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**Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program**

Management Conference Agenda - Meeting #80

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm Thursday, November 2, 2017

Nicholls State University

Plantation Suite, NSU Student Union

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 9:30 A.M. – 9:40 A.M.
2. Welcome - Al Levron, BTNEP MC Chairman
3. Roll Call – Nicole Babin, BTNEP Office Coordinator
4. Reading and Approval of Minutes –August 3, 2017 Meeting
5. **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES** - 9:40 A.M. – 9:50 A.M.
6. Personnel Changes **–**  3 New Student Workers Hired

Claire Pierce – Nicholls State University Junior

David Woods – Nicholls State University Senior

Quinn Lapeyrouse – Nicholls State University Freshman

1. EPA 5 -Year Program Evaluation Summary – Dean Blanchard
2. Presentations/Exhibits/Field Trips/ Volunteer Events –July 17, 2017 – October 18, 2017

* Delaina, Natalie, and Richard conducted Piping Plover Surveys
* Siva and Andrew conducted the watershed sampling for Bayou Folse twice per month
* Richard, Natalie and Delaina conducted Coastal Breeding Bird Surveys
* Delaina conducted Ghost Crab Surveys related to the Shorebird Substrate project
* Andrew and Michael conducted an Introductory Master Naturalist Class at Loyola
* Delaina conducted Red Knot Surveys
* Delaina conducted the Shorebird Substrate project
* Alma and Seth conducted the Marine Debris Education Prevention Program on Elmer’s Island
* Alma held Estuary Animal and Map Education Classes at Nicholls State University
* Matt collected Seeds at Grand Isle State Park
* Andrew attended a REU Panel at LUMCON
* Seth, Andrew, Siva, Alma, Nicole and Susan participated in the Solar Eclipse Viewing at Nicholls State University
* Seth held a presentation for East Ascension Sportsman League
* Alma filtered Samples and Looked for Microplastics with Limitless Vista for MDEPP
* Michael did Apple Snail Suppression Field Work at Mandalay
* Andrew and Michael conducted an Introductory Master Naturalist Class at Loyola
* Andrew presented to a LSU Wetland Ecology Class
* Susan presented at the 5th Annual Downriver Festival at the Old U.S. Mint
* Andrew presented to Lafourche Fish and Game Commission about Bayou Folse
* Natalie attended the 2017 Pollination Celebration
* Staff supported and helped organize the White Boot Gala
* Alma presented at and attended the Keep Louisiana Beautiful State Conference
* Siva and Andrew attended EPA and LDEQ Field Visit to Bayou Folse Watershed
* Kristy and Delaina conducted an Estuary Art Event through the Purple Penguin
* Seth conducted a Central Lafourche High School JROTC Bayou Lafourche Clean Up
* Alma held a student event for National Estuary Day at the Aquarium of the America’s (NO) in partnership with LPB
* Alma and Seth participated in the International Coastal Cleanup in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Nicholls State University
* Siva and Andrew held National Estuary Day at the Bayou Country Children’s Museum
* Natalie presented at the Terrebonne Bird Club Meeting at the Main Branch Houma Library
* Michael was a Guest Lecturer at Louisiana Garden Club Federation Environmental Studies School
* Siva presented on Water Quality Education at Laurel Valley Fall Festival
* CPRA Board Meeting Presentation for National Estuaries Week– Susan

