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**Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program**

Management Conference Agenda - Meeting #82

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm Thursday, February 1, 2018

Nicholls State University

Century Room, Nicholls Campus (Under the Stadium)

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 9:30 A.M. – 9:40 A.M.
2. Welcome – Quenton Fontenot, BTNEP MC Chairman
3. Roll Call – Nicole Babin, BTNEP Office Coordinator
4. Reading and Approval of Minutes – November 2, 2017 Meeting
5. **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES** - 9:40 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
6. Personnel Changes **–** None
7. BTNEP Meeting Report – October 19, 2017 thru January 7, 2018

* Alma attended the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District meeting
* Susan attended a BTNEP USGS meeting to discuss possible work
* Delaina attended a meeting with Bret Collier
* Michael attended a meeting with Richard Kay to produce the next draft of the BTNEP Paddle guide
* Susan and Dean attended a meeting with Dean Cooper and Amy Manabat about CCMP Website - Discussion for Public Comment Period
* Kristy and Susan attended a video meeting with Lenny Delbert and Marcia Kavanaugh
* Seth attended a meeting with the Ecology Club from E.D. White
* BTNEP Staff attended a safety and policy meeting with Dr. Craig McClain, LUMCON
* Susan, Andrew and Siva attended the NRCS meeting with Ag Solvers and Southern Farm Services
* Alma attended a meeting for the Lafourche Coastal Zone Management
* Andrew and Siva attended the NRCS meeting
* Susan attended a meeting with LA Sea Grant
* Michael attended the LA Fisheries Forward, for Fisheries update meeting
* Dean, Kristy and Seth attended the Video Meeting with Lenny Delbert and Marcia Kavanaugh
* Dean, Andrew, Michael attended the Davis Pond Advisory Committee Meeting
* Alma attended a meeting at the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District
* Andrew attended a meeting at the LPBF meeting
* Susan and Andrew attended a meeting with Archie Chaisson to discuss work that the City of Thibodaux is planning for the Bayou Boeuf Watershed.
* Seth attended the LA Safe meeting

1. Presentations/Exhibits/Field Trips/ Volunteer Events – October 19, 2017 thru January 7, 2018

* Alma hosted the Marine Debris Education and Prevention Programs at Elmer’s Island
* BTNEP Staff attended the Wetland Plant ID Class
* Alma attended Ocean Commotion
* Michael attended the Distilled Science event and presenting an Invasive Species Presentation
* Susan, Dean and Seth attended the field visit to the Tiger Pass site
* Alma and Siva attended The National Park Service and Educational event
* Matt attended the 2017 ANEP Conference
* Matt collected Sand Live Oak acorns in Pensacola, FL
* Matt and Seth conducted a planting with Union College
* Delaina, Natalie and Richard conducted the Piping Plover Survey
* Alma attended the National Park Service
* Natalie attended the East Timbalier area to do VHF Tower checks
* Kristy attended the Entergy Southeast Grant Awards Celebration
* Matt and Seth hosted Common Ground volunteers at the farm
* Alma hosted the Marine Debris Education Prevention Program with Teen Outdoor Education Service
* Siva and Andrew conducted the watershed sampling at Bayou Folse
* Susan, Andrew and Siva attended the Lafourche Parish Council meeting and give a Presentation
* Alma attended the National Science Teachers Association and the Marine Debris Education Prevention Program Conference
* Susan attended the Gulf Guardian Award Ceremony
* Michael attended the Master Naturalist Urban Ecology Workshop
* Susan attended the Field Session at Port Fourchon Sponsored by Sen. Cassidy's Office
* Delaina conducted the Red Knot Survey
* Alma and Seth hosted the Marine Debris Education Prevention Program with Ellender Memorial High School at Elmer’s Island
* Alma attended the Green School meeting
* Alma attended a meeting in New Orleans with Julia Lightner to pick up the cleanup gear and Kim Davis for the Recycling bins

