

State of Alabama
FINAL
Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
Plan
Fiscal Year 2007 and 2008



Volume 1 of 2

Bob Riley, Governor, State of Alabama

M. Barnett Lawley, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Prepared by the State Lands Division,
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
February 2008

[this page is intentionally left blank]

Table of Contents

List of Acronyms.....	i
1. Introduction	iii
2. Designated State Agency	v
3. Designated Contact for Coastal Political Subdivisions.....	vii
a. Baldwin County Commission	vii
b. Mobile County Commission.....	vii
4. Governor’s Certification of Public Participation	ix
5. Coordination with Other Federal Resources and Programs.....	xi
6. Plan Implementation Program	xiii
7. Proposed Project Lists.....	1
a. State of Alabama Tier One Lists.....	3
b. Baldwin County Tier One Lists	7
c. Mobile County Tier One Lists	9
d. State of Alabama Tier Two Lists	11
e. Baldwin County Tier Two Lists	13
f. Mobile County Tier Two Lists	15

Table of Contents (continued)

8. Proposed Tier One Project Descriptions	17
a. State of Alabama Tier One Project Descriptions.....	19
b. Baldwin County Tier One Project Descriptions.....	113
c. Mobile County Tier One Project Descriptions.....	157
9. Proposed Tier Two Project Descriptions.....	209
a. State of Alabama Tier Two Project Descriptions.....	211
b. Baldwin County Tier Two Project Descriptions	253
c. Mobile County Tier Two Project Descriptions	271

List of Acronyms

ACAMP.....	Alabama Coastal Area Management Program
ADCNR.....	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
ADEM.....	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
ADPH.....	Alabama Department of Public Health
BC.....	Baldwin County
CCMP.....	Coastal Conservation Management Plan
CELCP.....	Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program
CIAP.....	Coastal Impact Assistance Program
CPMC.....	Claude Petet Mariculture Center
CRAC.....	Coastal Resources Advisory Committee
CZMA.....	Coastal Zone Management Authority
C & D.....	Construction and Demolition
DISL.....	Dauphin Island Sea Lab
EDRF.....	Emergency Disaster Relief Fund
ESA.....	Endangered Species Act
FEMA.....	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GSA.....	Geological Survey of Alabama
MBNEP.....	Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
MC.....	Mobile County
MMS.....	Minerals Management Service
MRD.....	Marine Resources Division
MSW.....	Municipal Solid Waste
NEPA.....	National Environmental Protection Act
NERR.....	National Estuarine Research Reserve
NMOC.....	Non Methane Organic Compound
NOAA.....	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association
NRDA.....	Natural Resource Damage Assessment
OGB.....	Oil and Gas Board
SLD.....	State Lands Division
SPD.....	State Parks Division
USACE.....	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA.....	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS.....	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WFFD.....	Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division

1. Introduction

The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) was established by Section 384 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to assist producing states and their coastal political subdivisions (i.e. counties) in mitigating the impacts from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas production. The CIAP legislation appropriated \$250 million per year for fiscal years 2007 through 2010 to be distributed among eligible producing States and their coastal political subdivisions. The eligible States are Alabama, Alaska, California, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. The coastal political subdivisions in Alabama are Baldwin County and Mobile County. The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) requires each state to develop a plan to be eligible for the CIAP funding.

The CIAP provision of the Act of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, lists five categories of authorized uses of CIAP funds. Thus, a State or CPS can only use CIAP funds for one or more of the following purposes:

1. projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland;
2. mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources;
3. planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP;
4. implementation of a Federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan; and
5. mitigation of the impact of OCS activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

Alabama is one of six states eligible to receive CIAP funds. The total annual allocation for the State of Alabama for FY 2007 and FY 2008 is \$51,103,214.08 split evenly between the years. Thirty-five percent (\$17,886,124.92) of these funds will be allocated and disbursed to Baldwin and Mobile counties. Table 1 summarizes the allocations provided to the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County.

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County have worked cooperatively to develop CIAP projects for FY 2007 and FY 2008. These projects meet the criteria set forth in the legislation and will provide long-term benefits to Alabama's coastal area. A subsequent CIAP plan will be submitted in the future for FY 2009 and FY 2010 funding.

	Total Allocation for Alabama (10.54% of 250M)	State of Alabama Allocation (65%)	County Allocation (35%)	Mobile County (55.36% of County allocation)	Baldwin County (44.64% of County Allocation)
FY 2007	\$25,551,607.04	\$16,608,544.58	\$8,943,062.46	\$4,951,015.14	\$3,992,047.32
FY 2008	\$25,551,607.04	\$16,608,544.58	\$8,943,062.46	\$4,951,015.14	\$3,992,047.32
TOTAL for FY 2007 and FY 2008	\$51,103,214.08	\$33,217,089.16	\$17,886,124.92	\$9,902,030.28	\$7,984,094.64

Table 1. Summary of Coastal Impact Assistance funding for the State of Alabama for FY 2007 and 2008 (Source: Minerals Management Service webpage <http://www.mms.gov/offshore/CIAPmain.htm>)

2. Designated State Agency

The Energy Policy Act's CIAP provision requires that the Governor designate a State agency to develop the Plan and represent the State in interactions with the U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service for purposes of the Program. On November 3, 2005 Governor Bob Riley designated the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) as the agency responsible for administering the CIAP. Appendix A includes the letter designating ADCNR as the lead agency. The ADCNR point of contact for development and implementation of the Plan is M. Barnett Lawley, Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. His contact information is listed below.

	State of Alabama designated contact for development and implementation of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program
Name	Commissioner M. Barnett Lawley
Address	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	64 North Union Street
	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(334) 242-3486
Fax	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	dcnr.ciap@dcnr.alabama.gov

Further, Commissioner Lawley designated the State Lands Division (SLD) of ADCNR to administer the day-to-day responsibilities of the CIAP. Such a role is a natural fit for the State Lands Division, which serves as the state agency sponsor for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) funded Alabama Coastal Area Management Program and Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. The State Lands Division also managed the NOAA-sponsored CIAP in 2001. The State Lands Division is responsible for management and stewardship of many state-owned lands, including state water bottoms, and serves as the single designated title holder for all lands acquired through the Forest Legacy Program. The SLD administers the State's Forever Wild Land Trust Program, which acquires and conserves land for public use.

In addition to the State Lands Division, there are other divisions within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resource with a mandate to protect and manage coastal areas: the State Parks Division (SPD), the Marine Resources Division (MRD), and the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division (WFFD). The State Parks Division manages Gulf State Park, a 6150-acre tract of coastal habitat located between Gulf Shores and Orange Beach directly on the Gulf of Mexico. The Marine Resources Division's mission is to conserve, protect, and enhance Alabama's living marine resources in a manner that encourages sustainable economic development and promotes the responsible stewardship of

those resources. The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division manages, protects, conserves and enhances wildlife and aquatic fishing resources of Alabama.

The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to address the potential issues that threaten to impact coastal resources and to identify and implement projects and programs that will restore, protect, and enhance the coastal area and ecosystem.

3. Designated Contact for Coastal Political Subdivision

Two Coastal Political Subdivisions (CPS) lie within Alabama's coastal zone: Baldwin County and Mobile County.

a. Baldwin County Commission

	Baldwin County designated contact for development and implementation of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program
Name	Frank Burt, Chairman
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 12
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 937-0264
Fax	(251) 580-2500
E-mail	fburt@co.baldwin.al.us

Through the CIAP, it is the goal of the Baldwin County Commission to provide conservation, protection, and restoration of environmentally sensitive areas, to provide enhancement to properties already under the care of the County, and to develop long-term plans to assist in these endeavors.

b. Mobile County Commission

	Mobile County designated contact for development and implementation of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program
Name	Stephen Nodine, President
Address	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-8595
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	snodine@mobile-county.net

Coastal resources will be conserved, protected, enhanced, and restored by the Mobile County Commission with funding provided by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. This goal will be achieved by pursuing three overarching objectives:

1. Coastal areas in Mobile County will be more accessible to citizens and will provide increased opportunities for environmental education

and recreation in order to foster support for conservation and restoration efforts.

2. Coastal Impact Assistance Program funding will be utilized to assist in implementation of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan with regard to selected Water Quality, Habitat Management, Human Uses, and Education & Outreach Action Items.
3. A Mobile County Coastal Resource Protection Program will be developed to promote wise management of natural resources and will include activities such as acquisition and management of coastal habitats, including wetlands.

4. Governor's Certification of Public Participation

The State of Alabama CIAP funding recipients have worked diligently to involve the public and governmental entities including Federal, State, and local agencies in the development of the CIAP. On March 6, 2007, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County held a public information meeting to announce the CIAP and to solicit program suggestions. This meeting was held at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center on the Mobile Bay Causeway, a central location to both counties. An advertisement was published in the Sunday edition of the Mobile Press-Register and the Baldwin Register two consecutive Sundays prior to the meeting (February 24, 2007 and March 4, 2007). At this meeting, representatives from the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County described the CIAP. Appendix B includes a copy of the advertisement. An overview of how the CIAP would be implemented was presented and a request for program suggestions was solicited.

After this meeting, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County began compiling project lists to be included in the Draft CIAP Plan taking submitted program suggestions into consideration. The draft Mobile County CIAP project list was approved by the Mobile County Commission on April 24, 2007 and was reviewed at the agenda review meeting on April 19, 2007. The draft project lists were discussed by the Baldwin County Commission at two work sessions (April 10, 2007 and April 24, 2007) and the lists were approved by the Baldwin County Commission on May 15, 2007. All of the County meetings listed above are public and agendas and meeting announcements are published in local newspapers prior to the meetings. Also, meeting agendas, meeting announcements, and minutes are published on the Counties' respective websites.

A second public meeting was held on August 30, 2007 to announce and release the Draft CIAP Plan. An advertisement was placed in the Mobile and Baldwin County newspapers on August 19th and 26th, 2007 to announce the meeting (See Appendix C). Also, notification of the meeting was sent to the local leaders of Federal, State, and local agencies. The meeting notice was sent to the attendees of the first public information meeting held in March and all individuals and organizations that solicited information on the CIAP and/or submitted program suggestions. The written transcripts from the public meeting are included in Appendix D-1.

A draft comment period of 30 days began on August 31, 2007. All written comments are included in Appendix D-3. In some instances public comments resulted in modifications to the Plan. Appendix E contains Governor Riley's certification of public participation.

5. Coordination with Other Federal Resources and Programs

In developing the CIAP Plan, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County selected projects and programs which complemented existing federal resources in coastal Alabama. The framework of the existing Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP), Alabama's coastal zone management program was used to provide outreach efforts relating to CIAP plan development. A project was scaled down or deleted if significant other federal funding sources were available. When necessary, federal agency personnel were consulted throughout the State of Alabama CIAP plan development. Partnering with other federal or private resources is documented in each project summary.

Some CIAP projects will be used to complement other federal resources. For example, the State of Alabama plans to rebuild the public fishing pier at Gulf State Park using public assistance funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after it was destroyed by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. In order to make the structure more resilient to future storms, CIAP funds will be used to fund the additional costs associated with rebuilding the pier in a more protected location. In addition, the pier will be longer and wider to withstand increased wave energy and wind loads. Also, CIAP has been closely coordinated with other federal land acquisition programs. For example, CIAP will fund land acquisition in the coastal area, as it is an eligible expenditure, while other land acquisition programs eligible statewide, such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Legacy Program, will be used to target non-coastal acquisition where appropriate.

Utilizing the existing outreach framework of the State of Alabama Coastal Zone Management Program, representatives from Federal, State and local agencies were invited to a meeting of the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee (CRAC). At this meeting, the Draft State of Alabama CIAP Plan was presented and discussed. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an early opportunity to view the draft plan and to coordinate financial resources relative to CIAP funding. Federal representatives were invited from the following federal agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Mobile District
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Geological Survey
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Representatives were invited from the following State of Alabama agencies:

- Alabama Department of Transportation
- Alabama Department of Environmental Management
- Department of Public Health (Baldwin and Mobile County)

- Geological Survey of Alabama

Representatives were invited from the other divisions within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources including:

- State Parks Division
- Marine Resources Division
- Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division

Representatives were invited from the following regional agencies:

- South Alabama Regional Planning Commission
- Mobile Bay National Estuary Program

One of the objectives of this meeting was to solicit formal feedback from the federal agency representatives regarding plan development and to solicit potential costs sharing and financial partnering specific to CIAP projects. The CIAP staff encouraged all agencies present at this meeting to submit written comments on the Draft State of Alabama CIAP Plan.

Federally-approved plans were reviewed during the compilation of the Alabama CIAP project lists to make sure projects did not duplicate existing federal resources and met the objective of these documents. These plans include but are not limited to the following: the Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan, the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserves Management Plan, the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan, The Alabama Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, Alabama Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program, Forest Legacy Program and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers coastal project plans. All of these plans listed above have been approved by the respective federal agency and provide long term conservation strategies and action items for Alabama's coastal area.

The Draft CIAP Plan was released to the public for review on August 30, 2007. A total of 47 comments were received of which two were from federal agencies. First, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) commended the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County for selecting projects that will, 'benefit U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service trust resources, such as imperiled plant and animal species and migratory birds.' In addition, the USFWS offered to partner with the State of Alabama to restore wildlife habitat for imperiled species and migratory birds on private land impacted by the 2005 hurricane season in order to 'maximize benefit of limited conservation dollars'. The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program submitted a written comment fully supporting the Draft State of Alabama CIAP Plan. In this letter, the MBNEP Director states, 'The State of Alabama, Baldwin County Commission, and Mobile County Commission were wise in selecting programs and projects which complemented existing federal resources'. In sum, the written comments on the Draft State of Alabama CIAP Plan from federal agencies indicate the State of Alabama CIAP coordinated CIAP resources closely with other federal resources and programs.

6. Plan Implementation Program

❖ Goals and Objectives of the State of Alabama CIAP Plan

State of Alabama

The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to implement natural resource improvement projects which have a lasting impact on the coastal community. More specific goals are listed below and were developed during the CIAP planning process. Measurable objectives from each goal are included in the associated project description.

1. Acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area.
2. Manage the State of Alabama CIAP in an efficient, cost-effective, and organized manner in order to meet the program requirements
3. Raise public awareness of conservation and protection of coastal Alabama's designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.
4. Develop a tool to evaluate impacts to coastal Alabama marine, estuarine and inland environments resulting from present and planned oil and gas infrastructure associated with development production.
5. Protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.
6. Facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.
7. Increase awareness of conservation and protection of coastal Alabama's designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) through the development and production of natural resource-based educational materials.
8. Improve management and administration of coastal resources and help implement the Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan.
9. Restore coastal areas by removing marine debris resulting from recent hurricanes
10. Implement natural resource trustee assessment and restoration activities associated with injuries to natural resource trust resources, including but not limited to, fish, wildlife, birds and groundwater.
11. Increase public awareness of conservation and protection efforts associated with the coastal marine environment.

Baldwin County Commission

The goals of the Baldwin County Commission, through the CIAP, are to provide conservation, protection and restoration of environmentally sensitive areas, to provide enhancement to properties already under the care of the county, and to develop long-term plans to assist in these endeavors. These goals will be met through the objectives associated with each plan initiatives.

The CIAP goals were coordinated with the Baldwin County Strategic Plan for 2006-2016, which addresses some of the most critical needs within the county and the strategies to meet those needs. A key requirement in the selection of initiatives for the CIAP program was the ability of those projects to meet the objectives in the County's strategic plan. The Baldwin County CIAP initiatives also were required to meet not only the authorized uses of the CIAP but also the strategic plan components. The compatibility of the initiatives along with the State of Alabama's CIAP Plan and other federally-approved plans was also considered.

Mobile County Commission

Coastal resources will be conserved, protected, enhanced, and restored by the Mobile County Commission with funding provided by the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. This goal will be achieved by pursuing three overarching objectives:

- Coastal areas in Mobile County will be more accessible to citizens and will provide increased opportunities for environmental education and recreation in order to foster support for conservation and restoration efforts.
- Coastal Impact Assistance Program funding will be utilized to assist in implementation of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan with regard to selected Water Quality, Habitat Management, Human Uses, and Education & Outreach Action Items.
- A Mobile County Coastal Resource Protection Program will be developed to promote wise management of natural resources and will include activities such as acquisition and management of coastal habitats, including wetlands.

❖ Description of how the State of Alabama, Baldwin County and Mobile County will Manage, Implement and Monitor the CIAP

State of Alabama

The State of Alabama, through the ADCNR, is committed to managing the CIAP in an efficient, cost-effective, and organized manner in order to fulfill the requirements of the program. The ADCNR, through its State Lands Division (SLD), provides day-to-day management and coordination of the CIAP. Due to its

involvement previously in a similar program, the SLD has developed the capacity to manage such a program and regularly manages large-scale grant programs. The State Lands Division employs one full-time staff person, located in the coastal area, dedicated to coordinating all aspects of the CIAP. Additionally, a State Lands Manager oversees the administration of the CIAP on a part-time basis. The State of Alabama is also considering hiring an accounting technician to aid in all financial CIAP matters. These staff members update departmental and other state officials on CIAP-related issues so that informed CIAP decisions are made. Also, close coordination with other relevant ADCNR support sections including Accounting, Legal, Engineering, and Coastal Sections occur on a regular basis to ensure proper procedures are created and followed throughout CIAP implementation. CIAP staff work closely with CIAP representatives from the MMS and other applicable federal agencies. In addition, CIAP staff coordinates with representatives from Mobile and Baldwin County regarding timetables, meetings, and reports.

Baldwin County Commission

The Baldwin County CIAP Plan is managed and monitored by the Natural Resources Section of the Planning and Zoning Department. This department in conjunction with other county departments including the Solid Waste Department and the Highway Department will implement the projects. The Grants Coordinator within the Budget Department will submit grant applications, financial and progress reports and requests for reimbursement.

Mobile County Commission

The Mobile County CIAP Program is managed by staff from the Mobile County Environmental Services Department. The staff will be responsible for management, implementation, and monitoring of the Mobile County Coastal Impact Assistance Program. This responsibility includes preparing grant applications, environmental reviews, progress reports and general grant management tasks. The staff will also manage each project from the application stage through procurement to completion and closeout. Procurement procedures and policies currently in place as well as MMS guidelines will be followed to ensure open and fair competition for contracts and purchases and compliance with all other applicable laws and regulations.

❖ The State of Alabama Public Participation Process

- a. CIAP Public Planning Process: There were two primary public meetings held to discuss the CIAP. These meetings were jointly sponsored by the State of Alabama and each of the two coastal political subdivisions and were used as vehicles to introduce the program and solicit public input. Advertisements for

these meeting were published in the Mobile-Press Register two Sundays prior to each of these meetings. CIAP staff also sought input through the state's CZM program through solicitation of project ideas from CZM staff and in a specific request for input and review from the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee (CRAC). The CRAC is a legislatively defined organization and is supported by the CZM program.

Below is a comprehensive list of all public CIAP planning activities. At each of these meetings, the public was given ample opportunity to comment and provide input. In addition, several federally-approved plans were consulted during the project list development including the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Coastal Comprehensive and Management Plan and the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program document. Public participation was an integral component in the development of these two plans. Below is a list of all public meetings and/or public notifications.

- January 9, 2007, the Baldwin County Commission discussed the CIAP at a regularly scheduled work session.
- March 2, 2007, Baldwin County distributed its newsletter, Planning Horizons, advertising the CIAP public meeting.
- March 6, 2007, a public information meeting was held at 6:00 pm at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center. Thirty-two (32) people attended this meeting. This meeting was advertised in the Mobile-Press Register and the Baldwin Register on February 24, 2007 and March 4, 2007.
- April 4, 2007, CIAP staff met with and informed representatives with The Nature Conservancy and the Friends of Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge of the CIAP program.
- April 4, 2007 CIAP staff met with and informed representatives from the Geologic Survey of Alabama of the Alabama CIAP Program.
- April 10, 2007, the Baldwin County Commission discussed the CIAP at a regularly scheduled work session.
- April 17, 2007 CIAP program staff met and informed representatives from the Organized Seafood Association of Alabama of the CIAP Program.
- April 19, 2007 Mobile County Commission discussed and reviewed Mobile County's Tier 1 and Tier 2 project lists at an Agenda Meeting.

- April 24, 2007, the Mobile County Commission approved the CIAP Tier 1 and Tier 2 project lists and approved submittal of such lists to the State for inclusion into the State of Alabama CIAP Plan.
 - May 15, 2007, the Baldwin County Commission formally approved the CIAP Tier 1 and Tier 2 lists at a regularly scheduled meeting and approved submittal of such lists to the State for inclusion into the State of Alabama CIAP Plan.
 - August 30, 2007, the Draft CIAP Plan was presented to the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee (CRAC).
 - August 30, 2007, the Draft CIAP Plan was released to the public via a public meeting held at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center. Fifty-eight (58) people attended this meeting. This meeting was advertised in the Mobile-Press Register and the Baldwin Register on July 19th and July 26th, 2007. The transcripts from the meeting are included in Appendix D-1.
 - August 31, 2007, the comment period for written comments began.
 - October 22, 2008 the ADCNR Commissioner responded via a letter to all forty-seven comments.
 - January 10, 2008 as a result of public comment and input, the Mobile County Commission discussed and reviewed the modified Tier 1 and Tier 2 project lists at an Agenda Meeting.
 - January 15, 2008, the Mobile County Commission approved the modified CIAP Tier 1 and Tier 2 project lists and approved submittal of such lists to the State for inclusion into the Final State of Alabama CIAP Plan.
 - February 25, 2008: An advertisement was placed in the Mobile-Press Register and Baldwin Register to announce three additional projects included in the Final State of Alabama CIAP Plan including a land acquisition project for Dauphin Island (AL-24 and MC-14) and Public Access Improvements at Big Creek Lake (MC-15).
- b. Written Public Comments All submitted written comments are included in Appendix D-3. Overall, there were 47 comments submitted via e-mail, fax or U.S. mail addressed to the Governor, Bob Riley and other State officials. A response was sent to all comments submitted from the Commissioner thanking them for their participation in the State of Alabama CIAP. The comments and respective

responses are summarized in the following table. Appendix D contains the public comments from the August 30, 2008 public meeting, summary tables of all comments received, and the comments.

<u>Comment</u>	<u>Number of Comments</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Response/ Resolution</u>
Requests funding for a variety of Dauphin Island projects	35	Blackmon; Bonner; Brennon; Brooks ; Collier,C.; Collier, J. (3); Collier, S.; Damiens; Edwards (2); Gaines; Harper (2), Henderson; Mayson, McDermott; Miller (5); Opanowitz, Previto, Roedder, Rogers, Tafra, Thompson, Turner B.; Turner R.; Wheeler; Willis; and Winstead (2).	Per the request of the State legislative delegation from Dauphin Island, the State of Alabama and Mobile County partnered to fund AL-24 and MC-14 -- Land Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property on Dauphin Island in the Final CIAP Plan.
Supports CIAP Plan as written with other minor comments	7	Bishop; Dixon; Malone; Tawes (USFWS); Tew (GSA), Watts; Yeager (MBNEP)	A letter was sent from the Commissioner thanking each comment author for their participation in the State of Alabama CIAP.
Requests CIAP funding to create a coastal resiliency network.	1	Hallet	Project was not selected for funding in the Final Plan, however the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce will be asked to participate in future planning processes. A letter was sent from the Commissioner thanking the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce for their participation in the CIAP.
Various comments on the overall Draft Plan and	1	Crozier	Per the request of the State legislative delegation from Dauphin Island, the

supports funding for Dauphin Island.			State of Alabama and Mobile County partnered to fund AL-24 and MC-14 -- Land Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property on Dauphin Island in the Final CIAP Plan. Other comments were considered by the Commissioner.
Supports funding for construction of turn basin in the Mobile River	1	Lyons	Project was not selected for funding in the Final Plan primarily because dredging is an ineligible CIAP activity. A letter was sent from the Commissioner thanking the Mobile Port Authority for their participation in the CIAP.
Supports safe harbor facilities for commercial shrimp boats	1	Anderson	This project is not considered an eligible expenditure of CIAP funds. A letter was sent from the Commissioner thanking the Alabama Seafood Association for their participation in the CIAP.
Expresses concern about a Mobile County land acquisition project	1	Van Fleet	Mobile County removed this project from the Tier 1 list and added a Tier 2 project to acquire land in southern Mobile County
Total comments received	47		

Table 2. Summary of Written Comments submitted during the Public Comment Period (August 31-October 1, 2007).

❖ The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County Decision-Making Process for Selecting Projects

Since the Energy Policy Act was approved by Congress in 2005, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County have met regularly to develop the Alabama CIAP. The regular meetings have been instrumental in discussing eligible CIAP projects. In addition to other administrative functions, these meetings were helpful in discussing each entity's CIAP needs. For example, a partnership to construct and implement real time continuous water quality monitors in the coastal waters of Alabama resulted from these meetings. A list of the Alabama planning meetings is below:

- July 17-18, 2006 the Alabama CIAP team met separately in Reston, Virginia during Grant Guidelines Workshop sponsored by the Minerals Management Service.
- September 7, 2006 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:00 am at South Alabama Regional Planning Commission offices at 110 Bearegard Street in downtown Mobile.
- October 4, 2006 the CIAP Planning team met at 2:00 pm at South Alabama Regional Planning Commission offices at 110 Bearegard Street in downtown Mobile.
- November 8, 2006 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am at South Alabama Regional Planning Commission offices at 110 Bearegard Street in downtown Mobile.
- December 6, 2006 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am at South Alabama Regional Planning Commission offices at 110 Bearegard Street in downtown Mobile.
- January 10, 2007 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am at South Alabama Regional Planning Commission offices at 110 Bearegard Street in downtown Mobile.
- February, 7, 2007 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- March 22, 2007 the CIAP Planning team met at 2:00 pm at Five Rivers, Alabama's Delta Resource Center
- June 4, 2007 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.

- June 18, 2007 the CIAP Planning team met at 10:30 am at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- July 10, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a conference call to discuss CIAP Plan development.
- July 30, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a conference call to discuss CIAP Plan development.
- August 8, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a meeting at 1:30 pm at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama
- September 19, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a meeting at 1:30 pm at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- November 7, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a meeting at 10:00 am at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- December 12, 2007 the CIAP Planning team held a meeting at 1:30 pm at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.
- January 10, 2008 the CIAP Planning team held a meeting at 1:30 pm at Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, Alabama.

State of Alabama

At the state level, early in the CIAP planning process various divisions within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (i.e. the State Lands Division, Marine Resources Division, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, and State Parks Division) identified and scoped out restoration and conservation needs, goals, and objectives. This process generated an extensive project list totaling over 300 million dollars in potential project costs. Through the leadership of the Conservation Commissioner, M. Barnett Lawley, the list was condensed based on a variety of factors. First, the project's compatibility with any of CIAP's authorized uses was considered. Second, the availability of other Federal resources was determined for each project. Next, priorities of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources were evaluated in context to the preliminary project lists. Last, each project had to meet criteria set forth by the goals and objectives of the CIAP as determined by ADCNR. The

Commissioner held several meetings to discuss each project in detail. Subsequently, CIAP staff compiled a list of projects which were eligible CIAP expenditures, met ADCNR goals, did not duplicate existing programs, and last, represented a cooperative consensus from each respective ADCNR division. This process produced a list of projects such as acquisition of sensitive land for conservation, longleaf pine restoration, and enhancement of conservation education through improvements and upgrades to facilities throughout the coastal area

At the same time the State was evaluating its internal priorities, numerous program suggestions were presented to the State of Alabama. These suggestions were documented and evaluated for eligibility and compatibility with the Alabama CIAP. Subsequently, some program suggestions were included in the State of Alabama CIAP Plan in the Tier 1 or Tier 2 project list. This list was published in the State of Alabama Draft CIAP Plan for FY 2007 and FY 2008 and released to the public for comment on August 30, 2007.

During the comment period, 35 of 47 written comments (74% of the total) requested additional CIAP funding for Dauphin Island in Mobile County. As a response to the public participation, Governor Riley; Conservation Commissioner, M. Barnett Lawley; and the Mobile County Commission agreed to partner to contribute \$2,000,000.00 of funding for a selected Dauphin Island project. The state legislative delegation selected a project to acquire waterfront property to be used for the Coastal Kayaking Trail. This project is included as AL-24 and MC-14 in the Final State of Alabama CIAP Plan for FY 2007 and 2008. In sum, the projects identified in the Alabama CIAP Plan have been selected because they provide significant, quantifiable, and long-term results that will assist the State in taking a proactive step towards the ecological and economical vitality for current and future generations.

Baldwin County Commission

The Natural Resource Section of the Planning and Zoning Department developed a list of possible projects for inclusion in the CIAP plan and further solicited project ideas from the public. This information was provided to the Baldwin County Commission for their review and approval. The process for decision making involved an analysis of the proposed projects in relation to the Baldwin County Strategic Plan and the authorized uses of the CIAP plan. Additionally, projects were selected based on common objectives of federally approved plans (Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan and Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan).

Mobile County Commission

The Mobile County Commission appointed the Director of the Mobile County Environmental Services Department to take the lead in identifying projects to be

included in the Mobile County Coastal Impact Assistance Program. An internal planning team was formed that included the County Commissioners, the Mobile County Engineer, and staff from the Environmental Services Department to review identified projects.

Internal planning meetings were held to brief team members on program guidance, develop program goals and objectives, and to review the list of potential projects. The Mobile County CIAP team evaluated the goals and objectives of each project and reviewed the proposed activity's consistency with the Coastal Impact Assistance Program guidance.

