



Baldwin County Commission Work Session  
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 28, 2020  
8:30 AM

Baldwin County Central Annex Auditorium  
22251 Palmer Street, Robertsedale, Alabama 36567

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**Commissioners present:**

District 1 – Commissioner James E. Ball  
District 2 – Commissioner Joe Davis, III  
District 3 – Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood  
District 4 – Commissioner Charles F. Gruber

**Commissioners absent:**

None.

**Staff present:**

Brian Peacock, CIS Director  
Cian Harrison, Clerk Treasurer  
Deidra Hanak, Personnel Director  
Joey Nunnally, County Engineer  
Ron Cink, Budget Director  
Terri Graham, Development and Environmental Director  
Wayne Dyess, County Administrator  
Eddie Harper, Building Official  
Anu Gary, Administrative Services Manager  
Keri Green, Commission Executive Assistant  
Sherry-Lea Bloodworth Botoy, Community Engagement Manager/Public Information Officer  
Vince Jackson, Planning Director  
Junius Long, Building Maintenance Coordinator  
Lisa Sangster, Chief Administrative Assistant

**Staff present via teleconference:**

Felisha Anderson, Director of Archives and History/Special Historic Project Coordinator  
Wanda Gautney, Purchasing Director

**Also present:**

Huey Hoss Mack, Sheriff  
Brian Pierce, Coroner

After the welcome, invocation and pledge of allegiance, the following agenda items were reviewed and/or discussed:

## **A ELECTED OFFICIALS**

- A1**     Coroner's Office - Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report (October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019)     **20-0647**

Brian Pierce, Coroner, presented the Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report for the Baldwin County Coroner's Office.

No item moving forward.

## **B BUDGET/PURCHASING**

- B1**     Competitive Bid #WG19-21 - Provision of Off-site Printing, Mailing and Automated Management of the Baldwin County Probate Renewal Notices     **20-0497**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B2**     Competitive Bid #WG20-08 - Purchase of One (1) New 2019 Honda Odyssey EX 5-Door Wagon/Minivan or Equivalent for the Baldwin County Sheriff's Department     **20-0531**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B3**     Competitive Bid #WG20-09 - Purchase and Installation of One (1) New 80 Ton HVAC Chiller at the Baldwin County Satellite Courthouse Located in Foley, Alabama     **20-0534**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B4**     Competitive Bid #WG20-12 - Provision of Motorgrader Blades for the Baldwin County Commission     **20-0635**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B5**     Competitive Bid #WG20-13 - Provision of Cooked Meals for the Baldwin County Solid Waste Department     **20-0645**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B6**     Baldwin County Resurfacing Projects 2020: Group #2 - BCR-2020-2     **20-0614**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B7**     Final Design for the Construction of a New Baldwin County S.A.I.L. Center Located in Little River, Alabama for the Baldwin County Commission     **20-0616**

[Baldwin County S.A.I.L. Center Building Plans](#) was provided as a handout by Commissioner Gruber

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B8**     Quote to Repair 2019 Kenworth T800 Dump Truck for the Baldwin County Commission     **20-0646**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B9**     Resolution #2020-056 - Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Amendment for Highway Conference Room Upgrades     **20-0637**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- B10**    Sales and Use Tax Department - Administrative and Court Appeals of Local Tax Assessment     **20-0623**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **C HIGHWAY**

- C1**     Bluewater Drive and Pine Drive - Amendment to a Request for an Attorney General's Opinion     **20-0648**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- C2**     Case No. S-16047 - Silver Lake Subdivision - Road Acceptance     **20-0474**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- C3**     License Agreement No. 19021 - Ponce De Leon Court - Right-of-Way     **20-0621**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

**C4** License Agreement No. 19023 - Beasley Road - Right-of-Way **20-0634**

After staff and Commissioners discussed the license agreement, Commissioner Davis requested that Joey Nunnally, County Engineer, obtain input from utility companies before the February 4, 2020, regular meeting.

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Other Staff Recommendations.

**C5** Intergovernmental Service Agreement between Baldwin County and the City of Orange Beach for Routine Maintenance of Navy Road in Orange Beach City Limits **20-0461**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

**C6** Intracoastal Waterway Boat Launch Design Project - Design Services **20-0633**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

Joey Nunnally, County Engineer, brought the following items from the floor:

## Randolph Drive Vacation

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## Accept for Maintenance – 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Lillian

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## Update on Splash Island

Joey Nunnally, County Engineer, provided an update on Plash Island.

## D BALDWIN REGIONAL AREA TRANSIT SYSTEM (BRATS)

## E PARKS

## F FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

**F1** Annual Tax Levy Resolution #2020-055 **20-0619**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **G ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (SOLID WASTE)**

**G1**     Updated Recycle Map for Baldwin County

**20-0624**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **H BUILDING INSPECTION**

## **I PLANNING AND ZONING**

**I1**     Proposed Text Amendments to the Baldwin County Zoning Ordinance,  
Section 2.3.26, Local Provisions for Planning District 26

**20-0643**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

Vince Jackson, Planning Director will bring subdivision regulations for the Commission's Consideration in the near future.

