



**Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
Project Implementation Committee Meeting  
Thursday, May 3, 2018  
5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, Tensaw Theater**



**Attendees:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| LG Adams (Weeks Bay NERR)                            | Cade Kistler (Mobile Baykeeper)                         |
| Lisa Adams (Mobile County)                           | Veronica Klocinski (Payne Environmental)                |
| Sherry Allison (Allen Engineering)                   | Dina Knight (The Nature Conservancy)                    |
| Emery Baya (Retired)                                 | Kara Lankford (National Audubon Society)                |
| Mark Berte (Alabama Coastal Foundation)              | Ken Leslie (Alabama Forestry Commission)                |
| Celena Boykin (Baldwin Co. Planning & Zoning)        | Nicole Love (Birmingham Audubon)                        |
| Denise Brown (Stantec)                               | Jaime Miller (ADCNR, Marine Resources Div.)             |
| Mary Kate Brown (The Nature Conservancy)             | Eliska Morgan (ADCNR)                                   |
| Diane Burnett (SARPC)                                | Dana Morton (Escambia County)                           |
| Kevin Cain (Payne Environmental)                     | Amy Newbold (EPA GOMP)                                  |
| Ashley Campbell (City of Daphne)                     | Joyce Nicholas (Mobile Co. Soil & Water Conserv. Dist.) |
| Jacob Clemmensen (Payne Environmental)               | Chris Oberholster (Birmingham Audubon)                  |
| Greg Dunn (Alabama Dept. of Public Health)           | Steve O'Hearn (Thompson Engineering)                    |
| Benji Elmore (Alabama Forestry Commission)           | John Pate (ADEM)  |
| Jay Estes (Allen Engineering)                        | Scott Phipps (Weeks Bay NERR)                           |
| Paige Felts (Volkert)                                | Chris Plymale (EPA Region 4)                            |
| Carl Ferraro (ADCNR, Coastal Section)                | Matt Posner (Escambia County)                           |
| Richard Fields (Alabama Forestry Commission)         | Casey Rains (City of Spanish Fort)                      |
| Katie Fox (Geosyntec)                                | Justin Rigdon (ADEM)                                    |
| Meg Goecker (Moffatt & Nichol)                       | Stephanie Smallegan (USA)                               |
| Chuck Greer (Payne Environmental)                    | Brian Spears (U.S. Fish & Wildlife)                     |
| Judy Haner (The Nature Conservancy)                  | Sam St. John (FRACA)                                    |
| Patric Harper (U.S. Fish & Wildlife)                 | Mary Beth Sullivan (City of Mobile)                     |
| Jordan Hollinghead (Allen Engineering)               | Shannon Walker (Weeks Bay NERR)                         |
| Rob Howell (Anchor QEA)                              | Lee Walters (Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood)                   |
| Scott Jackson (Thompson Engineering)                 | Kelly Warren (Mobile Co. Health Dept.)                  |
| Webb Jackson (Wood PLC)                              | Brent Wipf (Escambia County)                            |
| Allison Jenkins (AL Soil & Water Conserv. Committee) | Marc Wyatt (Anchor QEA)                                 |
| Matthew Jones (Integrated Science & Engineering)     |   |

**MBNEP Staff:** Christian Miller, Paul Lammers, Tom Herder, Jason Kudulis, Rick Frederick, Ben Brenner and Bethany Dickey

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm by Patric Harper. Attendees went through a round of self-introductions.

**2. Approval of the Minutes:**

Mr. Harper asked for any deletions, additions, changes to the minutes from February 2, 2018. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. Carl Ferraro made the motion, which Mark Berte seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### 3. 2018 Projects Update

- **Eliska Morgan, ADCNR**
  - The Draft Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) was released April 19<sup>th</sup> for a 45-day public comment period. This includes the Bucket 1 list of projects. The comment period ends June 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a public meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup> for comments on the Draft MIP. Visit [www.restorealabama.org](http://www.restorealabama.org) for more information and to view projects.
  - There was not much to report on NFWF.
- **Carl Ferraro, ADCNR Coastal Section**
  - **Marsh Island:** complete and in the monitoring phase.
  - **Osprey Project:** complete and in the monitoring phase.
  - **Point aux Pins:** 60% of design phase complete by Tetra Tech. Hopefully going to bid this year.
  - The Alabama Trustee Implementation Group (AL TIG) has completed its Draft Restoration Plan II. Public comment period ends May 7<sup>th</sup>. The plan proposes 22 projects for funding.
  - The RESTORE Council voted to approve the Final 2017 Funded Priorities List (FPL).
- **Renee Collini, NGOM Sentinel Site Cooperative: TTS Data**
  - Adding TSS & Turbidity- how should TSS be displayed?
  - Committee members were asked to vote on several display options:
    - dynamic table
    - TSS overlaid on turbidity
    - include TSS on the “real-time” list
    - how to display discrete data
    - to combust or not to combust?
  - Visit [www.mymobilebay.com](http://www.mymobilebay.com)
- **Jason Kudulis, MBNEP: Update on Fowl River Marsh Study**
  - SAC members formed a subgroup to look at sediment, hydrology, and vegetation. (*see Attachment B for map*)
  - The study is underway with Just Cebrian, Ruth Carmichael, Brian Dzwonkowski, John Lehrter, Alex Beebe, Tim Thibaut, Bret Webb, Stephanie Smallegan, and Marlon Cook.
  - There are a large amount of study components:

