

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Executive Committee Meeting

November 17, 2017
Original Oyster House



Three Mile Creek
Greenway Phase One



AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes July 17, 2017

2. Director's Report

3. Committee Reports

Science Advisory

Project Implementation

Government Networks

Community Action

Business Resources

Community Resources

5. Old Business

6. New Business

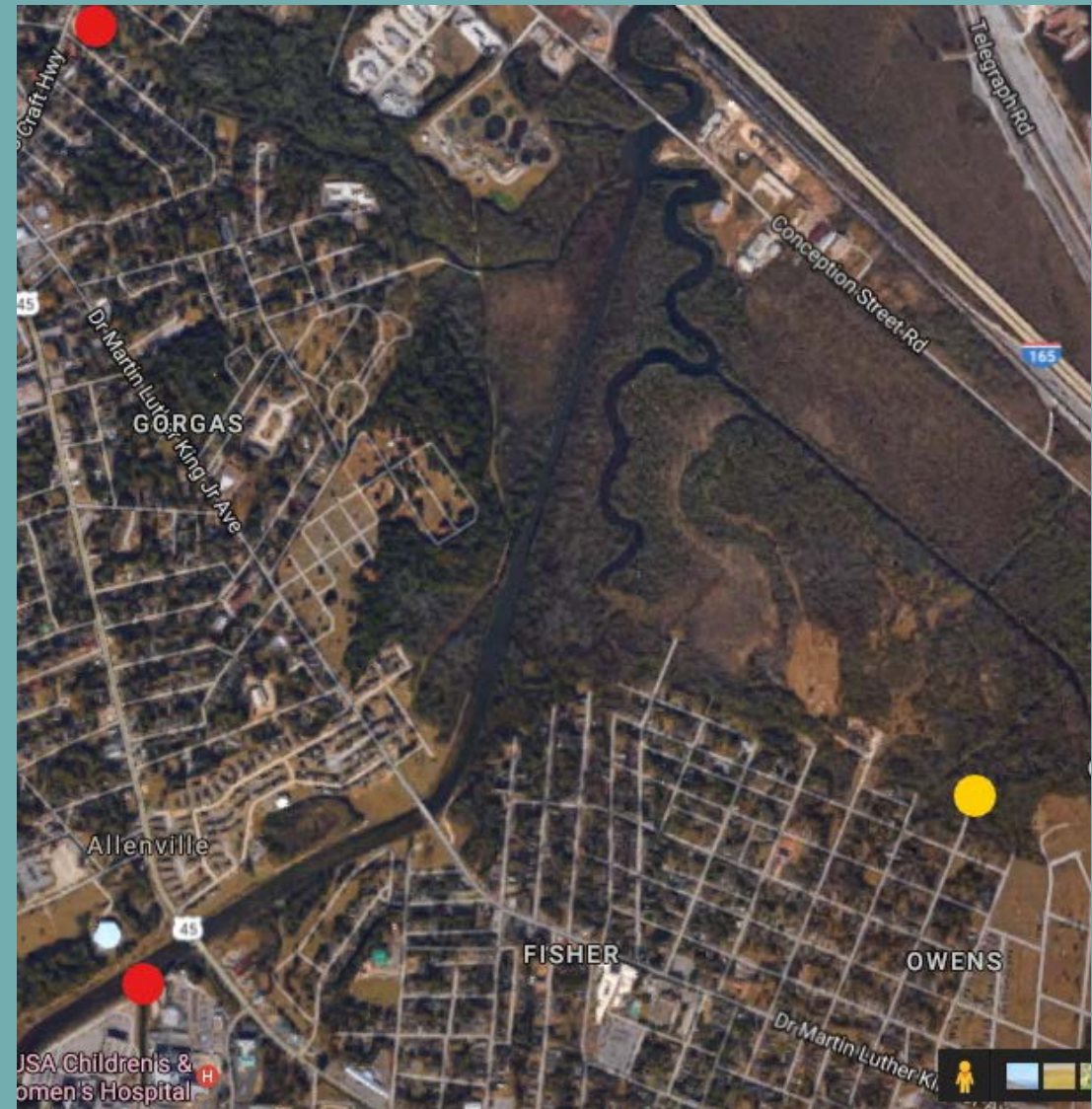
7. Other/Announcements

8. Adjourn

Director's Report- Trash Free Waterways



