



**PENSACOLA
& PERDIDO BAYS
ESTUARY PROGRAM**

Pensacola City Council Update
July 18, 2022

PPBEP History



Our Mission

To restore and protect the Pensacola and Perdido Bay watersheds through restoration, education, and unbiased monitoring of the health of our bays, estuaries, and watersheds.



- *Elevating and increasing the importance, awareness and understanding of environmental quality.*
- *Employing rigorous, unbiased, and scientifically sound science to inform and guide decisions, policies, and initiatives.*
 - *Funding programs and projects that protect the environment.*
- *Building a network of inclusive, multi-stakeholder partnerships that factor in the environment, economy, and the community-at-large for the improvement of our quality of life.*

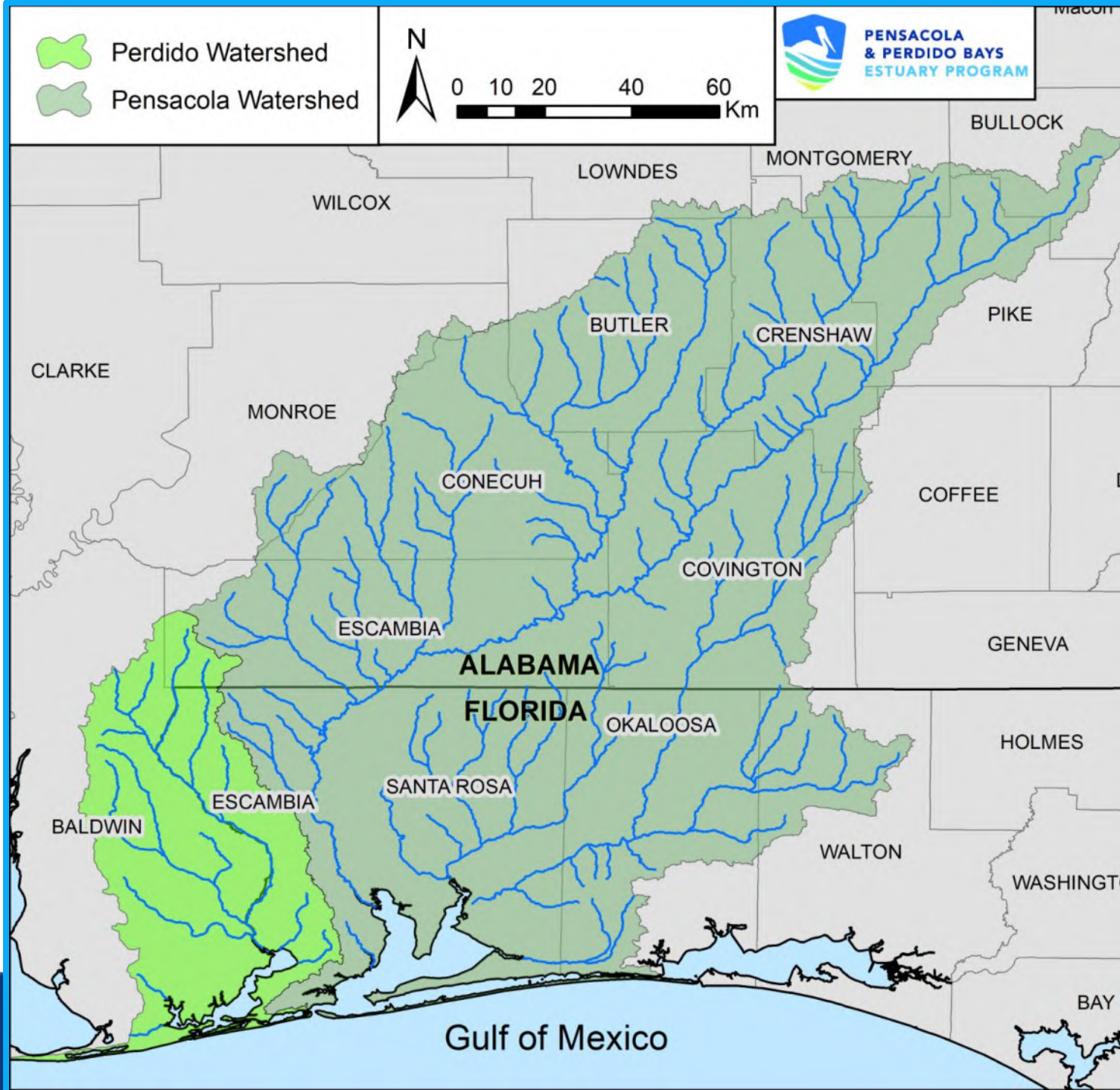
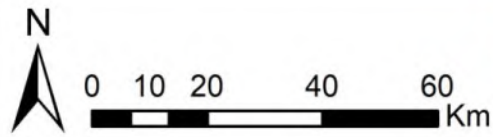


