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**Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program**

Management Conference Agenda - Meeting #94

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm Thursday, February 4, 2021

Nicholls State University

Virtual Zoom Meeting

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 #93
5. **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES** - 9:40 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.

* **Personnel Changes –** New hire BTNEP Director, T. Bradley Keith
* **BTNEP Meeting Report – October 19, 2020 – January 10, 2021**
  + BTNEP Staff attended weekly staff meetings
  + BTNEP Staff attended the Management Conference Zoom meeting
  + BTNEP Staff attended the CPRA Webinar: Sediment Retention in a River Diversion Receiving Basin: Lessons from Davis Pond
  + Dean attended CPRA Board Meeting via web site link; the LUMCON Monthly Team Management Team meeting; the ANEP Tech Transfer meeting - Climate Resiliency
  + Dean, Nicole and Seth attended a meeting with Emily Knoblcoh with White Car Marketing
  + Alma attended Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District meeting; a meeting with Anh Tran at Spahr's to discuss signage; the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Marine Debris Mid-year meeting; the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate Committee meeting; the University Affiliate Meeting for Keep Louisiana Beautiful; the Louisiana Recycling Coalition Board Strategic Agenda meeting; the "Fully Serving the Underserved" Workshop; the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Session 2,3,4,5, and 6 of Virtual Conference; the GOMA EE Team Call; a Zoom presentation to Tulane: Animals of the Estuary; a Conference Call with Richard Abramowitz, Brightmark Recycling; a meeting with Dottie Hartman - Contract for Teachers' Workshop; the GOMA State Champion Status Call;  Louisiana Recycling Coalition Officers Meeting; the Louisiana Recycle Coalition Board Meeting; the Louisiana National Estuarine Research Reserve Public Meetings; the Planning GOMA Education and Engagement Team Conference Call; the EPA Trash Free Waters Webinar: Experiences and Lessons Learned from Trash Capture Projects; the "Fully Serving the Underserved" Workshop Planning
  + Delaina attended a Teleconference meeting with Rob Dobbs (Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries) to discuss future funding opportunities for coastal breeding bird population studies; a Teleconference meeting with Justine Whitaker (Nicholls State University) to discuss a potential bird monitoring project at Nicholls farm; Phone Conference Call meeting with Tina Whitaker to discuss bird research on Nicholls farm.
  + Delaina attended a Conference Call for Winter Shorebird and Benthic Analysis Status; Meeting for Caminada Headlands and Whiskey Island Projects; the Water Bird Society 44th Annual meeting Virtual Conference; the Virtual Christmas Bird Count compilers & regional editors meeting; the Virtual Characteristics of the geographic range, reproductive status, and predatory dynamics of apple snails (*Pomacea maculata*) in the Barataria-Terrebonne estuary (Jesse DuBose Thesis Defense); a NOAA Restore Grant meeting Conference call; the CWPPRA Technical Committee Virtual meeting; participated in LUMCON’s Women in Science Project Zoom meeting; a Winter Bird Analysis meeting focusing on Caminada Headland Robust Data with Paul Leberg (UL) and Darin Lee (CPRA) via Zoom; a meeting with the Nature Conservancy to discuss bird habitat restoration work on Grand Isle
  + Delaina attended the following Webinars: Integrating Open Science Tools into NEP Workflows; Collaborating with Employees - Improving Culture & Processes; Banding Drives the Science of Migration; Using Community and Food-Web Approaches to Inform Marsh Restoration in Coastal Louisiana; Bird-friendly Communities and Plants for Birds; Sediment Diversions in the Mississippi River Delta; A Study of Wilson’s Plover Natal Dispersal in Southeast Louisiana; Survival and Growth of Common Nighthawk chicks on South Louisiana Beaches; Landscaping a Better Coast: Terraces as a Restoration Tool
  + Natalie attended a Webinars: Conservation of Monarchs in Mexico; Exploring Nature thru Sound and Music; Migration, Exploring the Remarkable Journey of Birds; Planning your planting
  + Natalie attended a meeting with the Saint Francis Vegetable Garden Team to discuss pollinator gardens
  + Siva and Andrew met to discuss about the Home sewage assistance programs in the Bayou Folse and Bayou Lafourche watersheds with Pat Gordon, Kevin Belanger (SCPDC), Ben Malbrough (BLFWD)
  + Siva attended a Webinars: Health Effects Associated with Harmful Algal Blooms and Algal Toxins; Series for master naturalist of greater New Orleans about water quality and water shed work in the bayou Folse project and the bayou Lafourche project
  + Siva and Andrew attended a Teleconference with Aimee Preau, LDEQ regarding new sampling protocol for Bayou Folse watershed
  + Andrew attended the ANEP Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and the Louisiana state Watershed Initiative Region 6 Steering Committee meeting
  + Matt attended the Terrebonne Coastal Zone Meeting and the Davis Pond Advisory Meeting
* **Presentations/Exhibits/Field Trips/ Volunteer Events – October 19, 2020 – January 10, 2021**
  + Natalie conducted Chimney Swift Tower monitoring and Pollinator plant maintenance
  + Natalie attended the Half-Earth Day virtual event
  + Andrew and Siva conducted Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Folse water sampling
  + Matt worked at the Nicholls Farm maintaining plants, seeding, and working on greenhouse and irrigation module; collecting seeds in Grand Isle
  + Matt attended the Terrebonne Basin Barrier Island and Beach Nourishment press field trip
  + Matt collected live oak acorn and hackberry seeds
  + Matt, Seth and Alma attended the Queen Bess Planting
  + Alma and Natalie attended the LSU Ag Center Virtual Home Composting Course
  + Alma worked on the QSM Judge Training and the Louisiana Recycle Coalition Agenda
  + Andrew presented a Zoom Presentation Webinar: series for master naturalist of greater New Orleans about water quality and water shed work in the bayou Folse project and the bayou Lafourche project
  + Siva and Andrew conducted Water sampling, macroinvertebrate sampling, and Plant ID
  + Andrew and Siva attended Plant ID and Water Quality for La Master Naturalist of Greater New Orleans Spring and Fall 2020 Coastal Restoration Workshop
  + Andrew presented a Zoom Presentation to La Master Naturalist of Greater New Orleans on Coastal Land Loss and Restoration
* **Additional Topics: – October 19, 2020 – January 10, 2021**
* Dean managed grants and budgets via email and phone
* Nicole and Dean worked on weekly administrative duties via email and phone
* Nicole worked with Linda Tabor via email and phone
* Nicole worked with LUMCON Staff via email and phone
* Alma worked with Nicki Boudreaux and Anh on signs for Bayou Lafourche and Spahr's
* Alma worked on Elmer's Island Cooperative Agreement
* Alma applied for a grant from Citgo
* Alma prepared for Elmer's Island Cleanup Project
* Andrew worked on LDEQ Bayou Folse quarterly and final report edits
* Andrew worked on a presentation/debate for Loyola's Institute for Environmental Communications Environmental Communications
* Siva coordinated with SCPDC regarding Bayou Lafourche home sewage assistance flyer for homeowners
* Siva coordinated with Pat Gordon, SCPDC about the Bayou Lafourche watershed home sewage assistance flyer
* Seth worked on the 2021 Tidal Graph Calendar
* Seth worked on the BTNEP Indicator Report and Request for Contract
* Matt and Seth prepared equipment for Queen Bess planting.