1. MEDIA INTERVIEWS (As of January 9, 2018)

***Daily Comet*** (Thibodaux, LA)

* *“Two tons of trash removed from Elmer’s Island,”* - October 2, 2017
* *“Local students to be featured in calendar,”* - October 3, 2017
* *“Let’s make future cleanups unnecessary,”* - October 4, 2017
* *“Cheers: Featuring student artwork,”* - October 4, 2017
* *“Grant awarded to local environmental foundation,” ­*– October 9, 2017
* *“Our Opinion: Invasive species remind us we’re part of nature,”* - October 29, 2017
* *“Coastal birds flooded out by summer storms,”* - November 3, 2017
* *“Local agencies receive Entergy grants,”* - November 15, 2017
* *“BTNEP council chairman retires,”* - November 17, 2017
* *“‘Super invader’ tree hits south; beetle may be hero,” -*  November 23, 2017
* ***Picture –*** *“Jacque Benoit, a volunteer with the Thibodaux- based Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, plants a satsuma tree in February in an open lot on Shrimpers Row in Dulac. It is among projects coordinated by Keep Terrebonne Beautiful that make use of open land parish government bought out after homes flooded repeatedly. A new project will begin in Dec. 9 in Montegut.”*  - December 2, 20107
* *“Calling all nature lovers: Sign up for the Christmas Bird Count,”* - December 19, 2017
* *“Group hopes new deal will help shrink Gulf dead zone,”* - January 2, 2018

***The Courier*** (Houma, LA)

* *“Invasive plants and animals threaten local culture,”* - October 26, 2017
* *“Local agencies receive Entergy grants,”* - November 15, 2017
* *“BTNEP council chairman retires,”* - November 16, 2017
* *“Local wetlands advocate receives award,”* - December 3, 2017
* *“Calling all nature lovers: Sign up for the Christmas Bird Count,”* - December 18, 2017
* *“Christmas Bird Count helps tell species’ stories,”* - December 30, 2017
* *“Group hopes new deal will help shrink Gulf dead zone,”* - January 2, 2018

***St. Charles Herald*** (Boutte, LA)

* “*Two St. Charles Parish students being featured in BTNEP’s 2018 Estuary Artworks Calendar,” -*  October 12, 2017

***Bayou Journal*** (Pierre Part, LA)

* “*Entergy La. celebrates Southeast Region with We Power Life event,” -*  November 28, 2017

***Crowley Post-Signal* (**Crowley, LA)

* “Let’s make future cleanups unnecessary*”* – October 5, 2017

***Daily Iberian*** (New Iberia, LA)

* “‘*Super invader’ tree conquering south”* – November 15, 2017

***Houma Times*** (Houma, LA)

* “*BTNEP works with Minnesota on pollution prevention”* – January 4, 2018

***Thibodaux Chamber Insight*** (Thibodaux, LA)

* *“Levron retires, Fontenot and Landry named new Management Conference Chair and Vice Chair,”* - November 16, 2017
* “*Susan Testroet-Bergeron wins third-place Gulf Guardian Award”* – December 21, 2017
* *“Thibodaux’s Christmas Bird Count – Citizen Science for the birds,”* - December 21, 2017

***Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce Focus*** (Houma, LA)

* “*Levron retires, Fontenot and Landry named new management conference chair and vice chair”* – December 24, 2017
* *“Entergy Louisiana Celebrates Southeast Region with We Power Life Event,”* - December 24, 2017

***The Green Sheet Farm Forum*** (Minnesota)

* “*Loan program for pollution prevention projects,” -*  November 26, 2017

***Morning Ag Clips*** (Minnesota)

* “*Loan program for pollution prevention projects,” -*  November 26, 2017

***Austin Daily Herald*** (Austin, Minnesota)

* “*Ag loans expand for more pollutions prevention; State extends eligibility to include larger livestock operations,”* - November 27, 2017

***WFXL Fox 31*** (Albany, GA)

* *“‘Super invader’ tree hits south; beetle may be hero,” -*  November 14, 2017

***Press Release Point*** (Chicago, IL)

* *“Louisiana’s Susan Testroet-Bergeron wins third-place Gulf Guardian Award,” -*  November 30, 2017

***Red Lake Nation News*** (Redby, MN)

* *“MDA AgBMP Loan Program will cover more pollution prevention projects” -*  November 27, 2017

***Total Landscape Care***

* *“Invasive tallow trees taking over the South,” -*  November 20, 2017

***American News***

* “*BTNEP council chairman retires”* – November, 2018

***The Daily Beast*** (New York)

* “*Mutant giant rats that thrive off climate change are about to take over the world”* – November 16, 2017