## **J COMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS)**

## **K ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

**K1**     Gulf Coast Battalion - Camp of Instruction at Bicentennial Park

**20-0533**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **L BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

## **M COUNCIL ON AGING**

## **N EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (EMA)**

**N1**     Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency - Presentation of  
Updated Logo

**20-0636**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **O JUVENILE DETENTION**

- 01**     Department of Youth Services (DYS) Part 1 and Part 2 Grant/Subsidy Agreement Fiscal Year 2019-2020     **20-0532**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **P PERSONNEL**

- P1**     Finance and Accounting Department - Position Changes     **20-0638**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

Staff and Commissioners discussed the Finance and Accounting Department's positions and salary grades. It was decided that Deidra Hanak, Personnel Director, will provide information to the Commission on how Lee and Shelby County's positions/salaries compare to Baldwin County.

- P2**     Planning and Zoning Department - Position Change     **20-0644**

After discussion of the Code Enforcement Officer's position, motion by Commissioner Ball to deny the 5% raise as requested by staff and promote it to a 7.5% raise for James Ryan, Code Enforcement Officer. There was no second to the motion. After further discussion Commissioner Ball stated for the record that the proposed raise is only \$2,000.00 more.

After further discussion with staff and commissioners, it was decided that the revised staff recommendation would be moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- P3**     Revenue Commission (Re-Appraisal) - Creation of Position     **20-0641**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- P4**     Sales, Use, and License Tax Department - Position Change     **20-0642**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- P5**     County Administration - Restructure of Call Center Department     **20-0640**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

## **Q ANIMAL CONTROL**

## R ADMINISTRATION

- R1**     Space Allocation in County Facilities - Allocation of Space at the Baldwin County Courthouse in Bay Minette, Alabama and Adoption of Resolution #2020-057     **20-0529**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- R2**     Revision of Baldwin County Commission Policy #2.6 - Alcohol License Applications     **20-0612**

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

Wayne Dyess, County Administrator, brought the following items from the floor:

Request from Blakeley State Park to Launch Boat Tours from Live Oak Landing

Wayne Dyess, County Administrator, brought forward a request from Blakeley State Park to launch boat tours from Live Oak Landing. Commissioners were agreeable with the request and requested staff to ensure this is publicized.

No item moving forward.

First Amendment to Employment Contract – Baldwin County Legislative Delegation – Constituent Services Director

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Other Staff Recommendations.

Revision of Baldwin County Commission Policy #2.10 – Polling Place Hours / Poll Worker Compensation

Moved to February 4, 2020, regular meeting, Other Staff Recommendations.

Request from The City of Bay Minette's Committee on Public Arts to Place Replica Birdhouses at the Baldwin County Courthouse in Bay Minette and Bicentennial Park

Wayne Dyess, County Administrator discussed the request from the City of Bay Minette's Committee on Public Arts to place replica birdhouses at the Baldwin County Courthouse in Bay

Minette and Bicentennial Park. Commissioners were agreeable with the request. No item moving forward.

### Proposed Eastern Shore Blue Way Kayak Trail

Item brought from the floor by Wayne Dyess, County Administrator.

Mr. Phillip Hinesley, Nature Tourism Specialist with Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism, discussed the proposed [Eastern Shore Blueway Kayak Trail](#) and the use of County parks for the trail and handed out information regarding the program. Mr. Hinesley requested permission to add Baldwin County property information on promotional materials for the trail. The Commission was agreeable to the request.

No item moving forward.

## **S ADDENDA**

None.

## **P PERSONNEL – Continued**

### **P6**     Annual Performance Evaluation of the Development and Environmental Director     **20-0639**

Terri Graham, Development and Environmental Director, gave a summary of her self-evaluation which she had provided to the Commissioners prior to the work session.

The Commissioners provided their performance evaluations for Ms. Graham for the year 2019.

No item moving forward.

## **T PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **U PRESS QUESTIONS**

None.

## **V COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Davis discussed the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Organization (ESMOP), Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the possibility of a new toll road.



Commissioner Davis discussed the Commission to adopt a resolution expressing interest in moving forward with exploration of possibilities for a new bay way bridge.

Commissioner Davis discussed Savannah Estates and a meeting regarding the property and project. Wayne Dyess, County Administrator, and Vince Jackson, Planning Director, discussed the meeting regarding the project with the applicants, PUD and open space requirements and the reapplication process for the project.