Projects were selected for inclusion in the County's portion of the CIAP based on:

1. Compliance with Authorized Uses;
2. Compliance with local objectives and;
3. Feasibility of proposed project

- ❖ How the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County will ensure compliance with all relevant Federal, State, and local laws including each State's Coastal Zone Management Program

State of Alabama

The State of Alabama CIAP staff will review all projects to ensure compliance with Federal, State, and relevant local laws and regulations. At the Federal level, CIAP projects are subject to authorities such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Federal Consistency Provisions of Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), the Essential Fish Habitat Provisions of the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Coastal Barrier Resources Act, National Historic Preservation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The CIAP staff will obtain all the federal assurances and permits prior to or during the grant phase of each project according to program guidelines. At the State level, the ADCNR serves as the lead administrative arm of the ACAMP, the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) is the regulatory agency of the Coastal Zone Management Program in Alabama. For each project, ADEM will be consulted and a letter certifying consistency with the ACAMP will be issued. The authorized uses of CIAP fit closely with the goals and objectives of the ACAMP. At the local level, the State of Alabama will coordinate CIAP projects with any relevant building or zoning codes.

Baldwin County Commission

Baldwin County will ensure compliance with all relevant laws by reviewing local, state and federal requirements as they pertain to each project. The permit submittal process for the coastal zone of Alabama will be followed. In addition, the Legal Department of the Baldwin County Commission will review project requirements prior to implementation. The County will also coordinate CIAP project activities with other County departments to ensure that they are compatible.

Mobile County Commission

The Mobile County Commission will ensure compliance with all relevant laws by consulting with federal, state, and local agencies, including consultation with legal staff, and seeking permits where appropriate.

- ❖ Description of the major activities and/or categories to be funded under the Program (e.g., infrastructure, habitat restoration, mitigation, etc.)

State of Alabama

In the State of Alabama Tier One and Tier Two project lists, there are seven major categories of projects including land acquisition, research, energy services planning, habitat restoration and protection, environmental education and public access, environmental education and research facility, and administration. The majority of the State's projects, or roughly 25% of the total projects, are habitat restoration and protection projects. These projects will accomplish the goal of restoring coastal areas through detailed planning and on-the-ground implementation for a wide variety of projects. Most of these projects will restore areas damaged by recent hurricanes and to increase resiliency for future storms. For example, the Gulf State Park Pier will be rebuilt to replace the former pier destroyed by Hurricane Ivan. Another focus of the State of Alabama CIAP is to invest in environmental education and research facilities such as the Weeks Bay Reserve Multipurpose Building (AL-4) or infrastructure improvements to the State's marine research facility on Dauphin Island (AL-20).

Creating a mechanism for the public to learn about the wealth of natural resources in coastal Alabama is another goal of the State of Alabama CIAP. A total of six projects (three on the Tier One list and three on the Tier 2 list) will meet objectives associated with this goal such as the creation of water-based recreation trails. Through the administration of the Forever Wild Land Trust, the State Lands Division has considerable experience in land acquisition and there are several land acquisition projects

in the CIAP Plan which complement existing coastal land acquisition endeavors. Last, the State of Alabama has included projects which will provide more information and data which will enhance management of coastal resources through research and energy services planning. Table 3 and 4 summarizes the State of Alabama's Tier One and Tier Two project by major categories of projects.

Baldwin County Commission

A significant portion of the funds in the Baldwin County CIAP plan meet the CIAP authorized use #1. This authorized use is for projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands. This authorized use addresses the primary goal of Baldwin County in the use of CIAP funds. In addition, many of the activities also meet use #4, the implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan. Baldwin County recognizes the importance of working with other agencies to address the many environmental concerns that face our area.

Mobile County Commission

The three categories of activities to be funded will be related to improving coastal access, implementation of Action Items included in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) developed by the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) and implementation of the Mobile County Coastal Resource Protection Program. Improving and controlling the public's access to coastal areas provides opportunities for education and outreach to instill the responsibility of stewardship shared by stakeholders. Providing increased public access and eco-tourism opportunities is also included in the Mobile Bay NEP CCMP. Additional CCMP action items included in the activities to be funded range from reducing opportunities for pathogen introduction to local waters to implementing public education and outreach projects. Activities that support the development and implementation of a Mobile County Resource Protection Program include the acquisition of parcels that contain sensitive habitats for conservation and obtaining equipment needed to manage the maintenance of such parcels.

	Total	Land Acquisition	Research	Energy Services Planning	Habitat Restoration and Protection	Environmental Education and Public Access	Environmental Education and Research Facility	Land Use Planning	Pollution Prevention	Administrative
Alabama	24	2	3	1	10	4	3	-	-	1
Baldwin County	11	2	1	-	4	1	-	1	1	1
Mobile County	15	2	2	-	1	5	-	1	3	1
TOTAL	50	6	6	1	15	10	3	2	4	3

Table 3. Tier One Projects by Major Category for State of Alabama, Baldwin County and Mobile County.

	Total	Land Acquisition	Research	Energy Services Planning	Habitat Restoration and Protection	Environmental Education and Public Access	Environmental Education and Research Facility	Land Use Planning	Pollution Prevention	Administrative
Alabama	15	3	3	-	6	-	3	-	-	-
Baldwin County	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Mobile County	9	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	5	-
TOTAL	28	5	4	0	8	1	3	0	7	0

Table 4. Tier Two Projects by Major Category for State of Alabama, Baldwin County and Mobile County.

❖ An Estimate of the Amount of Funds, by State and CPS, that will be Spent Annually on Each Authorized Use

Appendix F includes tables summarizing the title of each project, estimated cost of each project, and the estimated cost of each project broken down by spending estimate per calendar year of project duration, subtotal of all estimated costs by authorized use, and the total estimated cost for all authorized uses. There is a set of tables for the State of Alabama (F-1), Baldwin County (F-2), and Mobile County (F-3).

State of Alabama

Of the twenty-four (24) total projects in the State of Alabama CIAP project lists, fifteen (15) projects or (48.25% of the total funding) use Authorized Use #1 as a justification. There are only two projects which utilize Authorized Use #2 (4.26% of the total funding) as a justification. These projects will mitigate damage to natural resources. The State of Alabama has budgeted less than 2% of the total CIAP funding to be used for project administration. There have been many federally approved coastal comprehensive management plans developed in the coastal Alabama, therefore 6 projects or 45.59% of the total funding uses Authorized Use #4 as a justification. The State of Alabama did not use Authorized #5 in any Tier One projects.

Baldwin County

Baldwin County has eleven (11) projects in its Tier One list. Of these, six (6) projects meet Authorized Use #1. This represents 47.4% of the total funding. There are four (4) projects, representing 49.47% of the funding, which use Authorized Use #4 as a justification. Baldwin County has budgeted 3.13% of the funds to be used for CIAP administration. There are no projects under Authorized Use #2 or Authorized Use #5.

Mobile County

The Mobile County Commission has selected fifteen (15) projects with funding totaling \$9,902,030.28. There are five (5) projects under Authorized Use #1 using \$2,573,000.00 (26% of the total funding). There are no projects under Authorized Use #2. Authorized Use #3 has only one project using \$362,030.28 (4% of the total funding). Authorized Use #4 has 9 projects using \$6,967,000.00 (70% of the total funding). There are no projects under Authorized Use #5.

7. Proposed Project Lists

a. State of Alabama Tier 1 Projects

(Table 1 of 2)

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL-1	Acquisition of Perdido River Longleaf Hills: South Addition	\$ 6,906,655.00	23
AL-2	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$ 630,427.62	27
AL-3	Infrastructure Improvements at Designated Protected Areas in Coastal Alabama	\$ 500,000.00	29
AL-4	Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Education and Multipurpose Building Construction	\$ 1,392,503.47	33
AL-5	Water-Based Nature Trail Development in Coastal Alabama	\$ 750,000.00	37
AL-6	GIS-based Inventory of Oil and Gas Leased Tracts Including Pipelines and Infrastructure	\$ 200,000.00	41
AL-7	Investigation and Control of Non-native Terrestrial Exotic and Nuisance Species in Designated Protected Areas	\$ 766,666.67	45
AL-8	Reintroduction of Native Vegetation in Areas Converted for Silvicultural or Agricultural Activities (e.g. reforestation of longleaf areas)	\$ 1,000,000.00	49
AL-9	Wetland restoration in Grand Bay, Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Lillian Swamp and Perdido River	\$ 416,666.67	53
AL-10	Equipment and Infrastructure Improvements to Enhance Land Conservation Management and Activities in Coastal Areas	\$ 642,503.46	57
AL-11	Restoration of Wildlife and Plant Communities Impacted by Habitat Disturbances	\$ 416,666.27	59

(Table 2 of 2)

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL-12	Investigation of Restoration of Hydrology on Mobile Bay Causeway	\$ 500,000.00	61
AL-13	Reconstruction of the Gulf State Park Pier	\$ 8,000,000.00	65
AL-14	Gulf State Park Environmental Education Center	\$ 2,000,000.00	69
AL-15	Restoration of Gulf State Park Campground Vegetation	\$ 245,000.00	73
AL-16	Longleaf Pine Restoration at Gulf State Park	\$ 420,000.00	75
AL-17	Gulf State Park Land Management Program	\$ 750,000.00	79
AL-18	Freshwater Mollusk and Fish Enhancement and Restoration in Coastal River Systems	\$ 1,000,000.00	83
AL-19	Improvements to the Marine Resources Division's facilities at Claude Petet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama	\$ 4,500,000.00	89
AL-20	Improvements to Marine Resource Division's facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama	\$ 550,000.00	93
AL-21	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$ 100,000.00	97
AL-22	Research Equipment and Software for Artificial Reef and Coastal Resource Management	\$ 330,000.00	101
AL-23	External Audit of Marine Resource Division's Biological Sampling and Analysis Programs	\$ 200,000.00	105
AL-24	Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island	\$ 1,000,000.00	109
TOTAL		\$33,217,089.16	

b. Baldwin County Tier One Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
BC-1	Wetland and Waterway Protection	\$900,000.00	115
BC-2	Acquisition of Property for Conservation & Public Access	\$2,094,094.64	119
BC-3	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$250,000.00	123
BC-4	Magnolia Landfill Gas Collection System	\$650,000.00	125
BC-5	Comprehensive Land Use Plan Development	\$300,000.00	129
BC-6	Exotic Plant Species Management	\$100,000.00	133
BC-7	Coastal Dune Restoration	\$240,000.00	137
BC-8	Shoreline/Habitat Restoration	\$200,000.00	141
BC-9	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$250,000.00	145
BC-10	Enhancement of Existing Public Accesses	\$1,000,000.00	149
BC-11	Acquisition of Property for Boating Access	\$2,000,000.00	153
Total		\$7,984,094.64	

c. Mobile County Tier One Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
MC-1	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$ 362,030.28	159
MC-2	Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center Improvements	\$ 1,527,000.00	161
MC-3	Heron Bay Cut-Off Access Improvements	\$ 825,000.00	165
MC-4	Dauphin Island Campground Improvements	\$ 200,000.00	169
MC-5	Dauphin Island Bicycle Trail Repair	\$ 95,000.00	171
MC-6	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events	\$ 500,000.00	173
MC-7	Mobile County Greenprint Project	\$ 73,000.00	177
MC-8	Sensitive Habitat Restoration and Enhancement of County-owned Property	\$ 450,000.00	181
MC-9	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$ 250,000.00	183
MC-10	North Mobile County Wastewater Facilities	\$ 1,500,000.00	187
MC-11	Bayfront Park Improvements	\$ 175,000.00	191
MC-12	Coastal Research Weather Stations	\$ 145,000.00	195
MC-13	West Mobile County Conservation Property Acquisition	\$ 800,000.00	199
MC-14	Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island	\$ 1,000,000.00	201
MC-15	Big Creek Lake Public Access Improvements	\$ 2,000,000.00	205
Total		\$ 9,902,030.28	

d. State of Alabama Tier Two Projects

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL2-1	Biodiversity Inventories in Designated Protected Areas of Coastal Alabama	\$500,000.00	213
AL2-2	Assessment of Coastal Alabama Salt Marsh Communities	\$200,000.00	217
AL2-3	Development of Natural Resource-based Public Education and Outreach Materials for Coastal Alabama	\$500,000.00	219
AL2-4	Implement and Expand Prescribed Burning Program	\$100,000.00	223
AL2-5	Expansion of the Graduate Research Program at Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	\$125,000.00	225
AL2-6	Alabama Coastal Area Management Program Web Portal	\$50,000.00	227
AL2-7	Removal of Derelict Structures and Vessels in Waterways from Hurricanes	\$250,000.00	229
AL2-8	Support of Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program (NRDA) in Coastal Alabama	\$400,000.00	231
AL2-9	Land Acquisition in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor and/or Lillian Swamp, Baldwin County	\$10,000,000.00	235
AL2-10	Land Acquisition in the Escatawpa River Corridor and/or Coastal Mobile County	\$10,000,000.00	237
AL2-11	Land Acquisition in the Red Hills, Monroe County	\$10,000,000.00	241
AL2-12	Artificial Reef -- Construction, Research, and Development	\$1,000,000.00	243
AL2-13	Outreach for Local Marine Conservation Awareness Public Service Announcements	\$200,000.00	245
AL2-14	Bathymetric, Seismic, and Vibracore Survey of Federal Waters	\$1,150,000.00	247
AL2-15	Development of GIS-based Applications and Digital Data to Assist in Management of Alabama's Coastal Resources	\$675,000.00	249

e. Baldwin County Tier Two Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
BC2-1	Erosion Control Equipment for Highway Department	\$480,000.00	255
BC2-2	Enhancement of Recycling Facility at Magnolia Landfill	\$300,000.00	259
BC2-3	Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Day	\$150,000.00	263
BC2-4	Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Study	\$100,000.00	267

f. Mobile County Tier Two Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
MC2-1	Mobile County Conservation Acquisition	\$ 4,000,000.00	273
MC2-2	South Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities	\$ 2,500,000.00	275
MC2-3	Dauphin Island Causeway Restoration, Protection, and Public Access Project	\$ 1,000,000.00	279
MC2-4	West Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities	\$ 2,500,000.00	283
MC2-5	Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access	\$ 1,000,000.00	287
MC2-6	Erosion & Sediment Control	\$ 1,000,000.00	291
MC2-7	Establishment of a Mobile County Recycling Facility	\$ 1,000,000.00	293
MC2-8	Erosion Control Equipment for Public Works Department	\$ 480,000.00	297
MC2-9	Escatawpa Hollow River Park Acquisition and Improvements	\$ 2,000,000.00	299

8. Proposed Tier One Project Descriptions

a. State of Alabama Tier One Project Descriptions

Table 1 of 2

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL-1	Acquisition of Perdido River Longleaf Hills: South Addition	\$ 6,906,655.00	23
AL-2	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$ 630,427.62	27
AL-3	Infrastructure Improvements at Designated Protected Areas in Coastal Alabama	\$ 500,000.00	29
AL-4	Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Education and Multipurpose Building Construction	\$ 1,392,503.47	33
AL-5	Water-Based Nature Trail Development in Coastal Alabama	\$ 750,000.00	37
AL-6	GIS-based Inventory of Oil and Gas Leased Tracts Including Pipelines and Infrastructure	\$ 200,000.00	41
AL-7	Investigation and Control of Non-native Terrestrial Exotic and Nuisance Species in Designated Protected Areas	\$ 766,666.67	45
AL-8	Reintroduction of Native Vegetation in Areas Converted for Silvicultural or Agricultural Activities (e.g. reforestation of longleaf areas)	\$ 1,000,000.00	49
AL-9	Wetland restoration in Grand Bay, Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Lillian Swamp and Perdido River	\$ 416,666.67	53
AL-10	Equipment and Infrastructure Improvements to Enhance Land Conservation Management and Activities in Coastal Areas	\$ 642,503.46	57
AL-11	Restoration of Wildlife and Plant Communities Impacted by Habitat Disturbances	\$ 416,666.27	59

Table 2 of 2

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL-12	Investigation of Restoration of Hydrology on Mobile Bay Causeway	\$ 500,000.00	61
AL-13	Reconstruction of the Gulf State Park Pier	\$ 8,000,000.00	65
AL-14	Gulf State Park Environmental Education Center	\$ 2,000,000.00	69
AL-15	Restoration of Gulf State Park Campground Vegetation	\$ 245,000.00	73
AL-16	Longleaf Pine Restoration at Gulf State Park	\$ 420,000.00	75
AL-17	Gulf State Park Land Management Program	\$ 750,000.00	79
AL-18	Freshwater Mollusk and Fish Enhancement and Restoration in Coastal River Systems	\$ 1,000,000.00	83
AL-19	Improvements to the Marine Resources Division's facilities at Claude Peteet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama	\$ 4,500,000.00	89
AL-20	Improvements to Marine Resource Division's facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama	\$ 550,000.00	93
AL-21	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$ 100,000.00	97
AL-22	Research Equipment and Software for Artificial Reef and Coastal Resource Management	\$ 330,000.00	101
AL-23	External Audit of Marine Resource Division's Biological Sampling and Analysis Programs	\$ 200,000.00	105
AL-24	Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island	\$ 1,000,000.00	109
TOTAL		\$33,217,089.16	

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Acquisition of Perdido River Longleaf Hills: South Addition**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-1**

PROJECT CONTACT (S):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Perdido River Corridor, East Baldwin County, AL

DURATION: One Year

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 6,906,655.00
FY 2007	\$ 6,906,655.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-1	
2008	\$ 6,906,655.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to purchase approximately 4,796 acres of the Perdido River Tract from The Nature Conservancy.

The Perdido River (30° 42' 27.34" N, 87° 28' 31.56" W) forms most of the eastern boundary between Baldwin County, Alabama, and Escambia County, Florida and flows into Perdido Bay. The Perdido River is one of the highest quality, free-flowing blackwater river systems in the Gulf Coastal Plain. The forests along the river corridor include slash pine flatwoods, pitcher plant seepage bogs, longleaf pine forests, and Atlantic whitecedar swamps. The Perdido River has incredible water clarity and provides high quality fresh water to Perdido Bay, which is home to an abundant diversity of estuarine life, including dwarf seahorses, dolphins, manatees, and coastal arch grasses. The Perdido River contains numerous, large beach quality sandbars at nearly every curve in the river. Lands along the Perdido River corridor are utilized by hundreds of species of neotropical migratory birds as feeding and resting sites during spring and fall migrations.

In early 2006, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) purchased 14,119 acres along the Perdido River from International Paper Corporation, seizing upon a rare opportunity to conserve many acres of sensitive habitat. Subsequently, in December of 2006 the State of Alabama purchased 9,323 acres of this tract from TNC using funding from the State of Alabama's Forever Wild program, 2001 CIAP funds, and funding from the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP). Additional land to the north was also acquired via the Forest Legacy Program. This project continues a comprehensive interstate approach to the conservation and management of a unique coastal ecosystem. Specifically, this project compliments the acquisition of a 7,400 acre conservation easement on the Florida side of the river, by the Florida Forever acquisition program, as well as 2,386 acres recently purchased by the Florida Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

The objective of this project is to purchase the remaining acreage of this tract (approximately 4,796 acres) from The Nature Conservancy. Maps are included in Appendix G-2 and G-3 depicting the location of the property. A closing date will be scheduled and the title will be transferred soon after CIAP plan

approval. The property will be managed by the SLD and the deed will be restricted according to program requirements.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-2**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Will Brantley, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	64 North Union Street
	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	will.brantley@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 630,427.62
FY 2007	\$ 309,386.11
FY 2008	\$ 321,041.51

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-2	
2008	\$ 157,606.91
2009	\$ 157,606.91
2010	\$ 157,606.91
2011	\$ 157,606.91

GOAL: The goal of this project is to manage the State of Alabama CIAP in an efficient, cost-effective, and organized manner in order to meet the program requirements.

OBJECTIVE: This project will encompass all aspects of CIAP administration including grant oversight, contract management, public education/outreach, engineering support, and accounting services. As necessary, external contractors will be employed to aid in successful implementation of the State of Alabama CIAP.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #3: planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #3 because administrative costs meet the definition of the Authorized Use.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funds.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Infrastructure Improvements at Designated Protected Areas in Coastal
Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-3**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Chris Smith, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	chris.smith@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Grand Bay Savanna in southwestern Mobile County, Mobile Tensaw Delta, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog in northern Baldwin County, Perdido River corridor in eastern Baldwin County, and Lillian Swamp in southeastern Baldwin County (see Appendix G-4)

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 500,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-3	
2008	\$ 125,000.00
2009	\$ 125,000.00
2010	\$ 125,000.00
2011	\$ 125,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to conserve and protect Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by raising the public awareness of these areas through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE: This project will construct two (2) kiosks and one-thousand (1000) feet of boardwalk at Grand Bay savanna. Also, three (3) other capital improvement projects will be planned and constructed at the Lillian Swamp, Perdido River Corridor, Splinter Hill Bog, and/or the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.

The goal of this project is to increase public awareness of conservation and protection of the State of Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities. These facilities include boardwalks, trail markers, trails, and viewing platforms. Conservation tracts at these locations have been acquired through a variety of federal, state and local partnerships. Appendix G-4 depicts a map of these areas in coastal Alabama.

The project will contain two components. First, SLD conservation staff will designate an appropriate location and plan for the necessary improvements. Exact locations and associated budgets for each improvement within this project will be submitted in the grant application phase. Next, four (4) capital improvements projects one each at the Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Perdido River Corridor, Splinter Hill Bog, and/or the Mobile-Tensaw Delta will be constructed. For example, this project will construct 1000-feet of boardwalk and two (2) kiosks at the Grand Bay Savanna in southeastern Mobile County (30° 24’ 28.8” N, 88° 18’ 33.68” W). Information regarding the remaining improvements at the

remaining locations will be determined through an in-house planning process provided with the grant application.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4: implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective HU-C1 of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (MBNEP CCMP). This document was approved by the EPA in 2002 and is, by definition, a marine, coastal, comprehensive management plan. The action plan objective HU-C1 states: *“Increase public access and ecotourism opportunities.”* This project will construct amenities at sites to improve public access and to provide natural resource-based education at designated protected areas in coastal Alabama.

In addition to the MBNEP CCMP, the Alabama Coastal Management Program document (ACAMP) states the following as a management program policy statement under Resources of the Coastal Area: *“... it is a policy of the Management Program to encourage development of additional recreational opportunities and public access to enhance the well-being of Alabama citizens and visitors.”* The construction of the Gulf State Park Pier meets this objective.

- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource-based activities encourage a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These designated protected areas highlight land conservation and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. One avenue to magnify these accomplishments would be to erect a kiosk at the Grand Bay Savanna that would educate readers on the importance of suitable habitat space for natural resources to thrive through the area’s acquisition plan. In addition, this site is a very popular destination for viewing a variety of bird species. Due to this natural appeal, the Grand Bay Savanna is recognized as a key birding location on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail (www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com) and is a featured tour destination for coastal birding festivals and birding enthusiasts. However, this site lacks the improvements, such as boardwalks and trails, to support such heavy human traffic. In its current state, this site is not conducive for conducting tours or facilitating low impact natural resource-based activities. In sum, providing the public a place to experience land conservation first hand in south Alabama enhances the public’s appreciation of the natural coastal environment. This appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership of public land and, in turn, results in a benefit to the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Education and
Multipurpose Building Construction**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-4**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Phillip Hinesley, Chief Coastal Section
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division, Coastal Section
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	31115 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 621-1216
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcrn.alabama.gov	phillip.hinesley@dcrn.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Weeks Bay Reserve, Fairhope, AL**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,392,503.47
FY 2007	\$ 1,392,503.47
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-4	
2008	\$ 1,392,503.47
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to conserve and protect Alabama's designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by raising the public awareness of these areas through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct 9,500 square feet of classroom and meeting space to host 2,500 students and visitors annually at the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The Weeks Bay Estuarine Research Reserve is located in southwest Baldwin County and is managed by the Coastal Section of the State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Its mission is to provide leadership to promote informed management of estuarine and coastal habitats through scientific understanding and to encourage land stewardship practices through partnerships, public education, and outreach programs. Thousands of visitors and students come to this facility every year.

The State of Alabama will expend CIAP funds to construct an Education and Multipurpose Building. This building will be located immediately adjacent to the confluence of Weeks Bay and Fish River (30° 24' 55.53" N, 87° 49' 31.48" W). The building will provide 6,500 square feet of classroom space and 3,000 square feet of multipurpose meeting space. The classroom space will be used to conduct natural resource-based educational programs in concert with the mission of the Weeks Bay NERR. The State of

Alabama will partner with capital improvement funds from NOAA to complete this project. Appendix G-5 contains a map of the building location.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4: implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective set forth in the Weeks Bay Management Plan. In May of 2007 the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA) approved the Weeks Bay Management Plan, a marine, coastal, comprehensive management plan. This plan outlines several action items for capital improvements at the Reserve. Specifically, the Weeks Bay Management Plan includes a strategic plan which recommended goals and strategies for the future of Weeks Bay and the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Strategy 2 states the Reserve will “Establish a specially equipped, multipurpose building for environmental education”.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: A National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) capital improvement grant from NOAA (approximately \$300,000.00) will be used in conjunction with CIAP funds to construct the Education and Multipurpose Building.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The mission of the Weeks Bay NERR is to provide leadership to promote informed management of estuarine and coastal habitats through scientific understanding and encourage good stewardship practices through partnerships, public education, and outreach programs. The new building will host many natural resource-based educational activities. These activities will provide the visitor’s of Weeks Bay appreciation of the Alabama’s coastal natural resources which will foster a long-term sense of stewardship, and in turn will benefit the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Water-Based Nature Trail Development in Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-5**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Chris Smith, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	chris.smith@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River, and Coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-5	
Total Project Cost	\$ 750,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 750,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-5	
2008	\$ 187,500.00
2009	\$ 187,500.00
2010	\$ 187,500.00
2011	\$ 187,500.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to conserve and protect Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by raising the public awareness of these areas through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct 100 miles of designated and marked trails in the southern Mobile-Tensaw Delta (Bartram Canoe trail) with 3 day-use platforms and 6 overnight camping platforms, identify and construct 25 miles of designated and marked trails with two access points on the Perdido River, and construct 50 miles of designated and marked trails along Alabama’s coastal waterways (Coastal Kayacking Trail). In addition, at least 15,000 educational maps/brochures will be designed and published for public distribution.

This project consists of three major projects: the expansion of the Bartram Canoe Trail in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, the creation of the Perdido River Canoe Trail, and the establishment of the Alabama Coastal Kayacking Trail. The goal of this project is to create water-based trails to promote conservation of Alabama’s coastal waterways and wetlands.

- *Bartram Canoe Trail Expansion:* The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources State Lands Division constructed the Bartram Canoe Trail (www.bartramcanoetrail.com) as a 2001 CIAP project. The canoe trail is located in the northern Mobile-Tensaw Delta (i.e. north of Interstate 65) and provides day and overnight canoe routes. Signs were installed along the routes and camping sites and platforms were constructed. Also, a brochure and map of the trail was published and widely distributed. This project has been extremely successful as the trail has been used by a variety of users from experienced paddlers to Girl Scout/Boy Scout troops and all of the maps have been distributed to the public. The State of Alabama will expand the Bartram Canoe Trail to include the southern Mobile-Tensaw Delta (i.e. south of Interstate 65) by adding 6 overnight and 3 day-use floating platforms to support camping routes. Docks and piers will be added to aid in launching. In addition, signage and a minimum of 15,000 educational maps/brochures will be published. Also, at least three other key entry and exit point locations will be incorporated into the Trail. The specific locations will be determined through an in-house

planning process could include Chickasabogue Park, Dead Lake Marina, Byrnes Lake Landing, and Blakelely State Park. Specifics related to these locations will be provided in the grant application.

- *The Perdido River Canoe Trail:* The objective of this project is to establish a canoe trail along the Perdido River, adjacent to State-owned conservation land along the Perdido River Corridor and the tract proposed for purchase in AL-1. The Perdido River forms most of the boundary between the State of Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama and has numerous natural resource-based opportunities, including canoeing and kayaking as the river contains numerous, large beach quality sandbars in addition to scenic Atlantic White Cedar Swamps. First, this project will involve developing a master plan and locating sites suitable for overnight camping and camping platforms. This master plan will be developed by trail design professionals. Log jams from recent hurricanes will be identified and at least 2 infrastructure improvements at key entry and exit points will be constructed, with the objective to construct 25 miles of designated and marked trails.
- *Alabama Coastal Kayaking Trail:* The objective of this project is to establish a kayaking trail similar to the Bartram Canoe Trail on coastal Alabama waters. First, SLD conservation staff will identify sites suitable for overnight camping and development of camping platforms. Subsequently, infrastructure improvements, including camping platforms, will be designed and constructed. Next, proper signage will be installed – both on land in the water and brochures and maps will be published. Key entry and exit points along the trail will include the city of Bayou La Batre, Town of Dauphin Island, Gulf State Park, Fort Morgan, Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge, Five Rivers Alabama’s Delta Resource Center and the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Also, county and city waterfront parks could be incorporated into the trail, if appropriate. The objective of this project is to construct at least 50 miles of trails including single day and multi-day expeditions.

A generalized map of the location of the water-based nature trails describe above is included in Appendix G-6.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it provides low impact public access to Alabama’s waterways via a network of water-based trails. Also, educational brochures and maps will be published which will promote Alabama’s coastal waterways and associated habitats, thus enhancing public’s understanding and appreciation of the resources.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **GIS-based Inventory of Oil and Gas Leased Tracts Including Pipelines
and Infrastructure**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-6**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact
Name	Will Brantley, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	64 North Union Street
	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	will.brantley@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**
DURATION: **One Year**
ESTIMATED COST:

AL-6	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 200,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-6	
2008	\$ 200,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to develop a tool to evaluate impacts to coastal Alabama marine, estuarine and inland environments resulting from existing and planned oil and gas infrastructure. Further, the goal of this project is to support the policies of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan (ACAMP) which, among other things, encourages the siting and development of energy facilities of regional or national interest outside environmentally sensitive areas.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to develop a comprehensive GIS compatible database of existing oil and gas infrastructure located in the nearshore and offshore environment of Alabama state waters. Such a database would provide, among other things, details of locations of pipelines, platforms and other infrastructure along with leasing and rights-of-way information. Additionally, this database will be made available for public use.