1. BTNEP Meeting Report July 17, 2017 – October 18, 2017

* Port Fourchon/BTNEP/Shell SMART Planning meeting - Susan
* Jeremy Grassman reference to BTNEP Video – Kristy and Susan
* Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District meetings – Alma
* Terrebonne Parish Coastal Zone Managements - Matt
* Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Management meetings - Alma
* Lafourche Parish Government on Bayou Folse Project - Andrew, Siva, Susan and Dean
* Conference call with Shell on SMART project – Seth, Matt, Susan, Dean and Kristy
* CCMP Design and Layout meeting – Kristy, Susan and Nicole
* ANEP Conference call – Susan and Dean
* Meeting with Animator Joey Blake to view the latest work on animation of the geographic history of the Mississippi River – Kristy and Susan
* Program Evaluation Follow Ups – BTNEP Staff and Doug Jacobson
* CPRA Governor’s Advisory’s Commission Meeting – Susan, Matt, and Michael
* Bayou Folse Flow Teleconference – Siva
* Linda Tabor BTEF Farm Expansion Planning Meeting – Susan
* Social Media Communications Lunch and Learn – Seth
* CRG Meeting at Fletcher – Seth
* Video Planning Meeting with PanAm Communications – Susan
* Meeting and Webinar with Partners for Grant Application for Trash-Free Waters – Alma
* USACE CPRA Mid-Barataria Diversion Scoping Meeting – Michael and Susan
* LA SAFE Meeting – Alma
* Meeting with UCSG and Al Levron, Terrebonne Parish Manager – Michael
* Meeting with Partners for GOMP – Alma
* Economic Evaluation Discussion with Jim Edmonson – Susan and Dean
* Louisiana Science Standards Environmental Education Working Group Meeting – Susan
* Shrimp Task Force Meeting in Houma – Alma
* CPRA Birding Research Planning Meeting – Susan, Richard, Dean
* BTEF Board Meeting – Susan
* Teleconference with Scott Edwards of NRCS – Susan and Dean
* BIG Luncheon – Susan and Dean
* Soil Salinity Project Meeting with Quenton Fontenot of Nicholls – Andrew
* Downriver Panelist Meeting at Louisiana Children’s Museum – Susan
* Webinar for Marine Debris NOAA – Alma
* Shell Social Investment Open House and Discussion at Port Fourchon – Seth and Susan
* Pollinator Garden Planning Meeting with National Park Service Thibodaux -Natalie
* Conference Call about International Coastal Cleanup with LDWF and NSU – Alma
* Nicholls State University Sustainability Meeting – Alma
* CPRA Meeting with Darin Lee – Delaina
* Conference Call with LDWF and NSU for International Coastal Cleanup – Alma
* Phone Conference with John Barras of USGS – Susan
* Louisiana Recycling Coalition Meeting Hosted by BTNEP – Alma
* LA Sea Grant Marketing for Seafood with Julie Falgout – Susan
* NEP Call to EPA Headquarters related to CCMP Revision – Susan
* Meeting with DEQ Drinking Water CCMP Review Team – Susan, Siva, and Andrew
* Meeting with Farm Bureau to Discuss Flood Insurance Issues in the Estuary – Susan
* Green Schools Meeting – Alma
* BTNEP Introduction and Issues at eRotary Coastal Club – Susan
* Meeting with Shell Oil Social Investment – Seth
* Meeting with Lafourche Parish to Discuss Bayou Folse Watershed – Susan, Andrew, and Siva
* Keri Turner CCMP Revision Meetings – Susan
* CCMP Design and Layout Meetings with Phyllis Lear- Susan
* ANEP Executive Monthly Call and Hurricane Update – Susan
* Meeting to Discuss GOMA Home Sewage Grant – Susan and Andrew
* Coastal and Marine Pipeline Safety, Emergency Response Meeting hosted by CAMO – Nicole, Susan
* Apache Meeting to discuss raptor nest platforms – Richard, Natalie, Dean and Susan

1. MEDIA INTERVIEWS July 11, 2017 – October 18, 2017

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

* *“BTNEP director wins national award,”* - July 21, 2017
* *“Spread of Roseau cane-killing insect continues,”* - July 24, 2017
* *“Volunteers needed to clean up local beach,”* – August 21, 2017
* *“Oil company’s grant to expand bird monitoring,”* - September 11, 2017
* *“Art contest highlights area wetlands importance,”* ­- September 13, 2017
* *“Our opinion: Let’s make future cleanups unnecessary,”* - October 4, 2017
* *“Cheers and Jeers – Featuring student artwork,”* - October 7, 2017