## **W ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Commissioner Davis, to adjourn the Baldwin County Commission work session at 10:29 a.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, Billie Jo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber

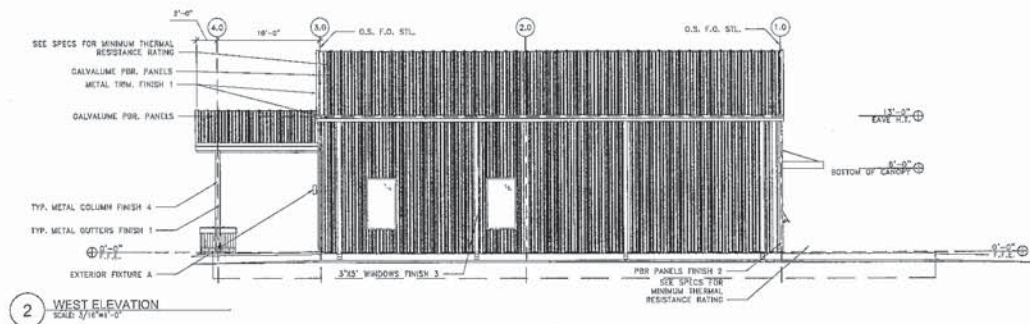
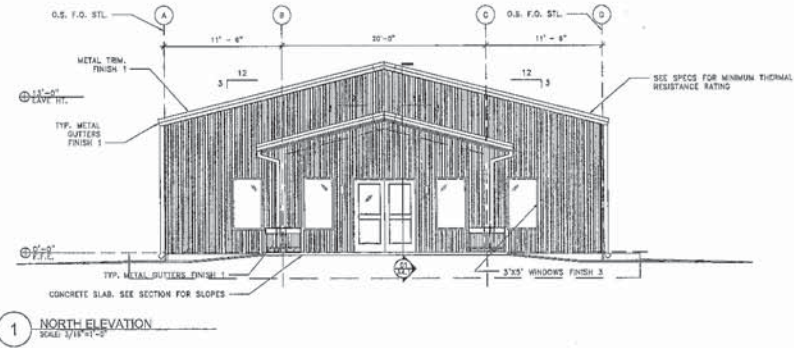
**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billie Jo Underwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

B7 Handout from  
Commissioner Gruber  
1/28/2020 BCC work session



OTK  
ARCHITECTURE

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Dulles, VA 20024-1105  
Telephone (703) 261-0454

Baldwin County S.A.I.L. Center  
70171 Ralph Cant Rd. Little River,  
AL 36550

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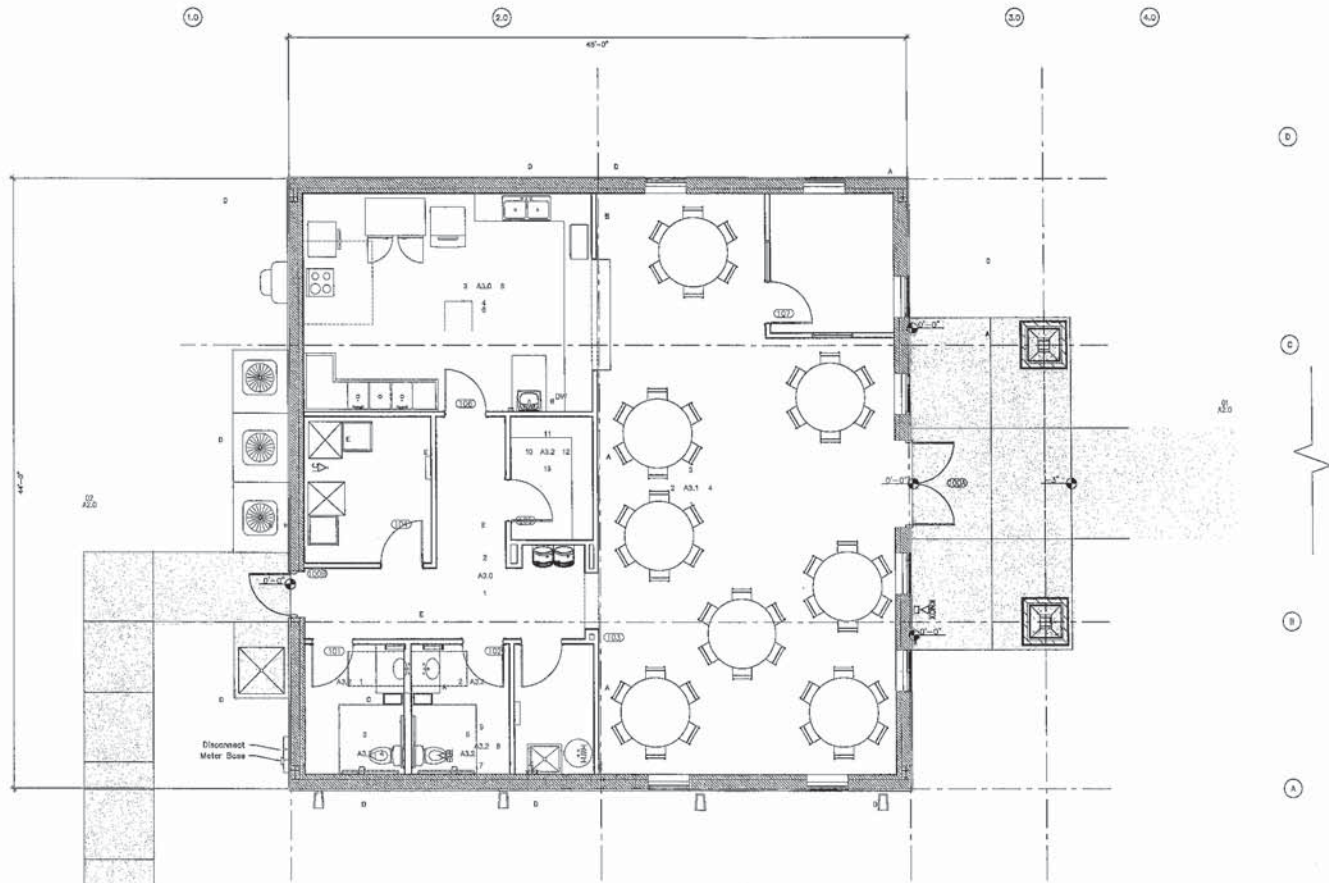
For Review