The purpose of the project is to develop an oil and gas infrastructure and leasing database compiled from existing sources. Development of such a database will involve the synthesis of existing digital data, data from paper files and limited Geographic Information System (GIS) data into a comprehensive resource and infrastructure evaluation tool. Such a tool will provide better focus for coastal resource restoration efforts, including restoration of wetlands, grassbeds and oyster resources, by detailing areas previously impacted by development of oil and gas infrastructure. In addition, knowing the spatial locations of the infrastructure will assist in siting future energy infrastructure. The information will assist natural resource managers in evaluating the impact of onshore, nearshore and offshore oil and gas-related activities and infrastructure on the natural coastal environment. The output will be an integrated, comprehensive oil and gas database which will also be made available in a spatial manner via an Internet Map Server system.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4: implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.

- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective to the Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan (ACAMP). The ACAMP states the following as a Management Program Policy Statement: *“It is the policy of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program to encourage the siting and development of energy facilities of regional or national interest outside environmentally sensitive areas.”* A more thorough understanding of the location of the infrastructure in state-owned waters meets this objective.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project will provide a benefit to the natural coastal environment by providing an enhanced understanding of the locations of existing oil and gas infrastructure through an interactive digital tool. Such a tool will not only help direct resource restoration activities in various coastal environments including wetlands, grassbeds and oyster beds, but it will also better direct the siting of future energy infrastructure so as to minimize natural resource impact.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Investigation and Control of Non-native Terrestrial Exotic and Nuisance
Species in Designated Protected Areas**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-7**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Grand Bay Savanna in southwestern Mobile County, Mobile Tensaw Delta, Splinter Hill Bog in northern Baldwin County, Perdido River corridor in eastern Baldwin County, Weeks Bay, and Lillian Swamp in southeastern Baldwin County (see Appendix G-4)

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-7	
Total Project Cost	\$ 766,666.67
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 766,666.67

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-7	
2008	\$ 191,666.67
2009	\$ 191,666.67
2010	\$ 191,666.67
2011	\$ 191,666.67

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to treat 1000 acres per year of habitat degraded by the presence of invasive exotic species in designated protected terrestrial areas per project year for a total of 4000 treated acres and to produce one plant genetic origin scientific study.

Except for direct habitat loss, invasive exotic plant species pose the greatest threat to coastal Alabama’s natural habitat and native plant species (Alabama Invasive Plant Council website). The objective of this project is to treat 1000 acres per year of habitat degraded by the presence of invasive exotic species in designated protected terrestrial areas throughout coastal Alabama. These designated protected areas include Grand Bay Savanna in southwestern Mobile County, Mobile Tensaw Delta, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog in northern Baldwin County, Perdido River corridor in eastern Baldwin County, Weeks Bay, and Lillian Swamp in southeastern Baldwin County (see Appendix G-4).

In the coastal area of Alabama there are several terrestrial invasive exotics in need of management. These plants include: cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*), Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), and Chinese talo (*Sapium sebiferum*). The State Lands Division has successfully managed these plants in natural areas using a variety of methods including herbicide and mechanical harvesting. The goal of this project is manage native habitats in designated protected areas through better understanding and treatment of invasive species.

SLD conservation staff will identify areas in need of treatment and will conduct spot applications of herbicide in natural areas throughout the project period. The objective of this project is to spot treat 1000 acres of designated protected area per project year for a total of 4000 treated acres. Specifically, cogon grass will be managed at the Splinter Hill Bog, Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, and the Perdido River Corridor and popcorn trees and privet will be managed in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and Weeks Bay. Costs associated with this project include labor, herbicide, and equipment. In order to identify better management strategies, the SLD will initiate at least one scientific study to better understand the origin of particular nuisance species along with one plant genetic study. This study will result in a written synthesis of the findings.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it restores habitat and natural areas by removing invasive exotic species. Except for direct habitat loss, invasive exotic plant species pose the greatest threat to coastal Alabama's natural habitat and native plant species (Alabama Invasive Plant Council website). Additionally, this project will further understanding of invasive plant origins in order to better manage specific invasive plant populations.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding and will be supplemented by staff and in-kind support from the State Lands Division.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Reintroduction of Native Vegetation in Areas Converted for Silvicultural
or Agricultural Activities (e.g. reforestation of longleaf areas)**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-8**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Will Brantley, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	will.brantley@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Perdido River Corridor, eastern Baldwin County

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-8	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-8	
2008	\$ 250,000.00
2009	\$ 250,000.00
2010	\$ 250,000.00
2011	\$ 250,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to restore 2,000 acres of Longleaf Pine community in the Perdido River Corridor.

The Perdido River Corridor (30° 42' 27.34" N, 87° 28' 31.56" W) is comprised of publicly-owned state lands which were purchased from an industrial timber company that intensively managed it for fiber production for over sixty years. Prior to this intensive management, much of the upland area was dominated by Longleaf Pine. Historically, the Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) was the dominant tree species on an estimated 60 million acres in the southeastern United States. However, natural stands of longleaf pine have rapidly declined and currently occupy less than three million acres of its original range. Much of the remaining stands are severely degraded, and thus, does not function fully as a viable ecological system or provide the historical values associated with this forest type. At least 1,200 vascular plant species are endemic to the longleaf pine system, many of which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered by state and federal authorities. The longleaf system is one of the most diverse regions in North America in terms of species richness, species endemism, and community diversity. This system is now reduced to less than 5 percent of its former range, making it one of the most endangered landscapes in North America.

The acquisition of over 20,000 acres in the Perdido River Corridor by the State of Alabama has created a unique opportunity to conduct large-scale Longleaf Pine restoration. The goal of this project is to restore native Longleaf Pine communities along state-owned land in the coastal area. Specifically, the objective of the project is to restore 2,000 acres of native longleaf pine habitat in the Perdido River Corridor. Foresters within the SLD will identify areas in need of restoration via analysis of soil type, previous stand history, and aerial photography to select the areas to be planted in the most cost-effective manner. Costs of the restoration include site preparation, burning, herbicide treatment, seedling propagation, and planting.

After restoration, the SLD will employ typical forest management techniques in order to maximize the conservation benefit of this project. For example, Longleaf Pine forests require prescribed fire to maintain stand conditions, reduce competition, promote growth, and reduce fuel load. After stand establishment, restored areas will be subject to a prescribed fire regime implemented by SLD.

AUTHORIZED USE

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it restores native Longleaf Pine communities in the coastal area of Alabama. According the scientific literature, less than 5% of native longleaf pine still exists in the southeast. This community provides habitat for many rare plants and animals and is considered one of the most endangered landscapes in North America.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Wetland restoration in Grand Bay, Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Lillian Swamp
and Perdido River**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-9**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Lillian Swamp, and Grand Bay Savanna**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-9	
Total Project Cost	\$ 416,666.67
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 416,666.67

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-9	
2008	\$ 104,166.67
2009	\$ 104,166.57
2010	\$ 104,166.57
2011	\$ 104,166.67

GOAL: The goal of the Alabama CIAP is to conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to investigate and restore wetland function in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta by developing a restoration plan and designing and implementing restoration on 200 acres of forested wetlands as a pilot project. Also, 20 acres of wetlands will be restored on state-owned land in Grand Bay (near Bayou La Batre) damaged from stranded commercial shrimp boats due to Hurricane Katrina's storm surge.

Hydrologic conditions in various wetland areas in coastal Alabama have been subject to man-induced alterations over time to extract timber, drain farmland, or create more developable land. Also, recent impacts resulting from Hurricane Katrina have created additional wetland impacts. This goal of this project is to restore natural wetland areas in coastal Alabama.

The Mobile-Tensaw Delta composed of approximately 200,000 acres of forested wetlands, of which approximately 100,000 acres are publicly owned and managed. As most of the MTD was logged extensively in the last two centuries, ditches perpendicular to the main river channel were constructed to aid in the extraction of timber during logging activity. These ditches still exist throughout the MTD and land managers speculate the ditches have altered the natural hydrological regime of the wetlands (i.e. the wetlands have transitioned from permanently-flooded to more seasonally-flooded systems). Filling or blocking of the ditches may be an appropriate restoration strategy; however more information is needed on the ecosystem-scale functions of the wetlands in the MTD. Specifically, more information is needed on the impacts of the ditches prior to large-scale restoration. The SLD will initiate a contract with a university or research institution to investigate these issues in order to develop a specific restoration plan on publicly-owned and managed land. A pilot restoration project will be included in this study to restore at least 200 acres of wetlands and the results will be published in a publicly available report.

The storm surge associated with Hurricane Katrina was extensive along the Gulf Coast. In Alabama, the southwestern portion of Mobile County experienced the largest storm surge in recent history with the Grand Bay and Bayou La Batre area suffering the most extensive flooding damage in Alabama. Eight

large commercial shrimp boats moored in the Bayou were moved by the storm surge and ultimately stranded in salt marshes and associated wetlands due east of Bayou La Batre along the Mississippi Sound. While the boats have been removed, the wetlands experienced significant damage during the removal and relocation process. The State of Alabama will restore the areas damaged by the boats and the removal process (approximately 20 acres). Costs associated with this project will include restoration planning, exotic species removal, planting of native trees or planting of salt marsh species, labor, equipment, and fill material in the excavated areas.

Lillian swamp, located in southeast Baldwin County is a large wetland complex comprised of forested wetlands and marsh habitat. The underlying hydrology and associated hydrodynamics of this wetland area is driven by geologic influences which have not been well studied in this location. We proposed to initiate a project which investigates and describes the hydrologic processes occurring in Lillian swamp. The resulting report and data will aid in future land management decisions and restoration projects at this location.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it restores wetland areas and will provide more informed information to initiate successful wetland restoration activities.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Equipment and Infrastructure Improvements to Enhance Land
Conservation Management and Activities in Coastal Areas**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-10**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**
 DURATION: **One Year**
 ESTIMATED COST:

AL-10	
Total Project Cost	\$ 642,503.46
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 642,503.46

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-10	
2008	\$ 642,503.46
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Alabama CIAP is to conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to acquire a horizontal grinder to maintain 15 miles of fire lane per year and to acquire a amphibious excavator to clear 17,000 linear feet of fire lane annually.

This project involves the acquisition of pieces of equipment to enhance the State Lands Division’s capacity to manage land and implement habitat restoration activities in designated protected in coastal Alabama. First, a horizontal grinder will be acquired which will provide for a cost-effective and environmentally friendly mechanism to handle debris associated with the construction of trails and fire lines in designated protected areas. It is estimated the grinder will be used in the maintenance of 15 miles of fire lanes and trails annually. An amphibious excavator will also be purchased to allow clearing of fire lines in forested wetland areas, where traditional is not functional. All necessary appurtenances and attachments relating to this equipment will be purchased as well. It is estimated the excavator will be used to clear 17,000 linear feet of fire lanes annually. The equipment will be maintained by SLD operators and will only be used for habitat restoration activities in the coastal area. Specific details of cost and attachments will be included in the grant application.

AUTHORIZED USES

- o This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- o Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because access roads and fire lanes are essential for successful management and restoration of natural areas. Specifically, fire lanes are essential for implementing a successful burning regime.
- o Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- o Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Restoration of Wildlife and Plant Communities Impacted by Habitat Disturbances**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-11**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Jo Lewis, Heritage Section Chief
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	jo.lewis@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Designated Protected Ares in Coastal Alabama

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-11	
Total Project Cost	\$ 416,666.27
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 416,666.27

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-11	
2008	\$ 104,166.57
2009	\$ 104,166.57
2010	\$ 104,166.57
2011	\$ 104,166.57

GOAL: The goal of the Alabama CIAP is to conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to implement prescribed fire in designated protected areas of coastal Alabama. Also, this project will relocate 150 gopher tortoises to the Perdido River Corridor, 40 gopher tortoises to Gulf State Park, 30 gopher tortoises to the Lillian Swamp, and fund the construction and installation of 50 bat houses and 500 warbler houses in various protected areas throughout coastal Alabama.

This project will investigate and restore wildlife communities throughout designated protected areas in coastal Alabama. In order to create the conditions suitable for healthy population of flora and fauna, SLD conservation staff will implement prescribed fire techniques on at least 3,000 acres annually. Tracts targeted for burning will be identified by SLD conservation staff as part of the grant application. The prescribed fire will take place at the Grand Bay Savanna, Perdido River Corridor, and Splinter Hill Bog. In addition to prescribed fire, select populations of animals species will be restored in suitable locations throughout designated protected areas in coastal Alabama. Vulnerable gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) populations will be relocated, specifically to the Lillian Swamp and the Perdido River Corridor. The objective of this project is to relocate 150 gopher tortoises to the Perdido River Corridor, 40 gopher tortoises to Gulf State Park, and 30 tortoises to the Lillian Swamp. Other species habitat enhancement projects will be implemented including the construction and installation of bat boxes and bird houses for warblers (*Parulidae*). Specifically, 50 bat boxes will be constructed and installed in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and 500 birdhouses for warblers (*Parulidae*) will be strategically placed at the Grand Bay Savanna, Mobile-Tensaw Delta, and the Lillian Swamp. Costs associated with this project include labor and materials.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #2: mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
- Justification: This project will restore plant and wildlife communities.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Investigation of Restoration of Hydrology on Mobile Bay Causeway**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-12**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238
Fax	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile Bay Causeway, Spanish Fort, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-12	
Total Project Cost	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 500,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-12	
2008	\$ 500,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Alabama CIAP is to conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is initiate, design, and answer research questions relating to restoring historic hydrologic conditions on the Mobile Bay Causeway. Such research will assist decision-makers in determining infrastructure needs associated with this roadway.

The Mobile Bay Causeway (30° 40' 10.2" N, 87° 56' 25.41" W) was constructed in 1927 to link Baldwin County to Mobile County. It was the last section of roadway constructed to link US Highway 90 between Jacksonville, Florida and Sacramento, California. Large areas of open water/marsh habitat were filled with dredged material in certain locations in to order to provide a base for the roadway. The filled areas may restrict hydrologic inputs north and south of the Causeway. The environmental impact of this dike-like structure is altered water flow between these two areas, resulting in less mixing of salt and fresh waters. Several studies have investigated general opportunities to restore some of the land crossings through the construction of bridges. Specifically, in 2001 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) published the *Upper Mobile Ecosystem Restoration Project – Proposed Modification to U.S. Highway 90 (Causeway)* as a 206 project. As a follow-up to this report, the USACE published a *Preliminary Restoration Plan* in 2003. Little activity has taken place on this project since these reports were published.

In addition to maintaining the right-of-way, the State of Alabama is an active stakeholder on the Mobile Bay Causeway. Specifically, the four of the five divisions within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources maintain conservation facilities The State Parks Division operates Meaher State Park; Marine Resources Division maintains numerous boat ramps on the Causeway; and the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries houses the District 5 field offices; and the State Lands Division owns and manages several hundred acres along the Causeway including the newly-opened Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center.

These state-owned facilities highlight the unique ecology of the immediate area around the roadway as it represents the confluence of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and the Mobile Bay. Thousands of fresh and saltwater fish live in the adjacent bays along with a wide diversity of mammals. In sum, due to its location and important ecological characteristics, the State of Alabama supports the investigation of any effort to improve the habitat characteristics of the area. Appendix G-7 depicts a map of the potential restoration areas along the Mobile Bay Causeway.

The goal of this project is to investigate restoration opportunities in the coastal area of Alabama. Specifically, the objective of this project is initiate, design, and answer research questions relating to restoring the Mobile Bay Causeway. Such research will assist decision-makers in determining infrastructure needs associated with this roadway.. First, a research plan will be developed using existing data and recommendations from previous studies. This research plan will clearly outline steps in addressing the potential impacts of restoration strategies such as removal the land bridges and/or installation of roadway culverts. It will identify necessary environmental parameters to be measured, such as sediment toxicological studies. Next, data will be acquired and analyzed to determine the potential impacts of restoration. If the results of this project suggest an improvement to ecological processes in Mobile Bay and the Delta, this project could serve as a springboard for future restoration efforts to implement activities that result in improved hydrology. Future CIAP funding or other funding partnerships could be used to pay for subsequent engineering and construction costs, if necessary.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will result in more information leading to the restoration of the Mobile Bay Causeway. Restoration activities could include the removal of land bridges and or the installation of culverts to restore fresh and salt water mixing regimes in the bays and bayous of the southern Mobile Tensaw Delta.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Reconstruction of the Gulf State Park Pier**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-13**

PROJECT CONTACT (S):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Forrest Bailey, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Parks Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3901
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-2137
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	forrest.bailey@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores, Alabama

DURATION: One Year

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-13	
Total Project Cost	\$ 8,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 8,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-13	
2008	\$ 8,000,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to conserve and protect Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by raising the public awareness of these areas through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to reconstruct the Gulf State Park Pier in order to facilitate 52 natural resource-based educational programs and 400,000 guests annually. Also, 10 educational signs will be constructed on the pier providing information about coastal Alabama’s natural history.

The Gulf State Park Pier is located in Gulf State Park, in the city of Gulf Shores, Alabama (30° 14’ 56.16” N, 87° 40’ 6.80” W). It is managed by the State Parks Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. As part their mission, the Park staff strives to extend the public’s knowledge, understanding, respect and appreciation of the coastal environment through a wide variety of public environmental educational opportunities, programs, activities and events.

The former pier was destroyed by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. It was 14-feet wide and 875-feet long with a 20-foot octagon on the end. This pier, prior to destruction by the hurricane, accommodated approximately 190,000 guests annually. The new pier will be 20-feet wide and 1510-feet long with a small octagon at the halfway point (complete with restroom facilities) and a much larger octagon at the end of the pier. At the pier entrance a restroom facility will also be constructed. The pier is expected to host more than 400,000 guests annually. A map of the pier’s location is included in Appendix G-8.

After construction is completed, Gulf State Park naturalist staff will schedule public environmental education events. These events, targeted towards tourists, full-time residents, and winter residents, will provide hands-on education of marine life, shellfish, habitat ecosystem processes, and birds. The program also offers a beach walk focusing on sensitive sea turtle nests and shore bird habitat. The pier offers a worthy vantage point for these natural resource-based educational programs. In additional at least 10 educational signs will be installed along the pier depicting the natural history of the coastal area.

Last, the Gulf State Park Pier is a stop on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail (www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com). This trail, among other things, serves as a means to educate users about coastal Alabama’s abundant natural resources. During spring and fall migrations, the Gulf State Park Pier can be one of the best birding locations along the entire Gulf Coast.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4: implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective HU-C1 of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (MBNEP CCMP). This document was approved by the EPA in 2002 and is, by definition, a marine, coastal, comprehensive management plan. The action plan objective HU-C1 states: *“Increase public access and ecotourism opportunities.”* This project will construct amenities at sites to improve public access and to provide natural resource-based education at designated protected areas in coastal Alabama.

In addition to the MBNEP CCMP, the Alabama Coastal Management Program document (ACAMP) states the following as a management program policy statement under Resources of the Coastal Area: *“..., it is a policy of the Management Program to encourage development of additional recreational opportunities and public access to enhance the well-being of Alabama citizens and visitors.”* The construction of the Gulf State Park Pier meets this objective.

- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: Other funding sources will be used to complete this project including FEMA (\$2,335,691.00), insurance (\$1,164,309.00), and a State Park Bond Issue (\$1,500,000.00). The partner resources will be responsible for the costs associated with ineligible CIAP expenditures.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The construction of the Gulf State Park Pier will provide the public a setting to learn about coastal Alabama’s natural resources. This education encourages a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. Due to its natural appeal, many people without access to boats will visit the Gulf State Park Pier. The pier is also recognized as a key birding location on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail (www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com). Providing the public a place to experience the Gulf of Mexico in south Alabama enhances the public’s appreciation of the natural coastal environment. This appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership of public land and, in turn, results as benefit to the natural coastal environment. Also, the construction of the pier provides controlled access, thus minimizing adverse impact from excessive foot traffic on the adjacent beach and dunes.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Gulf State Park Environmental Education Center**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-14**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Forrest Bailey, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Parks Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3901
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-2137
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	forrest.bailey@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores, Alabama

DURATION: Two Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-14	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 2,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-14	
2008	\$ 250,000.00
2009	\$ 1,750,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to conserve and protect Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Weeks Bay, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by raising the public awareness of these areas through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct an environmental education center at Gulf State Park to accommodate at least 4,000 visitors and 20 school groups per year by providing hands-on environmental education exhibits and programs.

The objective of this project is to construct an Environmental Education Center within the boundaries of Gulf State Park which will serve as a vehicle to highlight the Park’s coastal ecology. This facility will be managed by the naturalist on staff at the Gulf State Park. Consistent with the park’s mission, the naturalist strives to extend the public’s knowledge, understanding, respect and appreciation of the coastal environment through a wide variety of public environmental education opportunities, programs, activities, and events.

The goal of this project is to increase public awareness of conservation and protection of coastal Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) through the construction of natural resource-based educational facilities. The objective of this project is to construct an environmental education center at Gulf State Park which will facilitate at least 6 environmental programs per week and will provide hands-on education for at least 4,000 visitors per year. In addition, the facility will host 20 school groups per year. The facility will create 10 hands-on exhibits focusing on marine species, fresh and saltwater fish and associated habitat, saltwater marshes, local fauna including nocturnal and diurnal animals, bird of prey, migratory birds, reptiles, amphibians, and local flora. This facility will also highlight ongoing conservation efforts associated with other CIAP projects including AL-13, AL-15, AL-16, and AL-17.

In addition to environmental exhibits, the center will facilitate at least four (4) volunteer programs including Share the Beach (sea turtle protection), Dune Restoration Protection Day, Coastal Cleanup, and Volunteer Day. The first step of the project will consist of designing and engineering a low impact structure which will minimize the impact to the natural area of the park. After engineering plans are reviewed and approved, the construction of the building will be bid out according to State bid procedures. This may be a phased project where we design and engineer the facility under on CIAP

project and construct it utilizing a second grant. Appendix G-8 contains a map depicting the proposed location (30° 15' 9.44", 87° 39' 19.55"W).

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will construct a building which will provide conservation education to thousands of visitors and students annually. Gulf State Park is part of Alabama's State Park System, consists of more than 6,000 areas of beaches, dunes, maritime forests, salt marshes, freshwater lakes, bogs, and pine savannas. An environmental education center at the park will highlight the park's characteristics through conservation education.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Restoration of Gulf State Park Campground Vegetation**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-15**

PROJECT CONTACT (S):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Forrest Bailey, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Parks Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3901
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-2137
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	forrest.bailey@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores, Alabama

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-15	
Total Project Cost	\$ 245,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 245,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-15	
2008	\$ 98,000.00
2009	\$ 49,000.00
2010	\$ 49,000.00
2011	\$ 49,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to re-vegetate 76 acres within Gulf State Park campground with native trees and shrubs.

This project will consist of re-vegetating 76 acres within the Gulf State Park campground (30° 15' 49.39" N, 87° 38' 37.76"W) with native trees and shrubs. As a result of storm surge associated with Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, and subsequent salt water intrusion, all plant communities including mature trees have been damaged or killed within the campground. This project is designed to replant 19 acres per year over a five year period using native, endemic trees, shrubs and plants. This project will improve aesthetics, provide shade for campers, and enhance wildlife by providing food and habitat cover. Acreage impacted will be campsites, roadside right of way and border zones between travel corridors. The time line associated will be one planting cycle per year for five years. The first phase was completed in April 2007. Subsequent planting will plant 19 acres annually for the remaining project period. The campground is depicted in Appendix G-8.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #2: mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
- Justification This project meets Authorized Use #2 because it mitigates damage to native vegetation caused by storm surge and saltwater intrusion directly caused by Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Longleaf Pine Restoration at Gulf State Park**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-16**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Forrest Bailey, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Parks Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 625-0814	(334) 242-3901
Fax	(251) 625-0864	(334) 242-2137
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	forrest.bailey@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores, Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-16	
Total Project Cost	\$ 420,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 420,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-16	
2008	\$ 105,000.00
2009	\$ 105,000.00
2010	\$ 105,000.00
2011	\$ 105,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to restore 228 acres of longleaf pine habitat within Gulf State Park.

Gulf State Park consists of more than 6,000 areas of coastal habitat located directly adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico between the cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. A combination of hurricane impacts, the absence of a regular prescribed burning regime, the introduction of exotic invasive species, and an absence of silvicultural management have resulted, over time, in the undesirable species composition which comprises natural forested areas of the park. The goal of this project is to restore 228 acres within park to its original longleaf pine/wiregrass community. Specifically, this project will remove fallen timber as a result of the recent hurricanes. Restoration efforts will include mechanical removal of non desirable species, herbicide application, site preparation, and planting of native vegetation. Prescribed burning will be implemented as well. This project will enhance plant and animal species of State Special Concern and federal protection following the guidelines of the Alabama Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS). Implementation of this project will also allow the State Parks Division to further enhance a former red cockaded woodpecker zone in the northeast portion of the park. Two phases of the project will be implemented: Appendix G-8 contains a map depicting the longleaf areas to be restored.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it will restore areas to native longleaf pine communities Gulf State Park.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to the project.
- Partnering: Funding from a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant (\$64,000.00) and a State Wildlife grant (\$25,000.00) have been obtained for previous phases of longleaf restoration in the Gulf State Park.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Gulf State Park Land Management Program**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-17**

PROJECT CONTACT (S):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Forrest Bailey, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Parks Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3901
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-2137
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	forrest.bailey@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores, Alabama

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-17	
Total Project Cost	\$ 750,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 750,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-17	
2008	\$ 187,500.00
2009	\$ 187,500.00
2010	\$ 187,500.00
2011	\$ 187,500.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct seven (7) miles of management access corridors in Gulf State Park.

Gulf State Park consists of over 6,000 areas of coastal habitat located directly adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico between the cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. A combination of hurricane impacts, the absence of a regular prescribed burning regime, the introduction of exotic invasive species, and an absence of silvicultural management have resulted in habitat degradation in the remote areas of the park. The goal of this project is to construct seven (7) miles of management access corridors into inaccessible areas of Gulf State Park (See Appendix G-8). These corridors will provide the means to implement long term natural resource management activities within previously unmanaged park areas. Most of these areas are inaccessible due to fallen timber as a result of Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina. This project will allow for the construction of corridors in an environmentally-sensitive manner which will serve natural resource functions and benefits including enhanced wildlife protection management. Most of the areas have not been accessible by park staff and increased accessibility will aid in management of fish, plant and wildlife species. This project will augment research and restoration of threatened species and species of conservation concern. These roads will serve as fire breaks and aid in wildfire suppression and prescribed burning. If needed, these roads will provide access for fire equipment during an emergency. Last, this project will create opportunities for environmental education in the remote areas of the park via guided tours. The corridors will not be open to the general public and access gates will be locked at all times. Costs associated with this project include labor, materials and use of heavy equipment.

AUTHORIZED USES

- o This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will aid land managers in the restoration of Gulf State's Park remote areas that have been degraded from fallen timber from hurricanes and overall habitat degradation.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Freshwater Mollusk and Fish Enhancement and Restoration in Coastal
River Systems**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-18**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Dr. Paul Johnson, Program Supervisor
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Route 3, Box 86
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Marion, AL 36756
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 683-5000
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 683-5082
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	paul.johnson@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center, Marion, Alabama, and field locations in Baldwin and Mobile counties.

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-18	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-18	
2008	\$ 100,000.00
2009	\$ 600,000.00
2010	\$ 150,000.00
2011	\$ 150,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: This project will undertake large-scale recovery activities for freshwater mussel and other aquatic species populations in the Gulf Coastal drainages of Baldwin and Mobile counties

This project will undertake large-scale recovery activities for freshwater mussels, fishes and other aquatic species populations in the Gulf Coastal drainages of Baldwin and Mobile counties. The four-year (4) effort seeks to augment and reintroduce freshwater mollusk species in these systems parallel to other statewide mollusk restoration efforts. These activities would be completed through the expansion of artificial propagation programs at the Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center (AABC) in Marion, Alabama. This project seeks to provide additional culture infrastructure support at the AABC to accommodate expanded propagation activities. This would include renovating holding ponds for increased host fish support and propagation, construction of additional culture systems, purchase of additional laboratory and field support equipment, and expanded travel budgets. The funds will also be used to support additional full-time personnel required to perform the work both at the AABC and in the field.

The Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center is located near the City of Marion, in rural Perry County, Alabama. The facility is a complex of 4 buildings on 36 acres of property near the Cahaba River. The program was initiated in late 2004 with a \$2 million dollar State Wildlife Grant. These monies are being used to renovate and construct facilities to support on the ground recovery efforts with non-game freshwater species. The property include 2 culture buildings with 5,600 square feet of culture space under roof, a 5,500 square foot culture pad, a 4,300 square foot administration building with office and laboratory space, and approximately 30 surface acres of culture ponds. Renovations of the facilities have been ongoing since 2005, with a projected operational date of spring 2008. In addition to State Wildlife

Grant support, the AABC has begun receiving federal grants (FWS) and other long-term support is expected as part of ongoing hydroelectric project re-licensing efforts. Other monies will be available through recovery funds being established by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Recovery programs will initially focus on freshwater mollusks (mussels and snails) with activities to support non-game fishes and other aquatic species to follow.

