McNeill, Catherine

From: Eric Vichich - NOAA Federal <eric.vichich@noaa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2022 12:35 PM **To:** Brown, Scott; Mobile Coastal Mail

Subject: GulfCorps Year 6 - AL - CZMA/ACAMP Federal Consistency

Attachments: AL_Y6_Detailed_Summary.pdf; AL_Y6_Maps.pdf

Good Afternoon,

NOAA's GulfCorps program is planning its sixth year of habitat restoration activities in Alabama. Attached please find a summary of newly proposed project locations and/or activities for this year as well as maps for these locations.

NOAA has determined that the proposed activities are consistent with the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program and requests your concurrence with that determination.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Eric

Eric J. Vichich Marine Habitat Resource Specialist NOAA Fisheries | Office of Habitat Conservation | Restoration Center (727) 238-5774

Alabama Year 6 GulfCorps Projects Summary

Introduction

equipment).

GulfCorps hires and trains local young people to conduct coastal habitat restoration in Alabama. These projects were provided to us in collaboration with the Governor's office and other partners. There are seven new locations this year and three previously approved project locations are adding additional land parcels. New or modified project locations and/or activities are indicated in red text.

Standard Activities:

GulfCorps crews are now providing a list of standard crew activities that could be undertaken at each project site. Compliance reviews and consultations will now assume all of these standard activities are possible for all sites. These standard activities include:

<u>Invasive Species Management</u>: Mechanical treatment with saws and/or hand tools, and/or chemical treatment with herbicide hand applicators or backpack sprayers. Foliar application used for grass/herbaceous plants. Hack-and-squirt used for woody plants.

Wetland Native Vegetation Planting: Planting native wetland vegetation with hand tools.

Reef Preparation: Recycling oyster shells, bagging shell/reef material, bundling trees.

<u>Wetland Fire Preparation</u>: Fire line maintenance and selected vegetation thinning/removal with hand tools. Activities will be directed by land manager; GulfCorps crews will not select areas for treatment or use heavy equipment.

<u>Wetland Prescribed Fire</u>: Participation in partner-led prescribed fire application. Partner (land manager) acts as burn boss, selects areas, determines timing, and obtains necessary burn permits/authorizations. <u>Wetland Debris Removal</u>: Storm debris cleanup and litter removal using hand tools (no heavy equipment)

<u>Wetland Vegetation Management</u>: Propagating, collecting, growing, harvesting, and transplanting wetland plants. Harvesting/transplanting would only take wetland plants from nurseries or approved donor sites where extraction is authorized.

<u>Planting Native Upland Vegetation</u>: Planting native vegetation with hand tools in locations/spacing dictated by partner/land manager.

<u>Upland Vegetation Management</u>: Propagating, collecting, growing, harvesting, and transplanting plants. Harvesting/transplanting would only take plants from nurseries or approved donor sites where extraction is authorized.

<u>Upland Fire Preparation</u>: Fire line maintenance and selected vegetation thinning/removal with hand tools. Activities will be directed by land manager; GulfCorps crews will not select areas for treatment or use heavy equipment.

<u>Upland Prescribed Fire</u>: Participation in partner-led prescribed fire application. Partner (land manager) acts as burn boss, selects areas, determines timing, and obtains necessary burn permits/authorizations. <u>Upland Debris Removal</u>: Storm debris cleanup and litter removal using hand tools (no heavy

<u>Facility Vegetation Management</u>: Clearing, removing, or trimming vegetation around facilities/amenities.

<u>Trail Maintenance</u>: Maintenance of established trails to include vegetation management, mulching, leveling with hand tools, and marking.

Boundary Marking/Maintenance: Marking boundary lines with signs, and fence/border maintenance.

<u>Amenity Installation/Maintenance</u>: Installation, maintenance/repair, and removal of amenities/structures (boardwalks, piers, decks, wildlife nesting boxes, benches, etc.) as directed by partner/land manager.

<u>Survey/Mapping</u>: GPS mapping of plants/communities, wildlife sightings/evidence, habitat types, geological features, elevation, etc.

<u>Water Quality Monitoring</u>: Sample collection, testing, and reporting activities for basic parameters like temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, flow, etc.

<u>Outreach and Education</u>: Creating/distributing outreach materials, conducting people/information surveys, supporting/participating in volunteer events (Earth Day, Arbor Day, etc.).

