

Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Coalition
Technical Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting
April 15, 2021 - 1:30 p.m., Central Time

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Zoom Link:

<https://myokaloosa.zoom.us/j/92272757469?pwd=TGFSRVFUQW5PSlp5VmVFY2w0MUUIUT09>

MEETING MINUTES

Synopsis:

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting of the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Coalition was held virtually on the afternoon of April 15, 2021. Brian Underwood, Executive Director of the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program, Heather Griffin, TAC Chair, and Chelsea Conley, TAC Co-Chair, facilitated the meeting consistent with the meeting agenda.

Committee Members and Informal Advisors Attending Remotely:

Brian Underwood – CBEP Executive Director
Chelsea Conley – CBEP Public Outreach Specialist
Heather Griffin – ADEM
Amanda Croteau – UWF
Beth Fugate – FDEP, Northwest Florida Aquatic Preserves
Darryl Boudreau – NFWFMD
Devin Patty – AFRL
Donald Killorn – PPBEP
Eric Schneider – ESA
Graham Thompson – Matrix Design Group
Haley Gancel – UF
Holly Greening – Coastwise Partners
Jane Caffrey – UWF
Kent Smith - FWC
Kristal Walsh – FWC
Laura Tiu – UF/IFAS, SeaGrant Extension
Leah Fox - Emerald Coast Regional Council
Lisa Harris - CPYRWMA
Matt Deitch – UF IFAS

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Melinda Gates – Walton County
Melody Ray-Culp – USFWS
Mike Norberg- Okaloosa County
Rachel Gwin - Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
Renee Collini - PLACE
Sandy Pizzolato – Eglin Air Force Base
Scott Bitterman- Okaloosa County Engineer
Tesfay Gebremicael - UF Postdoc at WFERC

Key Discussion:

All participants were welcomed to the TAC virtual meeting. Brian Underwood began recording, and Heather Griffin confirmed Technical Advisory Committee member and participant attendance via the Zoom chat function. The minutes from the March 11, 2021 TAC meeting were referenced and approved by the TAC -Laura Tiu motioned to approve, and Brian Underwood seconded the motion.

Haley Gancel provided an overview of the Choctawhatchee Bay Estuary Program Workshop Plan. The information collected from this stressor assessment will be combined with information collected from the Public Workshop Series and a Values and Uses Survey to shape the next Technical Advisory Committee Workshop Series. This will help identify data needs, performance measures and actions to include in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). A series of evaluations will help determine the effectiveness of the workshops and help improve the overall development process. The first activity is designed to identify and prioritize stressors and management concerns for each focus area. After identifying priority stressors, measurable indicators will be identified for each stressor or management concern.

Haley then introduced a word cloud of different common themes in available management plans for the Choctawhatchee Bay. She then introduced the virtual whiteboard platform, Mural, that was used for the prioritization activity. Haley demonstrated how to add sticky notes and the outline for the activity.

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Amanda Croteau then facilitated the prioritization activity. Participants brainstormed stressors and concerns for the Water Quality Focus area, voted on the top 3 stressors, and brainstormed measurable indicators for each. The same was done for the Resource Protection and Management, Floodplains and Wetlands, and Community Resiliency focus areas. The Land Use Planning and Land Management Focus Area was skipped since it had high overlap and time was limited. After the activity, Amanda shared a link to a survey for TAC members to give input on future workshop design. The information collected from the activity will be summarized at the next TAC meeting on May 20, 2021.

Chelsea invited the participants to join for the Public Workshop Series May 4th, 6th, and 11th, 2021. She sought additional comment from the TAC participants, as well as, from members of the public who attended virtually. No additional comments were received and the meeting was adjourned.

DRAFT