

STATE OF ALABAMA            )  
COUNTY OF BALDWIN        )

**AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is entered into between MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM, an entity created, in 1995, under the authority granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and is administered through and funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under provisions of the Clean Water Act of 1987 (hereinafter referred to as the “MOBILE BAY NEP”), and the BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, the honorable county governing body of Baldwin County, Alabama (hereinafter referred to as “COMMISSION”), and is effective the date last executed below.

WHEREAS, the MOBILE BAY NEP is an entity created, in 1995, under the authority granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and is administered through and funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under provisions of the Clean Water Act of 1987, the purposes of which are to promote the wise stewardship of the water quality characteristics and living resource base of the Mobile Bay estuarine system, implement the applicable Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan and, further, bring together citizens, local, state and federal government agencies, businesses and industries, conservation and environmental organizations and academic institutions to meet the environmental challenges presented to the Mobile Bay estuarine system; and

WHEREAS, the COMMISSION recognizes that the purposes for which the MOBILE BAY NEP was organized to assist in the protection and conservation of the Mobile Bay estuarine system which benefits and protects the county’s environment and overall environmental well-being of the general public and within said MOBILE BAY NEP service area; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, in recognition of the aforementioned, the COMMISSION, wishes to approve a one-time total funding appropriation of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$75,000.00) to aid the MOBILE BAY NEP; and

WHEREAS, further, the COMMISSION makes such one-time total funding appropriation to the MOBILE BAY NEP respecting that the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama has ruled that Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901, as amended, is not violated when a public entity donates money or other thing of value in aid of a private individual or corporation if a public purpose is served. *Slawson v. Alabama Forestry Commission*. 631 So. 2d 953 (Ala. 1994).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto AGREE as follows:

1. The above recitals and statements are incorporated as part of this Agreement and shall have the effect and enforceability as all other provisions herein.
2. The MOBILE BAY NEP shall continue to promote the protection and conservation of the Mobile Bay estuarine system which benefits and protects the county’s environment and overall environmental well-being of the general public and within said MOBILE BAY NEP service area, All MOBILE BAY NEP facilities, services, and activities shall be made available to the general public.
3. The MOBILE BAY NEP shall have a nondiscriminatory policy, and its facilities, services and activities shall be available to the general public regardless of race,

age, sex, disability, or religion.

4. The COMMISSION shall assist the MOBILE BAY NEP by providing a one-time total funding appropriation of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$75,000.00). The MOBILE BAY NEP expressly agrees not to use any of the one-time funding appropriation provided for by this Agreement outside the purposes provided for by this Agreement and, furthermore, agrees not to use any of the one-time funding appropriation set forth by this Agreement to aid any private or individual benefit. It being expressly understood that the one-time funding appropriation set forth by the Agreement, as provided by the COMMISSION, be utilized, by the MOBILE BAY NEP, only toward the purpose provided by this Agreement.
5. This Agreement and the relationship created hereby does not in any manner create, imply, or otherwise vest any authority in the MOBILE BAY NEP on behalf of the COMMISSION. Furthermore, this Agreement hereby expressly forbids the creation of an agency or any action that would create or imply that the MOBILE BAY NEP is an agent of the COMMISSION.
6. To the fullest extent allowed by law, the MOBILE BAY NEP shall fully indemnify and hold the COMMISSION, its County Commissioners, departments, employees, supervisors, insurer, agents, representatives and attorneys (for purposes of this Section 8 referred to collectively as "COMMISSION") completely harmless from any and all claims, demands, notices, violations, findings, actions or orders of whatsoever kind or character which may arise from, or which are in any way related to, the work done and duties or obligations performed by the MOBILE BAY NEP or the COMMISSION pursuant to this Agreement, including, without limitation, attorney fees and legal expenses and costs incurred as a result of the COMMISSION enforcing, defending or complying with this Agreement, or otherwise addressing or defending any actions or claims related in any way to this Agreement. The provisions of this Section 8 and the rights, duties and obligation set forth herein shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.
7. The MOBILE BAY NEP shall ensure that all materials publicizing or resulting from the funding appropriation as provided for by this Agreement shall contain an acknowledgment of the COMMISSION's assistance with said acknowledgment of support made through the use of the following comparable footnote: "This activity was supported by the Baldwin County Commission."
8. Notwithstanding anything written herein to the contrary, all commitments made herein by the COMMISSION are subject to the availability of funds. If at anytime prior to the conveyance of the one-time funding appropriation the COMMISSION determines that the subject funds are not available, then the COMMISSION shall no longer be obligated or required to provide such one-time funding appropriation.
9. The MOBILE BAY NEP agrees, as a condition of receiving the funding appropriation referenced in this Agreement, to:
  - a. Supply to the COMMISSION, within 30 days from a written request to do so, all applicable data that is necessary for the COMMISSION to ensure the proper expenditure of the subject funding appropriation.
  - b. File with the COMMISSION no later than June 10, 2025, a written report of its

