Efforts to Combat Litter

- Cities are continuing to step up efforts to combat litter
  - Foley and Daphne employ workers to remove trash from rights of way
  - Spanish Fort passed a comprehensive Clean Water ordinance
  - Mobile established a Litter Crew to remove litter from rights of way & partnered with Mobile Baykeeper to install catchment devices in stormdrains
Conservation Corps

- Established in 2017, the Coastal Alabama Conservation Corps was established
  - train at-risk youth
  - implement TMC WMP
- Conducted outreach & education plan for sixth graders
- Created “Pick up the Trash” song and “Trash Mob” dance.
Future Efforts

• Continue to combat litter through development and implementation of WMPs
• Continue outreach and education efforts
• Coordinate and perform a “TRASH MOB”
• Plan and Implement alternative packaging incentive program targeting local businesses
• Strengthen & Improve regulations
Review of Proposed Anti-Litter Legislation

Margie Wilcox – AL House of Representatives
Adjourn