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

* *“Panel discusses environmental science education”* - August 5, 2017
* *“Celebrate the area’s wetlands during National Estuaries Week,”* - August 18, 2017
* *“Volunteers needed to clean up local beach,”* - August 21, 2017
* *“Oil company’s $100,000 grant to expand bird monitoring across La. Coast”* - September 10, 2017
* *“Two tons of trash removed from Elmer’s Island,”* – October 1, 2017
* *“Local students to be featured in calendar,”* October 2, 2017

***Donaldsonville Chief*** (Donaldsonville, LA)

* *“BTNEP to host 4th annual ‘estuary artworks’ art contest,” ­*– August 30, 2017
* *“Volunteers still needed for international coastal cleanup,” –* September 7, 2017

***Post/South*** (Plaquemine, LA)

* *“BTNEP to host 4th annual ‘estuary artworks’ art contest,”* - August 31, 2017
* *“Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program announces winners for ‘Estuary Artworks’ event”* – September 28, 2017

***Daily Advertiser*** (Lafayette, LA)

* *“Officials get grant to help track birds,”* - September 8, 2017

***WaterMarks*** (CWPPRA)

* *“WaterMarks Interview with Michael Massimi”* – September, 2017

***Gonzales Weekly Citizen*** (Gonzales, LA)

* *“Volunteers wanted for international coastal cleanup,”* - August 31, 2017
* *“BTNEP to host 4th annual ‘estuary artworks’ art contest,”* - August 31, 2017
* *“Volunteers still needed for international coastal cleanup,”* – September 7, 2017
* *“Paint Something”* – September 14, 2017

***Lafourche Gazette*** (Larose, LA)

* *“Roseau cane-killing bug continues to spread,”* - July 26, 2017
* *“Volunteers needed for International Coastal Cleanup on Elmer’s Island,”* – August 23, 2017
* *“Two tons of trash removed from Elmer’s Island,”* - October 4, 2017

***Advocate*** (Baton Rouge, LA)

* *“Calendar – Elmer’s Island Beach Sweep,” -* September 10, 2017

***Daily News*** (Jennings, LA)

* *“Filling gaps of bird tracking system on coast,” -*  September 7, 2017

***Nola.com*** *(New Orleans, LA)*

* *“Help wanted on Elmer’s Island beach cleanup,”* – August 22, 2017
* *“It didn’t take long to trash Elmer’s Island,”* - September 18, 2017

***Times Picayune*** *(New Orleans, LA)*

* *“Nutria sink their teeth into Terrebonne,”* - June 11, 2017
* *“$7.7 million will pay for flood, climate resilience studies in Louisiana,”* - July 21, 2017
* *“Cleanup volunteers sought,”* - August 23, 2017

***Town Talk*** *(Alexandria, LA)*

* *“Officials get grant to help track birds,”* - September 8, 2017

***Times*** *(Shreveport, LA)*

* *“Officials get grant to help track birds,”* - September 8, 2017

***Plaquemines Gazette*** *(Belle Chase, LA)*

* *“Volunteers wanted for International Coastal Cleanup,”* - August 29, 2017

***Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries*** *(Baton Rouge, LA)*

* *Press Release - “LDWF bird radio tracking project to more than double in capacity thanks to grant from ConocoPhillips,”* - September 6, 2017

***WRAL.com*** *(Raleigh, NC)*

* *“Louisiana seeks volunteers to help clean Elmer’s Island,”* – September 5, 2017
* *“Filling gaps of bird tracking system on Louisiana’s coast,”* – September 7, 2017

***Seattlepi.com*** *(Seattle, WA)*

* *“Louisiana seeks volunteers to help clean Elmer’s Island,”* – September 5, 2017

***KATC.com*** *(Denham Springs, LA)*

* *“Volunteers wanted for International Coastal Cleanup,”* – August 22, 2017

***KADN.com*** *(Lafayette, LA)*

* *“Volunteers needed for Elmer’s Island cleanup,”* – August 21, 2017

***EUREKALERT.ORG*** *(Washington, DC)*

* *Press Release -“LSUHealthNO research to improve resilience to disasters in Louisiana,”* – July 18, 2017