Alabama has already lost 67 species of freshwater snails and mussels to extinction and an additional 17 species historically found in the Alabama's waters are now extirpated. Alabama has 54 species of mussels and snails considered Threatened or Endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The state also has an additional 13 species fish considered Threatened or Endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A dozen species of fishes historically found in state waters are now missing and 2 species are considered extinct. The recently completed Alabama Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy has identified 147 of mussels, snails, and fish that are of conservation concern. Historically, Alabama has the greatest species richness freshwater mussels (176), snails (180), freshwater fishes (308), and crayfishes (84) of any state in the nation. For mussels, snails, and crayfishes, the region contains the highest species richness on the planet. The AABC mission statement is, "the mission of the Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center is to promote the conservation and restoration of rare freshwater species in Alabama waters".

CIAP funding will be used to assist the AABC fish recovery program in the development of facilities, protocols and techniques that would be directly applied to freshwater fish species of conservation concern indigenous to the freshwater systems of Mobile and Baldwin Counties in Alabama. As the AABC occupies a facility that had been vacant for 10 years, many repairs and new construction are now underway to begin full operations. Facilities have been under renovation for 3 years, and have focused primarily on developing culture infrastructure needs for mollusks. Additional facilities will be required if the Center will undertake recovery programs with Sturgeon (either Alabama or Gulf). Therefore CIAP monies would be used in part to design and construct culture systems used for these long-term recovery programs. The last 2 years would focus on stocking efforts in the lower Mobile Delta, and possibly the Perdido and Escatawpa rivers in Baldwin and Mobile Counties. If sturgeon efforts are successfully initiated, this would be a long-term program and stocking efforts would take place after the completion of this grant.

Draft work plan:

Year 1:

Facilities planning and completion of engineering drawings required to initiate bids for construction will take place during the first year. In addition, a complete program and habitat evaluation for fish and mussel species to be released into freshwater systems of Mobile and Baldwin counties will also take place. Laboratory and field equipment will be purchased (\$100,000.00).

Year 2:

Construction of new fish culture support facilities. The development work to determine culture techniques for Alabama Shad, Blackmouth Shiner, Ironcolor Shiner, and Brighteyed Darter. Completion of brood stock acquisition efforts for Gulf Sturgeon in the Perdido River and evaluation of release sites for stocking efforts. Purchase of additional field and laboratory equipment to support culture efforts (600

K). Completion of culture efforts for the Mobile Basin Black Sandshell and Alabama Heelsplitter if brood stock can be located (\$600,000.00).

Year 3:

Culture program will focus on Sturgeon, Southern Walleye, Alabama Shad, Blackmouth Shiner, Ironcolor Shiner and possibly Brighteyed Darter for release at various localities in the Mobile, Perdido & Escatawpa Rivers. Culture of the Black Sandshell, Alabama Heelsplitter, Alabama Hickorynut and Rayed Creekshell, if mussel brood stock can be successfully located. Additional mussel species may be attempted, if adequate brood stock and be located (\$150,000.00).

Year 4:

Continuation of culture programs for Sturgeon, Southern Walleye, Alabama Shad, Ironcolor Shiner and possibly Brighteyed Darter for release at various localities in the Mobile, Perdido & Escatawpa Rivers. Culture of the Black Sandshell, Alabama Heelsplitter, Alabama Hickorynut and Rayed Creekshell, if mussel brood stock can be successfully located. Additional mussel species may be attempted, if adequate brood stock and be located (\$150,000.00).

The species list provided represents candidate freshwater species that are presently being considered for restoration efforts through utilization of CIAP funding. This list has been condensed somewhat from the initial list that was distributed in order to better reflect realistic expectations of which higher priority species are most in need of attention that otherwise would be neglected under the present funding that is available to the AABC.

Candidate Species Lists:

Mussel Species	Common Name	Basin/System
<i>Anodontooides radiatus</i>	Rayed Creekshell	Mobile
<i>Ligumia recta</i>	Black Sandshell	Mobile
<i>Obovaria unicolor</i>	Alabama Hickorynut	Mobile
<i>Pleurobema perovatum</i>	Ovate Clubshell	Mobile
<i>Pleurobema taitianum</i>	Heavy Pigtoe	Mobile
<i>Potamilus inflatus</i>	Alabama Heelsplitter	Mobile
<i>Quadrula metanevera</i>	Monkeyface	Mobile

Fish Species	Common Name	Basin/System
<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Gulf sturgeon	Tensaw and Perdido
<i>Alosa alabamae</i>	Alabama Shad	Mobile
<i>Etheostoma lynceum</i>	Brighteye Darter	Escatawpa
<i>Lepisosteus spatula</i>	Alligator Gar	Mobile-Tensaw
<i>Notropis chalybaeus</i>	Ironcolor Shiner	Perdido & Escatawpa
<i>Sander vitreus</i>	Gulf Coast Walleye	Mobile, Mobile-Tensaw
<i>Scaphirynchus suttkusi</i>	Alabama Sturgeon Endangered	Mobile
<i>Notropis meianostomus</i>	Blackmouth Shiner	Bay Minette Creek

Funds provided to the AABC through the CIAP will be oriented to the development of species propagation and restoration programs in the following freshwater systems in Baldwin and Mobile Counties: The Mobile-Tensaw Delta, including the Blakeley River and Bay Minette Basin; The Perdido-Styx River basin; The Escatawpa River and its tributaries in Mobile County; Suitable freshwater habitats in the Fish, Fowl and Dog River drainages that flow into Mobile Bay. At this time it is premature to estimate the numbers of individual animals and/or the scope of potential releases of propagated animals that will be undertaken through this project. This is due to the fact that the highest priorities, once this grant is obtained, will be the development of new animal propagation facilities and protocols and a comprehensive survey of suitable habitat sites for species augmentation or restoration efforts.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #2 because it restores native populations of mussel and fish species in rivers and streams in coastal Alabama. Restored populations of these species will help create healthier aquatic communities.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Improvements to the Marine Resources Division's facilities at Claude
Petet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-19**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Gulf Shores, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

STIMATED COST:

AL-19	
Total Project Cost	\$ 4,500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 4,500,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-19	
2008	\$ 500,000.00
2009	\$ 2,000,000.00
2010	\$ 2,000,000.00
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to upgrade the Claude Petet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama through the renovation of the laboratory and farm facilities, drainage upgrades, construction of a boat basin on the Intercoastal Canal, and repair of the salt water pipeline from the Gulf State Park Pier.

The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources owns and manages the Claude Petet Mariculture Center (CPMC) in Gulf Shores, Alabama (30° 17' 1.97" N 87° 39' 53.39" W). This facility features 35 one quarter-acre lined ponds, a wet laboratory, and greenhouses with recirculating culture systems. In addition, there are a wood-framed office building and license sales facility house which provide offices to approximately 25 employees of MRD, including administrative staff, biological staff, and enforcement officers. The CPMC property fronts the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and draws much of the water used for culture activities at the station from the waterway and Gulf of Mexico.

The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools. The objective of this project is to upgrade the Claude Petet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores, Alabama through the renovation of the laboratory and farm facilities, drainage upgrades, construction of a boat basin on the Intercoastal Canal, and repair of the salt water pipeline from the Gulf State Park Pier.

First, MRD proposes to use CIAP funds to replace several of the critical buildings and facilities at the CPMC. The proposal includes the construction of a new laboratory facility, replacing and combining the old wet laboratory and the greenhouses with a single new structure and new culture equipment. Second, the farm portion of the property will be renovated. This activity will include the replacement of aged valves, pumps, pond piers, outbuildings (feed shed and tool barn), and covered boat storage. Drainage upgrades are also needed as stormwater from adjacent property causes flooding during large rain events. The exact square footage of the building and specific upgrades will be determined prior to submittal of a grant for this project. The estimated budget for this project is \$3,500,000.00 of CIAP funds.

Second, this project will renovate and expand an existing boat basin at the CPMC on the Intercoastal Canal which is no longer functional. This project will create a safe place to access and store boats. At this time, biologists and enforcement officers must trailer their boats to a launch on the south side of the Canal. This is problematic during search and rescue operations when quick access to the water is imperative. In addition to improving the basin, this project will construct covered boat stalls with lifts, a fuel facility, and boat launching ramp. The project will consist of a parking lot, boat ramp, and four 40-foot by 14-foot boat slips. This portion of the project is estimated to cost \$500,000.00.

Last, sea water for the research applications at CPMC must be piped in via a pipeline from the Gulf of Mexico at the Gulf State Park Pier. Most of this pipeline, as well the Pier, was destroyed by Hurricane Ivan. The pipeline will need to be relocated to a less vulnerable location, as it was located immediately adjacent to an area that receives repeat damage from storm surge. While most of the cost of this specific effort is being paid for by FEMA, FEMA however, will not pay for the added cost (\$500,000.00) to relocate the line. This project will supplement the existing FEMA funds to locate the pipeline to a less vulnerable location. This project will be constructed in conjunction with AL-9 (Gulf State Park Pier). A map of the CPMC is included in Appendix G-9.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective of Priority Theme Area 4 in the Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (NOAA SeaGrant) Strategic Plan. Sea Grant is a nationwide network (administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]), of 30 university-based programs that work with coastal communities. This document provides a comprehensive approach of planning the needs of the coastal area of Mississippi and Alabama. Priority Theme Area 4 is entitled “Fisheries Ecology and Aquaculture”. The goal of this theme is “*to improve the sustainability of the commercial and recreational capture fisheries and aquaculture including stock enhancement through research and outreach programs*”. Renovation of the mariculture center and improvements to the salt water pipeline will improve aquaculture research in coastal Alabama.
- Cost sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.

- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The improved facilities at the CPMC resulting from this project will expand and enhance research of fisheries in coastal Alabama. The research will focus on developing successful management strategies for the fishery. Efficient and effective fishery management will improve, enhance, and conserve the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Improvements to Marine Resource Division's facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-20**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Dauphin Island, Alabama

DURATION: One Year

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-20	
Total Project Cost	\$ 550,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 550,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-20	
2008	\$ 550,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to upgrade the Marine Resource’s Division facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama through the construction of a cover, bulkhead, and net shed at the boat facility.

The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is located in south Mobile County on Dauphin Island (30° 15' 35.65" N 88° 6' 23.75" W). This is a multi-function site serving as the Mobile County base of field operations for the MRD’s enforcement and biological sections. The facility includes the main headquarters office, a mechanical shop and two docking facilities – a primary boatslip as well as new dockage utilized by the enforcement section. All Mobile County biological field sampling operations, including fisheries assessment and monitoring are based out of this facility. Also, it serves as primary office space for the MRD’s Mobile County administrative personnel. Overall, the facilities need specific upgrades in order to aid the research function of MRD. The building, originally constructed in 1961, and its supporting infrastructure received heavy damage from both Hurricanes Ivan in 2004 and Katrina in 2005. Some renovation has already occurred since the storm.

The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools. The objective of this project is to upgrade the Marine Resource’s Division facilities on Dauphin Island, Alabama through the construction of a cover, bulkhead, and net shed at the boat facility.

In 2006, MRD was able to partially complete the new boat docking facility located on the adjacent Dauphin Island shoreline of the property. The facility serves as the primary boat storage for the enforcement section and the Alabama Department of Public Health Seafood Safety Division. However, there was not enough funding at this time to cover the facility. The first phase of this project is to construct a cover for this facility (\$100,000.00).

Next, the primary boatslip and its adjacent concrete dock has significantly deteriorated. The concrete sheet pilings and caps display severe cracking, the sheet piling tiebacks are failing and the concrete decking has been severely undermined. CIAP funds will be used to restore this boatslip to its original condition for a cost of \$300,000.00. Also, a 16'X 32' sampling net and gear storage building will be constructed for a cost of \$150,000.00. This shed will store all field equipment and will make biological sampling trips more efficient. Appendix G-10 includes a map of the MRD facility on Dauphin Island.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it meets the objective of Priority Theme Area 4 in the Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (NOAA SeaGrant) Strategic Plan. This document provides a comprehensive approach of planning the needs of the coastal area of Mississippi and Alabama. Sea Grant is a nationwide network (administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]), of 30 university-based programs that work with coastal communities. Priority Theme Area 4 of the Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Strategic Plan is entitled "Fisheries Ecology and Aquaculture". This plan was revised and approved by NOAA SeaGrant in October of 2006. The goal of this theme is "to improve the sustainability of the commercial and recreational capture fisheries and aquaculture including stock enhancement through research and outreach programs". A strategic action associated with this objective includes the following: *'Collect fundamental life history and behavioral information on recreational and commercially important species.'* Upgrading the facilities at Dauphin Island will facilitate field work in order to collect the necessary data on commercial and recreational fisheries and thus implement the Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Strategic Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The improved facilities at the Dauphin Island facility as a result of this project will increase research of fisheries in coastal Alabama. The research will aid in the development of successful management strategies of the fishery. Efficient and effective fishery management will improve, enhance, and conserve the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-21**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-21	
Total Project Cost	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 100,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT
DURATION:

AL-21	
2008	\$ 100,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to contribute CIAP funding to purchase and install a continuous and real-time weather and water quality recording station in Bon Secour Bay.

It is a priority of the State of Alabama CIAP to support coastal observing systems as these systems provide much-needed data to understand and manage complex estuarine systems. The collection of continuous, real-time observations in coastal Alabama began with support of the first CIAP program, administered by NOAA in 2001. Since then, Dauphin Island Sea Lab and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program have partnered with the University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, State Land Division, Coastal Programs, EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association to provide real-time data at four sites in the Mobile Bay area. Parameters being monitored at these sites include wind speed, wind direction, air temperature, barometric pressure, photosynthetically active radiation, precipitation, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, water height, and salinity. Real-time data are available in a user-friendly format at www.mymobilebay.com. This informative website describes and graphs each parameter. Researchers may download the data in a spreadsheet format any time for further analysis. Data from these stations can also be accessed through the National Data Buoy Center at http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/Alabama_inset.shtml.

Through a partnership among the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County monitoring sites will be added to complete an east-west transect in the coastal area of Alabama (AL-20, BC-9 and MC-9). This project will construct data collection devices and support the operation of the network for two years. The costs associated with the implementation of each monitor include salaries (data manager, technician, and project manager), boat and vehicle expenses, and other expendables. The State of Alabama will contribute CIAP funding to purchase, install and support operation of a monitor in Bon Secour Bay, partnering with funding from NOAA (30° 17’ 23.06” N 87°47’ 46.7” W). Baldwin County will fund the purchase, installation and operation of a monitor in Perdido Bay (30° 19’ 52.01” N 87° 28’

58.47” W), and Mobile County will purchase, install, and support the operation of a monitor in the Mississippi Sound/Portersville Area (30° 17’ 47.33” N 88° 16’ 50.24” W). The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County will each submit a separate grant application for their respective CIAP project and will administer a separate contract with the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. Appendix G-11 contains a map depicting the proposed monitor locations. The map also depicts the locations of the existing funded monitors.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will obtain data necessary for scientific research and investigation of coastal areas. These data are necessary in conserving, protecting, and restoring complex coastal ecosystems
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County (AL-21, BC-9, and MC-9) will partner to create an east-west transect of continuous and real-time weather and water quality recording stations along southern coastal Alabama. Funding from NOAA will be used to complement the CIAP funds to construct and implement a monitor in Bon Secour Bay (State of Alabama portion).

This project contains many partners in addition to CIAP. Specifically, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation, State Land Division, Coastal Program, EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association have all contributed to the implementation of these systems in coastal waters. Additional funding from the Emergency Disaster Response Fund (EDRF) is being utilized to purchase and maintain monitors in the Mississippi Sound, near the western boundary of Mobile County.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Research Equipment and Software for Artificial Reef and Coastal
Resource Management**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-22**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Gulf Shores and Dauphin Island, Alabama

DURATION: Two Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL--22	
Total Project Cost	\$ 330,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 330,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-22	
2008	\$ 200,000.00
2009	\$ 130,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to purchase a research boat (26-28 feet in length) to implement artificial reef research. Also, this project fund development of a full geographic information system at MRD facilities in Gulf Shores and Dauphin Island. Costs associated with this system include equipment (computers and GPS units), site licenses, printers, and training.

The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources conducts fishery habitat enhancements such as oyster bed restoration and artificial reef construction. A large sampling boat (26-28 feet) will be purchased and maintained in Baldwin County for artificial reef research. The boat will be used by research staff to monitor and improve all coastal reefs. The estimated budget for a boat, trailer, electronics and motor is \$220,000.00.

A complete geographic information system (GIS) of coastal Alabama's fishery enhancements will aid MRD research staff to better manage offshore restoration projects. In addition, this system will aid in education and assessment of coastal resources. Using the remaining funding (\$110,000.00), this project will purchase computer equipment, GPS units, licenses, printers, and necessary training to implement a complete GIS at MRD facilities in Gulf Shores and Dauphin Island.

AUTHORIZED USES

- o This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will obtain tools to improve research of offshore fishery enhancements. First, a boat will be used to monitor and implement artificial reef research. A spatial database (GIS) will aid researchers and resource managers in conserving, protecting, and restoring complex coastal ecosystems.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **External Audit of Marine Resource Division's Biological Sampling and
Analysis Programs**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-23**

PROJECT CONTACT (S):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-23	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 200,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-23	
2008	\$ 200,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to audit the Marine Resource Division's biological sampling and analysis programs to ensure currency, accuracy, precision, efficiency and effectiveness.

In the interest of responsible use of public funds, it is crucial to periodically evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of biological data acquisition and analysis methods employed by natural resources management agencies. The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources uses intensive fishery-dependent and fishery-independent sampling to assess fish and shellfish stock condition. The MRD proposes to utilize CIAP funds to conduct an outside audit of all biological sampling and analysis programs to ensure currency, accuracy, precision, efficiency, and effectiveness. This audit will be conducted by a multi-disciplinary team of scientists. The objective of this project is to conduct a full review of the effectiveness and efficiency of MRD's research activities.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will improve provide information to improve research of Alabama's coastal resources. Improved research will aid in the conservation, protection, and restoration of complex coastal ecosystems.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL-24**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Will Brantley, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	64 North Union Street
	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	will.brantley@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Dauphin Island, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL-24	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
State of Alabama FY 2007	\$ -
State of Alabama FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00
Mobile County FY 2007	\$ -
Mobile County FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL-24	
2008	\$ 1,000,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama and Mobile County will partner to protect and acquire sensitive waterfront habitat on Dauphin Island.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project will be to purchase 1-2 acres of waterfront property on Dauphin Island at a cost of \$2,000,000.00. The State of Alabama will contribute \$1,000,000.00 and Mobile County will contribute \$1,000,000.00.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Dauphin Island, Alabama (30° 15' 8.34" N, 88° 66' 32.98" W) is a coastal barrier island located at the southern tip of Mobile County, Alabama. The island is surrounded by many bodies of water including the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi Sound, and Mobile Bay. The island is composed of beaches and dunes, maritime forests, and wetlands on approximately 6.1 square miles. According to 2000 Census data, the full-time population on the island is 1,212. Conservation-oriented outdoor activities on the island include fishing, camping, and bird watching. There are many conservation destinations on the island including the Dauphin Island Sea Lab Estuarium, Historic Fort Gaines, and the Audubon Bird Sanctuary.

The shoreline habitats of Dauphin Island provide many ecological benefits, including shoreline stabilization and productive nesting and foraging areas for fish and wildlife. Many of these important and rare waterfront areas are privately-owned on Dauphin Island, threatening adverse impacts from development. Also, waterfront sites for the public to participate in low impact natural resource-based educational activities are in great demand.

Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama and Mobile County will partner to protect and acquire sensitive waterfront habitat on Dauphin Island. The objective of this project will be to purchase 1-2 acres using \$1,000,000.00 from the State of Alabama and \$1,000,000.00 from Mobile County. The parcel will be available for public use and natural resource-based educational signage will be installed. The title of the property will be held by the Town of Dauphin Island and the deed will be restricted according to CIAP requirements.

This site will provide public access to the waterways of southern Alabama for natural resource-based educational activities such as birding and research. The parcel will be used as a main exit and entry point for the Coastal Kayaking Trail (AL-5), which will create a water-based trail linking Alabama's coastal communities and ecosystems. In addition, the site may be a candidate for inclusion in the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail (www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com). This trail, among other things, serves as a means to educate users about coastal Alabama's abundant natural resources. During spring and fall migrations, Dauphin Island can be one of the best birding locations along the entire Gulf Coast and has hosted nationally-recognized birding events. Future projects at the acquired property could include restoration of near shore intertidal habitat and construction of low impact public facilities to complement the goal of this project.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it involves the acquisition of sensitive land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama. The deed will be restricted according to CIAP requirements.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: The State of Alabama will contribute \$1,000,000.00 of CIAP funding to this project. The Mobile County Commission will contribute \$1,000,000.00 of CIAP funding to this project.

b. Baldwin County Tier One Project Descriptions

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
BC-1	Wetland and Waterway Protection	\$900,000.00	115
BC-2	Acquisition of Property for Conservation & Public Access	\$2,094,094.64	119
BC-3	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$250,000.00	123
BC-4	Magnolia Landfill Gas Collection System	\$650,000.00	125
BC-5	Comprehensive Land Use Plan Development	\$300,000.00	129
BC-6	Exotic Plant Species Management	\$100,000.00	133
BC-7	Coastal Dune Restoration	\$240,000.00	137
BC-8	Shoreline/Habitat Restoration	\$200,000.00	141
BC-9	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$250,000.00	145
BC-10	Enhancement of Existing Public Accesses	\$1,000,000.00	149
BC-11	Acquisition of Property for Boating Access	\$2,000,000.00	153
Total		\$7,984,094.64	

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Wetland and Waterway Protection**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-1**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18 Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 900,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 822,952.68
FY 2008	\$ 77,047.32

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-1	
2008	\$ 450,000.00
2009	\$ 450,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is the protection of coastal areas, including wetlands, by reducing the amount of material that leaves the roadbeds.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to provide roadway stabilization through paving and drainage stabilization to approximately 6 miles of roadway.

Road Name	Miles to be Paved	Latitude	Longitude
Burnt Car Road	1.9 miles	87° 47' 44.41" W	31° 10' 24.45" N
Bryants Landing Road	0.7 miles	87° 50' 47.72" W	31° 1' 8.41" N
Barrineau Park Road	0.5 miles	87° 28' 24.42" W	30° 40' 14.87" N
Nolte Creek Drive	0.9 miles	87° 47' 41.25" W	30° 22' 50.84" N
Baudin Lane	0.8 miles	87° 49' 8.71" W	30° 22' 43.19" N
Woodhaven Dairy Road	0.8 miles	87° 47' 49.08" W	30° 29' 32.32" N

Baldwin County has approximately 300,000 acres of wetlands within the County. Baldwin County has approximately 300 miles of dirt roads that are controlled and maintained by the Baldwin County Highway Department. Many of these dirt roads cross these wetland areas. The Highway Department performs regular maintenance on these roads to include placement of sand and clay material, road grading, shoulder work, and maintenance of drainage ditches. Even with proper maintenance, these dirt roads still have a detrimental impact and contribute sediment to the wetlands on surrounding waters. This initiative will provide for the paving and stabilization of portions of environmentally sensitive dirt roads where impacts are occurring. The Baldwin County Highway Department has identified roads throughout the County which are having a detrimental effect on the wetlands and waterways surrounding them. This initiative is similar to a project that was implemented in the first CIAP plan. Through that project the County was able to pave several miles of roadway in the County that had been identified as environmentally sensitive.

The goal of this initiative is the protection of coastal areas, including wetlands, by reducing the amount of material that leaves the roadbeds. When the sand and clay material is washed from the roadbed into the wetlands serious environmental impacts can occur. The Highway Department applies approximately 650 cubic yards of material to each mile of dirt road in the County each year. This is equal to 26 dump truck loads per mile. This is indicative of the amount of sediment that is being washed into the wetlands and

waterways because the roads are not paved. The objective is to provide roadway stabilization through paving and drainage stabilization to approximately 6 miles of roadway. Without paving and drainage improvements to provide permanent stabilization on these roads, sediment will continue to erode into these wetlands, creeks, and rivers.

Staff from the Highway Department have identified dirt roadways maintained by the County that have the greatest need for paving based on their proximity to wetlands and waterways and the amount of maintenance needed. Staff will continue to review and update the status of the dirt roadways and will make a final decision on the most critical once funding is approved. Some of the highest priority roadways are listed below along with criteria that placed them in this category. Appendix G-13, G-14, G-15 and G-16 include maps and photography related to this project.

Burnt Car Road

- Surrounded by wetlands
- Runs adjacent to Holley Creek and is located in the northern portion of the Mobile/Tensaw Delta
- Tons of silt, sand, and clay are washed into Holley Creek and surrounding wetlands each year from this road

Bryants Landing Road

- Runs immediately adjacent to Tensaw Lake within the Mobile/Tensaw Delta
- Tons of silt, sand, and clay are washed into Tensaw Lake from this road each year

Barrineau Park Road

- Road traverses through highly erodible silt and fine sand areas adjacent to Perdido River
- Hundreds of tons of silt and sediment are eroded into Perdido River and surrounding wetlands each year from this road
- Large amounts of sediment being washed into surrounding wetlands threaten the dense stands of Atlantic White Cedar, a wetland species that has a limited habitat that is increasingly rare due to coastal development

Nolte Creek Drive

- Road is adjacent to Nolte Creek, the Magnolia River and Weeks Bay. Large amounts of red clay are washed into these waters every year during times of heavy rains.

Baudin Lane

- Road is constructed through extremely sensitive wetlands adjacent to Weeks Bay and the Magnolia River.
- Tons of silt and sediment are washed into these waters each year from the exposed sand, silt, and clay on this road.

Woodhaven Dairy Road

- This road runs parallel with pristine Polecat Creek.
- Tons of sand, silt, and clay are washed into this creek every year due to the unstabilized dirt road bed.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: The Wetland and Waterway Protection initiative meets Authorized Use #1 because it provides for the protection to coastal waters and wetlands by reducing erosion along dirt roads. This erosion causes sediment to enter the streams and creeks causing detrimental effects to wetland habitat and species. An example is the Atlantic White Cedar, a nationally protected tree. These trees have a limited coastal habitat that is increasingly threatened by development. The paving and ditch stabilization of these dirt roads will reduce the amount of sediment in the surrounding wetlands and waterways by approximately 4,000 cubic yards or 160 dump truck loads.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: This project will be administered using CIAP funds with the Baldwin County Highway Department providing equipment and labor to implement the project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Acquisition of Property for Conservation & Public Access**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-2**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

Property #1- Fish River

Latitude: 87° 48' 23.36" W

Longitude: 30° 31' 46.07" N

Property #2- To Be Determined

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,094,094.64
FY 2007	\$ 2,094,094.64
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-2	
2008	\$ 890,000.00
2009	\$ 1,204,094.64
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal is to acquire space that would provide areas for many types of outdoor recreation such as canoeing, kayaking, fishing, nature walks, biking and hiking while also preserving and protecting sensitive wetland areas and wildlife habitat.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to acquire at least two (2) pieces of property at a minimum of ten (10) acres each.

The purpose of this project is to allow the county to secure areas of land that are environmentally sensitive and would benefit the citizens of Baldwin County. With the rapid growth in Baldwin County, sensitive areas located along rivers, streams, and bays are quickly being bought and developed into subdivisions or commercial property. There is great concern that this will lead to degradation of water quality due to increased stormwater runoff, and also to the quality of life. The Baldwin County Commission would like to ensure that these areas are protected for present and future use by the citizens and visitors of Baldwin County.

The goal is to acquire space that would provide areas for many types of outdoor recreation such as canoeing, kayaking, fishing, nature walks, biking and hiking while also preserving and protecting sensitive wetland areas and wildlife habitat. It is important to be selective in the choice of lands. The approach is to identify potential tracts based on current use and environmental conditions of a property in combination with beneficial public access qualities. The objective is to acquire at least two (2) pieces of property at a minimum of ten (10) acres each.

The County has identified and purchased one piece of property (Please see Appendix G-17 and G-18 for maps and photography related to this project.) It consists of approximately 30 acres located along the Fish River. The property has approximately 2,700 feet of river frontage and approximately 14 acres of wetlands. The cost of this property was \$890,000. The purchase price was negotiated based on a recent appraisal by the property owner for \$1,100,000. A yellow book appraisal will be performed by the County. Property along the river is in great demand for development purposes. The purchase of this property provides protection and conservation of the property from commercial or subdivision development.

Other properties along various waterways in the county, including the Perdido and Styx Rivers and Wolf Creek, have been identified for possible acquisition. Specific sites will be determined once funding has been approved.

All property purchased using CIAP funds will have a deed restriction for conservation.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: The Acquisition of Property for Conservation and Public Access initiative meets Authorized Use #1 because it allows the county to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive land, including wetlands. The purchase of these environmentally sensitive properties not only limits development in these areas, but also provides numerous opportunities for education and awareness for the public as they gain access to these properties. There is a great demand in the county for access to public land, especially land that borders waterways. The rapid growth rate of the county and the large tourism population continues to put a strain on the present infrastructure.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-3**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 125,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 125,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-3	
2008	\$ 125,000.00
2009	\$ 125,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal is to provide financial assistance to the Baldwin County Commission to manage and implement Baldwin County's CIAP.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to utilize staff from various County departments to administer the CIAP program.