What is an Estuary Program?

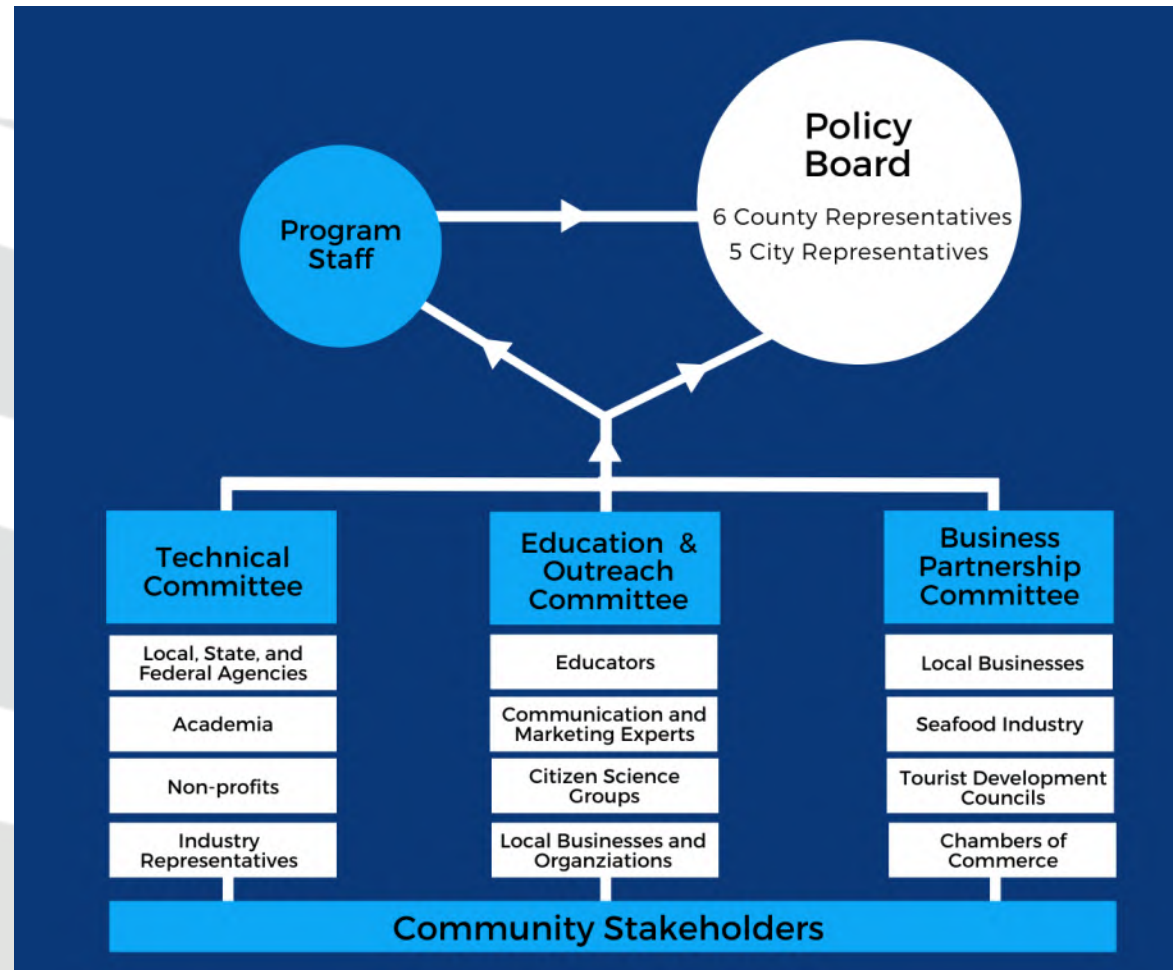
- Stakeholder-driven, non-regulatory program
- Involves *community* in the decision-making process
- Develops measurable goals for environmental health
- Utilizes long-term strategic planning (CCMP) to prioritize action
- **Science-based** approach to developing and implementing the plan



