Welcome

Our virtual meeting will begin shortly

**Please place your name, email, and affiliation in the chat box**

Website: uppermobaywetlands.com
Email: uppermobaywetlands@asdd.com
Mailing Address: Alabama State Port Authority,
P.O. Box 1588, Mobile, AL 36633
Upper Mobile Bay Wetland Creation
Public Meeting
September 14th, 2021, 4-5pm

Alabama State Port Authority
Introduction

Alabama State Port Authority
- Bob Harris, Vice President Technical Services
- Kevin Cabrera, Project Manager

Moffatt & Nichol
- Mary Beth Sullivan, PE, Project Manager
- Meg Goecker, Coastal Scientist
- Mindy Joiner, Meeting Facilitator
What to expect from today’s meeting

Agenda:

- Project Goal
  - Project Background
  - Project Benefits
- Design Process
  - Field Investigations and Studies
  - Design Criteria
  - Conceptual Design
  - Next Steps
  - Project Timeline
- Questions and Answers

Email: UpperMoBayWetlands@asdd.com
Website: UpperMoBayWetlands.com
Housekeeping

- Muted during presentation
- Presentation to be recorded and put on website

Q&A Options:
- Place questions in chat box and moderator will read your question or comment out loud
- Raise hand – moderator will announce your name and you will be unmuted. You’ll be given 3 minutes to ask a question.
Project Goal

- To plan for creation of 1,200 acres of wetlands in the Upper Mobile Bay through the beneficial use of dredged material
Project Background

- Annually, 6 million cubic yards of sediment removed from Alabama’s Mobile Harbor federal navigation channel and adjacent public berths.
- Have lost 10,000 acres of wetlands in Upper Mobile Bay over the last century. Project will create wetland where it can thrive.
- By constructing this project, sediments will remain in the Upper Mobile Bay system and be beneficially used for habitat.
Project Benefits

- Increases in wetland nursery habitat
- Improved water quality
- Reduced damage resulting from storm surge
- Increases in submerged aquatic vegetation habitat
- Wise environmental stewardship of sediment resources
- Reduced annual dredging costs for the public port, a revenue-based agency.
Design Process

Current Tasks:
- Field investigations and studies
- Design criteria
- Conceptual design
Investigations and Studies

- Geotechnical
  - 70 soil borings
- Mapping Bay Bottom Elevations
  - 2,000 acres
- Cultural Resource Assessment
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
Design Criteria

**Environmental Resources criteria:**
- Avoid cultural resources
- Avoid submerged aquatic vegetation
- Maximize habitat diversity
Design Criteria

Environmental Resources criteria:

- Minimize negative impacts to fisheries
- Maximize nursery habitat for fisheries
- Incorporate regulatory agency requirements
Design Criteria

Physical Criteria:
- Wind and wave climate
- Depth of water
- Elevation of wetland
- Slope stability of sediments
Conceptual designs that satisfy environmental and physical conditions in Upper Mobile Bay to maximize habitat value.
Next Steps

- Receive feedback on design concept from this meeting
- Design 100-acres of Wetland Creation
- Long-term Wetland Creation Plan
- Apply for a US Army Corps of Engineers Permit
- 2nd Public Meeting for Project Updates
Timeline

PHASE I
PLANNING
Activities:
• Plan 1,200 acres
• Permit 1,200 acres
• Design 100 acres

PHASE II
INITIAL CONSTRUCTION
Activities:
• Construct wetland containment
• Construct 100 acres

FUTURE PHASE
FUTURE EXPANSION
Activities:
• Design and construct incremental expansions to build remaining 1,100 acres

2021
NEXT 5 YEARS
NEXT 20 YEARS
Questions & Answers

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Thank you

Public Engagement Opportunities

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