***AZFamily.com*** (Phoenix, AZ)

* “‘*Super invader’ tree hits South, but flea beetle may be hero”* – November 14, 2017

***nbcdfw.com*** (Fort Worth, TX)

* “‘*Super invader’ tree hits South, but flea beetle may be hero”* – November 15, 2017

***Huron Daily Tribune*** (Bad Axe, MI)

* “‘*Super invader’ tree hits South, but flea beetle may be hero”* – November 14, 2017

**Other Interviews:**

* Jeremy Mar, Radio France in City of Orleans – Stormwater infiltration basin and Petanque Terrain design with the BNTEP MC Water Quality Action Plan Team – Andrew Barron – January 7, 2018

1. **PROJECT STATUS**

* Request for Payment - “Barataria-Terrebonne Paddle Brochure” EPA Grant Number CE-00666010 EPA Tracking 2014-26 – Michael Massimi
* Request for Payment - “Aligning current BTNEP Curricula with new Louisiana State Standard EPA Tracking 2013-29; EPA Grant Number CE00666009 – Alma Robichaux
* Request for Payment - “Brechtel Memorial Park Invasive Species Removal” EPA Tracking Number 2013-15-3; EPA Grant Number CE00666009-1– Michael Massimi
* Request for Contract - “Assessment of Feral Hog Damage in Terrebonne Marshes: A Five Year Follow Up Study” EPA Tracking Number 2015-23; EPA Grant Number CE00666011 – Michael Massimi
* Request for Contract - Children of Barataria-Terrebonne Unlock the Wonder and Value of Our Natural Environment as “Earthkeepers in Training” in the Wetlands of Jean Lafitte National Park EPA Grant Number CE-00666014 EPA Tracking Number 2018-12 – Alma Robichaux
* Final Deliverable for the project entitled “2013-15-3 “Brechtel Memorial Park Invasive Species Removal” EPA Tracking Number: 2013-15-3; EPA Grant Number: Grant #CE00666009-1 – Michael Massimi
* Final Deliverable for the project entitled “Aligning Current BTNEP Curricula with New Louisiana State Standards” EPA Tracking Number: 2013-29; EPA Grant Number CE000666009 – Alma Robichaux
* Final Deliverable for the project entitled “Establishment of a Passive Network of VHF Telemetry Towers in Lower BTNEP” EPA Tracking Number: 2013-18; EPA Grant Number 671EP13 – Richard DeMay
* Final Deliverable for the project entitled “Louisiana Estuary Photos” EPA Tracking Number 2013-28 – Kristy Monier

1. **SCHEDULE NEXT BTNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE MEETING DATE** –

9:50 A.M. – 9:55 A.M.

* Save the Date – May 3, 2018 – Century Room
* Save the Date - August 2, 2018 - Plantation Suite @ NSU Student Union
* Save the Date – November 1, 2018 – Location TBD

1. **OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING BTNEP/BTEF AND RELATED DATES** –
2. H2O Water Quality Training
3. World Wetlands Day – February 2, 2018
4. Great Backyard Bird Count – February 17, 2018
5. Louisiana Environmental Education Symposium - February 23-24, 2018
6. Bayou Terrebonne Cleanup – March 3, 2018
7. Bayou Lafourche Cleanup – March 10, 2018
8. EPA-NEP Meeting and visit to Washington, DC – March 13-15, 2018
9. Paddle Bayou Lafourche – April 5-8, 2018
10. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** – 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
11. The Future of Sustainable Flood Insurance – Ms. Caitlin Berni, VP Policy and Communications Greater New Orleans, Inc. – (30 minutes)
12. Flood Insurance – Key Points for the Homeowners – Mr. Robert Adams, Farm Bureau – (10 minutes)
13. Evaluation of Shorebird Nesting Habitat Enhancement Using Hard Substrate (Caminada Headland Restoration Project BA-45) – Ms. Delaina LeBlanc, BTNEP Staff (20 minutes)
14. C-LEARN, Community Resilience Project - Dr. Benjamin Springgate, LSU Health Sciences Center – (30 minutes)
15. **New Business**
16. **Announcements**
17. **Adjourn**