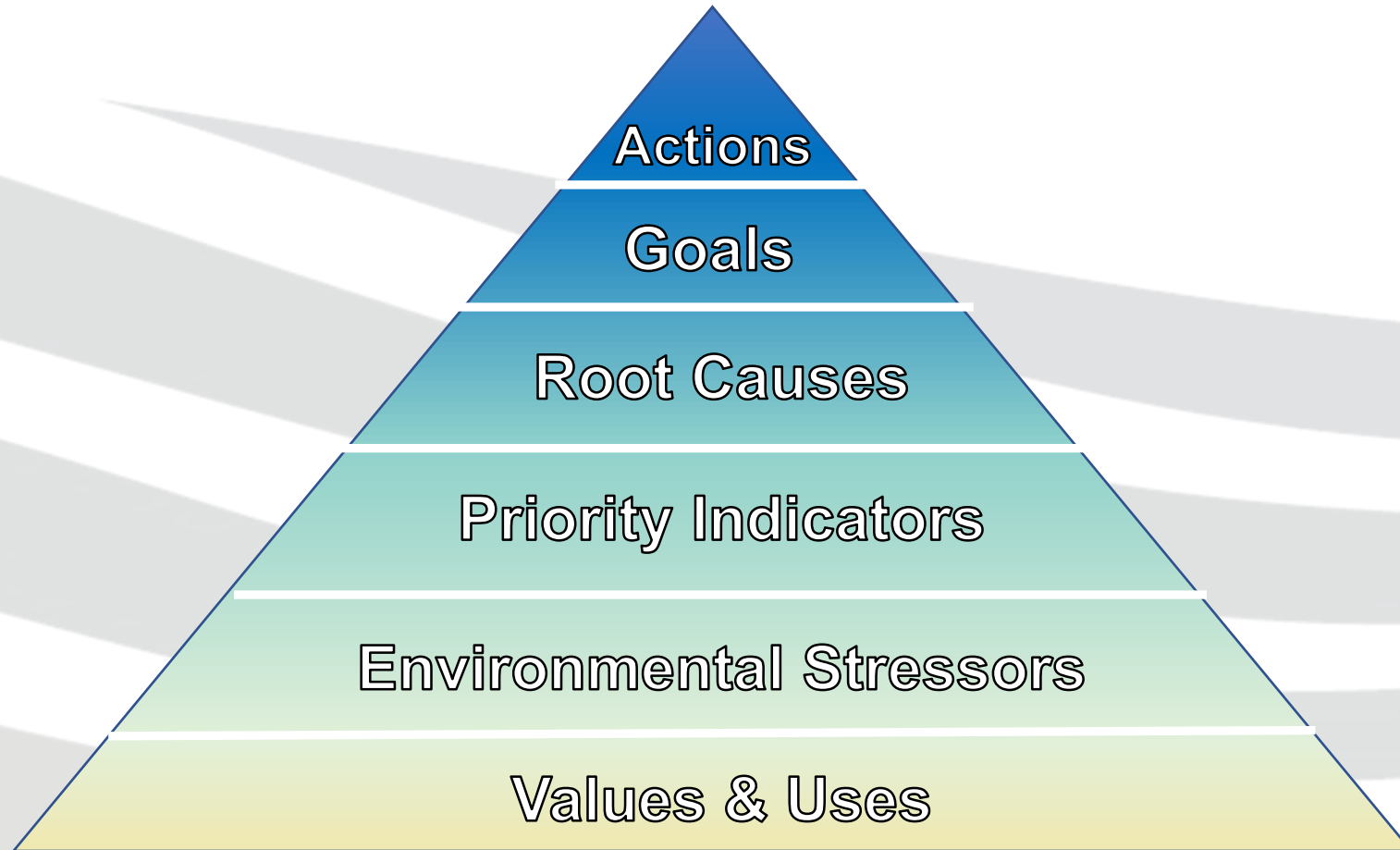
-  Perdido Watershed
-  Pensacola Watershed