SHEET TITLE  
EXTERIOR  
ELEVATIONS

SHEET NUMBER  
A-2.0

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1 FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



**GENERAL NOTES:**

1. ADD MINIMUM 1" FIRE RETARDANT TREATED PLYWOOD BLOCKING WHERE ELEMENTS AND ASSEMBLIES ARE SECURED TO WALL. E.G. WHERE BATH PARTITIONS AND ACCESSORIES ARE SECURED TO WALL. SEE WALL TYPES.
2. USE MOISTURE RESISTANT JOINT BOND.

**LEGEND:**

1-1	ROOM NAME AND NUMBER
1-2	WALL TYPES
1-3	DOOR TYPES
1-4	WINDOW TYPE
1-5	CONCRETE SPLASH BLOCK
1-6	LOAD CENTER
1-7	TELEPHONE BACKER BOARD, SEE E-1
1-8	METER BASE
1-9	KNOX BOX COORDINATE

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70171 Ralph Cant Rd. Little River,  
AL 36550

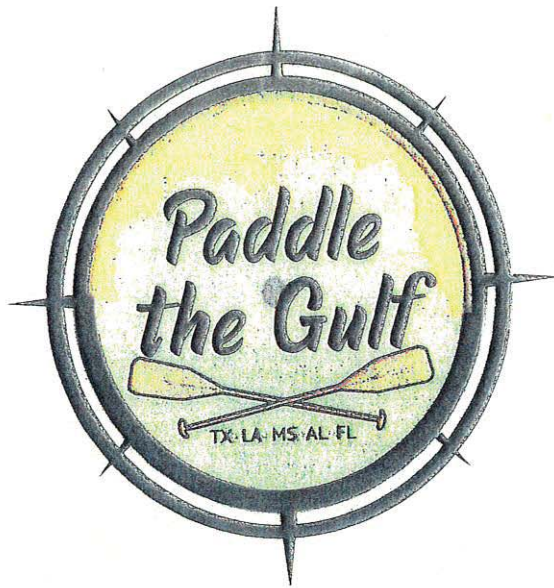
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For Review

SHEET TITLE:  
DIMENSIONED  
FLOOR PLAN

SHEET NUMBER:  
A-1.0

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## **Paddle the Gulf 2020**

Partners around the Gulf of Mexico are gearing up to Embrace the Gulf 2020. The purpose of this initiative is to raise the awareness of the value, sustainability and beauty of the Gulf of Mexico. The program is designed to preserve, promote and enhance the Gulf through effective communication, education, partnerships, stewardship and community engagement. One activity which is part of the yearlong celebration is an event called Paddle the Gulf will connect a network of blueways across the five U.S. Gulf States with the objective to showcase blueways. By showcasing these paddletrails, the project seeks to increase public understanding and promote stewardship of coastal resources. Each state has identified five designated blueways. Project goals are to introduce novice paddlers to the resources and citizen science opportunities at a series of events. Each state is planning at least one paddle event but can host more than one. Paddle the Gulf is a wonderful way to celebrate what the Gulf of Mexico has to offer by kayaking and canoeing these paddle trails. The project will inform and inspire citizens of each state to be more connected to nature by paddling coastal streams and rivers that flow into the Gulf of Mexico and coastal estuaries.