Project Locations

AL1-1 Weeks Bay NERR Stewardship

This previously approved project is adding additional land parcels – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-2 Weeks Bay Foundation

This previously approved project is adding additional land parcels. The Weeks Bay Foundation is now the South Alabama Land Trust and they are adding land beyond Weeks Bay to their portfolio – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-30 Little River SOA Boundaries

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-3p Red Hills WMA

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-6h Brookley Waterfront Park

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-8a City of Orange Beach Stewardship

This previously approved project location is adding additional land parcels – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-11h Chickasabogue Park

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-11i River Delta Park

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

AL1-11j Escatawpa Hollow Park

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.

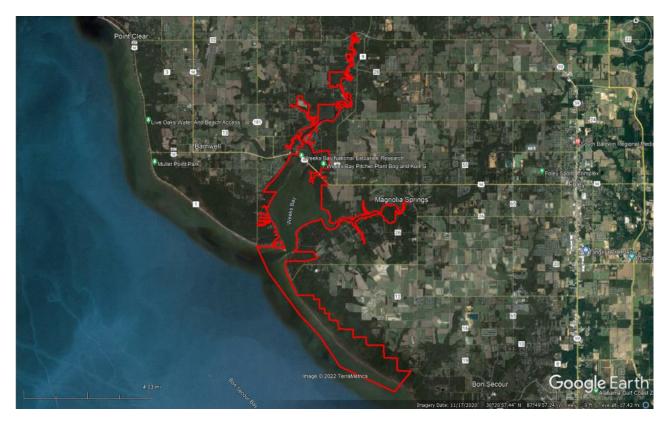
AL1-11k Bayfront Park

New location – all standard GulfCorps activities.



Figure 1AL1-1 Weeks Bay NERR Stewardship





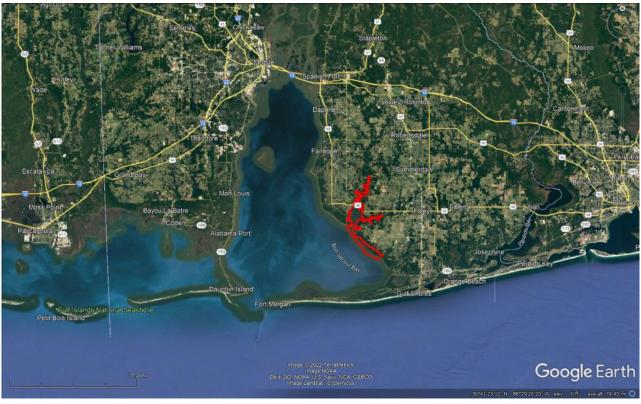
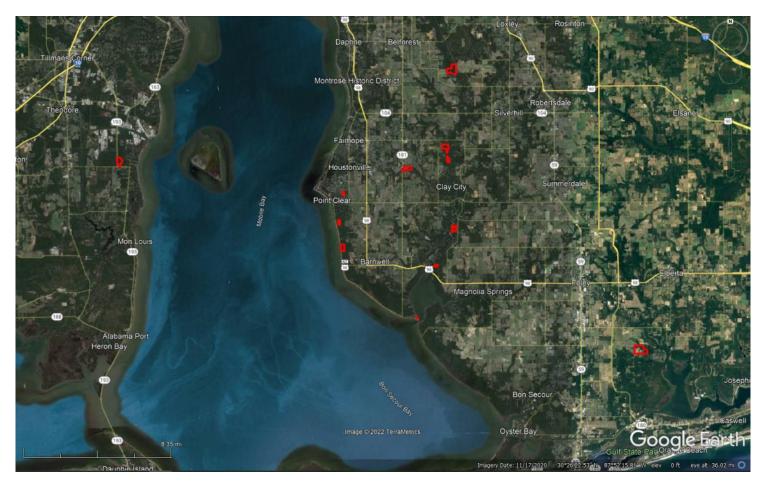