**Other Interviews:**

* *Halen Doughty, Louisiana Radio Network – Clean up on Elmer’s Island on September 16, 2017 – Alma Robichaux – September 1, 2017*
* *Don Dubuc, WWL Radio – Views on environmental impact based off of the Mississippi River Diversion Project – Susan Testroet-Bergeron – September 8, 2017*
* *Dillon Lowe, Legacy Magazine (LSU publication) – Nutria and Land Loss – Michael Massimi - September 26, 2017*
* *Stacey Jenkins, Associated Press in New Orleans – Rapid spread of the Chinese Tallow across the Gulf Coast Region*

1. **PROJECT STATUS**

* Request for Payment – Phyllis Lear – BTNEP CCMP Graphic Design - EPA tracking #2017-07-02 – Susan Testroet-Bergeron and Dean Blanchard
* Request for No Cost Time Extension - BTNEP CCMP Graphic Design - EPA tracking #2017-07-02 – Susan Testroet-Bergeron and Dean Blanchard
* Request for Payment – Hannah Fulton – BTNEP CCMP Visual Artwork and Computer Graphics - EPA tracking #2017-07-03 – Susan Testroet-Bergeron and Dean Blanchard
* Request for No Cost Time Extension – BTNEP CCMP Visual Artwork and Computer Graphics - EPA tracking #2017-07-03 – Susan Testroet-Bergeron and Dean Blanchard
* Final Deliverables submitted EPA Tracking# 2013-27 – 2017 BTNEP Web Site Redesign – Kristy Monier
* Final Deliverables submitted EPA Tracking # 2013-15- "Salvinia Weevil Distribution to Coastal Marshes" – Michael Massimi
* Final Deliverables submitted EPA Tracking #2017-15 - "2017 Rain Barrel Workshop” Alma Robichaux Jackson
* Request for Payment “Habitat Enhancement for Native Wildlife and Migratory Birds at Woodlands Conservancy” EPA Grant No. # CE-00666009-1 – EPA Tracking No. 2013-15-2 – Michael Massimi

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

9:50 A.M. – 9:55 A.M.

* Save the Date – February 1, 2018 – Plantation Suite @ NSU Student Union
* Save the Date – May 3, 2018 – Plantation Suite @ NSU Student Union
* Save the Date – August 2, 2018 – Plantation Suite @ NSU Student Union

1. **OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING BTNEP/BTEF DATES** – 9:55 AM -10AM

* National Science Teachers Association in New Orleans November 30 – December 2, 2017
* BTNEP Annual State of the Estuary Breakfast, Nicholls State University, Ballroom – December 5, 2017
* Christmas Bird Count – Delaina LeBlanc
* EPA NEP Spring Meeting – Washington DC February 27-March 1, 2018

1. **DISCUSSION ITEMS –** 10:00 A.M. – 11:30AM

* CCMP Draft Update – Susan Testroet-Bergeron, BTNEP (10 minutes)
* Evaluation of Designed Microsite Use and Spatial Requirements for Focal Shorebirds: Utility and Implementation of Automated VHF Telemetry Stations Within the Lower BTNE - Curtis Walker, BTNEP Contractor (30 minutes)
* Evaluation of Crowding as a Management Strategy for Improving Giant Salvinia Biological Control Performance - Lori Moshman, LSU (20 minutes)
* Terracing Program and Freshwater Enhancement Projects of Ducks Unlimited Leslie Suazo; Coastal Restoration Coordinator Ducks Unlimited/Conoco Phillips Partnership - (20 minutes)

1. **New Business** 11:30AM - Noon
   1. ***Election of New BTNEP MC Chairperson***
   2. ***Election of New BTNEP MC Vice Chairperson***
   3. ***Transition of Leadership***
2. **Adjourn**