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**Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program**

Management Conference Agenda - Meeting #88

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm Thursday, August 1, 2019

Nicholls State University

Plantation Suite, Nicholls Campus (in Student Union)

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 from MC #87 on May 2, 2019 Meeting
5. **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES** - 9:40 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
6. **Personnel Changes –** None
7. **BTNEP Meeting Report – April 17, 2019 to July 14, 2019**

* Dean and Susan attend Coastal Day at the Louisiana legislature.
* Susan and Seth meet with Emily to discuss BTNEP media outreach
* Andrew and Siva attended a meetings with Ben Malbrough, Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District and South Central Planning and Development Commission to discuss the implementation of the water quality project
* Alma Robichaux Jackson attended the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District meetings
* Susan attended a meetings with Cody Blanchard and Emily Knoblock with White Car Marketing related to media support
* Delaina attended a meeting with Darrin Lee, CPRA to discuss piping plover project
* Susan and met with Laure Kasovich, webmaster BTNEP
* PHMSA grant meetings with Ed Landgraf. Final report was submitted to PHMSA.
* Natalie attended the Avian Power line Interaction Conference (APLIC)
* Andrew attended the Louisiana Master Naturalist of Greater New Orleans Board meeting
* All staff members participated in the Climate Ready Estuaries meeting to discuss evaluation tools
* Alma attended the Louisiana Recycling Coalition meeting.
* Susan attended a C-LEARN Leadership Council Meeting via phone
* Susan, Dean, and Seth meet with Lenny Delbert and Emily Knoblock to discuss BTNEP media outreach
* P-Card Training for Nicole, Delaina, Matt, Siva, Seth, Susan & Dean
* Susan attended the ANEP Finance Committee Meeting
* Susan attended a meeting with Jace Tunnel Texas A&M Nurdle Patrol
* Susan attended a meeting with Angela Rathle NPS Citizen Science
* BTNEP staff attended the LUMCON All Hands meeting with Board of Regents Dr. Kim Hunter Reed
* Siva attended a Webinar: Smart Sewers for Smart Cities: How Data-Mining Sewage Can Improve Public Health
* Siva attended a Webinar: Sharing decades of monitoring experience: what your SOPs didn't tell you
* Susan attended the Bayou Industrial Group BIG Luncheon
* Seth attended the Citizen Science Webinar
* Siva attended the Hypoxia Task Force May 2019 Public Meeting Webcast
* Susan and Dean attended a meeting with Amanda Phillips- Wisner
* Alma attended the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) Embrace the Gulf - Working Group Conference call
* Matt attended the Terrebonne Coastal Zone Management meeting
* Siva and Andrew attending a meeting with Kevin Belanger at South Central Planning and Development Council (SCPDC) about the home sewage improvement project.
* Siva participated in the Water Quality Modeling: Introduction to AQUATOX-Webinar
* Siva participated in a Webinar: Federal Financing for Nutrient Reductions Grants and Lending Opportunities
* Susan will be attending the Baton Rouge Geological Society Meeting - "Preferential Footwall Accretion in Intermediate to Saline Marshes in the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary”
* Alma represented BTNEP at the Gulf of Mexico Alliance All Hands Conference
* Susan and Dean worked with Lenny Delbert on their upcoming video related to restoration efforts to be aired in November 2019.
* Dean and Richard attended the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Meeting in Houma
* Susan met with Lydia Hill, LA Department of Education, Science Supervisor
* Alma meet with Charlotte Till from the Arizona State University.
* Dean and Susan attended a meeting at CPRA with Bren Haas and Greg Grandy.
* Natalie met with Angela Rathle, National Park Service about Chimney Swifts and pollinators

1. **Presentations/Exhibits/Field Trips/ Volunteer Events – April 17, 2019 to July 14, 2019**