The project will provide financial assistance to the Baldwin County Commission to manage and implement Baldwin County's CIAP. The objective is to utilize staff from various County departments to administer the CIAP program. The administration will include attending training related to the implementation of the program, grant application preparation and submittal, and the planning and management of the CIAP projects.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #3: planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP.
- Justification: The Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program initiative meets the definition of the Authorized Use.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Magnolia Landfill Gas Collection System**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-4**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	James Ransom, Jr.
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Solid Waste Department
	15140 County Road 19
	Summerdale, Alabama 36580
Telephone	(251) 972-6826
Fax	(251) 972-6827
E-mail	jransom@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Magnolia Sanitary Landfill, Summerdale, Alabama**

Latitude: **87° 46' 24.54" W**

Longitude: **30° 26' 36.71" N**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 650,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 650,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-4	
2008	\$ 650,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to decrease NMOCs in the air surrounding the landfill by 98 percent.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to install a landfill gas collection system that will collect and burn landfill gas from the Magnolia Sanitary Landfill.

The Magnolia Sanitary Landfill is located in Summerdale, Alabama approximately three miles north of U.S. Highway 98 and five miles west of State Highway 59. The Magnolia Landfill is located approximately eight miles from Weeks Bay (Appendix G-19 and G-20 included maps and photography related to this project). The Landfill is owned and operated by the Baldwin County Commission. Applicable permits for the landfill are managed through the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The mission of the Magnolia Landfill is to furnish a safe, sanitary, and properly managed disposal site for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction Debris (C&D) for Baldwin County. In addition, recycling, composting, and biosolid operations are performed at the Landfill site. The Magnolia Landfill is site #19 on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail. In April 2005 a Tier II air emissions test was performed at the landfill to determine the amount of Non Methane Organic Compounds (NMOCs) contained in the landfill gas emitted from decomposing waste materials. The Tier II test revealed that levels of NMOCs in the landfill gas exceeded Clean Air Act requirements. NMOCs may consist of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) such as vinyl chloride, toluene, benzene, and up to 100 other materials. Studies indicate that emissions of landfill gas containing NMOCs at certain levels have adverse effects on public health. In addition, HAPs such as NMOCs in the Alabama coastal counties may contribute to atmospheric deposition in the watersheds that may cause increased pollutant loading. As a result, water quality may be reduced, possibly endangering fish and wildlife in wetland areas.

The goal of this project is to decrease NMOCs in the air surrounding the landfill by 98 percent.

The objective is to install a landfill gas collection system that will collect and burn landfill gas from the Magnolia Sanitary Landfill (Appendix G-19 and G-20 includes maps and photography related to this project). The landfill gas collection system includes a system of 7 wells, approximately 1,000 linear feet of piping, and a flare to burn the landfill gas. The landfill gas collection wells are drilled into the waste buried in the landfill, and connected to a series of pipes leading to the flare. A series of 2 air blowers creates a

draft that pulls the landfill gas from the landfill and blows the gas into the flare, where the gas is burned. Burning the landfill gas will reduce NMOCs by 98 percent, thus substantially reducing pollutant loading that can have a harmful effect on the surrounding environment. This reduction of NMOCs will be verified by monthly monitoring reports that will be sent to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

As a site on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail, the Magnolia Landfill receives more than 100 visitors each year to view the numerous varieties of birds that can be seen at the landfill. In addition, visitors will now have the opportunity to learn more about the detrimental environmental impacts of landfill gases and how the Magnolia Landfill is seeking to reduce these impacts by collecting and burning the landfill gas. Signage explaining the landfill gas system will be placed near the viewing decks used by bird watchers and other visitors to the landfill. This information will also be shared with school groups that visit the landfill throughout the year.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The Landfill Gas Collection System initiative meets Authorized Use #4 because it addresses the issue of hazardous air pollutants that contribute to the atmospheric deposition in the surrounding watersheds. By decreasing the amount of NMOCs contained in the landfill gases, the pollutant loading may be reduced thus protecting fish and wildlife habitat. This provides protection to the natural coastal environment. The management program policy statement of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan (ACAMP) is as follows: “It is the policy of the Coastal Area Management Program to encourage all sources of air pollution in Alabama’s coastal area meet or exceed all applicable emission standards.”(pp. 28-29). In addition, ACAMP states that “The quality of the air in the Alabama coastal area affects many aspects of the environment that directly relate to the quality of life on the coastal area.....the known hazardous air pollutants produced in the Alabama coastal counties contribute to the atmospheric deposition in the watersheds that, in turn, may increase pollutant loading that results in reduced water quality.”
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project benefits the natural coastal environment because it decreases the amount of NMOCs contained in the landfill gases, thus reducing the pollutant loading in the air that damages fish and wildlife habitat.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Comprehensive Land Use Plan Development**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-5**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-5	
Total Project Cost	\$ 300,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 300,000.00
FY 2008	

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-5	
2008	\$ 300,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to develop a comprehensive land use management plan that will guide the growth and manage the development of Baldwin County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this initiative is to develop a document with goals and objectives that will aid the county in the conservation and protection of its natural resources such as water quality, wetlands, estuarine marshes, beaches, flood plains, fisheries and marine habitats.

This initiative will provide guidance to county officials and personnel in the development of a comprehensive land use plan. One objective in the Baldwin County Strategic Plan 2006-2016 is that “Countywide development and growth over the next 10 years will be guided through the adoption in 2008 of a policy-based comprehensive plan.” Population estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau show that Baldwin County’s population increased to 169,162 in 2006; a 20 percent increase from the 2000 Census. Baldwin County is the second fastest growing county in Alabama and the county’s population is projected to reach almost 250,000 by the year 2025. This accelerated growth could be potentially detrimental to the natural environment -- negative impacts on water quality, wildlife habitats and open space areas are inevitable without proper guidance. Strategies outlined in the plan will aid the county in the conservation and protection of natural resources such as water quality, wetlands, estuarine marshes, beaches, flood plains, fisheries and marine habitats. Furthermore, the plan will help mitigate potential degradation of the shoreline and flora and fauna habitats by guiding growth to areas best suited for development.

Baldwin County Population 2000 and Projections 2005-2025							
Census 2000	Projections					Change 2000-2025	
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	Number	Percent
140,415	162,314	184,375	206,251	227,727	248,436	108,021	76.90%

Source: The Alabama State Data Center, the University of Alabama

Many of the current environmental issues stem from the lack of smart growth in the past. The absence of a comprehensive plan promotes sprawl, which consumes even more of our natural resources and habitat. Growth is inevitable, but the Comprehensive Land Use Plan will provide a framework for managed development while continuing to preserve our natural resources.

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan will address the conservation, use and protection of Baldwin County's natural resources, including our water quality, wetlands, estuarine marshes, beaches, flood plains, fisheries and marine habitats. The plan will involve a review and update of existing zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility with all aspects of the new land use plan, as well as address the need to provide open space and public access for the citizens of Baldwin County.

The goal of this initiative is to develop a comprehensive land use management plan that will guide the growth and manage the development of Baldwin County. The objective of this initiative is to develop a document with goals and objectives that will aid the county in the conservation and protection of its natural resources such as water quality, wetlands, estuarine marshes, beaches, flood plains, fisheries and marine habitats. Land use policies will be developed in accordance with this plan and existing zoning ordinances will be carefully reviewed to ensure their compatibility.

The county has hired the consulting firm, Genesis Group, Inc., to develop and prepare a Comprehensive Land Use Plan. One important aspect in the development of the plan involves public input. In September 2007, a series of public meetings were held throughout the county to allow citizens an opportunity to provide input on the issues they felt were the most important and critical to Baldwin County. Meetings were also held for officials of municipalities within the county, representatives of various governmental agencies, Chambers of Commerce, School Board members and County officials to address the consultants regarding their concerns. Additional public meetings will be held once a draft plan has been completed.

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Baldwin County will reconcile known resources and established development patterns and contain a forecast of changes needed. The plan will describe and examine the County's natural and man-made resources, including climate, soils, topography, drainage, transportation, community facilities and housing. Forecasts of the population and economy with implications for future expansion and development will also be presented. In addition, the plan will examine the major classifications of urban land use while giving due consideration to present uses; desired future patterns of development; the needs and desires of citizens; the interaction of natural features and the opportunities for improving quality of life.

Please see Appendix G-21 for the estimated schedule and deliverables for Baldwin County's comprehensive plan.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The Comprehensive Land Use Plan Development initiative meets Authorized Use #4 because Action HU-A1: Develop and Implement a Comprehensive Land Use Plan in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) Comprehensive Management Plan (CCMP) addresses using smart growth to control sprawl and the loss of open space (page 63 CCMP). The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program's CCMP was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in April 2002. This action encourages the development and implementation of land use planning to address development issues that can cause detrimental effects to the environment. The development of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan will assist the county in identifying those areas that are environmentally sensitive and require greater protection. It will also provide information that can be used to identify wildlife corridors and greenways to reduce habitat fragmentation. A key component of the development of this plan is the coordination and input from other agencies and local governments, as well as the general public. Agencies such as the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau and Alabama Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce will all play a vital role in the preparation of this plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This initiative will be administered using CIAP funds, NOAA Coastal Zone Management Funds (\$25,000.00) and Baldwin County matching funds (\$25,000.000)
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project benefits the natural coastal environment by providing a Comprehensive Plan to be used in land use planning to address development issues that can cause detrimental effects to the environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Exotic Plant Species Management**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-6**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-6	
Total Project Cost	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 100,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-6	
2008	\$ 50,000.00
2009	\$ 50,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to manage the threat of invasive exotic plant species in Baldwin County parks and along County right-of-ways.

OBJECTIVE: The objectives to accomplish the goal of this initiative are to provide education and training to county personnel and the purchase of equipment and supplies needed to manage these invasive plant species.

This initiative will provide education, training, equipment, and supplies to Baldwin County personnel for the management of invasive exotic plant species. Invasive exotic plants reproduce rapidly crowding out native species, damaging natural areas, and altering ecosystems. Mechanical removal and non-chemical methods should be used to control these invasive species whenever possible. Herbicides may be used where mechanical methods are ineffective.

Many of these plant species were introduced as ornamentals, erosion control methods, and forage. Since there are no natural predators for these plants they dominate the landscape; therefore suppressing native vegetation. The presence of these exotic plants results in loss of suitable habitat for native species, which can be detrimental to species already in decline. Below is a list of common exotics in Baldwin County that have been identified by The Nature Conservancy as the most problematic.

SHRUBS

- **Chinese Privet:** Member of the ash family; Most invasive of creek and river bottoms; Stands can become so dense that they suppress native vegetation; Density makes it very difficult for man and wildlife to move through them; Spread by bird-dispersed seeds

TREES

- **Popcorn Tree (Tallow Tree):** Invasive of stream bottoms; Spread by bird dispersed seeds and floodwater in stream bottoms; Flood and fire resistant; Herbicides used for control
- **Mimosa Tree (Silk Tree):** Member of the legume family; Spread by seeds or root sprouts; Thick stands will quickly invade idle land; Herbicides can be used, but large stands will require mechanical removal

GRASSES/ WEEDS

- **Cogongrass:** Colony-forming dense erect perennial grass; Branching rhizomes form dense mat that suppress native vegetation; Aggressively invades right-of-ways, forests, pastures, etc.; Destroys wildlife habitat; Spread by wind dispersed seeds; Poses severe fire hazard

VINES

- **Japanese Climbing Fern:** Perennial vine-like fern; Spread by wind dispersed spores; Found along highway right-of-ways around bridges; Can invade streams and swamps; Generally scattered in timber stands, but can increase in cover to form mats that smother native shrubs and trees; Dead vines provide trellis for reestablishment
- **Kudzu:** Perennial vine; Can be found along edges of forests, pastures, right-of-ways, and around cities and towns; Introduced for forage and erosion control; Herbicides, overgrazing, and mechanical root removal have proven to be effective in controlling this vine.

Selective herbicide methods include foliar sprays, stem injection, cut-tree, basal sprays, and soil spots. Herbicide application from direct foliar sprays is the most cost effective method. Other methods provide an integrated approach, such as hand-pulling and prescribed burns.

The goal of this initiative is to manage the threat of invasive exotic plant species in Baldwin County parks and along County right-of-ways.

The objectives to accomplish the goal of this initiative are to provide education and training to county personnel and the purchase of equipment and supplies needed to manage these invasive plant species. Education and training will be provided to approximately twenty personnel from the Parks Department and the Highway Department. This would involve two 4-hour classes of training to identify the most common and prolific species in Baldwin County and discussion of methods of treatment. An additional two 4-hour classes will be held to discuss the more technical aspects, such as the proper mix ratios of chemical treatment methods and demonstration methods on treatment of invasive plants. Approximately six staff members will also attend additional training required to be licensed as a Certified Herbicide Applicator.

Equipment to be purchased includes four backpack sprayers and an all-terrain vehicle with a 25-gallon mounted sprayer for use by the Parks Department in their application of chemical herbicides. The Highway Department will purchase three 350 gallon truck mounted herbicide sprayers. In addition, the purchase of chemical herbicides and surfactants, which can be as much as \$100 per 2 ½ gallon jugs, will be another component of the objective. A nuisance species management guide book will be produced to provide personnel with assistance in the proper treatment of the most common species. After the training seminars, Parks Department personnel will identify sites within County parks and on right-of-ways that are threatened by invasive exotic species. The sites will then be treated following the treatment guidelines outlined in the guidebook. The construction of two secure, well-ventilated buildings with approximately 200 square feet of storage for the herbicide is an additional need that will be addressed by this initiative.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: The Exotic Plant Species Management initiative meets Authorized Use #1 because the removal of these invasive exotic species will protect native flora and fauna habitats while aiding in the restoration of areas to their native natural state.

- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.

- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Coastal Dune Restoration**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-7**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Fort Morgan Peninsula, Baldwin County, Alabama
Latitude: 87° 59' 10.86" W
Longitude: 30° 13' 41.53" N

DURATION: One Year

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-7	
Total Project Cost	\$ 240,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 240,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-7	
2008	\$ -
2009	\$ 240,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to reduce the loss of dune habitat along the coastal shoreline.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to stabilize and restore coastal dunes on approximately 7 acres of county-owned land along the Fort Morgan Peninsula.

The goal of this initiative is to reduce the loss of dune habitat along the coastal shoreline. The objective is to stabilize and restore coastal dunes on approximately 7 acres of county-owned land along the Fort Morgan Peninsula. Appendix G-22 includes a map of the area. This initiative will serve as a demonstration project for private landowners and conservation organizations who want to help in the restoration of coastal dunes and protecting threatened and endangered species. This initiative will be coordinated with ongoing efforts by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Baldwin County Soil and Water Conservation District's efforts. Their program is designed to target homeowners who would like to plant native vegetation to restore natural dune habitat and reduce coastal erosion on their property.

Sand dunes provide a first line of defense against storm surges and waves. Dunes act as flexible barriers to protect low-lying backshore and help preserve low barrier islands. In addition, they provide a habitat for many animals, including migratory birds. Dunes protect structures, such as roads and buildings, by absorbing waves and blocking high winds. Dunes also minimize the impact of erosion by supplying sand to the beach areas. Hurricane events of the past several years have left many of our coastal areas bare of vegetation and vulnerable to accelerated erosion. Vegetation is critical to dune formation and stabilization. Without vegetation, blowing sand will migrate inland. Restoring coastal dunes will provide natural habitats for threatened and endangered species, such as the Alabama Beach Mouse, sea turtles, and migratory birds. Once the vegetation is established, dunes will start to form naturally and at an accelerated rate. As sand accumulates, plants adapted to the beach environment emerge, stabilizing the surface and promoting further dune formation.

One suggested method of planting to promote dune formation is to plant the vegetation 18 inches by 18 inches, in several rows where the crest of the dune is to be located. Then spacing should be increased to 2 feet and then 3 feet for several rows on each side to allow sand to penetrate to the center of the planting. Native vegetation, such as sea oats, beach morning glory, and panic grass will be used in combination to promote dune formation. Sea oats are deeply rooted where as beach morning glory spreads along the surface. Planting these together is the most effective way to promote dune formation. In addition to

planting, sand fencing will be installed. Sand fencing will help protect the newly planted vegetation and forming dunes. The sand fencing will also aid in dune formation by capturing wind blown sand.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: The Coastal Dune Restoration initiative meets Authorized Use #1 because it will aid in the restoration of coastal dune areas to their natural state. It will also provide protection to the natural habitats of threatened and endangered species, such as the Alabama Beach Mouse, sea turtles, and migratory birds.

- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.

- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Shoreline/Habitat Restoration**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-8**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Perdido Bay, Baldwin County
Latitude: 87° 27' 29.07" W
Longitude: 30° 18' 2.7" N

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-8	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 200,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-8	
2008	\$ 60,000.00
2009	\$ 60,000.00
2010	\$ 40,000.00
2011	\$ 40,000.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to identify areas in Baldwin County that experience heavy boat traffic and have suffered major prop scarring, and within these sites conduct restoration, protection and education that will help restore and maintain the critical functions of healthy seagrass beds.

OBJECTIVE: The objectives of this project include:

- Pursuing legislation to close the most heavily damaged seagrass beds to motorized boat traffic, similar to that which was recently passed to protect the Robinson Island seagrass beds in lower Perdido Bay. Such beds exist near the eastern end of Ono and Rabbit Islands;
- Using signage to mark the boundaries of the seagrass bed;
- Installing bird roosting stakes in selected propeller scars to attract birds. This will add additional nutrients to these beds, especially phosphorus, via fecal deposits. This can lead to the enhancement of natural regeneration of seagrasses in the manner that has been successful at Robinson Island;
- Monitoring seagrass regeneration in these scarred areas for a period of two years after the placement of signage and bird roosting stakes; and
- Installing educational signage on Rabbit Island and at other appropriate recreation boating ramps in the area.

Baldwin County is almost completely surrounded by water, with rivers on the northwestern side, bays on the east and west and the Gulf to the South. A vital component of this diverse aquatic environment is the seagrass beds found in shallow estuarine waters throughout the county. Healthy seagrasses play a critical role in Baldwin County's ecological and environmental health. Seagrasses provide food and shelter for the young of a variety of ecologically important fish species such as brown shrimp, blue crabs, scallops, redfish, speckled trout, and several snapper and grouper species. They also play an active role in maintaining water quality, because of their ability to absorb excess nutrients from the water column. In addition, healthy seagrasses decrease wave action and their roots and rhizomes hold sediments in place, thereby protecting shorelines from erosion.

Despite the variety of important benefits provided by healthy seagrass beds, seagrasses are declining at an increasing rate. In the Gulf of Mexico, every state has experienced large losses of seagrasses. In Alabama coastal waters records are few, but it is clear that tremendous losses have occurred, with more than 50% of the submerged vegetation lost from Mobile Bay since 1981, and in Perdido Bay around 75% of the area covered by seagrasses has been lost since 1940 (USGS 2004). Many factors contribute to seagrass decline, including the addition of wastewater and excess nutrients to coastal waters, dredging, coastal construction and direct damage caused by boat propellers. Motorized boats often run aground in the shallow waters where seagrass beds are located and leave propeller scars that are readily visible in recent aerial photography. In many areas, including several in Baldwin County, AL, the number of scars is large and the damage to the seagrass beds is extensive (Please see Appendix G-23 and G-24 for map and photography).

In 2006 a seagrass education and restoration project was conducted on Robinson Island in the vicinity of Perdido Pass in Alabama through a partnership with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the City of Orange Beach, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, funded through the Gulf of Mexico Foundation. In the one year post-implementation, the project has been successful in protecting the area from any new damage, and it appears that the regeneration of the seagrasses is more rapid in the scarred beds that contain bird stakes.

The goal of this project is to identify areas in Baldwin County that experience heavy boat traffic and have suffered major prop scarring, and within these sites conduct restoration, protection and education that will help restore and maintain the critical functions of healthy seagrass beds. The selection of project sites will be guided using the results from the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program seagrass survey and with the help of local seagrass experts from the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. The waters of Baldwin County are ideal for this type of project due to the presence of expansive and threatened seagrass beds and the large number of individuals using the waters for recreational purposes lending to high visibility for educational purposes.

The objectives of this project include:

- Pursuing legislation to close the most heavily damaged seagrass beds to motorized boat traffic, similar to that which was recently passed to protect the Robinson Island seagrass beds in lower Perdido Bay. Such beds exist near the eastern end of Ono and Rabbit Islands;
- Using signage to mark the boundaries of the seagrass bed;
- Installing bird roosting stakes in selected propeller scars to attract birds. This will add additional nutrients to these beds, especially phosphorus, via fecal deposits. This can lead to the enhancement of natural regeneration of seagrasses in the manner that has been successful at Robinson Island;
- Monitoring seagrass regeneration in these scarred areas for a period of two years after the placement of signage and bird roosting stakes; and
- Installing educational signage on Rabbit Island and at other appropriate recreation boating ramps in the area.

It is estimated that CIAP funding would allow for the project to include as much as several hundred acres of seagrass beds, depending on the extent of the current damage, and require approximately 75 bird stakes

and 50-60 seagrass marking signs. The funding for this project would also support the placement of educational signage at 2 county boat ramps in areas of the county where seagrass could be impacted, in the same manner as the Robinson Island project.

Protecting and improving the health of Baldwin County's seagrass beds will benefit the county's shoreline by the lessening of wave action and stabilizing sediments provided by seagrass meadows. Baldwin County will work closely with non-profit conservation groups to identify project sites and implementation strategies.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: The Shoreline/Habitat Restoration initiative is consistent with CIAP Authorized Use #1 because it provides a means of protection and restoration to the seagrass beds and shorelines in parts of Baldwin County.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-9**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18 Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Perdido Bay, Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-9	
Total Project Cost	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 250,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-9	
2008	\$ -
2009	\$ 250,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to contribute \$250,000.00 of CIAP funding to purchase, install, and support the operation of a real-time weather and water quality recording station in Perdido Bay.

It is a priority of the State of Alabama CIAP to support coastal observing systems as these systems provide much-needed data to understand and manage complex estuarine systems. The collection of continuous, real-time observations in coastal Alabama began with support of the first CIAP program, administered by NOAA in 2001. Since then, Dauphin Island Sea Lab and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program have partnered with the University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation, State Land Division, Coastal Programs, EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association to provide real-time data at four sites in the Mobile Bay area. Parameters being monitored at these sites include wind speed, wind direction, air temperature, barometric pressure, photosynthetically active radiation, precipitation, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, water height, and salinity. Real-time data are available in a user-friendly format at www.mymobilebay.com. This informative website describes and graphs each parameter. Researchers may download the data in a spreadsheet format any time for further analysis. Data from these stations can also be accessed through the National Data Buoy Center at:

http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/Alabama_inset.shtml.

Through a partnership, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County will add monitoring sites to complete an east-west transect in the coastal area of Alabama (AL-20, BC-9 and MC-9). This project will construct data collection devices and support the implementation and operation of the network for two years. The costs associated with the implementation of each monitor include salaries (data manager, technician, and project manager), boat and vehicle expenses, and other expendables. The State of Alabama will contribute CIAP funding to purchase, install and implement a monitor in Bon Secour Bay, partnering with funding from NOAA. Baldwin County will fund the purchase, installation and implementation of a monitor in Perdido Bay, and the Mobile County will purchase, install, and implement a monitor in the Mississippi Sound/Portersville Area. The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile

County will each submit a separate grant application for their respective project within this grant. Appendix G-11 contains a map depicting the proposed monitor locations. The map also depicts the locations of the existing funded monitors.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will obtain data necessary for scientific research and investigation of coastal areas. These data are necessary in conserving, protecting, and restoring complex coastal ecosystems
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding. The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County (AL-21, BC-9, and MC-9) will partner to create an east-west transect of continuous and real-time weather and water quality recording stations along southern coastal Alabama.

This project contains many partners in addition to CIAP. Specifically, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation, State Land Division, Coastal Program, EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association have all contributed to the implementation of these systems in coastal waters. Additional funding from the Emergency Disaster Response Fund (EDRF) is being utilized to purchase and maintain monitors in the Mississippi Sound, near the western boundary of Mobile County.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Enhancement of Existing Public Accesses**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-10**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Baldwin County, Alabama Hastie Lake
Latitude: 87° 52' 26.54" W
Longitude: 30° 57' 48.32" N

DURATION: Two Years

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-10	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-10	
2008	\$ 500,000.00
2009	\$ 500,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to enhance public access conditions in the coastal area of Baldwin County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective includes projects such as installing boat ramps, constructing fishing piers and boardwalks, creating camping facilities, and general improvement.

The goal of this initiative is to enhance public access conditions in the coastal area of Baldwin County. Baldwin County owns parks and undeveloped parcels of land throughout the County. The population of Baldwin County has grown over 50 percent since the 1990 census. The use of current public facilities is high due to this fact and many of Baldwin County’s parks need enhancement to provide beneficial use for citizens.

The objective includes projects such as installing boat ramps, constructing fishing piers and boardwalks, creating camping facilities, and general improvement. This initiative will focus strictly on properties that are currently under the ownership of Baldwin County.

The primary focus of this initiative is property known as the Hastie Lake Tract (Please see Appendix G-25 for a map of this site). This is a 367 acre property in northern Baldwin County that was purchased using CIAP funds in the previous program. The site includes approximately 170 acres of wetlands. The project area for this initiative is focused on the southern portion of this parcel. Initial plans for this area include the construction of a boat launch facility, a parking area, and paving of the roadway leading to the launch. Additional plans include a boardwalk to the wetlands area, a primitive camping area and the placement of educational signs and kiosks throughout the site. This site provides a wealth of opportunity to educate the public on the importance of wetlands and their function. It also provides education on the birds, reptiles, and fish that make this area their home. The boat launch will provide a connection to the Mobile-Tensaw Delta that is habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. The County hopes to coordinate with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to place this launch site on the Bartram Canoe Trail. The State is planning an extension of the current trail. This site would provide ideal access to many of the designated canoe and kayak trails. The primitive camping area could also serve as an over-night stop on the trail. The preliminary plans are for a launch area that would allow three vehicles to launch at once. Parking will be provided for approximately 75 vehicles. There is an existing dirt road leading into the site. This roadway will be widened to two lanes and paved. The approach leading into State Highway 225 will also be changed to provide better site distance for ingress and egress.

An additional aspect of this initiative is the purchase of equipment that will allow the Parks Department to better maintain public access areas. The purchase of this equipment would allow the Parks Department to do projects that would otherwise have to be contracted out. When projects are contracted out there is a greater cost which means less work is able to be done on public accesses. A skid steer with various attachments would be purchased. The use of a skid steer is more environmentally friendly than other equipment such as full-sized bulldozer because of its low ground pressure. This will allow staff to work in environmentally sensitive areas with little impact. Attachments that would be purchased include an auger, a forestry mower, a front end loader and a grapple. The auger would allow quick and easy drilling of holes for planting of trees and installing fencing and signs. The forestry mower is a much-needed piece of equipment to provide for the clearing of areas for walking trails and access to waterways. The front end loader is a multi-purpose attachment that can be used to transport material such as trees, plants, rocks and dirt. The grapple is primarily used to transport large pieces of wood such as logs or lumber. This attachment would be used in building boardwalks, removing downed trees and building piers. This piece of equipment will be extremely useful on properties such as the 367 acre Hastie Lake site and on the Fish River property purchased as part of this CIAP initiative.

The Parks Department will also identify other properties owned by the county that need enhancement to provide a more beneficial use for citizens. This could include the repair of boat launch facilities, the addition of picnic facilities and playground equipment and improvement of walking trails and signage. Much of the work done on all of the sites will employ the skills of county staff in an effort to make the best use of funding.

It is important that the County provide facilities to the public that allow them to gain a better understanding and greater appreciation for the surrounding environment. Baldwin County has many areas of unique environmental significance that can provide education to the citizens on the importance of protecting and conserving the environment around them.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The Acquisition of Property for Boating Access initiative meets Authorized Use #4 because the Mobile Estuary Program (MBNEP) Comprehensive Management Plan (CCMP) addresses the need to increase the number of public access sites under Action HU-C1- Increase Public Access and Eco-tourism Opportunities. This action encourages the maintenance of existing public access areas as well as the addition of features such as boardwalks and public boat launch facilities. This initiative will provide citizens greater access to waterways and nature areas which increases awareness of natural resource issues and promotes understanding and participation in conservation and stewardship activities.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.

- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project benefits the natural coastal environment because it provides numerous opportunities for the public to learn about the natural environment. Enhancing public access areas will raise awareness and will allow a greater appreciation for the natural environment. As citizens gain a better understanding of the interconnectedness of the environment and the impacts it has on their way of life, they will have an increased desire to protect and conserve these natural areas.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Acquisition of Property for Boating Access**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC-11**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18
	Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Perdido Bay, Baldwin County**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC-11	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 2,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC-11	
2008	\$ 2,000,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to address the lack of public access that can support a public boating facility in the Perdido Bay area of coastal Baldwin County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to purchase at least one piece of property, two to ten acres in size, that will provide boating access to the northern portion of Perdido Bay.

The goal of this initiative is to address the lack of public access that can support a public boating facility in the Perdido Bay area of coastal Baldwin County. The objective is to purchase at least one piece of property, two to ten acres in size, that will provide boating access to the northern portion of Perdido Bay.

Baldwin County owns undeveloped parcels of land in this area; however none of the properties can support a facility that will be beneficial to the public. Currently, the only public facility located on this water body is at the southern-most portion of Perdido Bay, approximately 12 nautical miles from the mouth of the Perdido River. The proposed boating facility will offer access to local wetland and swamp areas which will provide educational opportunities for those interested in wetlands and marine science. It will also provide access that will benefit research opportunities for groups such as The Nature Conservancy and Dauphin Island Sea Lab. This project could potentially become part of the Alabama Coastal Kayaking Trail initiative proposed by the State of Alabama.

