

Alabama Coastal Comprehensive Plan (ACCP) Resource Dependent Outreach Meeting,
27 May 2015

1. Welcome. The subject meeting was held from 1 pm to 3 pm on Wednesday 27 May, 2015 at the Five Rivers Delta Center, Spanish Fort, Al. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, welcomed everyone and facilitated the meeting.
2. Introductions and Purpose. Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) outlined the ACCP's intent and need to identify ways to reduce vulnerability and increase resiliency in order to achieve a coastal vision that encompasses all sectors of the community – local, transportation, community, social expectation as well as environmental. ADCNR referenced other states comprehensive plans, such as the Mississippi Coastal Improvements Plan (MsCIP). It was stated the ACCP will not identify specific projects but indicated the ACCP will help to reinforce other coastal management planning efforts (i.e. NRDA, Restore, etc.). The ACCP development is funded by Governor Bentley and the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, and supported by the State.

USACE highlighted that the ACCP will build off previous studies and synthesize various entities' input presented and information to integrate both coastal counties. It was indicated that it would be a constituent input process with a shared vision of ownership. The ACCP will not recommend specific plans but rather provide a road map, which considers sea level, storm inundation, and future needs for a more resilient coastal Alabama.

3. Resource Dependent Vision. USACE asked the team what their vision for coastal Alabama is for today, in 10 years, 25 years, and the next 50 years and captured those Resource Dependent participants' ideas. Some discussion highlights have been captured in this document with additional details included below. Representatives indicated the need for invasive species control (i.e. lion fish, pompous grass, etc.), as well as responsible development with low environmental impact development along the delta and river, lighting standards on the beach, etc. Coastal Alabama Partnership indicated the need for local/state incentives for sustainable development. USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission expressed a need for improvements and moderation of transportation systems (i.e. the causeway). A need was also expressed to enhance the causeway for species protection (i.e. the red bellied turtle, alligator, etc.). A need to maintain levels of water quality, air quality and clean coastlines was expressed by representatives of the ADCNR as well as the Coastal Alabama Partnership. Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Tourism members indicated a need for region-wide mass planning transit system with intermodal connections as well as waterborne transportation systems (i.e. ferries and water taxis). Protection of waterways and keeping navigable waterways open. A need for working waterfronts and dockage for boats. A need to bring back the domestic shrimping industry due to a loss from import costs and Federal regulations.

4. Table Top Exercise. USACE requested participants identify needs/problems, solutions, opportunities and then place those items on the Baldwin or Mobile County 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 additional specific focus groups to leverage and/or expand upon these ideas. A draft will be developed and the group will be reconvened to ensure that we heard what was said and can openly discuss any conflicts. A website is being developed that will include updates as well as maps of gathered information. The website should be available within approximately 1 month. Individuals can send additional comments and ideas including names of recommended participants that may have been missed to accp@usace.army.mil. The next meeting will follow this afternoon and tomorrow.
6. Action Items.
 - a. USACE will prepare meeting minutes and send out presentations.
 - b. An email notification will be sent to the participants once the website is up.

Alabama Coastal Comprehensive Plan Vision Resource Dependent Meeting 1-3pm

Vision

- Sustainable fisheries
- Control of invasive lionfish, apple snails, plant species
- Responsible development of buildings, infrastructure, lighting standards, enforcement of building regulations
- Incentives: LEED's at local and state level
- Maintenance of navigation channels
- Maintain public access
- Modernization and modification of existing roadways
- Species friendly roadways
- Maintain water quality and clean coastlines
- Waterborne transportation such as autoferries, water taxis
- Region-wide mass transit plan with intermodal connections
- Public education and awareness
- Well-trained workforce
- Workforce housing
- Dockage for boats-working waterfronts
- Revival of shrimping industry
- Domestic seafood marketing
- Air quality-load powerplants

Takeaway

- Need interagency and county participation regarding wastewater outflow
- Pipeline placement for wastewater