Figure 2



AL1-2 Weeks Bay Foundation Stewardship



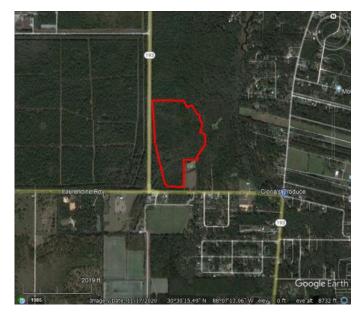


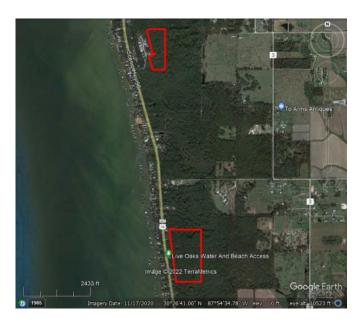




Figure 2 (Cont'd)



AL1-2 Weeks Bay Foundation Stewardship



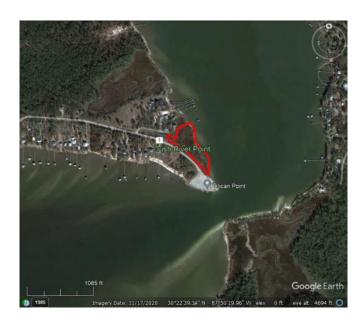








Figure 2 (Cont'd)