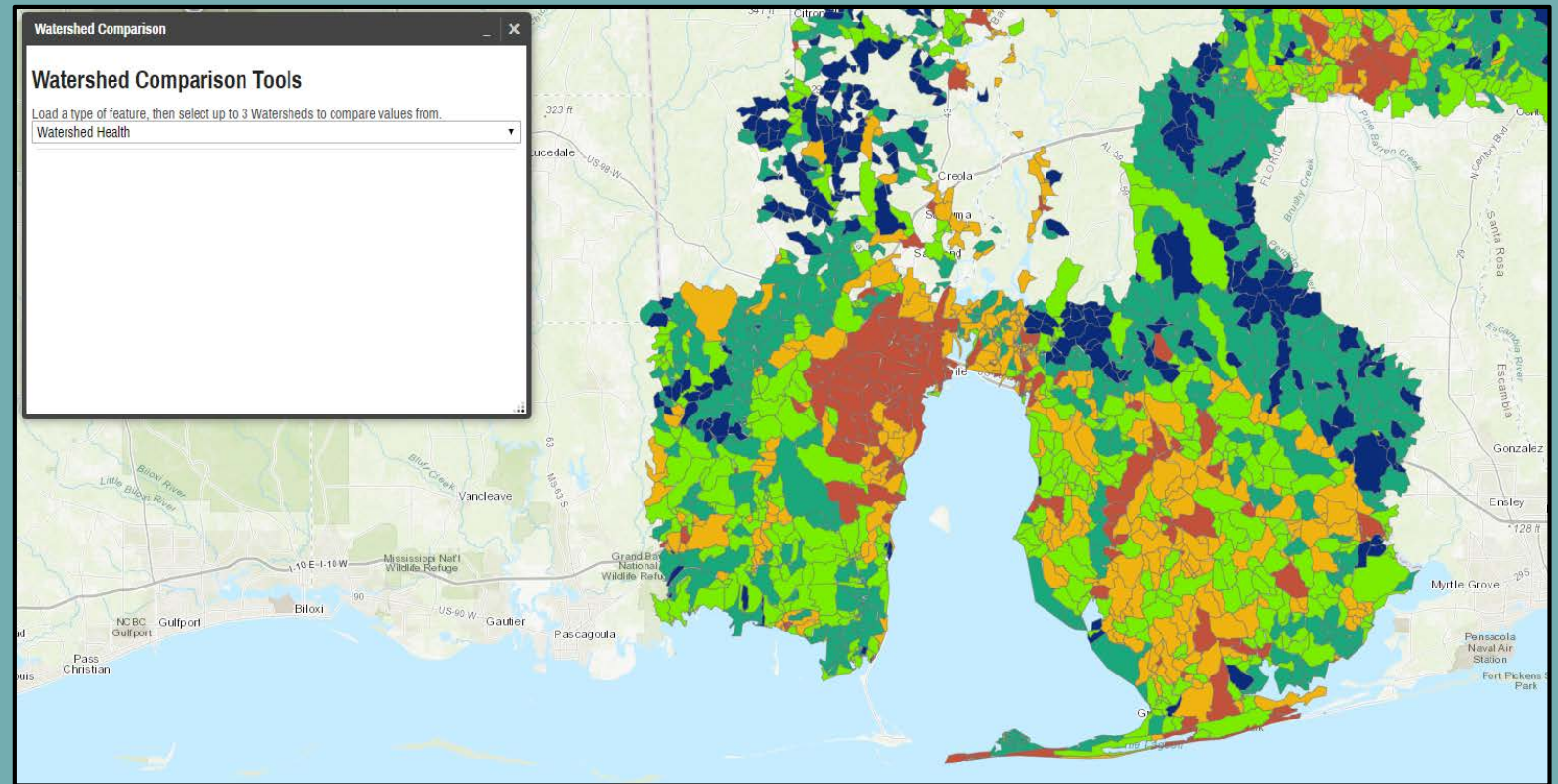
- Additional \$25,000 EPA (Trash Free Waters Program)
- Two Litter Gitters in Three Mile Creek Watershed, partnering with City of Mobile
- Two Litter Gitters in Bon Secour Watershed, partnering with City of Foley
- Expansion of Clean Water Future Website



Director's Report- Alabama Restoration Planning



- New Habitat Mapping (almost) complete
- Data Acquisition in progress
- Watershed Plan Inventory of Projects in progress
- First Technical Committee meeting set for January



