



Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
Business Resources Committee Meeting  
Five Rivers Delta Resource Center  
March 19, 2019  
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The Business Resources Committee of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. The meeting was attended by: Co-chairs Jennifer Denson, Partners for Environmental Progress and Darrelyn Dunmore, Strategic Wealth Specialists; Don Bates, Osprey Initiative/Thompson Engineering; Steve McClure, Hargrove Engineering; Graham Green, Smart Home America; Ashley Jones-Davis, No. Baldwin Chamber; David Grayson, Lagniappe Mobile; Rusty Grice; Auburn Marine Extension; Johnny Grimes, Daphne Utilities; Danny Lyndall, Daphne Utilities; Chandra Wright, The Lodge @ GSP; Michael Dorie, Wild Native Eco Tours; John Croom, AUC Group; Beth Thomas, Alabama Power; Casey Williams, Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce; Frank Smith, Wilkins Miller; MBNEP staff- Rick Frederick, Roberta Swann; guest- Mark Berte with Alabama Coastal Foundation.

**Mission of the BRC: To bring together a balance of interested community leaders from varied private sector groups/industry to identify ways of balancing different sector needs and establishing commonalities to address coastal issues impacting their interests.**

### **1). Welcome and Introductions**

Co-chairs Jennifer Denson and Darrelyn Dunmore opened the meeting with a welcome and began introductions, including newest member Frank Smith with Wilkins Miller in Fairhope.

### **2). First Quarter 2019 Activities**

Rick Frederick, Mobile Bay NEP liaison to the BRC, reported on completed task thus far in 2019:

- Presentation to the Eastern Shore Chamber Board of Directors introducing the Mobile Bay NEP and highlighting the D'Olive Creek Watershed Stream Restoration project.
- Presentation to the Wolf Bay Watershed Watch Annual Meeting highlighting the Trash Blows and Create a Clean Water Future campaigns and the Litter Gitter small stream trash trap and the partnership with Osprey Initiative.

- Tour of D'Olive Creek Watershed Stream Restoration project to local business leaders and reporter with Lagniappe Mobile.
- Rain Barrel project in the Toulmin Springs Watershed (sub-watershed of the greater Three Mile Creek Watershed) in partnership with Alabama Power and Soterra LLC/Greif Packaging.
- Media Coverage- AL.com (CCMP Draft Comment Period), Alabama Outdoor (Three Mile Creek Greenway), Fox 10 Studio (Alabama Delta Alliance/Access).

### **3). Reports from BRC Committee Members**

- Chandra Wright with The Lodge at Gulf State Park provided an overview of the lodge and state park as an international benchmark for environmental and economic sustainability demonstrating best practices for outdoor recreation, education, and hospitable accommodations. The project includes sustainable tourism, guiding principles, LEED and Fortified Certifications, dune restoration, and Interpretive Center.
- Don Bates with Osprey Initiative provided an update on his Litter Gitter program to capture floating trash in local waterways and efforts to reduce single use items. With Litter Gitters deployed in Three Mile Creek, Dog River, and Bon Secour River in Foley, Don provided data showing #s and cubic feet collected, as well as amounts recycled. The Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol (ETAP) is being developed in conjunction with the Litter Gitters to help identify the source of the trash in a defined area. A sub-committee of the BRC will meet to develop a plan to approach businesses in the Toulminville Springs Watershed recognized as a source of the identified trash and encourage changes in business practices to help reduce the waste stream.

### **4). Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)**

- Remainder of meeting we used to review the 5-year strategy of the Business Resources Committee found in the CCMP. The goals and strategies related to the BRC were emailed to all BRC members and were part of the meeting's power point presentation. The draft CCMP is out for a 45-day public comment period and members were asked to provide any additional ideas, changes, edits to sections of the Education and Public Involvement and Technical Assistance and Capacity Building.

### **5). Future Meeting Times and Location**

- Per discussion by attending members, it was decided that future meetings will take place at the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center and the afternoon time slot is most favorable. Email reminder and calendar invite will be sent once 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter meeting date has been established.