This area of coastline is rapidly developing. Available land is very limited and expensive. County staff has spent much time researching coastal properties in this area. Properties that are best suited for a public boating facility have been carefully evaluated and availability determined. Some of the criteria that were used in the selection process included the presence of wetlands, topography, water depth, size and cost of the parcel and the willingness of the owner to sell. At the present time, the County has narrowed the possibilities to several available pieces of property (Appendix G-26 includes a map of the area). Currently, staff is performing additional evaluations on these properties to determine the best overall value. Additional properties may become available as we are awaiting final plan approval. All options will be fully researched to ensure that the best available site is chosen.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The Acquisition of Property for Boating Access initiative meets Authorized Use #4 because Action HU-C1- Increase Public Access and Eco-tourism Opportunities in The Mobile Estuary Program (MBNEP) Comprehensive Management Plan (CCMP) addresses the need to increase the number of public access sites. It specifically addresses the need for additional public boat launching facilities. This initiative will increase awareness of natural resource issues and promote understanding and participation in conservation and stewardship activities.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: The proposed boating facility will benefit the coastal environment because it offers access to local wetland and swamp areas, such as the Lillian Swamp. Access to these areas will provide educational opportunities for those interested in wetlands and marine science and will open up research opportunities for groups such as The Nature Conservancy and Dauphin Island Sea Lab. This project could potentially become part of the Alabama Coastal Kayaking Trail (A1-5) initiative proposed by the State of Alabama.

c. Mobile County Tier One Project Descriptions

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
MC-1	Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program	\$ 362,030.28	159
MC-2	Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center Improvements	\$ 1,527,000.00	161
MC-3	Heron Bay Cut-Off Access Improvements	\$ 825,000.00	165
MC-4	Dauphin Island Campground Improvements	\$ 200,000.00	169
MC-5	Dauphin Island Bicycle Trail Repair	\$ 95,000.00	171
MC-6	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events	\$ 500,000.00	173
MC-7	Mobile County Greenprint Project	\$ 73,000.00	177
MC-8	Sensitive Habitat Restoration and Enhancement of County-owned Property	\$ 450,000.00	181
MC-9	Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama	\$ 250,000.00	183
MC-10	North Mobile County Wastewater Facilities	\$ 1,500,000.00	187
MC-11	Bayfront Park Improvements	\$ 175,000.00	191
MC-12	Coastal Research Weather Stations	\$ 145,000.00	195
MC-13	West Mobile County Conservation Property Acquisition	\$ 800,000.00	199
MC-14	Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island	\$ 1,000,000.00	201
MC-15	Big Creek Lake Public Access Improvements	\$ 2,000,000.00	205
Total		\$ 9,902,030.28	

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Administration of the Coastal Impact Assistance Program**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-1**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-3229
E-mail	Bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 362,030.28
FY 2007	\$ 181,015.14
FY 2008	\$ 181,015.14

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-1	
2008	\$ 90,507.57
2009	\$ 90,507.57
2010	\$ 90,507.57
2011	\$ 90,507.57

GOAL: The goal of this project is to effectively and efficiently administer the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP).

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to utilize both Mobile County Commission staff and contracted assistance to administer the CIAP program. .
The objective of this project is to utilize both Mobile County Commission staff and contracted assistance to administer the CIAP program. The Mobile County Commission staff has attended CIAP workshops held by MMS aimed toward the development and administration of a CIAP. Administration will include attendance at grant management training workshops, development of the CIAP plan, preparing grant applications, project specific training and education, and managing CIAP projects.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #3: planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP.
- Justification: Administrative costs meet the definition of the Authorized Use.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: This is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-2**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center, Creola,
Alabama (30° 54' 21.34" N 87° 58' 46.98" W)**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,527,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 527,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-2	
2008	\$ 777,000.00
2009	\$ 750,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center Improvement project is to enhance public access and educational opportunities in northern Mobile County by providing a controlled access point into the Delta and informing the visitors of the ecological importance of the area.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct facilities and infrastructure at the park in order to enhance the visitors' experience when accessing Mobile-Tensaw Delta.

The Mobile-Tensaw Delta (MTD) encompasses approximately 200,000 acres at the base of the 43,600 square mile Mobile River Basin and it is the second largest river delta in the United States. It is recognized as being Alabama's largest National Natural Landmark (National Park Service designation). The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources State Lands Division and the Forever Wild Land Trust acquired almost 48,000 acres of bottomland hardwood swamp in the late 1990's. This landmark acquisition was followed by the acquisition of another 7,000 acres of the MTD with the support of other federal land acquisition programs.

In order to provide much needed public access to the Mobile Delta's swamps, rivers, bogs, bayous, and marshes, the Mobile County Commission acquired the Dead Lake Waterfront RV Park using 2001 CIAP funds. After some minimal improvements, the 22-acre park was renamed the Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center. The park provides the only public access to the Delta in northern Mobile County and is located with easy access to Interstate 65 and U.S. 43 (30° 54' 21.34" N 87° 58' 46.98" W). The existing facility contains a campground, cabins, a boat launch, and a ranger station. According to Mobile County records, 12,000 people visit the park annually and the number of visitors has increased every year since the acquisition of the park. The park is a site on the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail and will be a key entry and access point of the southern extension of the Bartram Canoe Trail.

The goal of the Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center Improvement project is to enhance public access opportunities in northern Mobile County by providing a controlled access point into the Delta and educating the Park's visitors of the ecological importance of the area. The objective of the project is to construct facilities and infrastructure at the park in order to enhance the visitors' experience when accessing Mobile-Tensaw Delta.

The project will construct a 28-stall boat storage facility and fuel station and double the number of existing log cabins (four new cabins). The swimming pool will be renovated along with the purchase and installation of playground equipment. The main office will be renovated to serve as a Ranger Station/Nature Center. Educational signage will be constructed throughout the facility to educate the

public on the ecological importance of the Delta. A work boat will be procured to manage water activities and conduct water quality sampling along this part of the river and other county owned public access facilities. Also, the project may include acquisition of adjacent parcels if they become available for purchase. Appendix G-29 includes a map of the Mobile County River Delta Welcome Center.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #4 because it satisfies the objective HU-C1 set forth in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. The objective is “increase public access and ecotourism opportunities.”
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project will benefit the natural coastal environment by providing a controlled and publicly maintained access to the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, either via a day trip or an extended stay at the campground. In addition to educational signage, the facility will contain proper trash disposal facilities, on-site sewage system, and a fish cleaning station to reduce the pollution entering the waterways. The park will facilitate a large number of visitors and coastal residents access to the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, a National Natural landmark. Over 50% (107,000 acres) of the land area of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta is owned by public agencies. By providing a mechanism for the public to learn about the natural resource, it allows the park visitor to connect to the Delta’s resources and an interest will be sparked in protection and conserving publicly-owned natural resources. Subsequently, this interest will foster a sense of ownership and land stewardship for future generations. Last, the Mobile County River Delta Tourism and Welcome Center provides a publicly managed access point into the Delta. In absence of these facilities, unmanaged privately owned access locations degrade the natural area by illegal dumping, can become a haven for other illicit activities, or become inaccessible for the general public. A public facility provides everyone a safe means to learn about the ecological significance of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Heron Bay Cut-Off Access Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-3**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Dauphin Island Parkway, Mobile County, Alabama**
(30° 20' 12.8" N, 87° 58' 43.8" W)

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 825,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 825,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-3	
2008	\$ 425,000.00
2009	\$ 400,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to enhance public access infrastructure at the Heron Bay Cut-Off to minimize damage to fragile coastal environments.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct and enhance public access infrastructure and signage to educate the public on seagrass habitats, protection of wetlands, and environmentally-friendly boating practices.

Heron Bay Cut-Off is located on Dauphin Island Parkway just north of the Dauphin Island Bridge in southern Mobile County. It is a linear area park located parallel to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) right-of-way. Thousands of people regularly use this aging access point as it is near the Cedar Point oyster beds, the Mississippi Sound, as well as Mobile Pass and Pelican Pass. Abundant fringe Juncus marsh and sea grass beds line the entire site providing productive spawning grounds for many varieties of fish and mollusk species. Uncontrolled public access at this site has impacted these fragile habitats. For example, boats are launched through the marsh digging up the seagrasses and substrate causing long term damage to these habitats.

The goal of this project is to enhance public access infrastructure at the Heron Bay Cut-Off to minimize damage to fragile coastal environments. The objective of this project is will be to construct a boat ramp, in the best location to minimize impact to sensitive wetlands. A 5' X 58' pile-supported pier with a 5' X 50' cross section on the end will be constructed to provide the public a view of the habitats. Five (5) signs will be constructed on the pier to educate the public on seagrass habitats, protection of wetlands, and environmentally-friendly boating practices. Also, 200'± of shoreline will be stabilized to prevent further degradation of the wetlands. As this park is located adjacent to the roadway, guard rails and additional lighting will also be installed. Appendix G-30 includes a map of the Heron Bay Cut-Off.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource based activities encourage a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These sites highlight land conservation, and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. Providing the public a place to experience natural resource conservation, protection, and management enhances their appreciation of the natural coastal environment. As a result, this appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership providing benefit to the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Dauphin Island Campground Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-4**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **109 Bienville Blvd., E., Dauphin Island, Alabama
(30° 15' 0.1" N, 88° 4' 50.9" W)**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 200,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:
2008 - \$200,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the Dauphin Island Campground Access Improvement project is to improve the physical condition of the campground.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to undertake activities that will improve access, drainage, and facilities.

The Dauphin Island Campground is the only campground on the island with over 18,000 visitors each year and the single largest source of tourism lodging in the community. The campground is adjacent to the Audubon Bird Sanctuary and the Billy Goat Hole Boat Ramp. Due to its location, it is popular with beachgoers, birdwatchers, and boaters. It is operated by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board, a non profit, locally controlled entity. The goal of the Dauphin Island Campground Access Improvement project is to improve the physical condition of the campground. The objective of the project is to undertake activities that will improve access, drainage, and facilities. The project will include the hydraulic improvement of a drainage ditch from interior areas to the road's right of way and will include repairs to onsite utilities such as electrical and wastewater systems. Appendix G-30 includes a map of the Dauphin Island Campground.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: Improvements to the facilities at the campground will ensure that the integrity of this ecologically sensitive coastal environment is not compromised by deteriorating infrastructure such as wastewater facilities that receive heavy use by campers and day visitors alike.

Over time, poor drainage from interior areas of the campground to the right of way have eroded away wildlife habitat and contributed to erosion problems. Once hydraulic improvements to these areas are complete, improvements in wildlife habitat, reduced weed infestation, and reduced algae growth are expected to provide tangible improvements to the environment and will maintain adequate drainage for the area.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Dauphin Island Bicycle Trail Repair**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-5**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Dauphin Island, Alabama**
(30° 15' 9.0" N, 88° 6' 10.8" W, approximate midpoint of trail)

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-5	
Total Project Cost	\$ 95,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 95,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-5	
2008	\$ 95,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Dauphin Island Bicycle Trail Repair project is to provide a safe and well maintained bike trail.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to identify areas that are damaged and to select the most appropriate measures to restore the trail.

The Town of Dauphin Island constructed an approximately 4 mile bike trail along the main road that connects Fort Gaines, the Audubon Bird Sanctuary, Cadillac Square, Salt Creek Park, and the Main Beach area to promote public access for birdwatchers and beachgoers. There are areas of the trail that have been damaged by tree root growth. The goal of the Dauphin Island Bicycle Trail Repair project is to provide a safe and well maintained bike trail. The objective of the project is to identify areas that are damaged and to select the most appropriate measures to restore the trail. The project will include assessing the condition of the trail and making repairs as needed. Appendix G-32 includes a map of the Dauphin Island Bike Trail.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: This trail is utilized by many, ranging from experienced to the more casual cyclists. The repair of the damaged areas of the trail will not only improve the aesthetics of the area but will prevent cyclists from veering off-trail to circumvent obstacles thereby destroying wildlife habitat and sensitive vegetation. Additionally, clearing and restoring the damaged areas of the trail will help reduce the occurrence of erosion caused by upsets along the trail.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-6**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-6	
Total Project Cost	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 250,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-6	
2008	\$ 125,000.00
2009	\$ 125,000.00
2010	\$ 125,000.00
2011	\$ 125,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event project is to reduce the amount of household hazardous waste and other difficult waste types that are disposed of improperly, to further public awareness on the importance of proper waste disposal, and on water quality protection.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to provide citizens opportunities to properly dispose of household hazardous waste and other difficult waste streams. Additionally, these events will provide an opportunity for distribution of stormwater management educational materials. In the past, the Mobile County Commission, in cooperation with other local partners, has sponsored one-day household hazardous waste collection events. These events were well attended and highly successful with numerous tons of hazardous waste being collected. While most individuals would not dispose of hazardous wastes improperly, sponsoring collection days is a way to ensure that stored hazardous and difficult wastes do not make their way into area waterways and ultimately degrade water quality and associated marine, estuarine, and freshwater habitats. The Mobile County Commission will sponsor at least two (2) Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days each year where the County will accept a variety of items not eligible for regular waste collection. Some of the wastes to be collected will be paints, thinners, herbicides, pesticides, used oil, scrap tires, and electronics. The County will contract with a company that specializes in the proper disposal of hazardous wastes for processing and disposing of items collected.

The goal of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event project is to reduce the amount of household hazardous waste that is disposed of improperly, to further public awareness on the importance of proper waste disposal, and on water quality protection. The primary objective of the project is to provide citizens opportunities to properly dispose of household hazardous waste. Additionally, these events will provide an opportunity for distribution of stormwater management educational materials. If opportunities to properly dispose of household hazardous waste items are not provided these items will become illegal dumps and/or poured into the stormwater system to end up in one of the bays or the Gulf of Mexico.

The project will involve partnering with local governments and non-profit entities to organize and implement waste collection days in Mobile County. Collection sites will be established at various locations

throughout the County. The event will include a media campaign to inform citizens as to what is considered household hazardous waste and provide details on collection locations and times.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action WQ-D2: Provide for safe disposal of hazardous waste included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: Mobile County will partner with local governments and non profit entities.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The opportunity to properly dispose of household hazardous waste items prevents these items from becoming illegal dumps and/or poured into the stormwater system to end up in one of the bays or the Gulf of Mexico. These events will provide an opportunity for distribution of stormwater management educational materials increasing public awareness on the importance of proper waste disposal and on water quality protection.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Mobile County Greenprint Project**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-7**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-7	
Total Project Cost	\$ 73,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 73,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-7	
2008	\$ 73,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to identify and map land parcels that may be acquired for the protection of sensitive habitats and wetlands.

OBJECTIVE: The objectives of this project are to utilize data, modeling, and community outreach to support the development and implementation of sensitive habitat protection strategies.

The unincorporated areas of Mobile County’s landscape are made up of high density suburban uses, rural and industrial areas, wetlands, marshes, uplands, rivers, a manmade reservoir (Big Creek Lake), and several bayous and creeks. As growth spreads out from the City of Mobile and extends into unincorporated areas, forests, floodplains, and other sensitive habitat are being converted to new development. The natural lands that once retained and absorbed stormwater are being lost, increasing the risk of future flooding and other storm impacts. There is a need to identify lands that will be most critical to conserve and manage and develop a plan for protecting those lands before they are lost to development. The goal of this project is to identify and map land parcels that may be acquired for the protection of sensitive habitats and wetlands. The objectives of this project are to utilize data, modeling, and community outreach to support the development and implementation of sensitive habitat protection strategies.

This project will:

1. Identify a set of community values around land conservation and park creation by engaging a diverse set of community participants in developing parks and conservation goals, and site-specific strategies for the places identified as important to protect;
2. Create a model for Mobile County that shows how the County can protect its sensitive habitats while meeting other local park and resource protection needs; create a set of maps that prioritize exactly where the community should invest its limited resources in order to meet its goals related to acquisition of lands for conservation.
3. Produce a final report providing project overview, current condition analysis, model description and modeling results, and including discussion and overview of implementation recommendations for supporting local goals.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #1 as it identifies environmentally sensitive areas for conservation and protection.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: The Mobile County Commission proposes to partner with the Trust for Public Land, the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, and the Alabama Coastal Foundation to implement this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: This project will identify lands that will be most critical to conserve and manage and develop a plan for protecting those lands before they are lost to development.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Sensitive Habitat Restoration and Enhancement of County-owned Property**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-8**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Unincorporated Mobile County**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-8	
Total Project Cost	\$ 450,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 225,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 225,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-8	
2008	\$ 112,500.00
2009	\$ 112,500.00
2010	\$ 112,500.00
2011	\$ 112,500.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to enhance or restore sensitive habitats on county-owned property.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to undertake actions that will enhance and/or restore stream corridors and other sensitive habitats including the removal of invasive exotic species on county-owned property.

The Mobile County Commission owns a number of properties containing sensitive habitats that would benefit from restoration and enhanced management. The goal of this project is to enhance or restore sensitive habitats on county-owned property. The objective of the project is to undertake actions that will enhance and/or restore stream corridors and other sensitive habitats including the removal of invasive exotic species on county-owned property. The Mobile County Environmental Services Department will identify and prioritize sensitive habitats on county owned property for restoration or enhancement (50 - 300 acres). Staff will attend training and educational forums on stream restoration, wetland mitigation, floodplain management, natural disaster mitigation, preparedness and recovery, and other appropriate topics. Once identified, the restoration/enhancements projects will be designed to meet current best management practices, standards and regulations. The County Commission will seek reimbursement for travel and training costs incurred before the plan is approved for staff assigned to this project. This project will also include acquisition of equipment needed to implement and maintain the projects. The equipment to be purchased will be 50 hp, or larger, tractor with attachments, low ground pressure loader with attachments, dozier, small equipment, herbicide, limestone, seed, and native vegetation. A greenhouse, consulting services, and tree planting services will also be required.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #1 as it will restore and enhance wetlands on County owned parcels.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: With the enhancement and/or restoration of sensitive habitats Mobile County will provide the much needed conservation, protection, and management of our coastal natural resources.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Continuous and Real-time Recording Stations of Meteorological and Hydrographic Parameters in Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-9**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-9	
Total Project Cost	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-9	
2008	\$ 250,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to contribute a \$250,000.00 of CIAP funding to purchase, install, and support the operation of a continuous and real-time weather and water quality recording station in Mississippi Sound/Portersville Bay.

It is a priority of the State of Alabama CIAP to support coastal observing systems as these systems provide much-needed data to understand and manage complex estuarine systems. The collection of continuous, real-time observations in coastal Alabama began with support of the first CIAP program, administered by NOAA in 2001. Since then, Dauphin Island Sea Lab and the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program have partnered with the University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation, State Land Division, Coastal Programs, EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association to provide real-time data at four sites in the Mobile Bay area. Parameters being monitored at these sites include wind speed, wind direction, air temperature, barometric pressure, photosynthetically active radiation, precipitation, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, water height, and salinity. Real-time data are available in a user-friendly format at www.mymobilebay.com. This informative website describes and graphs each parameter. Researchers may download the data in a spreadsheet format any time for further analysis. Data from these stations can also be accessed through the National Data Buoy Center at:

http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/Alabama_inset.shtml.

Through a partnership, the State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County will add monitoring sites to complete an east-west transect in the coastal area of Alabama (AL-20, BC-9 and MC-9). This project will construct data collection devices and support the implementation and operation of the network for two years. The costs associated with the implementation of each monitor include salaries (data manager, technician, and project manager), boat and vehicle expenses, and other expendables. The State of Alabama will contribute CIAP funding to purchase, install and implement a monitor in Bon Secour Bay, partnering with funding from NOAA. Baldwin County will fund the purchase, install and implement a monitor in Perdido Bay, and the Mobile County will purchase, install, and implement a monitor in the Mississippi Sound/Portersville Area. The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County will each

submit a separate grant application for their respective project within this grant. Appendix G-11 contains a map depicting the proposed monitor locations. The map also depicts the locations of the existing funded monitors.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will obtain data necessary for scientific research and investigation of coastal areas. These data are necessary in conserving, protecting, and restoring complex coastal ecosystems
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding. The State of Alabama, Baldwin County, and Mobile County (AL-21, BC-9, and MC-9) will partner to create an east-west transect of continuous and real-time weather and water quality recording stations along southern coastal Alabama.

This project contains many partners in addition to CIAP. Specifically, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, University of South Alabama, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alabama Department of Conservation, State Land Division, Coastal Program, EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program and the Alabama Lighthouse Association have all contributed to the implementation of these systems in coastal waters. Additional funding from the Emergency Disaster Response Fund (EDRF) is being utilized to purchase and maintain monitors in the Mississippi Sound, near the western boundary of Mobile County.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **North Mobile County Wastewater Facilities**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-10**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-10	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 652,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 848,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-10	
2008	\$ 750,000.00
2009	\$ 750,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to construct/install wastewater infrastructure along the I-65/Highway 43 corridor.

The I-65/Highway 43 corridor between Satsuma and Mount Vernon in northeast Mobile County is home to high density residential and commercial land uses. Portions of this area of the County are served by publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities while other portions utilize onsite wastewater treatment/individual septic tanks, many of which are failing due to age, design, and lack of adequate maintenance. The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters. The objective of the project is to construct/install wastewater infrastructure along the I-65/Highway 43 corridor. If it is not possible to connect infrastructure to a publicly owned treatment plant, then the project will consist of construction of at least one decentralized wastewater treatment system. Once constructed, the local jurisdiction will be responsible for operating these facilities.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action WQ-C1 Reduce Opportunities for Pathogen Introduction included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: Sanitary sewer infrastructure in this area is an integral component of protecting local waterways from pathogens associated with failing septic systems. Locally heavy rainfall and close proximity to vital commercial and recreational waterways underscore the importance of properly maintained and operated treatment systems. Reducing the

area's dependence on septic systems is expected to greatly reduce the introduction of pathogens to these waterways, which will decrease the frequency and impact of algae blooms due to nutrient overload; it will also reduce the number of marine life and human health warnings associated with wastewater contamination.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Bayfront Park Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-11**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Dauphin Island Parkway, Mobile County, Alabama**
(30° 21' 23.2" N, 88° 7' 1.5" W)

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-11	
Total Project Cost	\$ 175,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 175,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-11	
2008	\$ -
2009	\$ 175,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Bayfront Park Improvement project is to enhance public access along the shores of Mobile Bay in south Mobile County to minimize damage to fragile coastal environments

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct and enhance public access infrastructure and signage to educate the public on seagrass habitats, protection of wetlands, wildlife, and environmentally-friendly low impact activities.

In 2001, the Mobile County Commission utilized Coastal Impact Assistance Program funding to make improvements to Bayfront Park in the Alabama Port community. Improvements included construction of boardwalks and onsite sewage infrastructure for restroom facilities. The park's location on the shores of Mobile Bay in south Mobile County places it adjacent to wetlands and waterfront. This provides an opportunity to protect sensitive habitat by controlling public access. The goal of the Bayfront Park Improvement project is to enhance public access along the shores of Mobile Bay in south Mobile County. The objective of the project is to provide infrastructure to enhance public access.

The project may include but not be limited to the continuation of the existing boardwalk providing access to additional areas of the property, and replacement of aging playground equipment, enhancement to entrance roads, refurbishment of picnic areas, lighting, and the installation of educational kiosks identifying native vegetation, the animals that live in the wetland areas, and the protection wetlands provide. Appendix G-33 includes a map of Bayfront Park.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access and Eco-Tourism included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.

- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource based activities encourage a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These sites highlight land conservation, and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. Providing the public a place to experience natural resource conservation, protection, and management enhances their appreciation of the natural coastal environment. As a result, this appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership providing benefit to the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Coastal Research Weather Stations**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-12**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-12	
Total Project Cost	\$ 145,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 145,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-12	
2008	\$ 145,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Coastal Research Weather Stations project is to enhance computer enabled environmental education activities for Mobile County students.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to establish weather stations throughout Mobile County\ that are accessible by local schools.

The University of South Alabama Mesonet program combines weather data collection for the National Weather Service and the University of South Alabama (USA) Weather Center with a program that makes the data collected available on the internet for students and teachers. The program also includes experts from USA providing local teachers with training on the importance and use of weather data in the classroom. The goal of the Coastal Research Weather Stations project is to enhance computer enabled environmental education activities for Mobile County students. The objective of the project is to establish weather stations throughout Mobile County that are accessible by local schools.

The project will include installation of at least six weather stations that contain wind monitors, barometers, temperature/humidity sensors, rain gauges, and soil moisture probes and that are connected to the internet.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action EPI-A1: Enhance Public Education and Outreach included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: By creating a real time data retrieval system, students, teachers, weather stations, and monitors are able to access the data collected and report all changes in wind, barometric pressure, temperature/humidity, water quality, salinity, and soil

conditions. Coordinated and comprehensive data can be utilized to predict and analyze changes in the local area's weather patterns and will aid in assessing the best course of action to protect environmentally sensitive habitats from the harmful effects of these changes and/or severe weather events.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **West Mobile County Conservation Property Acquisition**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-13**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-13	
Total Project Cost	\$ 800,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 800,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-13	
2008	\$ 800,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to acquire, for conservation purposes, environmentally sensitive areas in West Mobile County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to purchase tracts (25 to 250) of coastal areas and manage the tracts for conservation purposes.

West Mobile County is home to the Big Creek Watershed, the Escatawpa River Watershed, and other watersheds that contain undeveloped tracts of land. Big Creek Lake is the major drinking water source for Mobile County. The Escatawpa River is widely recognized as one of the finest undeveloped black water streams in the nation. Parts of the area are also identified as Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) habitat (listed as endangered in Mobile County). The goal of this project is to acquire, for conservation purposes, coastal areas in West Mobile County.

The Mobile County Commission proposes to purchase tracts of coastal areas (25 to 250 acres) and manage the tracts for conservation purposes. Deed restrictions will be placed on these parcels. Elements of this project include appraising potential parcels for acquisition and developing and implementing conservation management plans.

Market conditions prevent the identification of specific parcels at this time.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: Natural lands that once retained and absorbed stormwater and provided animal habitat are being lost to development, thereby increasing the risk of future flooding and other adverse impacts. With the acquisition of these lands Mobile County will provide the much needed conservation, protection, and management of our coastal natural resources.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Acquisition of Sensitive Waterfront Property, Dauphin Island**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-14**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Dauphin Island, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-14	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
State of Alabama FY 2007	\$ -
State of Alabama FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00
Mobile County FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
Mobile County FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-14	
2008	\$ 1,000,000.00
2009	\$ -
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama and Mobile County will partner to protect and acquire sensitive waterfront habitat on Dauphin Island.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project will be to purchase 1-2 acres of waterfront property on Dauphin Island at a cost of \$2,000,000.00. The State of Alabama will contribute \$1,000,000.00 and Mobile County will contribute \$1,000,000.00.

Dauphin Island, Alabama (30° 15' 8.34" N, 88° 66' 32.98" W) is a coastal barrier island located at the southern tip of Mobile County, Alabama. The island is surrounded by many bodies of water including the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi Sound, and Mobile Bay. The island is composed of beaches and dunes, maritime forests, and wetlands on approximately 6.1 square miles. According to 2000 Census data, the full-time population on the island is 1,212. Conservation-oriented outdoor activities on the island include fishing, camping, and bird watching. There are many conservation destinations on the island including the Dauphin Island Sea Lab Estuarium, Historic Fort Gaines, and the Audubon Bird Sanctuary.

The shoreline habitats of Dauphin Island provide many ecological benefits, including shoreline stabilization and productive nesting and foraging areas for fish and wildlife. Many of these important and rare waterfront areas are privately-owned on Dauphin Island, threatening adverse impacts from

development. Also, waterfront sites for the public to participate in low impact natural resource-based educational activities are in great demand.

Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama and Mobile County will partner to protect and acquire sensitive waterfront habitat on Dauphin Island. The objective of this project will be to purchase 1-2 acres using \$1,000,000.00 from the State of Alabama and \$1,000,000.00 from Mobile County. The parcel will be available for public use and natural resource-based educational signage will be installed. The title of the property will be held by the Town of Dauphin Island and the deed will be restricted according CIAP requirements.

This site will provide public access to the waterways of southern Alabama for natural resource-based educational activities such as birding and research. The parcel will be used as a main exit and entry point for the Coastal Kayaking Trail (AL-5), which will create a water-based trail linking Alabama's coastal communities and ecosystems. In addition, the site may be a candidate for inclusion in the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail (www.alabamacoastalbirdingtrail.com). This trail, among other things, serves as a means to educate users about coastal Alabama's abundant natural resources. During spring and fall migrations, Dauphin Island can be one of the best birding locations along the entire Gulf Coast and has hosted nationally-recognized birding events. Future projects at the acquired property could include restoration of near shore intertidal habitat and construction of low impact public facilities to complement the goal of this project.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it involves the acquisition of sensitive land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama. The deed will be restricted according to CIAP requirements.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: The State of Alabama will contribute \$1,000,000.00 of CIAP funding to this project. The Mobile County Commission will contribute \$1,000,000.00 of CIAP funding to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Big Creek Lake Public Access Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC-15**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton P.E., Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**
(30° 44' 23.0" N, 88° 20' 11.5" W)

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC-15	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC-15	
2008	\$ 1,000,000.00
2009	\$ 1,000,000.00
2010	\$ -
2011	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to provide public access and education toward the protection of the natural resources encompassing the Big Creek Lake watershed.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to improve public access and increase awareness of the natural resource issues in the Big Creek watershed and promote understanding and participation in conservation and stewardship activities.

More than 250,000 residents of Mobile County depend on Big Creek Lake as their primary source for safe and clean drinking water. It is the consensus of local community and economic leaders that the West Mobile County area around the watershed will be confronting increased development pressures and economic growth over the next decade.

The goal of this project is to provide public access and education toward the protection of the natural resources encompassing the Big Creek Lake watershed.