AL1-2 Weeks Bay Foundation Stewardship

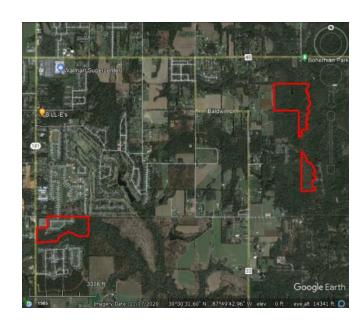


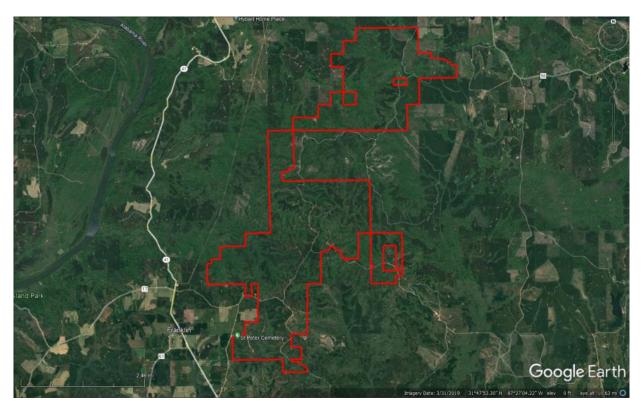






Figure 3AL1-30 Little River SOA





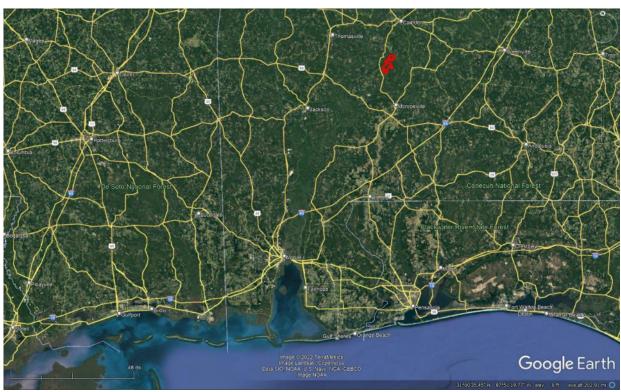




Figure 4AL1-3p Red Hills SOA Boundaries



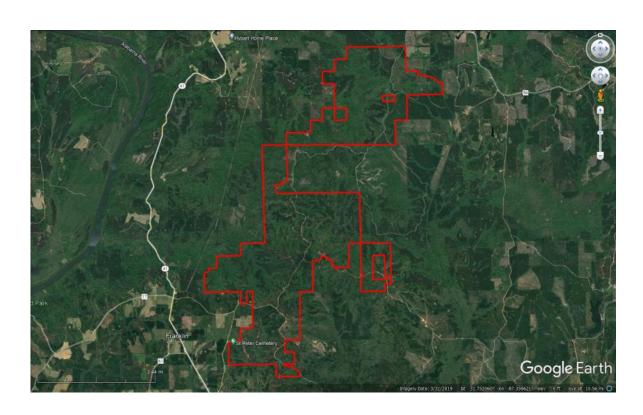






Figure 5AL1-6h Brookley Waterfront Park





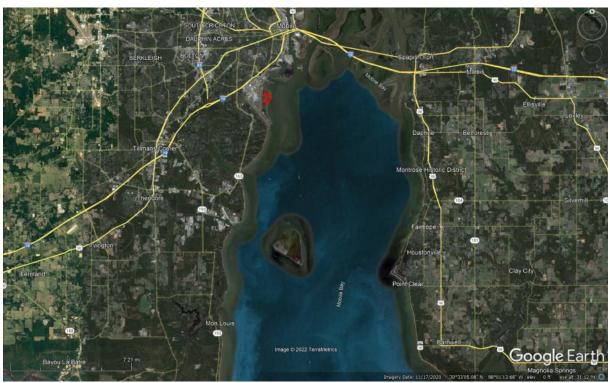




Figure 6



AL1-8a City of Orange Beach Stewardship



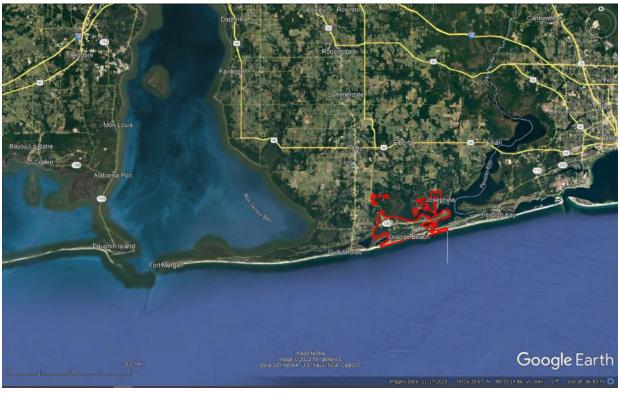




Figure 7AL1-11h Chickasabogue Park





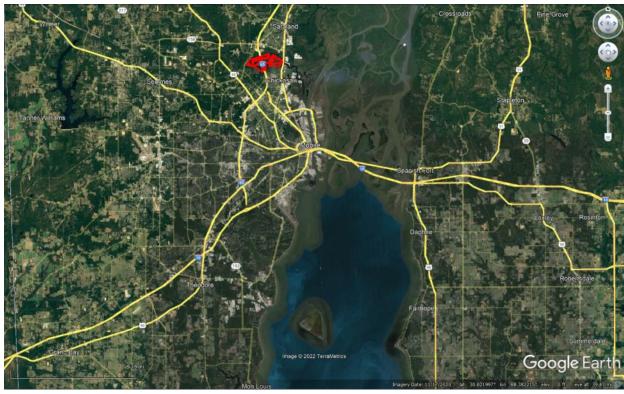




Figure 8AL1-11i River Delta Park





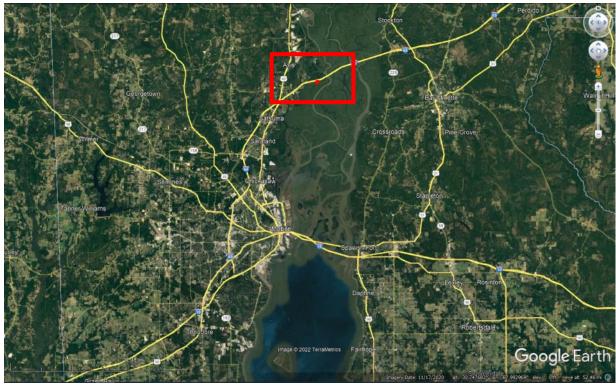




Figure 9AL1-11j Escatawpa Hollow Park





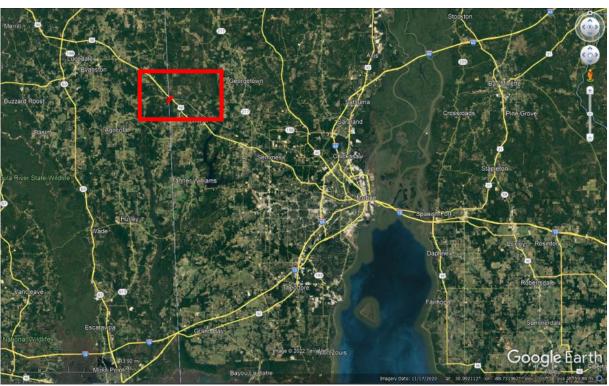




Figure 10





