

Alabama Coastal Comprehensive Plan (ACCP) North Baldwin County Meeting, 9 June 2015

1. Welcome. The subject meeting was held on Tuesday, 9 June 2015 at the Baldwin County Administration Building in the County Commission Chambers in Bay Minette, Alabama. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) welcomed everyone and facilitated the meeting.
2. Introductions and Purpose. Director of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) outlined the ACCP's intent and need. ADCNR referenced other states' comprehensive plans and stated Governor Bentley secured \$1 million of State funds to prepare this comprehensive plan. ADCNR engaged USACE due to their technical expertise in developing the Mississippi Coastal Improvements Plan (MsCIP). The ACCP would leverage those applied models which crossed the state line; therefore, we would not start from the beginning while also incorporating existing local plans (i.e. Mobile National Estuary Program (NEP) Coastal Comprehensive Plan, etc.) and constituent provided input. The Deepwater Horizon oil spill event only reinforced Alabama's need for a comprehensive plan. ADCNR states ACCP is not the State Expenditure Plan nor will it consist of proposed detailed projects but rather prioritize Alabama's needs to target future funds. The ACCP is a framework to leverage additional funds.

USACE, stated that ACCP is a coastal vision for today/10/20/50 years into the future. Highlighted were USACE's expertise in Mobile Bay, MsCIP, and other major planning efforts. The USACE developed MsCIP by asking constituents' their desired vision for Coastal Mississippi and for them to identify what system stressors exist that could hinder achieving this outcome. It was explained that ACCP is a forward-thinking roadmap building off existing planning efforts to develop a shared vision and ownership for Coastal Alabama. USACE highlighted differences between ACCP and MsCIP plans. A website will be online by the end of the month.

3. North Baldwin County's Vision. USACE asked the team what their vision for coastal Alabama is for today, in 10 years, in 25 years, and the next 50 years and captured those participants' ideas. Some discussion highlights have been captured in this document with additional details included below. Water quality assessment of the Delta and inflowing creeks need testing in addition to our coastal waters. Setbacks from the waterlines (i.e. rivers and creeks) need to be established and enforced. Balance of public access and use with protection and productivity of natural resources and local use. Public access to the Delta is vital but with access and marketing the area could become overused. The Delta must be respected and preserved so focus potential future tourism on educating those users to ensure future enjoyment of vital lands (i.e. ecotourism). Limited fuel access along Mobile River is a concern but also if additional supplies were established, regulatory oversight would be needed to ensure minimal impacts during disasters.

4. Table Top Exercise. USACE requested participants to identify needs/problems, solutions, and opportunities, and then place those items on the Baldwin or Mobile Counties coastal maps distributed throughout the room.
5. Next Steps. Participants will receive meeting minutes for review and comment. Information gathered today will be entered into a database and utilized for additional meetings with more specific focus groups to leverage and/or expand upon these ideas. The ACCP will be finalized early next year.
6. Action Items.
  - a. USACE will prepare meetings minutes.
  - b. USACE is establishing a website and will send out notifications.

North Baldwin County ACCP Meeting June 9, 2015

- Monitoring of river waters and establishing a baseline
- Additional monitoring of species/wildlife management
- Enforcement of setbacks and easements from river's edge
- Land management - natural and chemical
- Instilling local support of public access
- Preserving the delta
- Protection and productivity of the delta's resources
- Planned infrastructure development
- Eco-tourism – encouraging development at Live Oak Landing including marine police infrastructure
- Fuel access near river for boats and a risk management plan