Segment	Name	Lat	Long	Address	Water Body	Hours	Charge	Beach Type	Amenities	Parking	Comments
Fish River/ Weeks Bay	Bohemian Park	30.523824	-87.809962	CR 48 & Langford Road	Fish River	D/D	No	Sandy	Pavillion and Port O Let	Yes	Possible Portage due to log jams
	Boone	30.493805	-87.80779	Bonne LN and CR 33	Fish River	D/D	No	Sandy	None	Yes	
	Marlow Ferry	30.461967	-87.801242	Honey RD W. of CR 9	Fish River	D/D	No	Rock	Pavillion and Port O Let	Yes	
Bon Secour Bay	Weeks Bay Reserve	30.415969	-87.82571	US HWY 98 Bridge	Weeks Bay	D/D	No	Rock and marsh	Pavillions and Port O Let	Yes	No parking in boat trailer area
	Pelican Point	30.376653	-87.837238	End of CO RD 1	Weeks Bay	D/D	No	Rock and marsh	Port O Let	Yes	No parking in boat trailer area
	Mary Ann Nelson Park	30.379366	-87.852698	CR 1 and Mary Ann Beach	Bon Secour Bay	D/D	No	Rock	Port O Let	Yes	
	Mullet Point	30.4168	-87.421176	CR 1, 0.3 South of US 98	Bon Secour Bay	D/D	No	Rock	Pavillion and Port O Let	Yes	
Mobile Bay	Zundel Landing	30.473802	-87.918999	Scenic US HWY 98 and Zundel LN	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Rocky	none	Yes	Drop for lunch, but no parking or blockin lane
	Pier Street Boat Ramp	30.517817	-87.915695	1 Pier Ave	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Sandy	restroom	Limited	No parking in boat trailer area
	Fairhope Muncipal Park	30.52456	-87.915695	4 North Beach RD	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Sandy	restroom, pavillions, water	Yes	
	Fairhope Docks /Marina	30.5429	-87.9018	848 Seacliff Drive	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	none	restrooom/ Kayak Lunch	Yes	Parking limited
	Steadman Landing	30.569589	-87.90363	West end of Sibley Ave	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Sandy	None	Yes	Portage to put in
	May Day Park	30.599504	-87.911803	West end of College Ave	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Sandy	Pavillion and restroom	Yes	
	Bay Front Park	30.432831	-87.911046	6200 Bayfront Drive	Mobile Bay	D/D	No	Rocky	None	Yes	









The cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach need your help protecting our unique natural environment and its ecosystems while you're paddling along our waterways. Please do not litter, use glass containers, or harass and disturb wildlife.



Remember these easy tips to make your paddle a safe and fun experience.

- Always apply sunscreen before heading out on the water.
- Stay hydrated.
- Bring a protective bag for your cell phone and other electronics.
- Have a bag on board to collect any trash for easy removal when you end your adventure.
- Share your float plan with someone.



Whether by canoe, kayak or paddleboard, the Coastal Alabama Back Bay Blueway is your go-to resource for your next paddling adventure on the Alabama Gulf Coast. If you are in need of any equipment rentals or would like to take a guided tour with a local provider, please visit [GulfShores.com](http://GulfShores.com) or call 800-745-SAND (7263) for more information.



Funding for this project provided by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, State Lands Division, Coastal Section, in part, by a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office for Coastal Management, NOAA Award # 18NOS4190143.



From cypress swamps to peaceful lagoons, paddling along the Alabama Gulf Coast is quite the adventure. The Coastal Alabama Back Bay Blueway offers four distinct trails with 21 launch sites that take paddlers around the waterways surrounding Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, Fort Morgan and Foley.







Photo: Mike Whye

## FORT MORGAN TRAIL

History and nature collide along the Fort Morgan Trail, located on the westernmost end of the island. This trail has two launch sites: one going into Mobile Bay and the other into Bon Secour Bay. On Mobile Bay paddlers can catch glimpses of Fort Morgan State Historic Site; and on Bon Secour Bay there are many opportunities to see a variety of wildlife, including migratory birds and dolphins.



## LITTLE LAGOON TRAIL

Try your hand at kayak fishing on Little Lagoon in Gulf Shores. With its 10-mile stretch of open water and three kayak launches, there are several spots to cast a line while exploring this beautiful area. Located in close proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, this body of water is home to a vast diversity of salt and freshwater fish including trout, flounder and redfish.



## GULF STATE PARK TRAIL

Discover Gulf State Park from a different vantage point by launching at one of the three spots on the Gulf State Park Trail. The park is home to seven unique ecosystems. So, whether you're on Lake Shelby or Middle Lake, a paddling excursion along this trail will likely include up-close encounters with a variety of flora and fauna.



## ORANGE BEACH/WOLF BAY TRAIL

With more than ten kayak launches available, there is much to be explored along the Orange Beach/Wolf Bay Trail. Paddle around Robinson and Bird Island for a glimpse of the Gulf of Mexico or around Cotton Bayou and Terry Cove to stop in one of the area's many waterfront restaurants.







## COASTAL ALABAMA BACK BAY BLUEWAY

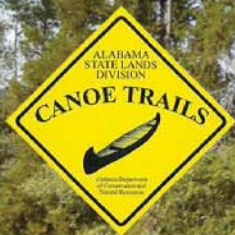


Coastal Alabama is home to a variety of waterways that provide nature and watersport lovers an opportunity to explore a plethora of unique ecosystems including back bays, lakes and lagoons. The Coastal Alabama Back Bay Blueway spans the cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach as well as Fort Morgan with 21 launch sites across the destination.

To learn more about the Coastal Alabama Back Bay Blueway and local tour and equipment providers visit [GulfShores.com](http://GulfShores.com) or call 800-745-SAND (7263).