* Nicole was the project manager for the Paddle Bayou Lafourche Event. Many members of the staff helped with the three day event in partnership with the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District and the Friends of Bayou Lafourche and many other partners.
* Susan, in partnership with Tim Allen, Apache, presented at Coastal Day at the Legislature on the Osprey nest platform project.
* Natalie participated as a guest on the Restore or Retreat webinar with a presentation on the BTNEP/Apache Osprey nest platform installation and monitoring program
* Delaina presented at the Louisiana Master Naturalist meeting in Grand Isle
* Matt and Seth hosted four volunteer events that include BTNEP short presentation as well as presentation on restoration.
* Alma hosted the Recycling and Landfill Tours
* Susan was the keynote speaker at the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission’s annual award ceremony at the Governor's Mansion. The award ceremony is for student winners and their families, teachers, and principals for their annual art and language arts competition.
* Matt, Seth, and Michael participated in plantings at the Grand Isle State Park.
* Natalie conducted the Prothonotary Warbler next box research
* Siva and Andrew conducted bimonthly water sampling in Bayou Folse region
* Natalie conducted monitoring of Osprey nest platforms
* Richard, Natalie and Delaina conducted Piping Plover surveys at Caminada
* Nicole, Dean, and Susan conducted site visits for the upcoming Paddle Bayou Lafourche event.
* Michael worked with Jacoby Carter on Apple Snail research.
* Delaina assisted LDWF with bird area fencing on Elmer’s Island
* Matt conducted Paspalum collections near Port Fourchon
* Matt conducted Red Mulberry seed collection field research
* Siva and Andrew conducted bimonthly water sampling in Bayou Folse region
* Natalie conducted monitoring of Osprey nest platforms
* Delaina conducted a survey on the Chandelier Islands for Red Knots
* Richard, Natalie, and Delaina conducted breeding bird surveys
* Delaina assisted the US Geological Survey with shorebird research at the Isle Dernier barrier island chain at Whiskey Island
* Natalie attended the Migratory Bird Festival
* Matt and Seth hosted the DNR volunteers at the BTNEP farm facility
* Alma attended the Nicholls Coastal Portrait photo shoot

## Seth and Matt hosted the Common Ground Fourchon Grass Planting

* Andrew and Siva presented at the Coastal Master Naturalist Workshop
* Alma helped to co-lead with the National Park Service an Elmer’s Island Microplastic education event.
* Siva and Andrew will be presenting at the World Ocean Day on Water Quality at the Audubon Aquarium of the America
* Matt presented to students at the Wetlands Discovery Camp at Conoco-Phillips.
* Alma presented at the Terrebonne Parish Coastal Day event.
* Alma, Andrew, Matt, and Seth presented at the Annual WETSHOP teacher training & field session in Grand Isle

III. MEDIA COVERAGE (From April 17, 2019 to July 14, 2019)

* *“Microplastics common in local waterways,”* – July 16, 2019 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“Microplastics common in local waterways,”* – July 16, 2019 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Program to upgrade sewage systems,”* – May 11, 2019 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Program to upgrade sewage systems*,” – May 11, 2019 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“New estuary foundation projects on the horizon,”* – May 3, 2019 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“New estuary foundation projects on the horizon,”* – May 3, 2019 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“New estuary protection projects on the horizon,”* – May 3, 2019 ***snewsi.com***
* *“After years without improvement, agencies try to clean up Bayou Folse,”* – June 18, 2019 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“After years without improvement, agencies try to clean up Bayou Folse,”* – June 18, 2019 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Make a difference when you travel. Here are 5 ways the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program suggests to make your travel plans more eco-friendly this summer.”* – June 2019 ***LSTA Newsletter Page 34*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Talking Trash to Teachers Workshop,”* – June 2019 ***LSTA Newsletter*** ***Page 33*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Terrebonne Aquatic Clinic,”* – June 2019 ***LSTA Newsletter Page 10*** (Houma, LA)
* *“EPA grant to fix home sewage, monitor water in parts of Lafourche, Ascension parishes,”* – June 15, 2019 ***wdsu.com*** (New Orleans, LA)
* *“Local researchers use technology to track threatened birds,”* – June 3, 2019 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Local researchers use technology to track threatened birds,”* – June 3, 2019 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* Susan and Lenny interviewed John Doucet, Ph.D. for the BTNEP film on adaptation
* Susan and Lenny interviewed Dwayne Bourgeois, NLLD; Carl Sevin, LUMCON; and Camille Jones Strachan for the BTNEP film on adaptation