The objective of this project is to improve public access and increase awareness of the natural resource issues in the Big Creek watershed and promote understanding and participation in conservation and stewardship activities.

This project may include the construction of piers on both sides of the boat launch area, construction of restroom and educational facilities, expansion of the parking areas, an elevated boardwalk along the waterfront with educational kiosks, picnic areas, and security infrastructure. Appendix G-34 includes a map of Big Creek Lake Public Access.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- **Justification:** This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project. However, the Mobile County Commission proposes to partner with the Mobile Area Water and Sewer System (MAWSS) to aid in the protection of the only major surface source of drinking water in coastal Alabama.
- Partnering: The Mobile County Commission proposes to partner with the Mobile Area Water and Sewer System (MAWSS) to aid in the protection of the only major surface source of drinking water in coastal Alabama.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource based activities encourage a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These sites highlight land conservation, and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. Providing the public a place to experience natural resource conservation, protection, and management enhances their appreciation of the natural coastal environment. As a result, this appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership providing benefit to the natural coastal environment.

9. Proposed Tier Two Project Descriptions

a. State of Alabama Tier Two Project Descriptions

Project Number	Project Description	Cost	Page Number
AL2-1	Biodiversity Inventories in Designated Protected Areas of Coastal Alabama	\$500,000.00	213
AL2-2	Assessment of Coastal Alabama Salt Marsh Communities	\$200,000.00	217
AL2-3	Development of Natural Resource-based Public Education and Outreach Materials for Coastal Alabama	\$500,000.00	219
AL2-4	Implement and Expand Prescribed Burning Program	\$100,000.00	223
AL2-5	Expansion of the Graduate Research Program at Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	\$125,000.00	225
AL2-6	Alabama Coastal Area Management Program Web Portal	\$50,000.00	227
AL2-7	Removal of Derelict Structures and Vessels in Waterways from Hurricanes	\$250,000.00	229
AL2-8	Support of Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program (NRDA) in Coastal Alabama	\$400,000.00	231
AL2-9	Land Acquisition in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor and/or Lillian Swamp, Baldwin County	\$10,000,000.00	235
AL2-10	Land Acquisition in the Escatawpa River Corridor and/or Coastal Mobile County	\$10,000,000.00	237
AL2-11	Land Acquisition in the Red Hills, Monroe County	\$10,000,000.00	241
AL2-12	Artificial Reef -- Construction, Research, and Development	\$1,000,000.00	243
AL2-13	Outreach for Local Marine Conservation Awareness Public Service Announcements	\$200,000.00	245
AL2-14	Bathymetric, Seismic, and Vibracore Survey of Federal Waters	\$1,150,000.00	247
AL2-15	Development of GIS-based Applications and Digital Data to Assist in Management of Alabama's Coastal Resources	\$675,000.00	249

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Biodiversity Inventories in Designated Protected Areas of Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-1**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Jo Lewis, Chief Natural Heritage Section
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	jo.lewis@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Grand Bay Savanna in southwestern Mobile County, Mobile Tensaw Delta, Splinter Hill Bog in northern Baldwin County, Weeks Bay, Perdido River corridor in eastern Baldwin County, and Lillian Swamp in southeastern Baldwin County (see Appendix G-4)

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-1	
Year 1	\$ 125,000.00
Year 2	\$ 125,000.00
Year 3	\$ 125,000.00
Year 4	\$ 125,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to implement three biological surveys detailing plant and animal species composition and biodiversity. The surveys will result in a report and geographic database of species locations.

The goal of this project is to conserve natural areas in coastal Alabama's designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) by managing native habitats through better understanding of the plant and animal species composition and biodiversity.

Through a partnership with the Geological Survey of Alabama, the State of Alabama conducted an aquatic inventory of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta using 2001 CIAP funding. This project generated a report listing the species composition of the MTD and has been instrumental in developing management plans for rare, endemic, threatened, or endangered species, as well as obtaining grant funding. The State of Alabama would like to conduct similar inventories in other designated protected areas in coastal Alabama, specifically the Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, and Perdido River Corridor as little information concerning species composition in these areas exists. In addition to a summary report, the inventory will produce a geographic database of species location which will be incorporated in the State's official Natural Heritage Database. Details concerning each biological inventory project will be provided when grants are submitted.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide data to better manage designated protected areas in coastal Alabama. More successful management of these areas will conserve and protect coastal areas.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: Assessment of Coastal Alabama Salt Marsh Communities

PROJECT NUMBER: AL2-2

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Jo Lewis, Chief Natural Heritage Section
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	jo.lewis@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Salt marshes located in Mobile and Baldwin Counties

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-2	
Year 1	\$ 50,000.00
Year 2	\$ 50,000.00
Year 3	\$ 50,000.00
Year 4	\$ 50,000.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to implement three assessments of salt marsh indicator species. The assessment will result in a report and a geographic database.

In addition to being highly productive systems, the salt marshes of coastal Alabama provide many benefits such as habitat, breeding grounds, and foraging areas for a variety of plant and animal species. According to recent land use data, approximately 5% of all the wetlands in coastal Alabama are salt marshes. The goal of this project is to obtain a better understanding of salt marsh plant and animal species composition and biodiversity. The objective of this project is to implement three assessments of salt marsh indicator species. Higher number of these species is an indication of successful conservation of this habitat type and will help SLD managers conserve and protect these ecosystems more efficiently. In addition to creating successful management strategies, the results of the assessments will be used to obtain other federal grants. The species to be assessed will include Rallidae spp., Diamondback terrapins, and aquatic minnows. Assessments will result in a written report and geographic database of the indicator species.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide data to better manage designated protected areas in coastal Alabama. More successful management of these areas will conserve and protect coastal areas.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Development of Natural Resource-based Public Education and Outreach
Materials for Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-3**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Hank Burch, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 625-0814
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 625-0864
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Coastal Alabama

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 500,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-3	
Year 1	\$ 125,000.00
Year 2	\$ 125,000.00
Year 3	\$ 125,000.00
Year 4	\$ 125,000.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to increase public awareness of conservation and protection of coastal Alabama’s designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) through the production of natural resource-based educational materials.

OBJECTIVE: This project will design and print five separate conservation education products such as books, maps, videos, posters, calendars, and/or brochures for distribution to schools to educate at least 70,000 students. In addition, this project will construct a water quality kiosk at Five Rivers Alabama’s Natural Resource Center to provide 75,000 people annually a hands-on interactive exhibit of water quality dynamics.

Coastal Alabama has a wealth of natural resources, and the conservation and protection of these resources is essential as development and population increases. This project will increase public awareness of Alabama's natural resources through the production five (5) educational materials such as books, brochures, maps, posters and videos. The educational materials will highlight the state's designated protected areas (Grand Bay Savanna, Lillian Swamp, Gulf State Park, Splinter Hill Bog, Perdido River Corridor and Mobile-Tensaw Delta) and describe the diverse flora and fauna, as well as the rich history and culture of Coastal Alabama. An example product would be a colorful poster of the "Butterflies of Coastal Alabama" or a brochure on the mound-building "Bottle Creek Indians". Educational materials such as this will promote Alabama's conservation endeavors, and will be distributed throughout classrooms in the coastal counties and in SLD facilities such as Weeks Bay Reserve and Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. Distribution goals are at least 70,000 students and at least 75,000 visitors to SLD facilities. The specific products and associated budgets will be developed at the grant phase of this project. Costs associated with this project include design fees, printing expenses and labor. The budget for this project is \$400,000.00.

A water quality exhibit will be constructed at Five Rivers Alabama’s Delta Resource Center that displays ambient water quality parameters in an interactive ‘hands-on’ exhibit. The objective of the exhibit is to educate 75,000 people (i.e. visitors to Five Rivers) annually on the dynamics of water quality. For example, one display could highlight the salinity gradient north and south of the Mobile Bay Causeway. The associated budget for this project is \$100,000.00.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will promote conservation endeavors in coastal Alabama, thus conserving and protecting coastal areas. For example, a poster depicting the butterflies of the Grand Bay Savanna will foster a sense of ownership of public lands and their associated natural resources and will help the public identify with these projects.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Implement and Expand Prescribed Burning Program**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-4**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Ricky Hunt, Land Management Officer, Supervisor
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	ricky.hunt@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Designated Protected Areas throughout coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2008	

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-4	
Year 1	\$ 25,000.00
Year 2	\$ 25,000.00
Year 3	\$ 25,000.00
Year 4	\$ 25,000.00

GOAL: It is a goal of the State of Alabama CIAP to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to initiate fire on 1000 acres throughout designated protected areas in coastal Alabama.

The goal of this project is to restore habitat and natural area in Alabama's coastal area through controlled burns on 1000 acres of designated protected areas in coastal Alabama.

Re-establishment of fire in historically fire-dependant communities is identified as a vital restoration strategy. Coastal Alabama longleaf pine ecosystems depend on fire to achieve and maintain a diverse understory. Long-term studies show that the frequent use of fire hastens initiation of height growth, reduces undesirable competing vegetation, and provides habitat for numerous flora and fauna. The State Lands Division conservation staff will establish and implement burning plans in designated protected areas during the winter and growing season. In addition, fire frequency and duration will be documented and researched in order to maximize burning effectiveness. This project will enhance the Division's existing capacity by funding labor, materials and equipment necessary to implement burn plans resulting in an additional 1000 acres of burned areas in designated protected areas throughout the project period. In addition, construction of fire lines and mechanical removal of excess fuel will be implemented as needed. Burning will take place in designated protected areas of coastal Alabama including Grand Bay, Weeks Bay, Perdido River Corridor, and the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, and Splinter Hill Bog. Appendix G-4 includes a map of the designated protect areas of coastal Alabama.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it restores fire to fire-dependant communities in the coastal area.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Expansion of the Graduate Research Program at Weeks Bay National
Estuarine Research Reserve**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-5**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Phillip Hinesley, Chief Coastal Section
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division, Coastal Section
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	31115 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 621-1216
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcrn.alabama.gov	phillip.hinesley@dcrn.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Weeks Bay, Fairhope, Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-5	
Total Project Cost	\$ 125,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 125,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-5	
Year 1	\$ 31,250.00
Year 2	\$ 31,250.00
Year 3	\$ 31,250.00
Year 4	\$ 31,250.00

GOAL: The goal of the State of Alabama CIAP is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: This project will fund four (4) years of a graduate student stipend including tuition, research materials, and salaries to conduct research of harmful algal blooms in Weeks Bay, resulting in a final report.

The Weeks Bay Estuarine Research Reserve is located in southwest Baldwin County and is managed through the Coastal Section of the State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Its mission is to provide leadership to promote informed management of estuarine and coastal habitats through scientific understanding and encourage good stewardship practices through partnerships, public education, and outreach programs. Thousands of visitors and students come to this facility every year.

Preliminary data indicate harmful algal blooms in Weeks Bay and Mobile Bay have become more prevalent in the past few years. The goal of this project is to fund graduate student research for four (4) years on these harmful phenomena. Costs associated with this project include tuition, graduate student stipends, and research expenses (\$31,250.00 annually). In addition to the collection of data, a final report summarizing the research will be generated as a result of this project

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will obtain research harmful algal blooms Weeks Bay. Preliminary data indicate these blooms are connected to larger blooms in Mobile Bay. Further information regarding this topic will lead to improvement management strategies and will, subsequently, help conserve and protect coastal areas.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Alabama Coastal Area Management Program Web Portal**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-6**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Phillip Hinesley, Chief Coastal Section
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division, Coastal Section
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	31115 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 621-1216
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	phillip.hinesley@dcrn.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-6	
Total Project Cost	\$ 50,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 50,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-6	
Year 1	\$ 50,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to improve management and administration of coastal resources.

OBJECTIVE: This project will create and implement a multi-faceted educational website dedicated to supporting the mission of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP).

In order to improve management of coastal resources, this project will create and implement a multi-faceted educational website (web portal) dedicated to supporting the purpose of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP). The purpose of the ACAMP is to promote, improve, and safeguard the lands and waters located in Alabama's coastal area through a comprehensive and cooperative program designed to preserve, enhance, and develop such valuable resources for the present and future well-being and general welfare of the citizens of this state. The ACAMP is a dynamic program that is highly interactive with the citizens and governments of the two Alabama coastal counties.

A web-portal is an extension of a basic information website by serving as a location to access a collection of information. In addition to providing general information of the ACAMP's mission, goals and current project descriptions, the web-portal would provide the user access to online applications for grant projects, public access projects, report submissions, and volunteer inquiries. Through this portal, the completed online applications would be sent directly to the managing staff member for review and process. Web portals also have the ability to provide customized user accounts for repeat visitors, password access for data entry, real-time notification and updates, and outside resource links.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will support the purpose of the ACAMP by providing information, grant applications, volunteer opportunities, and other coastal management issues to the general public. Implementation of the ACAMP will conserve and protect the coastal areas of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Removal of Derelict Structures and Vessels in Waterways from Hurricanes**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-7**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238
Fax	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-7	
AL	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 250,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-7	
Year 1	\$ 250,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is restore coastal areas by removing marine debris caused by recent hurricanes.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to remove up to 4,000 tons of marine debris from state waters in the coastal area.

As a direct result of Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, there are a number of dilapidated piers and docks and other underwater obstructions throughout Alabama's coastal waters. These structures detract from the coastal environment and are a hazard to navigation. In addition to the dilapidated piers and docks, derelict abandoned vessels located in state waters are a public safety hazard to navigation and an environmental hazard. The project will remove up to 4,000 tons of dilapidated piers, docks and derelict abandoned vessels from state waters in the coastal area. The specific number of piers, docks and vessels will be submitted in the grant application.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #2: mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #2 because it removes debris deposited as a direct result of Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina. This project will mitigate damage caused by these storms in Alabama's coastal waters.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Support of Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program (NRDA) in
Coastal Alabama**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-8**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

Name	Will Brantley, State Lands Manager
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	64 North Union Street
	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238
Fax	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	will.brantley@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-8	
Total Project Cost	\$ 400,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 400,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-8	
Year 1	\$ 100,000.00
Year 2	\$ 100,000.00
Year 3	\$ 100,000.00
Year 4	\$ 100,000.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to support natural resource trustee assessment and restoration activities associated with injuries to natural resource trust resources. Trust resources include, but are not limited to, fish, wildlife, birds and groundwater. Trustees assess and restore injuries arising from the release of contaminants through implementation of monitoring and research of baseline and current environmental conditions.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to assist the ADCNR State Lands Division in acquiring relevant data and research to support natural resource trustee injury assessment activities at Superfund sites in coastal Alabama. This project may result in collection and analysis of data sets, written reports, development of restoration plans and contracted professional services which support natural resource trustee injury restoration.

The ADCNR State Lands Division staff will work in concert with other state and federal natural resource trust agencies, including the Geological Survey of Alabama and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in implementing a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) program for the State of Alabama. The purpose of an NRDA program is to identify and resolve natural resource injuries associated with the past release of hazardous contaminants. Examples of hazardous contaminants include, but are not limited to, DDT, mercury and PCB's. Such a program will aid in the determination of potential sites in coastal Alabama in which to pursue natural resource injury assessment and restoration. This project will enhance ADCNR's ability to implement a protocol for formal damage assessment which may result in expedited settlement negotiations with industry to resolve natural resource damage liabilities. This project will not only support staff time associated with NRDA activities, but it may also fund specialized data collection and analysis relating to contaminant releases.

First, staff will determine suitable coastal areas in which it is necessary to pursue a NRDA. Once potential areas have been located, details of necessary activities will be determined and will be fully described in the CIAP grant application process. Necessary activities may include data collection and analysis, report compilation and generation, literature reviews, development of restoration plans and coordination with state and federal trust resource agencies. Specifics for each location will be fully described in the CIAP grant application.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #2: mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #2 because it involves the NRDA process whose purpose is to mitigate damage to natural resource trust resources through implementation of restoration activities.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding. Such funding, however, may compliment other limited federal funding sources dedicated to NRDA activities.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Land Acquisition in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor
and/or Lillian Swamp, Baldwin County**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-9**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor or Lillian Swamp

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-9	
Total Project Cost	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-9	
Year 1	\$ 10,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to acquire approximately 5,000 acres of sensitive land for conservation in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor, and/or Lillian Swamp.

Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area. The objective of this project is to acquire approximately 5,000 acres of sensitive land for conservation in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Perdido River Corridor, and/or Lillian Swamp. The property will be managed by the SLD and the deed will be restricted as according to program requirements.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project. However previous phases of this acquisition utilized funds from the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, 2001 CIAP, Forest Legacy, and the State of Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Land Acquisition in the Escatawpa River Corridor and/or Coastal Mobile
County**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-10**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Escawtawpa River Corridor and Coastal Mobile County

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-10	
Total Project Cost	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-10	
Year 1	\$ 10,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to acquire approximately 5,000 acres of sensitive land for conservation in the Escatawpa River Corridor and/or other sensitive habitats within coastal Mobile County.

Southwestern and western Mobile County has many opportunities for land acquisition projects. First, the Escatawpa River forms the western border between Alabama and Mississippi. The total acreage of the Escatawpa River Longleaf Hills project area is 20,000 acres, owned by one family trust. Analysis of GIS data indicates that this 20,000 acre tract is comprised of 75 percent upland and 20 percent wetland forests, with the remaining five percent being open water. Much of the upland forested land is naturally regenerated timber, with large components of longleaf pine. The tract is intersected by 25 miles of the Escatawpa River (about 30 percent of its entire length) and 29 miles of tributary stream of this classic blackwater river system. The Escatawpa River is a major tributary to the Pasagagoula River, which in turn is part of the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve’s watershed area. The tract encompasses both banks of large portions of the Escatawpa and its tributaries, directly protecting the river and the system’s water quality, and, ultimately, the health of the estuaries at the Pascagoula River’s termination in the Gulf of Mexico. The tract is readily manageable and strategically located to initiate a regional conservation project that will protect the biodiversity of this relatively small but extremely unique blackwater stream watershed. Thousands of acres of southeastern longleaf pine habitat along with bottomland wetland make up this area. The objective of this project is to acquire 5,000 acres of this target tract. This project complements a Mobile County Tier Two Project: ‘Escatawpa Hollow River Park Acquisition and Improvements’. In this project, Mobile County will acquire a key parcel to access the Escatawpa River conservation land targeting in this project.

Second, coastal Mobile County has many opportunities for land acquisition. The State of Alabama and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve) have already acquired almost 10,000 acres of this unique wetland habitat. Additional parcels may be available for purchase in this area which will link and enhance existing conservation property.

Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area. The objective of this project is to acquire approximately 5,000 acres of sensitive land for conservation in the Escawtawpa River and/or coastal Mobile County. The property will be managed by the SLD and deed will be restricted according to program requirements.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Land Acquisition in the Red Hills, Monroe County**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-11**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Greg Lein, Assistant Director
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	64 North Union Street
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Montgomery, Alabama 36130
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(334) 242-3484
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(334) 242-0999
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	greg.lein@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Monroe County, Alabama

DURATION: Four Years

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-11	
Total Project Cost	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 10,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-11	
Year 1	\$ 10,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: Using CIAP funding, the State of Alabama will acquire and conserve sensitive habitat throughout the coastal area and its associated watersheds.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to acquire approximately 5,000 acres of conservation land in the Red Hills of the southeastern plains region of Alabama

The objective of this project is to acquire 5,000 acres of conservation land in the Red Hills of the southeastern plains region of Alabama. Although this property is located outside of the coastal counties, it is located within the NOAA-sponsored Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) approved boundary. This boundary is determined by hydrologic unit codes (HUCs) with tidal influence.

The tract is readily manageable and strategically located to initiate a regional conservation project to protect the biodiversity of Alabama's Red Hills Region. The tract supports upland deciduous forest, mixed mesic slope forest and scrub/shrub, and forested wetlands that are transected by 7.3 miles of small creeks that feed the larger Big Flat Creek. Big Flat Creek is the most upstream tributary to the Alabama River on the eastern bank below its first impoundment, Claiborne Dam. During the summer dry season the salt wedge from the Mobile-Tensaw Delta system is known to reach as far upstream as Claiborne Dam. These streams provide un-impounded headwater habitat for numerous catadromous and anadromous species. There is a significant potential to acquire several adjacent large tracts in the near future. The project area lies within 40 miles of Alabama's largest holding of state owned conservation land- the Mobile Tensaw Delta Wetland Conservation Area, which comprises approximately 112,000 acres of publicly owned and managed land. Lastly, the target tract is known to support the federally listed as Threatened Red Hills Salamander and about 25 percent of the tract is designated salamander habitat. The property will be managed by the SLD and deed will be restricted according to program requirements.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- **Justification:** This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- **Cost Sharing:** Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- **Partnering:** This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Artificial Reef -- Construction, Research, and Development**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-12**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-12	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-12	
Year 1	\$ 250,000.00
Year 2	\$ 250,000.00
Year 3	\$ 250,000.00
Year 4	\$ 250,000.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to protect, conserve, and restore natural coastal habitat and wildlife through data analysis, research, and on-the-ground conservation activities.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to construct, research and develop one-hundred (100) acres of offshore fishery enhancement reefs in coastal Alabama.

The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources conducts fishery habitat enhancements such as oyster bed restoration and artificial reef construction. The objective of this project is to construct, research and develop one-hundred (100) acres of offshore fishery enhancement reefs in coastal Alabama. Inshore sites will be developed through co-management, utilizing the collective expertise of agency scientists and local fishing organizations to determine appropriate sites and materials for enhancement. Offshore, the zones will be utilized for reef deployment, and research will be conducted to examine contributions of the reefs to fish stock health and angler success. The reefs will be constructed by intentionally placing dense materials, such as old ships and barges, concrete and steel demolition debris and dredge material on the sea floor. Costs associated with this project include labor, equipment, and materials.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will enhance fishery habitat, thus restoring coastal natural resources.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Outreach for Local Marine Conservation Awareness Public Service
Announcements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-13**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner	Stevens R. Heath, Chief Marine Biologist
Address	Alabama State Lands Division	Alabama Marine Resources Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center	PO Drawer 458
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527	Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
Telephone	(251) 621-1238	(251) 968-7576
Fax	(251) 621-1331	(251) 968-6307
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov	steve.heath@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-13	
Total Project Cost	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 200,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-13	
Year 1	\$ 50,000.00
Year 2	\$ 50,000.00
Year 3	\$ 50,000.00
Year 4	\$ 50,000.00

GOAL: The goal of this project is to increase public awareness of conservation and protection of coastal Alabama's marine resources.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to produce at least five (5) different forms of marine resource educational materials, including ten-thousand (10,000) brochures, two (2) television commercials, and one (1) informative website. Topics for outreach include invasive species, commercial harvests, recreational bag limits, bycatch, shoreline development, and habitat protection and enhancement.

The Marine Resources Division (MRD) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources manages the marine environment in coastal Alabama. Recent residential growth in coastal Alabama has resulted in direct and indirect consequences such as increased use of marine resources, exacerbated shoreline erosion, and an increase in stormwater and wastewater discharge. The goal of this project is to increase public awareness of conservation and ultimately enhance the protection of the coastal marine environment. Specifically, this project would like to target consumptive and non-consumptive users of the marine environment including anglers, tourists, and residents of the importance of a healthy coastal marine ecosystems. The objective of this project is to produce at least five (5) different forms of marine resource educational materials, including ten-thousand (10,000) brochures, two (2) television commercials, and one (1) informative website. Topics for outreach include invasive species, commercial harvests, recreational bag limits, bycatch, shoreline development, and habitat protection and enhancement.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide education to the public on the conservation and protection of coastal resources.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Bathymetric, Seismic, and Vibracore Survey of Federal Waters**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-14**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238
Fax	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Coastal Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-14	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,150,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,150,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-14	
Year 1	\$ 1,150,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama’s coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to conduct a comprehensive bathymetric, seismic, and vibracore survey to perform sedimentological analysis offshore of Baldwin and Mobile Counties to identify federal sand for future beach renourishment projects.

Due to regular tropical weather activity, Alabama’s beaches have experienced eroded significant erosion. Through a partnership, coastal communities have worked with the State of Alabama to conduct beach nourishment projects along Alabam’s shoreline of shoreline. Geologists speculate that recent beach nourishment have depleted beach quality sand resources located in State waters. This project will explore the sand resources in pre-approved federal sand resource areas resulting in detailed maps and a written report. These data will be essential in planning for future large-scale beach nourishment projects in coastal Alabama.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide essential information needed for future coastal restoration projects.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Alabama State Lands
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

PROJECT TITLE: **Development of GIS-based Applications and Digital Data to Assist in
Management of Alabama's Coastal Resources**

PROJECT NUMBER: **AL2-15**

PROJECT CONTACT (s):

	Primary Contact
Name	Cara Stallman, Natural Resource Planner
Address	Alabama State Lands Division
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
	Five Rivers Alabama's Delta Resource Center
	30945 Five Rivers Boulevard
	Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
Telephone	(251) 621-1238
Fax	(251) 621-1331
E-mail	cara.stallman@dcnr.alabama.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **N/A**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

AL2-15	
Total Project Cost	\$ 675,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 675,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

AL2-15	
Year 1	\$ 675,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to facilitate management research of Alabama's coastal environment through improved data collection systems, enhanced research infrastructure, and upgrades of research tools.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to develop four GIS-based applications and associated digital data to assist in the management of Alabama's coastal resources including a GIS-based erosion model, shoreline classification model of Mobile Bay, Land Use/Land Cover analysis of both coastal counties from 1995 to 2005, and a turbidity study of Mobile Bay.

This project will develop numerous GIS-based applications and associated digital data to assist in management of Alabama's coastal Resources. Four applications and associated digital data will be developed as a result of this project.

1. GIS-based Erosion Modeling of Mobile and Baldwin Counties: The purpose of this project is to create a model to determine the area's potential for erosion resulting from land clearing or changing land use (clearing, conversion from timber to agriculture, etc.). The output will be polygon shapefiles with an assigned erodability index that can be used by local planning entities in land use decision making processes and may also be utilized by regulatory entities to conduct monitoring activities. This project will result in a geographic database depicting polygons of susceptibility of erosion.
2. Shoreline Classification of Mobile Bay: The shoreline of Mobile Bay will be classified using high-resolution aerial photographs coupled with groundtruthing. The classifications would include habitat, erosion, landuse, and shoreline protection. This project will result in a shapefile to be used by planning and regulatory entities.
3. Land Use/Land Cover Classification: A Land Use/Landcover classification of Mobile and Baldwin Counties will be developed from year 2005 Landsat 5 data. The project will include classification of the 2005 scenes as well as change detection comparing the 2005 classification with those of years 2000 and 1995. This project will resulting a geographic database and a report.
4. Turbidity study of Mobile Bay: Sediment data and multitemporal Landsat data will be analyzed to determine patterns of turbidity on a temporal scale in Mobile Bay. One Landsat image for each

month will be obtained, and multispectral analyses will be performed to analyze turbidity, flow patterns, sediment type (mineralogy), and the variations of these in a seasonal perspective. This study will result in a geographic database and an associated report.

Information from the above modeling effort will complement the goals and objectives of BC-5 (Comprehensive Land Use Plan) and MC- 8 (Mobile County Greenprint Project).

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide more data to coastal managers, resulting in better management of coastal resources. Better management will lead to the conservation, protection and restoration of coastal resources. The results of GIS-based erosion models of Mobile and Baldwin Counties can be used by local planning entities in land-use decision-making processes and may also be utilized by regulatory entities to conduct monitoring activities, thus helping to conserve and protect the Alabama coastal area. The classification of the Mobile Bay shorelines will provide the information necessary to conserve and protect the bay and will provide a baseline for future restoration activities. The Land Use/Landcover classification of Mobile and Baldwin Counties will provide the information necessary to conserve and protect the coastal counties and will provide a baseline for future restoration activities. An historical analysis of turbidity through time will show how changes in sedimentation have impacted fish and wildlife habitat, and will help identify those areas needing conservation, protection, or mitigation.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% of CIAP funding.

b. Baldwin County Tier Two Project Descriptions

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
BC2-1	Erosion Control Equipment for Highway Department	\$480,000.00	255
BC2-2	Enhancement of Recycling Facility at Magnolia Landfill	\$300,000.00	259
BC2-3	Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Day	\$150,000.00	263
BC2-4	Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Study	\$100,000.00	267

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Erosion Control Equipment for Highway Department**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC2-1**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18 Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Silverhill, Alabama**

DURATION: **Four Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC2-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 480,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 480,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC2-1	
Year 1	\$ -
Year 2	\$ 480,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to reduce the detrimental environmental impacts to the waterways of Baldwin County by reducing the amount of sediment that enters the waterways.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this initiative is to purchase equipment and materials to be used by the County Highway Department and the County Parks Department to reduce the potential for erosion and sediment runoff.

Baldwin County is almost completely surrounded by water and numerous waterways flow throughout the County. These waters are at risk for impacts from sediment input from a variety of sources. These include agricultural activities, silvicultural activities, land clearing for new construction and dirt road construction and maintenance. The goal of this initiative is to reduce the detrimental environmental impacts to the waterways of Baldwin County by reducing the amount of sediment that enters the waterways. The use of erosion and sediment control equipment is very important in the reduction of sediment deposition. The objective of this initiative is to purchase equipment and materials to be used by the County Highway Department and the County Parks Department to reduce the potential for erosion and sediment runoff.

There are a variety of materials and equipment that would be purchased to be used for this purpose. One product that would be purchased is erosion control blankets. This product is used to stabilize ditches and drainage easements. It is also used on embankments along rights-of-way to stop erosion and sediment from entering ditches which lead to waterways and wetlands.