FORT MORGAN TRAIL		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ADDRESS	WATER BODY	HOURS	CHARGE	BEACH TYPE	AMENITIES	PARKING	COMMENTS
1	Fort Morgan Boat Ramp	30.231494	-88.017778	AL Hwy. 180	Mobile Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No		Scenic vista, portolet	Limited	No parking in boat trailer parking area
2	The Pines Boat Ramp	30.23905	-87.89011	AL Hwy. 180	Bon Secour Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No		Scenic vista	Limited	No parking in boat trailer parking area
LITTLE LAGOON TRAIL		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ADDRESS	WATER BODY	HOURS	CHARGE	BEACH TYPE	AMENITIES	PARKING	COMMENTS
3	Jeff Friend Kayak Launch	30.233184	-87.786346	13900 AL Hwy. 180	Little Lagoon	Dawn to Dusk	No	Marsh/ Sandy	Scenic vista	Yes	Some portage required
4	Little Lagoon Pass Park	30.2418	-87.786346	1660 West Beach Blvd.	Little Lagoon	Dawn to Dusk	Yes	Sandy	Water faucet, restrooms	Yes	
5	Little Lagoon Park (Mo's Landing)	30.255117	-87.715727	18068 Fort Morgan Rd.	Little Lagoon	Dawn to Dusk	No		Water faucet, restrooms	Yes	
GULF STATE PARK TRAIL		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ADDRESS	WATER BODY	HOURS	CHARGE	BEACH TYPE	AMENITIES	PARKING	COMMENTS
6	GSP Marsh Bridge	30.25611	-87.67858	AL Hwy. 135	Lake Shelby	Dawn to Dusk	No	Marsh	Scenic vista	Limited	
7	GSP Lake Shelby Park Area	30.25312	-87.66513	AL Hwy. 135	Lake Shelby	Dawn to Dusk	No	Marsh/Sandy	Shelters, water faucet, restrooms, boat rental	Yes	
8	GSP Nature Center Boat Launch	30.26369	-87.64105	Campground Rd.	Middle Lake	Dawn to Dusk	Yes	Marsh	Shelters, water faucet, restrooms, boat rental	Yes	Campground entrance fee
ORANGE BEACH/WOLF BAY TRAIL		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ADDRESS	WATER BODY	HOURS	CHARGE	BEACH TYPE	AMENITIES	PARKING	COMMENTS
9	Cotton Bayou Launch	30.271461	-87.583152	No Wake Rd.	Cotton Bayou		No		Portolet	Limited	No parking in boat trailer parking area
10	Jubilee Point	30.279937	-87.564528	Jubilee Point Rd.	Cotton Bayou	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Scenic vista	Limited	
11	Boggy Point Launch	30.2842	-87.55461	Marina Rd.	Cotton Bayou/Terry Cove		No		Scenic vista, portolet	Limited	No parking in boat trailer parking area
12	Look Rook Road	30.295148	-87.537155	Look Rook Rd.	Bayou Saint John	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Scenic vista	Limited	
13	Wilson Boulevard	30.291355	-87.558914	Wilson Blvd.	Terry Cove	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Scenic vista	Limited	
14	Mississippi Avenue	30.301308	-87.516342	Mississippi Ave.	Bayou Saint John	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Scenic vista, shelter	Limited	
15	Hayden Drive	30.309719	-87.519317	Hayden Dr.	Arnica Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No	Rocky	Scenic vista	Limited	Launch requires going over rocks
16	Harrison Park	30.298691	-87.554769	Bayou Dr.	Bay La Launch	Dawn to Dusk	No	Marsh	Scenic vista	Limited	May damage marsh while launching
17	Orange Beach Waterfront Park	30.292313	-87.574923	Canal Rd.	Wolf Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Shelters, water faucet, restrooms	Yes	
18	Cypress Avenue	30.294335	-87.589811	Canal Rd.	Wolf Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No	Sandy	Scenic vista	Limited	
19	Graham Creek Preserve	30.34847	-87.62774	Wolf Bay Dr.	Graham Creek	Dawn to Dusk	No	Marsh	Shelters, water faucet, restrooms	Yes	
20	Wolf Creek Park	30.36469	-87.61913	Hance Ln.	Wolf Creek	Dawn to Dusk	No		Shelter, Portolet	Yes	
21	Gulf Bay Road	30.299232	-87.610352	Canal Rd.	Wolf Bay	Dawn to Dusk	No	Rocky	Scenic vista	Limited	





# ALABAMA STATE LANDS DIVISION PERDIDO RIVER CANOE TRAIL



## THE PERDIDO RIVER

Alabama's Perdido River Canoe Trail is a 19-mile segment along the Perdido River. This portion of the river is characterized by gently flowing tannin stained waters over southern white sands. The Perdido's many bends create numerous sandbars providing ample opportunities for canoeists and kayakers to take breaks or have lunch. The Alabama State Lands Division has provided multiple access points along the river with two launches and one boat ramp. Paddlers have the ability to stay overnight along the river in one of six reserveable camping shelters or by pitching a tent on the sandbars located at shelter locations. Paddlers can add a further 15 miles of trail south of the Alabama trail by using the Florida designated trail. For more information about the Florida trail visit their website at [www.dep.state.fl.us](http://www.dep.state.fl.us).

To learn more or to make online shelter reservations, visit [www.alabamacanoetrails.com](http://www.alabamacanoetrails.com)  
For general inquiries, call (251) 625-0814.