**IV. PROJECT STATUS**

* + Staff is working to finalize CCMP for EPA concurrence
  + Request for Contract – “BTNEP 2018 Media Relations” EPA Grant Number CE-00666013 EPA Tracking 2017-18 – Seth Moncrief
  + Request for Payment - “Development of a Bluebird Trail in the Upper BTNEP” EPA Grant Number CE-00666014 EPA Tracking 2018-08 – Richard DeMay
  + Fully Executed Contract for “Climate Ready Estuaries Project” EPA Grant Number 00666014 EPA Tracking Number 2018-18
  + Fully Executed Contract for “Teach Wild: A lesson on Marine Debris” ” EPA Grant Number 00666015 EPA Tracking Number 2019-13
  + Final Deliverable - “2018 Trash Free Waters Cleanup” EPA Grant Number CE-00666014 EPA Tracking 2018-09-OS – Alma Robichaux
  + Final Deliverable - “2017 Marine Debris Education Prevention Program” EPA Grant Number CE-00666013 EPA Tracking 2017-14-OS; 2017-14-S – Alma Robichaux
  + Final Deliverable - “2018 Trash Free Waters” EPA Grant Number CE-00666014 EPA Tracking 2018-09-OS - Alma Robichaux
  + Request for Payment – “BTNEP Media Relations” EPA Grant Number CE-00666013 EPA Tracking Number 2017-18 – Seth Moncrief
  + Request for Contract – “2019 WETSHOP: Louisiana Wetland Teacher Workshop” EPA Grant Number CE-00666015 EPA Tracking 2019-12 – Alma Robichaux
  + Request for Contract – “Design and Layout of the 2020 Tidal Graph Calendar” EPA Grant Number CE-00666015 EPA Tracking Number 2019-08 – Seth Moncrief
  + BTNEP received our approval for our annual BTNEP Quality Management Plan (QMP) –Andrew Barron
  + BTNEP received QAPP approval letter for BTNEP EPA project “Preparing for Biological Control of Chinese Tallow in Louisiana.” –Andrew Barron and Matt Benoit
  + BTNEP received QAPP approval letter for BTNEP EPA project “Pilot Testing and Protocol Development of Apple Snails Suppression at Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge."  - Andrew Barron and Natalie Waters
  + Request for Payment – “Pre-release baseline data on plant demography of Chinese Tallow before Biocontrol Program is initiated” EPA Grant Number CE-00666014 EPA Tracking Number 2018-15 – Matt Benoit

**V. SCHEDULE NEXT BTNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE MEETING DATE**

9:50 A.M. – 9:55 A.M.

* Save the Date – November 7, 2019 – Plantation Suite, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – February 6, 2020 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – May 7, 2020 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – August 6, 2020 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – November 5, 2020 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University

**VI. OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS AND RELATED DATES** –

1. National Estuaries Week – September 14–21, 2019
2. Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation (BTEF) White Boot Gala – September 24, 2019 Spahr’s Des Allemands, LA
3. Keep Louisiana Beautiful Conference, Baton Rouge September 25-26, 2019
4. Association of National Estuary Programs Fall Conference; Dewey Beach, Delaware – October 1-4, 2019
5. Louisiana Science Teachers Association Meeting, Baton Rouge, LA November 4-6, 2019

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS** – 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

1. “Adaptation: A Natural Way of Life” – Lenny Delbert, Pan AM Communications, Inc. (20 Minutes)
2. “Mississippi River High Water Event: Status and Impacts” –Brad Inman, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (30 minutes)
3. “Preliminary Assessment of Restoration Impacts in the Isles Dernieres, Terrebonne Parish, LA” - Darrin Lee, CPRA (30 minutes)
4. “Hurdles with Nurdles: Gulf-wide Research Project” – Jace Tunnell, (30 minutes)

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

* Nutrient Management Strategy Discussion and Vote – Doug Daigle; Louisiana Hypoxia Working Group; LMRSBC

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**IX. ADJOURN**