Director's Report- Litter Gitter Recognition



Dauphin Island Sea Lab Foundation Marine Environmental Award Individual 2017

Marine Environmental Award Individual 2017



Don Bates with the Litter Gitter

Don Bates

Employee of Thompson Engineering for 16 years, Don is a Registered Professional Geologist. Don has led operations in Thompson's Jackson, MS office and is now Vice President of Operations for Thompson Engineering and works from the corporate office in Mobile

Don grew up in Louisiana "playing in the swamp". He has long had an interest in community cleanups and has participated with the Living Lands and Waters river cleanup in Knoxville, TN as well as Coastal Cleanups in Alabama and Mississippi.

More recently, Don spearheaded an employee volunteer litter cleanup crew, an effort that has netted thousands of pounds of trash. The most impactful effort has been at Mobile's Maple Street tributary where Don and several Thompson Engineering employees, along with volunteers from the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Partners for Environmental Progress and the University of South Alabama gathered in November 2016 to tackle the tributary's trash problem by kayak and by foot along the shore. The initial cleanup netted 200 bags of trash and 12 tires. A subsequent cleanup in March resulted in even more trash collected.

Director's Report- Newest Videos



Association of National Estuary Programs Video



Low Impact Development (LID) - Stormwater Doesn't have to be a Headache



Three Mile Creek Trail Construction



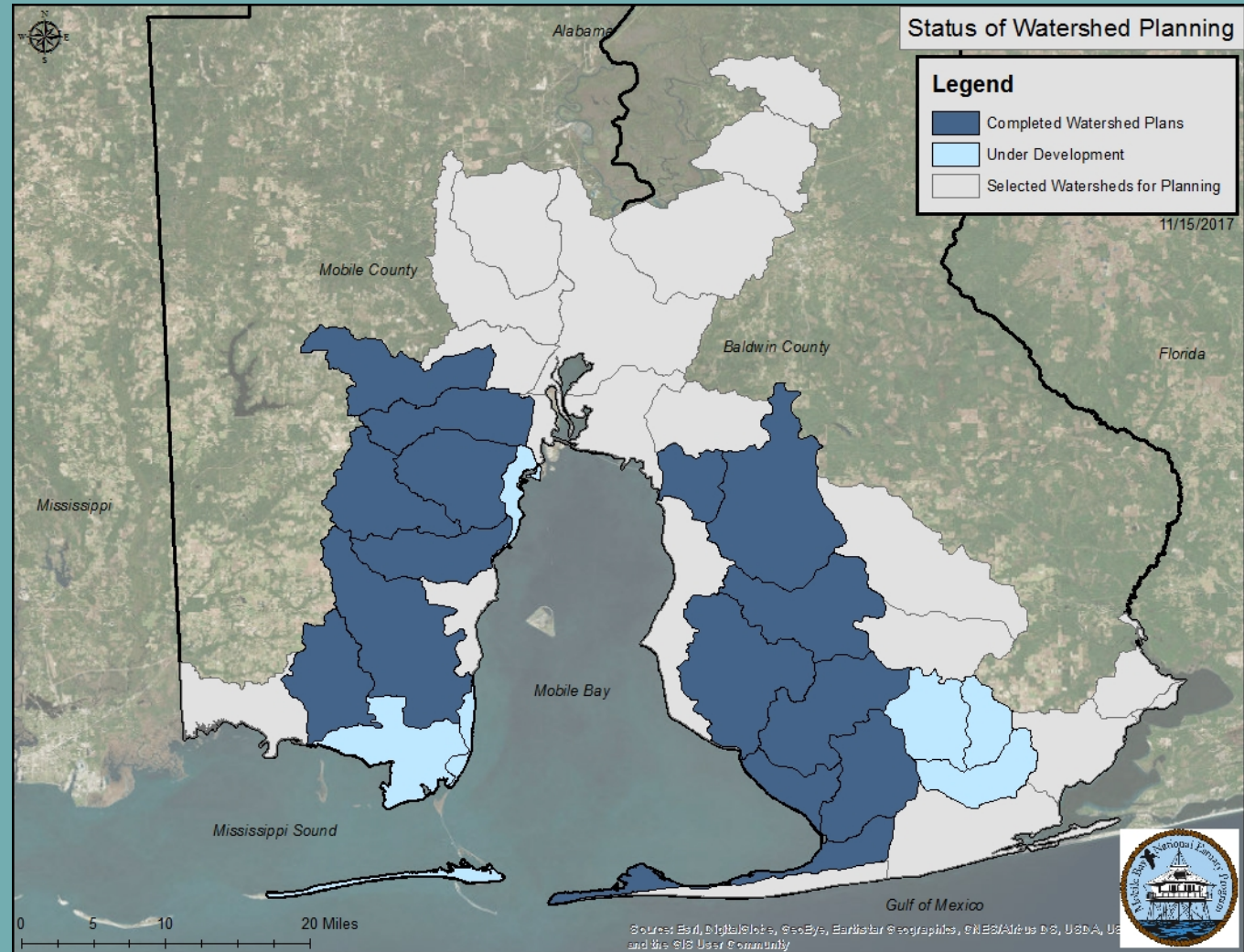
Director's Report- NFWF Funding Amendment