▪ Plant distribution, diversity, and density	▪ Salinity dynamics
▪ Above and below-ground plant biomass	▪ Water quality
▪ Plant growth rates	▪ Hydrologic variables
▪ Sediment grain size	▪ Wave/boat wakes energy
▪ Sediment accrual and erosion rates	▪ Marsh elevation profiles
▪ Sediment composition	▪ Sediment core isotope analysis

### 4. Prioritize Remaining Intertidal Watersheds for Watershed Planning

Judy and Christian took us through the process of re-prioritizing the remaining watersheds. Members did clicker voting to rate from 1 to 5 the priority of the remaining watersheds for restoration. (*see Attachment A for the results*)

**5. Schedule Next Meeting:** The next PIC meeting will tentatively be August 9, 2018.

### 6. Announcements

- Creek Fest is Saturday, May 12th.
- ACF's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event is May 22th at the Saenger Theatre with a showing of *The Underwater Forest* documentary.
- ACF's Connect to Your Coast event is June 27th at Serda Brewing Co.

- Go to Mobile Baykeeper's website to send a pre-drafted letter (or write your own) to Alabama Power officials in support of moving the coal ash away from the Mobile River.

### **7. Adjourn**

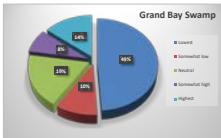
Mr. Harper asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm. Sam St. John made the motion, which was seconded by Kara Lankford.

## Attachment A

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program							
Project Implementation Committee Meeting							
5-3-18 Watershed Ranking Exercise Results							
	#1	#2	#3	#4			
#Respondents	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Wt.Score
MTA Delta	2	3	4	6	36	51	4.4
Fly Creek	0	5	6	13	27	51	4.2
Bayou Sara	0	3	11	15	22	51	4.1
Little Lagoon/Perdido Pass	1	5	11	10	26	53	4.0
Bay Minette Creek/ Whitehouse Creek	0	6	11	14	21	52	4.0
Lower Chasaw	1	6	7	18	18	50	3.9
Garrows Bend	2	8	6	13	17	46	3.8
Bridge Creek/Palmetto Creek	1	6	21	17	11	56	3.6
Delchamps Bayou/Deer River	1	7	18	10	12	48	3.5
Dauphin Island	9	12	7	7	13	48	3.1
Gunnison Creek/Cold Creek	5	16	20	5	5	51	2.8
Grand Bay Swamp	24	5	9	4	7	49	2.3

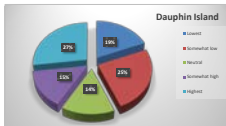
**1. Grand Bay Swamp** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	49%	24
Somewhat low	10%	5
Neutral	18%	9
Somewhat high	8%	4
Highest	14%	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49</b>



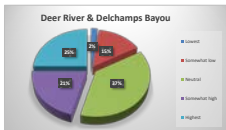
**2. Dauphin Island** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	19%	9
Somewhat low	25%	12
Neutral	15%	7
Somewhat high	15%	7
Highest	27%	13
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>48</b>



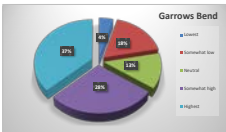
**3. Deer River & Delchamps Bayou** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	2%	1
Somewhat low	15%	7
Neutral	38%	18
Somewhat high	21%	10
Highest	25%	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>48</b>



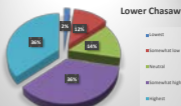
**4. Garrows Bend** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	4%	2
Somewhat low	17%	8
Neutral	13%	6
Somewhat high	28%	13
Highest	37%	17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>46</b>



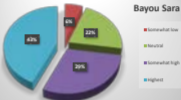
**5. Lower Chasaw** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	2%	1
Somewhat low	12%	6
Neutral	14%	7
Somewhat high	36%	18
Highest	36%	18
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50</b>



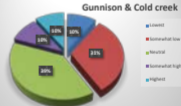
**6. Bayou Sara** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	0%	0
Somewhat low	6%	3
Neutral	22%	11
Somewhat high	29%	15
Highest	43%	22
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>51</b>



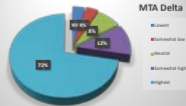
**7. Gunnison Creek & Cold Creek** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	10%	5
Somewhat low	31%	16
Neutral	39%	20
Somewhat high	10%	5
Highest	10%	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>51</b>



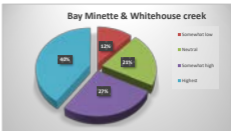
**8. MTA Delta** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	4%	2
Somewhat low	4%	2
Neutral	8%	4
Somewhat high	12%	6
Highest	72%	36
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50</b>



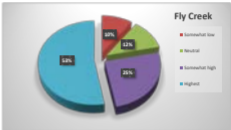
**9. Bay Minette Creek & Whitehouse Creek** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	0%	0
Somewhat low	12%	6
Neutral	21%	11
Somewhat high	27%	14
Highest	40%	21
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52</b>



**10. Fly Creek** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	0%	0
Somewhat low	10%	5
Neutral	12%	6
Somewhat high	25%	13
Highest	53%	27
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>51</b>



**11. Little Lagoon & Perdido Pass** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	2%	1
Somewhat low	9%	5
Neutral	21%	11
Somewhat high	19%	10
Highest	49%	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>53</b>



**12. Bridge Creek & Perdido Creek** Please rate the priority of this watershed on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) based on the information provided. (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Lowest	2%	1
Somewhat low	11%	6
Neutral	38%	21
Somewhat high	30%	17
Highest	20%	11
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>56</b>

