

May 4, 2021

Ms. Roberta Arena Swann, Director
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
118 N. Royal St., Suite 601
Mobile, Alabama 36602

RE: D'Olive Watershed Management Plan (WMP)

Dear Ms. Swann:

We are writing to express our support for the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) in its pursuit to continue implementation of the D'Olive Watershed Management Plan (WMP) by restoring sediment-impacted tributaries to D'Olive Bay in Baldwin County, Alabama. The County remains invested in implementing the D'Olive WMP. This proposed project involving restoration of two more unstable headwaters reaches will build on previous ADEM 319 investments to protect the quality of receiving waters and downstream fishery nursery habitats in a meaningful way and ensure continued efforts to improve the health of our local waters.

Since the completion of the D'Olive Watershed Management Plan in 2010, MBNEP has spearheaded efforts to implement recommendations that led to over \$14 million dollars invested to restore over 12,000 linear feet of degraded streams and 92 acres of flood plain, updated regulations to increase the capacity of local governments to better manage stormwater and educated the community better on the importance of these efforts.

Baldwin County looks forward to partnering on this project and continuing our role as wise stewards of coastal Alabama's natural resources and estuarine waters.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Matthew Brown, Planning and Zoning Director, at (251)580-1657.

Sincerely,

JOE DAVIS, III, Chairman

JAMES E. BALL, Vice Chairman

BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD, Commissioner

CHARLES F. GRUBER, Commissioner