activities for the preceding period which commenced on October 1, 2024, a copy of an annual report that includes the appropriation period, and a copy of the most recently audited financial statements (audited financial statements must be from within the last two years, i.e. year 2023 or 2024, and should include an independent auditor's report, statement of financial position, statement of activities, statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements) to ensure the proper expenditure of the subject funding appropriation.

10. This Agreement, provided in the form as one (1) original instrument for the records of the MOBILE BAY NEP and one (1) original instrument for the records of the COMMISSION, represents the entire terms and conditions of the Agreement between the COMMISSION and the MOBILE BAY NEP. It shall be necessary to account for only one (1) such instrument or counterpart in proving this Agreement.
11. This Agreement shall be in effect for a period of twelve (12) months, or in a shorter time as may be determined by the COMMISSION, commencing October 1, 2024, and expiring September 30, 2025, and may be amended, during the aforementioned period of twelve (12) months, only by written amendment executed by the COMMISSION and the MOBILE BAY NEP. The COMMISSION shall have the right to terminate this Agreement, with or without cause or reason, by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the MOBILE BAY NEP.
12. This Agreement shall be deemed to have been made in the State of Alabama, and the validity of the same, its construction, interpretation, enforcement, and the rights of the parties hereunder, shall be determined under, governed by, and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of Alabama, without giving effect to any choice of law provisions arising thereunder. The proper venue for any action arising hereunder or relating to the subject matter of this Agreement shall lie solely in Baldwin County, Alabama.
13. Should the COMMISSION employ an attorney or attorneys to enforce any of the terms and conditions hereof, the COMMISSION shall be entitled to recover from the MOBILE BAY NEP all reasonable costs, damages, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, expended, or incurred in connection therewith.
14. If any part or parts of this Agreement shall be held unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect. If any provision of this Agreement is deemed invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, and if limiting such provision would make the provision valid, then such provision shall be deemed to be construed as so limited.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have affixed their hands and seals this date, as follows:

[Signature pages to follow]

**BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD  
As Its: Chairman  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ROGER H. RENDLEMAN  
County Administrator

STATE OF ALABAMA                    )  
COUNTY OF BALDWIN                )

I, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public, in and for Baldwin County, Alabama, and the State of Alabama, hereby certify that BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD, as Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission, and ROGER H. RENDLEMAN, as County Administrator of the Baldwin County Commission, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument and who are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of said instrument, they, as such Chairman and County Administrator of the Baldwin County Commission, and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date for and as an act of said Baldwin County Commission.

GIVEN, under my hand and Seal this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC, BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM**  
118 North Royal Street  
Suite 601  
Mobile, Alabama 36602

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: ROBERTA ARENA SWANN

As Its: Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF ALABAMA                    )  
COUNTY OF BALDWIN            )

I, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public, in and for Baldwin County, Alabama, and the State of Alabama, hereby certify that ROBERTA ARENA SWANN, as Director of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, whose name is signed to the foregoing instrument and who is known by me, acknowledged before me and on this day that, being informed of the contents of said instrument, she, as such Director of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date for and as an act of said Mobile Bay National Estuary Program.

GIVEN under my hand and seal this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_