III MEDIA COVERAGE (For October 19, 2020 – January 10, 2021)

1. Media Coverage

* *“Fletcher students participate in Queen Bess Island restoration project,”* – December 17, 2020 ***Thibodaux Chamber Insight*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“Fletcher students, faculty help restore wildlife refuge,”* – December 3, 2020 ***houmatoday.com*** (Houma, LA)
* *“Volunteers plant mangrove bushes to add nesting habitat at Queen Bess Island*,” – November 29, 2020 ***iberianet.com, The Daily Iberian*** (New Iberia, LA)
* *“Area volunteers help bolster island that is home to thousands of nesting brown pelicans,”* – November 27, 2020 ***dailycomet.com*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“An effort to plant Queen Bess Island for Louisiana pelicans,”* – November 22, 2020 ***Huron Daily Tribune*** (Bad Axe, MI)
* *“How 2020 has impacted our coast,”* – November 19, 2020 ***Thibodaux Chamber Insight*** (Thibodaux, LA)
* *“On Louisiana’s coast, a second effort to plant Queen Bess Island for pelicans,*” – November 14, 2020 ***NOLA.com*** (New Orleans, LA)

1. **PROJECT STATUS**

* Request for Payment – Invoice 10 – “Nutrient and Bacterial Analysis in the Bayou Lafourche Watershed” Grant Number 671WQIE/MX-00D87219 – Siva Nunna
* Request for Payment – Invoice 05 – “Water Quality Improvement, Education, and Outreach in the Bayou Lafourche Watershed, Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuarine System” Grant Number MX-00D87219-0 / 671WQIE – Siva Nunna
* Request for Payment “Layout and Design of Audubon’s Louisiana” EPA Tracking Number 2018-07 – Natalie Waters
* Final Deliverable - “Layout and Design of Audubon’s Louisiana” EPA Tracking No.# 2018-07 – Natalie Waters
* Request for Payment – “BTNEP 2020 Media Relations” EPA Grant No. CE-000666014, EPA Tracking No. 2018-20, Seth Moncrief
* Request for Payment – Invoice 11 – “Nutrient and Bacterial Analysis in the Bayou Lafourche Watershed” Grant Number 671WQIE/MX-00D87219 – Siva Nunna
* Request for Payment – “Design and Layout of the 2021 Tidal Graph Calendar” EPA Grant Number CE-01F68001 EPA Tracking 2020-09 – Seth Moncrief
* Request for Contract - “2021 BTNEP Social Media and Public Relations” EPA Grant No.

CE-01F83101 EPA Tracking No. 2021-09– Seth Moncrief

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

9:50 A.M. – 9:55 A.M.

* Save the Date – February 4, 2021 – Virtual Meeting, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – May 6, 2021 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – August 5, 2021 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University
* Save the Date – November 4, 2021 – Location TBD, Nicholls State University

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

1. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** – 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
   1. “The Coastal Center at Nicholls State University”, Dr. John Doucet and Dr. Clune, Nicholls State University (20 minutes)
   2. “Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary System Climate Change Adaptation Plan”, Scott Hemmerling, The Water Institute (20 minutes)

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, the President signed into law:

H.R. 4044, the “Protect and Restore America’s Estuaries Act,” which reauthorizes the National Estuary Program through FY 2026

**IX. ADJOURN**