Another product to be purchased is articulated concrete mats. This material can be used for shoreline protection where vegetation is not established or soils are not fertile for vegetative growth. It would also be used in ditches where there are highly erodible soils, steep slopes, and high flows. This product would dissipate energy and resist the erosive forces of flowing water to protect from scour and erosion. The design of this material provides voids that serve as habitat for fish and marine life when placed in the water. A similar product is concrete earth-stabilizing units that can be used along stream banks and along the coast where erosion is occurring at an accelerated rate.

Additional materials to be purchased include waddles, silt fencing, geotextile fabric and rip-rap. These materials will be used to control erosion and to prevent sediment from entering wetlands, waterways, and drainage ditches. Containing this sediment will prevent the degradation of wetland areas and protect water quality. The amount of each type of material purchased will depend on the specific types of projects assigned to the Highway Department. Other factors that influence the quantities of material needed

include site conditions such as topography and size, rainfall amounts, hurricanes and other natural disasters, and the amount of development within the County.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because the focus of this initiative is for protection to coastal waters and wetlands. Erosion and sediment deposition contribute greatly to damage to wetlands, degradation of sensitive habitat and reduced water quality. It is extremely important that sediment be contained on a site and ditches and drainage areas be stabilized to reduce the amount of sediment that impacts the wetlands and waterways.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Enhancement of Recycling Facility at Magnolia Landfill**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC2-2**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	James Ransom, Jr.
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Solid Waste Department
	15140 County Road 19
	Summerdale, Alabama 36580
Telephone	(251) 972-6826
Fax	(251) 972-6827
E-mail	jransom@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Magnolia Sanitary Landfill, Summerdale, Alabama**

Latitude: **87° 46' 24.54" W**

Longitude: **30° 26' 36.71" N**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC2-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 300,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 300,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC2-2	
Year 1	\$ -
Year 2	\$ 300,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to expand the operating capabilities of the Baldwin County recycle facility.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to increase the amount of recyclable material processed as well as eliminate recycles from being disposed of in the Magnolia Landfill.

The goal of this initiative is to expand the operating capabilities of the Baldwin County recycle facility. The Baldwin County Solid Waste Department operates a voluntary recycling program that involves collecting and processing newspaper, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, and cardboard. The recycling program processing center is located at the Magnolia Sanitary Landfill in Summerdale, AL approximately three miles north of U.S. Highway 98 and five miles west of State Highway 59. The Magnolia Landfill is located approximately eight miles from Weeks Bay (Appendix G-27 includes pictures of the recycling facility). The Baldwin County Solid Waste Department and the Magnolia Landfill are owned and operated by the Baldwin County Commission. Currently, the recycle center operates one horizontal baler for baling cardboard, one vertical baler for baling plastic and aluminum, and one truck loading dock. The recycle center was constructed in 2006 using money from the previous CIAP plan and became fully operational in October 2006. Citizens are encouraged to place recyclable materials in containers staged throughout Baldwin County. Currently there are twenty-two containers in Baldwin County. At the time the current recycle center was designed, only fourteen containers were located in Baldwin County. With the increased number of containers combined with the rapid increase in the population of Baldwin County, the volume of recyclable material entering the recycle center has greatly increased. Recycle containers are emptied onto the floor of the recycle center, and the various materials are separated for processing. Unauthorized materials, such as household garbage, may ‘contaminate’ the load of recyclables and must be separated from the recyclables. Due to the time required to separate recyclables from contaminants and the floor space required to perform the separation, a subsequent load of recyclables may have to be disposed of in the landfill.

In an effort to increase the amount of recyclable material processed as well as eliminate recyclables from being disposed of in the Magnolia Landfill, the current recycle center should be expanded. The existing building includes an area under cover of a roof that should be enclosed to provide greater floor space and allow for an additional vertical baler and another loading dock. Increased safety features for the original facility would be included in the proposed building expansion so that the increased volume of recyclable material may be processed safely.

The existing building includes a mezzanine that may be used for storage as well as a viewing platform to allow visitors to watch the recycling process. The mezzanine is not ADA accessible and must be accessed from an exterior stairway. The addition of an elevator will allow the mezzanine to be fully accessible to visitors and will encourage schools and other organizations to visit the center for educational purposes. It is anticipated that by increasing the capacity of the facility, the increase in tonnage of plastic, cardboard, and aluminum recycled would be increased by 30 percent. It is also hoped that the facility would see an increase of 50 percent in the number of visitors coming to the recycle center for educational purposes. The amounts recycled in FY 2007 are as follows: Aluminum cans – 14 tons, newspaper – 68 tons, cardboard – 24.88 tons, #1 plastic – 18.3 tons, #2 plastic – 16.3 tons, and batteries – 446.5 tons.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project meets Authorized Use #1 because it will allow the recycling facility to increase its capacity to process the ever-increasing volume of recyclables received. The greater amount of trash that is recycled, the less landfill space is consumed. It will also provide the opportunity for greater educational awareness of the benefits of recycling.
- Cost Sharing: : This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Day**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC2-3**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	James Ransom, Jr.
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Solid Waste Department
	15140 County Road 19
	Summerdale, Alabama 36580
Telephone	(251) 972-6826
Fax	(251) 972-6827
E-mail	jransom@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Magnolia Sanitary Landfill, Baldwin County, Alabama**

Latitude: **87° 46' 24.54" W**

Longitude: **30° 26' 36.71" N**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

BC2-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 150,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 150,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC2-3	
Year 1	\$ -
Year 2	\$ 75,000.00
Year 3	\$ 75,000.00
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to provide citizens a way to safely dispose of hazardous wastes and to increase public awareness of the importance of proper disposal.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to hold two (2) Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Days (one per year for two years) to provide the opportunity for proper disposal of hazardous wastes.

In the past, the Baldwin County Commission has sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Days. These events have been very successful in terms of attendance and the amount of household hazardous waste received. The goal of this initiative is to provide citizens a way to safely dispose of hazardous wastes and to increase public awareness of the importance of proper disposal. The objective is to hold two (2) Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty Days (one per year for two years) to provide the opportunity for proper disposal of hazardous wastes. In addition, the events will serve as an opportunity to provide the public with educational material related to this and other environmental concerns. A nationally-recognized hazardous waste disposal company will be utilized to collect household hazardous waste. The hazardous waste disposal company will use federally-approved disposal methods to incinerate, recycle, or place the material in a designated hazardous waste landfill. Household hazardous waste materials such as motor oil, antifreeze, and paint are often poured into storm drains, which may empty into coastal waters. Household Hazardous Waste amnesty days allow citizens of Baldwin County to properly dispose of household hazardous waste materials to potentially prevent improper disposal into storm drains and to reduce toxic input into Baldwin County's groundwater via the landfill. The potential for coastal water quality protection exists as a result of household hazardous waste amnesty days.

Past household hazardous waste amnesty days have been very successful. Last year 714 customers were served. A total of 3,150 gallons of household hazardous materials were disposed of via the Household Hazardous Waste Handling and Disposal Facility. The Household Hazardous Waste Handling and Disposal Facility is located at the Magnolia Landfill. This facility, which opened in 2006, was constructed using funds from the previous CIAP. (Appendix G-19 and G-28 include a map and pictures of Baldwin County's hazardous waste collection facility).

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #1 because it provides protection to coastal lands and waterways. This is accomplished by providing citizens a way to dispose of household hazardous waste materials that might otherwise be poured into waterways, storm drains or onto soil.

- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.

- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Baldwin County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Study**

PROJECT NUMBER: **BC2-4**

PROJECT CONTACT:

	Primary Contact
Name	Julie Batchelor, P.E. Senior Natural Resource Planner
Address	Baldwin County Commission
	Baldwin County Planning & Zoning Department
	312 Courthouse Square, Suite 18 Bay Minette, AL 36507
Telephone	(251) 580-1655
Fax	(251) 937-0293
E-mail	jbatchelor@co.baldwin.al.us

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Baldwin County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST

BC2-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 100,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

BC2-4	
Year 1	\$ -
Year 2	\$ 100,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to assess the quality and quantity of groundwater in Baldwin County and determine the environmental impacts of treated wastewater on the waterways of the County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this initiative is to hire a consultant to conduct an assessment on issues related to wastewater and groundwater in Baldwin County.

Baldwin County has experienced a rapid population increase in the past few years. The prediction is that this trend will continue. With this growth comes an increased challenge to maintain the water quality both in our streams and bays and in our groundwater. This increase in growth leads to an increase in impervious surface in the form of rooftops, driveways, roadways and parking lots. This loss of pervious surface can have a significant impact on the recharge of the groundwater. In addition, this growth leads to an increase in the amount of wastewater generated that must be processed and eventually released into the surrounding streams and bays. Baldwin County would like to ensure that the inevitable growth does not cause a significant adverse affect on the environment and natural beauty that is the very reason so many people are drawn to the area.

The goal of this initiative is to assess the quality and quantity of groundwater in Baldwin County and determine the environmental impacts of treated wastewater on the waterways of the County. The objective of this initiative is to hire a consultant to conduct an assessment on issues related to wastewater and groundwater in Baldwin County. The results of the assessment will provide information on the state of our waterways and groundwater. In addition, it would include recommendations for coordinating with water and wastewater service providers to ensure adequate services are planned and provided. It would also identify areas of concern regarding long-term regulatory and infrastructure needs and provide recommendations for addressing these concerns. In addition, suggestions for construction specifications for collection and transmission systems would be provided. These results and recommendations will be presented to the Baldwin County Commission.

The implementation of this analysis in regards to the wastewater issues would require collection of data on the location, design, capacity and point of discharge for all wastewater facilities within the County. It would include coordination with agencies that monitor these resources such as the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The type of information gathered would depend on the reporting requirements of the facilities and the agencies. Information from the County’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan would also be reviewed to identify areas which might be significantly impacted by future growth. At this time, most of the wastewater effluent is discharged into the streams and bays. The County would like to see other methods utilized for effluent discharge. One method that could be explored is groundwater recharge by direct injection. This method is effective in coastal areas because it creates a freshwater barrier

against saltwater intrusion, which is of significant concern. Another would be the ability to re-use the water for irrigation of sod farms and golf courses. Both of these methods would help address the second issue of this study.

There is great concern about the quality and quantity of groundwater. Baldwin County receives all of its drinking water from groundwater sources. There are also a great number of sod farms, numerous golf courses and a large agricultural presence throughout the county that draw a significant amount of water from the aquifer with numerous wells. In addition, many homeowners have private wells. All of this usage places a great demand on our groundwater, one of our essential natural resources. As groundwater levels drop, levels in creeks and streams may be diminished. This area has been experiencing a drought for the past several years that has placed a strain on this resource. As with wastewater, the consultant would need to coordinate with agencies such as US Geological Survey and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. They would identify available aquifer information and methods for monitoring available groundwater supply volumes and quality.

Baldwin County would like to ensure that adequate water resources are planned and provided. This assessment will provide guidance to the County on preparing for and managing water resources for future growth.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This initiative meets Authorized Use #1 because it will provide the County with information to facilitate proactive planning to protect the water quality of the surrounding water bodies and groundwater in Baldwin County.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Partnering is not applicable to this project.

c. Mobile County Tier Two Project Descriptions

Project Number	Project Title	Project Cost	Page Number
MC2-1	Mobile County Conservation Acquisition	\$ 4,000,000.00	273
MC2-2	South Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities	\$ 2,500,000.00	275
MC2-3	Dauphin Island Causeway Restoration, Protection, and Public Access Project	\$ 1,000,000.00	279
MC2-4	West Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities	\$ 2,500,000.00	283
MC2-5	Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access	\$ 1,000,000.00	287
MC2-6	Erosion & Sediment Control	\$ 1,000,000.00	291
MC2-7	Establishment of a Mobile County Recycling Facility	\$ 1,000,000.00	293
MC2-8	Erosion Control Equipment for Public Works Department	\$ 480,000.00	297
MC2-9	Escatawpa Hollow River Park Acquisition and Improvements	\$ 2,000,000.00	299

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Mobile County Conservation Acquisition**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-1**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-1	
Total Project Cost	\$ 4,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 4,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-1	
Year 1	\$ 2,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ 2,000,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to acquire, for conservation purposes, environmentally sensitive areas in Mobile County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this project is to purchase tracts (50 – 600 acres) of coastal areas and manage the tracts for conservation purposes. Elements of this project include appraising potential parcels for acquisition and developing and implementing conservation management plans.

Mobile County is home to portions of the Mobile River delta, numerous creeks and streams, many acres of wetlands, pine savanna, coastal area, the watershed with the County's drinking water supply, the Escatawpa River Watershed, and other watersheds that contain undeveloped tracts of environmentally sensitive habitat. Mobile County provides habitat for threatened and endangered species such as the Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*, listed as endangered in Mobile County). The goal of this project is to acquire, for conservation purposes, environmentally sensitive areas in Mobile County.

The Mobile County Commission proposes to purchase tracts (50 – 600 acres) of coastal areas and manage the tracts for conservation purposes. Deed restrictions will be placed on these parcels. Elements of this project include appraising potential parcels for acquisition and developing and implementing conservation management plans.

Market conditions prevent the identification of specific parcels at this time.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands.
- Justification: This project will acquire land for conservation within the coastal area of Alabama.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: Natural lands that once retained and absorbed stormwater and provided animal habitat are being lost to development, thereby increasing the risk of future flooding and other adverse impacts. With the acquisition of these lands Mobile County will provide the much needed conservation, protection, and management of our coastal natural resources.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **South Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-2**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-2	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 2,500,000.00
FY 2008	

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-2	
Year 1	\$ 1,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ 1,500,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to construct decentralized wastewater systems that will be maintained by a publicly owned wastewater treatment system.

Census and building permit data confirm that the areas experiencing the highest rates of development in Mobile County are areas that are not served by centralized wastewater treatment infrastructure. This means that there are many subdivisions and other types of development designed to be served by on-site wastewater (septic tanks). Individual systems often suffer failure from lack of maintenance and/or damage from rising floodwaters. Further, there are many aging on-site systems that were built to lower standards, were damaged by Hurricane Katrina, and/or are not being maintained. The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters. The objective of the project is to construct decentralized wastewater systems that will be maintained by a publicly owned wastewater treatment system.

The Mobile County Commission proposes to partner with local publicly owned wastewater treatment systems to construct at least one decentralized wastewater treatment system in south Mobile County. Specific locations or facilities are not known at this time.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements **Action WQ-C1 Reduce Opportunities for Pathogen Introduction** included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funding.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: Sanitary sewer infrastructure in this area is an integral component of protecting local waterways from pathogens associated with failing septic systems.

Locally heavy rainfall and close proximity to vital commercial and recreational waterways underscore the importance of properly maintained and operated treatment systems. Reducing the area's dependence on septic systems is expected to greatly reduce the introduction of pathogens to these waterways, which will decrease the frequency and impact of algae blooms due to nutrient overload; it will also reduce the number of marine life and human health warnings associated with wastewater contamination.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Dauphin Island Causeway Restoration, Protection, and Public Access Project**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-3**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-3	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-3	
Year 1	-
Year 2	\$ 1,000,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the project is to reduce wave energy and subsequent erosion along Dauphin Island Parkway in order to protect the causeway and to restore and enhance the Dauphin Island Causeway shoreline to promote wetland vegetation re-growth in the area, improving the habitat for marine fish, invertebrates, migratory birds and marine mammals.

OBJECTIVE: The objectives of the project are to expand the protective buffer along the right of way of the causeway, restore and enhance the causeway shoreline to promote wetland vegetation re-growth, improving the habitat for marine life, and to provide additional public access points.

The Dauphin Island Parkway is a north-south road linking Interstate 10 to Dauphin Island in southern Mobile County. Shoreline erosion has occurred adjacent to the roadway, causing a loss of wetland habitat for young shrimp, blue crab, speckled trout, oysters, red snapper, and dozens of other species.

The goal of the project is to reduce wave energy and subsequent erosion along Dauphin Island Parkway in order to protect the causeway and to restore and enhance the Dauphin Island Causeway shoreline to promote wetland vegetation re-growth in the area, improving the habitat for marine fish, invertebrates, migratory birds and marine mammals. The proposed aquatic ecosystem restoration project involves a protective engineered reef wave break; the planting of wetland habitat and the emplacement of hard bottom substrate for oyster habitat.

The objectives of the project are to expand the protective buffer along the right of way of the causeway, restore and enhance the causeway shoreline to promote wetland vegetation re-growth, improving the habitat for marine life, and to provide additional public access points. This project was suggested by the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1: projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: This project will restore coastal areas.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.

- Partnering: Project partners include the Town of Dauphin Island; Dauphin Island Sea Lab; Mobile Bay National Estuary Program; ADCNR-Lands Division, Coastal Section and Marine Resources Division; Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Coastal Section; Alabama Department of Transportation; and Mississippi Alabama Sea Grant Consortium

- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The reduction of wave energy and the subsequent erosion along Dauphin Island Parkway will restore and enhance the causeway shoreline promoting wetland vegetation re-growth in the area, improving the habitat for marine fish, invertebrates, migratory birds and marine mammals.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **West Mobile County Decentralized Wastewater Facilities**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-4**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-4	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,500,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 2,500,000.00
FY 2008	

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-4	
Year 1	\$ 1,000,000.00
Year 2	\$ 1,500,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to construct decentralized wastewater systems that will be maintained by a publicly owned wastewater treatment system.

Census and building permit data confirm that the areas experiencing the highest rates of development in Mobile County are areas that are not served by centralized wastewater treatment infrastructure. This means that there are many subdivisions and other types of development designed to be served by on-site wastewater (septic tanks). Individual systems often suffer failure from lack of maintenance and/or damage from rising floodwaters. Further, there are many aging on-site systems that were built to lower standards, were damaged by Hurricane Katrina, and/or are not being maintained. Increasing development pressures, commercial and residential, in the Western portion of Mobile County are placing heavier loads on existing treatment methods which are not able to withstand current loads. The goal of this project is to reduce the number of on-site sewage disposal systems and therefore reduce pathogens to local waters. The objective of the project is to construct decentralized wastewater systems that will be maintained by a publicly owned wastewater treatment system. The Mobile County Commission proposes to partner with local publicly owned wastewater treatment systems to construct at least one decentralized wastewater treatment system in west Mobile County. Specific locations or facilities are not known at this time.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: The project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements **Action WQ-C1 Reduce Opportunities for Pathogen Introduction** included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. The Mobile County Commission does not intend to use CIAP funds for cost sharing or matching for this project.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: To be determined.

- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: Sanitary sewer infrastructure in this area is an integral component of protecting local waterways from pathogens associated with failing septic systems. Locally heavy rainfall and close proximity to vital commercial and recreational waterways underscore the importance of properly maintained and operated treatment systems. Reducing the area's dependence on septic systems is expected to greatly reduce the introduction of pathogens to these waterways, which will decrease the frequency and impact of algae blooms due to nutrient overload; it will also reduce the number of marine life and human health warnings associated with wastewater contamination.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-5**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Theodore, Alabama**
(30° 32' 2.5" N, 88° 7' 25.3" W)

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-5	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-5	
Year 1	\$ 500,000.00
Year 2	\$ 500,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access project is to increase public access to Mobile Bay.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to provide citizen boaters with easy access to the channel.

The Theodore Ship Channel (formerly Middle Fork Deer River) provides access to middle Mobile Bay for nearby industry. In the past, this river provided fishers and boaters easy access to local waters. The goal of the Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access project is to increase public access to Mobile Bay. The objective of the project is to provide citizen boaters with easy access to the channel. The project will include construction of a boat ramp and parking area under/near the Rangeline Road Bridge. This will include limited shoreline stabilization, placement of pervious material in the parking area, and installation of lighting. No site plan or engineering has been performed, specifics are not available at this time. Appendix G-36 includes a map of the Theodore Ship Channel Boat Access.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4: implementation of a Federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- **Justification:** In April of 2002 the Environmental Protection Agency approved the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (MBNEP CCMP). The action plan objective HU-C1 states: *"Increase public access and ecotourism opportunities."* Construction of key nature-based tourism areas will clearly meet this objective.

In addition to the MBNEP CCMP, the Alabama Coastal Management Plan (ACAMP) states the following as a Management Program Policy Statement under Resources of the Coastal Area: *"It is the policy of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program to encourage the development of low impact, environmentally sensitive or ecotourism activities such as birding, nature trails and wetland boardwalks and parks."* Construction of key nature-based tourism areas will clearly meet this objective.

- **Cost Sharing:** Cost sharing is not applicable to this project
- **Partnering:** This project will utilize 100% CIAP funds.

- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource based activities encourage a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These sites highlight land conservation, and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. Providing the public a place to experience natural resource conservation, protection, and management enhances their appreciation of the natural coastal environment. As a result, this appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership providing benefit to the natural coastal environment.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Erosion & Sediment Control**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-6**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **Two Years**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-6	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-6	
Year 1	\$ 500,000.00
Year 2	\$ 500,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is the protection of coastal areas, including wetlands, by reducing erosion and contributing to improved water quality.

OBJECTIVE: The objective is to protect an identified number of acres of environmentally sensitive areas by implementing erosion control measures to prevent sediment transport.

Mobile County has an inventory of approximately 416 miles of dirt roads that are controlled and maintained by the Mobile County Public Works Department. The Public Works Department performs regular maintenance on these roads to include placement of new road material, road grading, shoulder work, and maintenance of drainage ditches. Even with proper maintenance, these dirt roads can still have a detrimental impact on surrounding waters. This initiative will provide for a surface treatment and/or stabilization of portions of dirt roads where impacts are occurring in environmentally sensitive areas. With assistance from the Public Works Department, those roads which have the greatest impact on wetlands and/or streams will be identified and categorized for treatment. The goal of this initiative is the protection of coastal areas, including wetlands, by reducing erosion and contributing to improved water quality. The objective is to protect an identified number of acres of environmentally sensitive areas by implementing erosion control measures to prevent sediment transport.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: The focus of this initiative will be for protection to coastal waters and wetlands.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: This project will utilize 100% CIAP funds.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The most detrimental and prevalent pollutant to the waters of Mobile County is sediment. Dirt roads are a significant contributor to this problem. Implementing erosion control measures thereby preventing sediment transport reduces the filling in of acres of wetlands and miles of streams.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Establishment of a Mobile County Recycling Facility**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-7**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-7	
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ -
FY 2008	\$ 1,000,000.00

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-7	
Year 1	\$ -
Year 2	\$ 1,000,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this project is to establish a Mobile County Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste drop off facility to reduce the amount of these materials being deposited in landfills.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the project is to establish a recycling and household hazardous waste drop off center in an appropriate location in the unincorporated area of Mobile County.

The goal of this project is to establish a Mobile County Recycling Facility to reduce the amount of recyclable materials deposited in landfills. The City of Mobile’s Keep Mobile Beautiful Program operates a voluntary recycling program that involves collecting and processing newspaper, aluminum and steel cans, plastic bottles, cardboard and glass. The following list provides the estimated amount of materials that were collected at the existing facility:

<u>Material</u>	<u>Amount recycled (pounds)</u>
Paper	1.6 million
Cardboard	370,000
Glass	480,000
Plastic	74,000
Aluminum	2,700
Steel	31,500

The population of Mobile County is 404,157 (according to 2006 census estimates). The recycling program processing center is located in historic downtown Mobile. The estimated number of citizens in the zip codes surrounding the existing facility is 52,000. While this location is successful, it is not convenient for Mobile County residents that live outside Mobile City’s historic downtown or midtown area. Mobile County would like to partner with the City of Mobile to add an additional recycling and drop off center in Mobile County. The establishment of an additional recycling facility in Mobile County is expected to further reduce the amount of recyclable materials that are disposed of in the landfill. The numbers listed above represent the bare minimum that would be expected to be collected at a second facility.

AUTHORIZED USES

- o This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.

- Justification: Opportunities for Mobile County citizens to reduce the amount of refuse deposited in landfills will be increased. The project will also provide the opportunity for greater educational awareness of the benefits of recycling.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: Mobile County and the City of Mobile are exploring the possibilities of partnering on this project.
- Benefit to Natural Coastal Environment: This project will reduce the amount of materials filling landfills and extend the life expectancy of this resource. Additional landfill capacity will be made available for disposal needs created by natural disasters. Additionally, the project will reduce the illicit disposal of household hazardous waste by providing a facility for the public to conveniently take such materials. There is no permanent location for the public to legally dispose of such materials.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Erosion Control Equipment for Public Works Department**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-8**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: **Mobile County, Alabama**

DURATION: **One Year**

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-8	
Total Project Cost	\$ 480,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 480,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-8	
Year 1	\$ 480,000.00
Year 2	\$ -
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of this initiative is to reduce the detrimental environmental impacts to the waterways of Mobile County.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of this initiative is the purchase of equipment to be used by the County Public Works Department and the County Parks and Recreation Department to reduce the potential for erosion.

Mobile County is bordered to the east by the Mobile River and Mobile Bay and to the south by the Mississippi Sound. Additionally, numerous waterways flow throughout the County. These waters are at risk for impacts from sediment input from a variety of sources. These include agricultural activities, silvicultural activities, land clearing for new construction and dirt road construction and maintenance. The goal of this initiative is to reduce the detrimental environmental impacts to the waterways of Mobile County. The objective of this initiative is the purchase of equipment to be used by the County Public Works Department and the County Parks and Recreation Department to reduce the potential for erosion. The types of materials included in this initiative could include but are not limited to hay-bale shredders, erosion control blankets, and other Best Management Practice materials.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #1, projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
- Justification: The focus of this initiative will be for protection to coastal waters and wetlands.
- Cost Sharing: This project will be completely administered using CIAP funds. No cost sharing or matching will be used.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The most detrimental and prevalent pollutant to the waters of Mobile County is sediment. Dirt roads are a major contributor to this problem. Implementing erosion control measures thereby preventing sediment transport reduces the filling in of acres of wetlands and miles of streams.

STATE OF ALABAMA

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN

DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY OR CPS: **Mobile County Commission**

PROJECT TITLE: **Escatawpa Hollow River Park Acquisition and Improvements**

PROJECT NUMBER: **MC2-9**

PROJECT CONTACT:

Name	Bill Melton, Environmental Services Director
Address	Mobile County Public Works
	Mobile County Commission
	205 Government Street
	Mobile, AL 36644
Telephone	(251) 574-3229
Fax	(251) 574-4722
E-mail	bmelton@mobile-county.net

PROJECT SUMMARY

LOCATION: Mobile County, Alabama

DURATION: Two Years

ESTIMATED COST:

MC2-9	
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,000,000.00
FY 2007	\$ 2,000,000.00
FY 2008	\$ -

SPENDING ESTIMATE PER CALENDAR YEAR OF PROJECT DURATION:

MC2-9	
Year 1	\$ 1,500,000.00
Year 2	\$ 500,000.00
Year 3	\$ -
Year 4	\$ -

GOAL: The goal of the Escatawpa Hollow River Park project is to enhance public access to and appreciation for black water river ecosystems in Mobile County.

OBJECTIVE: The primary objective of the project is to acquire the privately owned Escatawpa Hollow Campground and Canoe Rental property and renovate facilities and infrastructure to provide a range of public access and eco-tourism options. Additional objectives include providing public information on black water ecosystems and monitoring water quality.

In the early 1980's, the Escatawpa River was evaluated by the National Park Service to determine its suitability for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The National Park Service identified the Escatawpa River as a high quality undeveloped black water stream. The Escatawpa River begins in southwest Alabama less than one mile from the Alabama/Mississippi border in Washington County, Alabama. From there it flows south through northwest Mobile County into Mississippi through a watershed that is long and narrow, with a total length of about 100 miles and width of approximately 15 miles. The river eventually empties into a series of water bodies that form the mouth of Mississippi's Pascagoula River. Though portions of the Escatawpa flow through somewhat remote locales, the watershed is less than an hour drive from the City of Mobile, and equally as close to Pascagoula, Mississippi. The goal of the Escatawpa Hollow River Park project is to enhance public access to and appreciation for black water river ecosystems in Mobile County. The primary objective of the project is to acquire the privately owned Escatawpa Hollow Campground and Canoe Rental property and renovate facilities and infrastructure to provide a range of public access and eco-tourism options. Additional objectives include providing public information on black water ecosystems and monitoring water quality.

The project will include acquisition of the property (including equipment and inventory), construction of additional river access points, construction of boardwalks and pavilions, expanding campsites and recreational vehicle sites, and renovating existing structures to serve as Ranger Stations. These improvements will also require expansion of utilities and upgrades to onsite wastewater facilities. CIAP funds for this project will also be utilized to obtain water quality monitoring equipment and to train staff to monitor water quality at the project site. The project will also include the creation and installation of signage to mark significant habitats and provide information on water quality and appropriate behaviors in sensitive habitats to the public. This project complements a State of Alabama Tier 2 project entitled, "Land Acquisition in the Escatawpa River Corridor and Grand Bay", as the Escatawpa River corridor is a State Lands Division acquisition target. In addition, this project also complements the State of Alabama's water-based nature trail project, as this project will promote low impact eco-tourism activities. Appendix G-37 includes a map of the Escatawpa Hollow River Park.

AUTHORIZED USES

- This project meets the criteria set forth in Authorized Use #4, implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Justification: This project is consistent with Authorized Use #4 as it implements Action HU-C1: Increase Public Access and Eco-Tourism included in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.
- Cost Sharing: Cost sharing is not applicable to this project.
- Partnering: There will be no partnering with this project.
- Benefit to the Natural Coastal Environment: The development of amenities that support and improve natural resource based activities encourages a sense of ownership and stewardship of public land, thus protecting the natural coastal environment. These sites highlight land conservation, and demonstrate successful protection and management of coastal natural resources. Providing the public a place to experience natural resource conservation, protection, and management enhances their appreciation of the natural coastal environment. As a result, this appreciation reinforces a sense of ownership providing benefit to the natural coastal environment.

