



## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Technical Committee Meeting**

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10:00 – 12:00 CT

Virtual Meeting

[Zoom Recording Link](#)

Recording passcode: b^Jyw4w0

Jessica Bibza, Chair	NWF
Ken Heck, Vice Chair	DISL
Whitney Scheffel	PPBEP
Donald Killorn	PPBEP
Logan McDonald	PPBEP
Matt Posner	PPBEP/Escambia County
Emerson Cheney	PPBEP
Amanda Croteau	UWF
Andrea Graves	TNC
Barbara Albrecht	BFA/ UWF AIMS
Brent Wipf	Escambia County
Brian Underwood	CBEP
Chasidy Hobbs	UWF
Darryl Boudreau	NWFWMD
Eric Schneider	ESA
Erin Reschke	EPA
Haley Gancel	UF
Heather Griffin	ADEM
Jacqueline Lane	Friends of Perdido Bay
Jeanette Kelson	Wood
Jennifer Barker	ADEM
Justin Bousquin	EPA/GEMMD
Marcy Frick	TetraTech
Melody Ray-Culp	USFWS
Patric Harper	USFWS
Shannon McGlynn	ADEM
Shelley Alexander	Santa Rosa County
Tesfay Gebremicael	UF
Theodore Hilton	EPA
Chris Verlinde	UF/IFAS Extension/Sea Grant
Kristin Bennett	TetraTech
Glenn Conrad	WRC
Kate Dawson	Moffat & Nichol



## 1. Welcome and Opening

- Jessica Bibza, NWF, welcomed meeting attendees and several first-time attendees introduced themselves to the group.
  - Justin Bousquin, EPA GEMMD
  - Jennifer Barker, Non-Point Source Unit, ADEM

## 2. CCMP Progress Update & Action Plan Revision Process

- PPBEP staff has worked to develop the CCMP Action Plan. Over 35 people provided feedback on the initial draft (*thank you!*). Staff has applied a 5-step process for revising the Action Plan table based on stakeholder feedback.
- General feedback included identifying potential partners and funding sources, defining PPBEP's role, combining similar priorities, and developing specific performance metrics and timelines for project implementation.
- After synthesizing and incorporating stakeholder feedback, PPBEP staff will provide the Technical Committee with an updated Action Plan draft.

## 3. Action Plan Draft 2

- PPBEP staff has made progress on the second draft of the Action Plan and has begun to write other components of the CCMP including the technical characterization of the watersheds, early action projects, and action plan narratives around each objective.

## 4. Performance Metric & Target Setting Discussion

- Whitney Scheffel, PPBEP, led meeting participants through a detailed discussion on performance metrics for Goals 4-6 of the draft action plan.
- Meeting participants discussed the objectives from goals 4-6 and provided additional feedback to strengthen the efficacy of the Action Plan.

## 5. 11:30 – 11:50 PPBEP Updates

- Branding (idgroup)
  - We have a new look! PPBEP staff and stakeholders worked with idgroup to develop a new visual and communication brand platform that will help PPBEP engage more effectively with community members and partners.
- Oyster Sub-Committee Meeting
  - Next meeting on Thurs., October 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 12:00 CT (Virtual) (*Postponed to February 17, 2022*)
  - The Oyster Sub-Committee, which was originally the Stakeholder Working Group, convened as part of the development of TNC's Oyster Fisheries and Habitat Management Plan, is working to incorporate the



main priorities of the plan into the CCMP and develop strategies for implementation.

- Alabama Water Resources Conference
  - PPBEP staff attended the Alabama Water Resources Conference. Logan McDonald, PPBEP, gave a presentation on “Building a Cross-State Estuary Program.”
- National Estuaries Week events
  - W. Scheffel provided an update on the events from National Estuaries Week. L. McDonald coordinated with partners across the watershed to host recreational and educational events in celebration of our estuaries.
    - East Bay Oyster Restoration Project – Lunch and Learn webinar
    - Paddle trips to Indian Bayou, lower Perdido Islands
    - Community Grant Symposium – Studer Community Institute
    - Oyster Boat Tour – Pensacola Bay
- 2021-2022 Community Grant Program
  - The Estuary Program received \$250,000 in appropriations from the State of Florida to support a second round of Community Grants.
  - The PPBEP Policy Board has approved 8 projects that will be implemented over the next year.
- Trash Free Waters Update and Save-the-Dates
  - The Estuary Program continues to remove and collect data on waterborne trash in 3 local creeks.
  - PPBEP staff have worked with volunteers and community partners to hold large-scale creek tactical cleanup events and monitor each of the booms regularly.
- Upcoming Projects
  - PPBEP are collaborating on several projects throughout the watersheds.
  - NOAA Actionable Science Grant
    - Aims to develop a strategic plan for seagrass restoration for resiliency to climate stress through genetic variation.
  - Auburn Land-Use Workshop
    - Engage community stakeholders in a land-use workshop.
    - Workshop is scheduled for Wed., October 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 4:30CT at the Perdido Key Community Center.
- Environmental Scientist & Outreach Assistant positions
  - New team members, Environmental Scientist and Community Outreach Assistant, start on November 1.
- Office Space
  - Office space has been acquired. The team plans to move this December.
  - New address: 226 Palafox Pl., Pensacola, FL 32502



## 6. Next Steps and CCMP Development Process Evaluation

- W. Scheffel shared a link to the CCMP Process Evaluation Survey. PPBEP requested that people who have participated in any part of the CCMP development process, provide feedback through the survey to improve future engagement opportunities.
- The next TC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**.