Ver. 2.02/2017



## SHELTER DESCRIPTIONS

### Nelson Ditch Shelters

This site includes two shelters located approximately 4.3 miles downstream of Gravel Landing. Each shelter has room for 8 people and equipment. In front of the shelter is a medium-sized sandbar offering plenty of opportunities for relaxing or larger groups of campers. Located near the shelters is Nelson Branch, which empties into the Perdido River and gives the shelters their name.

### Peaden Lake Shelter

The Peaden Lake Shelter is a single shelter located 7 miles south of Gravel Landing and 2.5 miles south of the Nelson Ditch Shelters. The Peaden Lake Shelter includes room for 8 people and equipment.

### Loggerhead Creek Shelter

This site includes two shelters located approximately 12.5 miles downstream of Gravel Landing and 3.5 miles downstream of Staple Fork Landing. Each shelter has room for 8 people and equipment. This set of shelters includes one of the largest sandbars on the canoe trail. Located just downstream of the shelters is Loggerhead Creek, which gives the shelters their name.

### Swamp Field Shelter

Swamp Field Shelter is a single shelter located 7.75 miles south of Staple Fork Landing and 2.25 miles north of Blue Lake Landing. Swamp Field Shelter includes room for 8 people and equipment.

To learn more or to make online shelter reservations, visit [www.alabamacanoetrails.com](http://www.alabamacanoetrails.com).  
For general inquiries, call (251) 625-0814.



## LANDING DESCRIPTIONS

### Gravel Landing

Gravel Landing is the uppermost landing for the 19-mile State Lands Perdido River Canoe Trail. It provides boaters with access to all shelters and the southernmost two landings on the trail. To access Gravel Landing from County Road 112, turn onto Staple Fork Road, then follow the signs to the landing.

### Staple Fork Landing

Staple Fork Landing is the middle and second landing on the 19-mile State Lands Perdido River Canoe Trail. It is located approximately 9 miles south of Gravel Landing. Staple Fork Landing provides access to the Loggerhead Creek Shelters, Swamp Field Shelter, and Blue Lake Landing. To access Staple Fork Landing from County Road 112, turn onto Staple Fork Road, then follow the signs to the landing.

### Blue Lake Landing

Blue Lake Landing is the last and southernmost landing on the State Lands Perdido River Canoe Trail. It is located 19 miles south of Gravel Landing and 10 miles south of Staple Fork Landing. Blue Lake Landing provides no access to any shelters on the canoe trail and is the end of the State Lands Perdido River Canoe Trail. The southern terminus for the Perdido Hiking Trail can be found at the landing providing hikers with 4 miles of trail. To access Blue Lake Landing from County Road 112, turn onto Duck Road and continue past the Perdido WMA check-in station. Turn left onto Fairview Road then follow the signs around to the landing.



## WILDLIFE & PLANTS

When canoeing the Perdido River, paddlers have excellent opportunities to view some of the southeastern United States' most diverse wildlife. Uncommon birds, amphibians, reptiles, and plant species abound while paddling one of Alabama's most scenic rivers.

### SWALLOW-TAILED KITE



### Birds

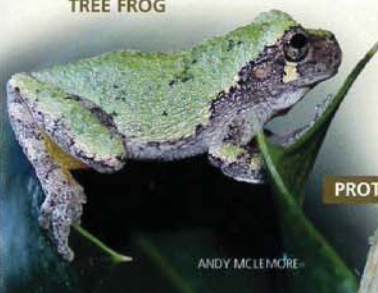
The Alabama Ornithological Society (AOS) lists 420 species of birds that occur in the state throughout the year. The Perdido River basin is home to many coastal species of birds including the uncommon Swallow-tailed Kite. This bird of prey is easily identified by its forked tail, stark black and white coloration, and acrobatics while hunting.

Another bird species to look for while paddling is the Prothonotary Warbler. This common name refers to its similarity to clerks of the Catholic Church who wear yellow robes. These bright yellow birds are one of only two warbler species to nest in cavities.

### Amphibians

Alabama is well known for its biological diversity in many categories, not the least of which is amphibians. With 31 different frog species, Alabama ranks second only to Texas (32 species) in frog biodiversity. The bird-voiced tree frog is a common frog species found in coastal swamps and lowland areas of Alabama. This tiny frog species is easily distinguished by its bird-like calls and is often mistaken for birds at night.

### BIRD-VOICED TREE FROG



### PROTHONOTARY WARBLER



### RAINBOW SNAKE

### Reptiles

Alabama is also home to 49 different species of snakes with one of them being described as the most colorful snake in the Southeast. The rainbow snake is a semi-aquatic snake found in southern coastal plain habitats and feeds mainly on a diet of eels and amphibians. One of the last known locations for this snake in Alabama was along the Perdido River. Anyone observing this snake is encouraged to contact the Alabama DCNR.

### Plants

With over 4,400 species of plants in the state, Alabama is sixth in the country for plant biodiversity. Ranging from the mountains of north Alabama to the Gulf Coastal region in the southern portion, the diversity of habitat throughout the state provides a unique opportunity to view a huge variety of plant species.