The Watershed Planning initiative has been amended to include activities to support future restoration implementation activities:

- Hydrologic Modeling
- Bon Secour
- Wolf Bay update
- Dog River
- Bayou La Batre
- West Fowl River
- Tensaw Apalachee

Coastal Resource Survey for the entire coastline (minus what has already been completed)



Science Advisory Committee



- Met August 24, 2017
- NFWF GEBF Fowl River Marsh Study scope was presented and approved by the SAC.
- Landowner agreements signed, contract execution in process
- State of the Bay Report drafting in process.



Project Implementation Committee

Watershed Plans Status

- Dog River Watershed Management Plan- final
- Weeks Bay Watershed Management Plan out by end of year
- Wolf Bay WMP proposals under review (3 received)

D'Olive Watershed Restoration- MBNEP/City of Daphne

- Highway 90: Construction Completed (600 lf)
- Stream Restoration Project: Tiawassee (900 lf)
- D'Olive Creek Project resilience after two named storm events

Three Mile Creek Restoration

- RFQ for Engineering and Design to be release estimate: 11/28



Weathering the Storms, 2017



Mon Louis Island



County Road 13

Government Networks Committee



- Focused on determining priorities, needs, and barriers facing local governments with the goal of increasing capacity to manage and maintain coastal environmental resources.
- A regulatory review across Mobile and Baldwin counties is underway, and will be used to develop a platform of changes needed to manage coastal resources.



Community Action Committee

- Group met August 16, 2017. Roundtable discussion to address strengths and frustrations for 2018 focus.
- Coastal Alabama trainers have trained ~107 and recertified ~12 monitors since July. Fowl River group was recertified. Bon Secour program established in June.
- Conservation Corps conducted a seven week bacteria blitz at five sites in TMC and TSB.
- Presented program update at the Alabama Water Resources Conference 9/7.
- Submitted proposal for a Gulf Star grant 9/15. Would provide substantial resources to enhance citizen monitoring program.

MBNEP continues to reimburse groups for monitoring supplies.



Business Resources Committee



\$488,711 US EPA Gulf of Mexico Program Grant Award to MBNEP to Implement Comprehensive Trash Strategy in Three Mile Creek Watershed

Phase I

- Deploy **10 Litter Gitters** in Three Mile Creek.
- Engage **10 workers** to remove legacy trash from areas not suitable for community volunteers.
- Partner with Mobile Baykeeper's SWAMP program at Vigor to provide **volunteers for EPA pilot trash assessment.**

Phase II

- BRC to plan and implement an alternative packaging incentive plan- **Target 5 businesses** identified as trash sources, to increase use of more environmentally-friendly alternatives.
- Conduct at least **one outreach event** to raise awareness and encourage behavioral changes towards Creating a Clean Water Future.



Community Resources Committee

- Next meeting will be held on November 29th
- The CRC approved the workplan tasks they would complete by Fiscal Year 2018.
 - Increase awareness of coastal resources supporting what people value about living in coastal Alabama.
 - Advocate for environmental issues addressed in the CCMP
 - Build capacity of grassroots groups to ensure citizen involvement in creating more resilient and environmentally responsible communities.



Finance Committee



- Thank you Mobile County and Baldwin County for your programmatic support
- Working the Halls of EPA for “Special Initiatives” funding
- Working on scoping of Economic Impact Analysis of D’Olive Watershed



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New Business
Other/
Announcements
Adjourn