Many large tree species line the Perdido River, including the uncommon Atlantic White-Cedar. This tree species is only found in the southern part of Alabama, mostly lining rivers and cypress ponds. Valued for its strong, rot-resistant wood, entire populations of these trees were decimated by early settlers' demands for wood products.

Other, more diminutive plant species such as Sundews can also be observed lining the Perdido River. Wet, sandy, nutrient-poor soils are ideal for these carnivorous plants. These plants have adapted to trap mosquitoes and other insects in the sticky leaf pads which then can curl up and digest the insects. This provides an important source of nutrients, which would normally be limited, to the plants.



### SUNDEW





ALABAMA STATE  
LANDS DIVISION

# PERDIDO RIVER CANOE TRAIL

## TRIP PLANNING

Taking time to plan your trip can significantly enhance your experience. Be aware of the rules for use and take pride in what this region has to offer. Leave no trace of your presence so the experiences for those who follow are as pleasant as yours. Review the information provided for the trail you plan on using; obtain water level information to optimize your enjoyment and safety. While most trips are without mishap, be aware and prepared for potential hazards. For information about local outfitters, motels, and restaurants visit the following websites:  
[www.mobile.org](http://www.mobile.org) or  
[www.gulfshores.com](http://www.gulfshores.com)



## Gravel Landing

87° 33'8.096" W  
30° 47'7.048" N

## CAMPING SHELTER USE RULES:

- When camping in shelters, group size is limited to eight.
- Pets are not allowed in shelters.
- Shelters are accessible by canoe and kayak only.
- No open fires within 20ft of shelters. Cooking stoves are allowed on shelter porches.
- Each party is required to have a compass, map, flashlight, and portable toilet with disposable bags.
- Visitors may be held financially responsible for unnecessary rescues.

- Shelters can be reserved for only one night. A group can reserve shelters at different locations when taking multiple night trips. Reservations are from 12 noon to 12 noon the following day. Must have copy of shelter reservation on person.
- Feeding or harassing of wildlife is prohibited. Do not discard garbage or food scraps on or near shelters.
- Shelters will be inspected after each use. Damage to the shelters will be assessed and will be the responsibility of the user.
- No alcohol allowed.

## Nelson Ditch Shelter

87° 31'51.348" W  
30° 44'34.494" N

## Peaden Lake Shelter

87° 30'20.102" W  
30° 43'32.999" N

## FLOAT TIMES AND DISTANCES:

Section		Distance	Time*
Section 1	Gravel Landing** to Nelson Ditch Shelters	4.3 miles	2h 15min
Section 2	Nelson Ditch to Peaden Lake Shelter	2.6 miles	1h 20min
Section 3	Peaden Lake to Staple Fork Landing**	2.1 miles	1h 5min
Section 4	Staple Fork to Loggerhead Creek Shelter	3.5 miles	1h 45min
Section 5	Loggerhead Creek to Swamp Field Shelter	4.25 miles	2h 10min
Section 6	Swamp Field Shelter to Blue Lake Landing**	2.25 miles	1h 10min

\* Float times calculated using estimate of 2 miles per hour.

\*\* Landings are for day use only; transport vehicle may be left for overnight trips.

 **BOAT LAUNCH**

 **CAMPING SHELTER**

Visitors should be aware that this trail is subject to ADCNR Regulations 220-4-15 and 220-4-55.



CR 112

TO STAPLE  
AND GRAVEL



Show respect by minimizing your presence and impact in all ways. Take pride in the ability to pass through the area without leaving any sign of your presence. Never discard garbage or food scraps in the river, no matter how small or insignificant they may seem. Such items pollute the environment and attract unwanted animals. Avoid disturbing wildlife (and other visitors) by keeping quiet and not approaching them too closely. Avoid disturbing plants and other natural features by leaving them in place and building fires only at designated sites. Deposit all human waste in a toilet. Campers on overnight canoe trips are required to use portable toilets between facilities. For information about how to enjoy the outdoors while "leaving no trace" visit: [www.Int.org](http://www.Int.org).





## WHY ARE DERELICT VESSELS SO **DANGEROUS**?

### LIABILITY

- Drifting or sunken boats can damage private property and public lands
- They can pose a navigational hazard to other watercrafts
- The boat owner is legally responsible for damage done by their vessel

### ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD

- Derelict vessels are a long-term source of marine debris
- Fluids, such as oil, can leak from the vessel into surrounding waterways
- There can be damage to shoreline and sea floor habitat



## HOW CAN YOU **PREVENT** FUTURE DERELICT VESSELS?

### BE STORM READY

- Before predicted storms, trailer your boat or put it in dry storage when available
- If you are unable to pull your boat out of the water, ensure that it is properly moored in a sheltered location
- Prior to a storm, pump out your toilets and remove excess fuel to reduce the environmental impact if your vessel does get loose
- Ensure that your registration and contact info are current, so you can be contacted if your boat gets away



## HOW DO I **REPORT** A DERELICT VESSEL?

- Inform ALEA Dispatch: 251-660-2300



GULF SHORES &  
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TOURISM

**Sea Grant**  
Mississippi-Alabama

### Phillip Hinesley

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