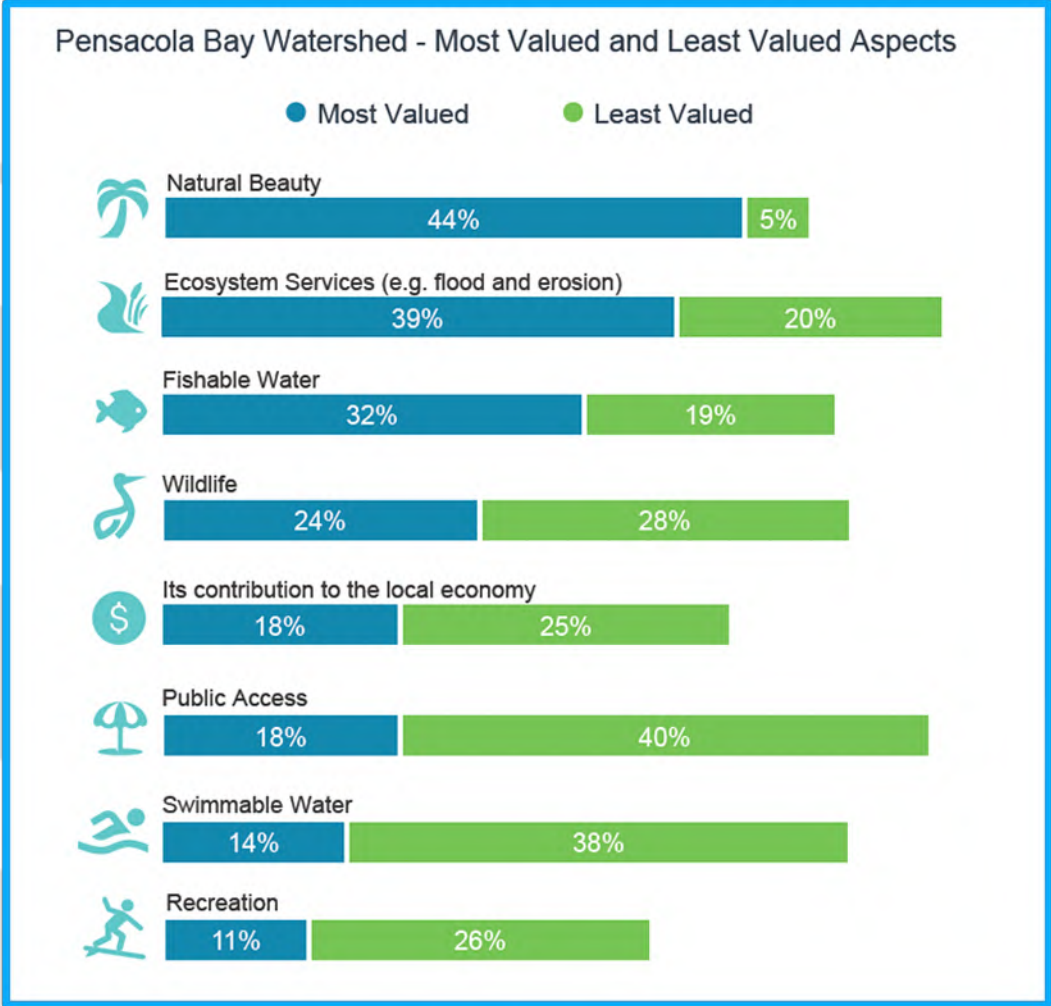
Our Structure



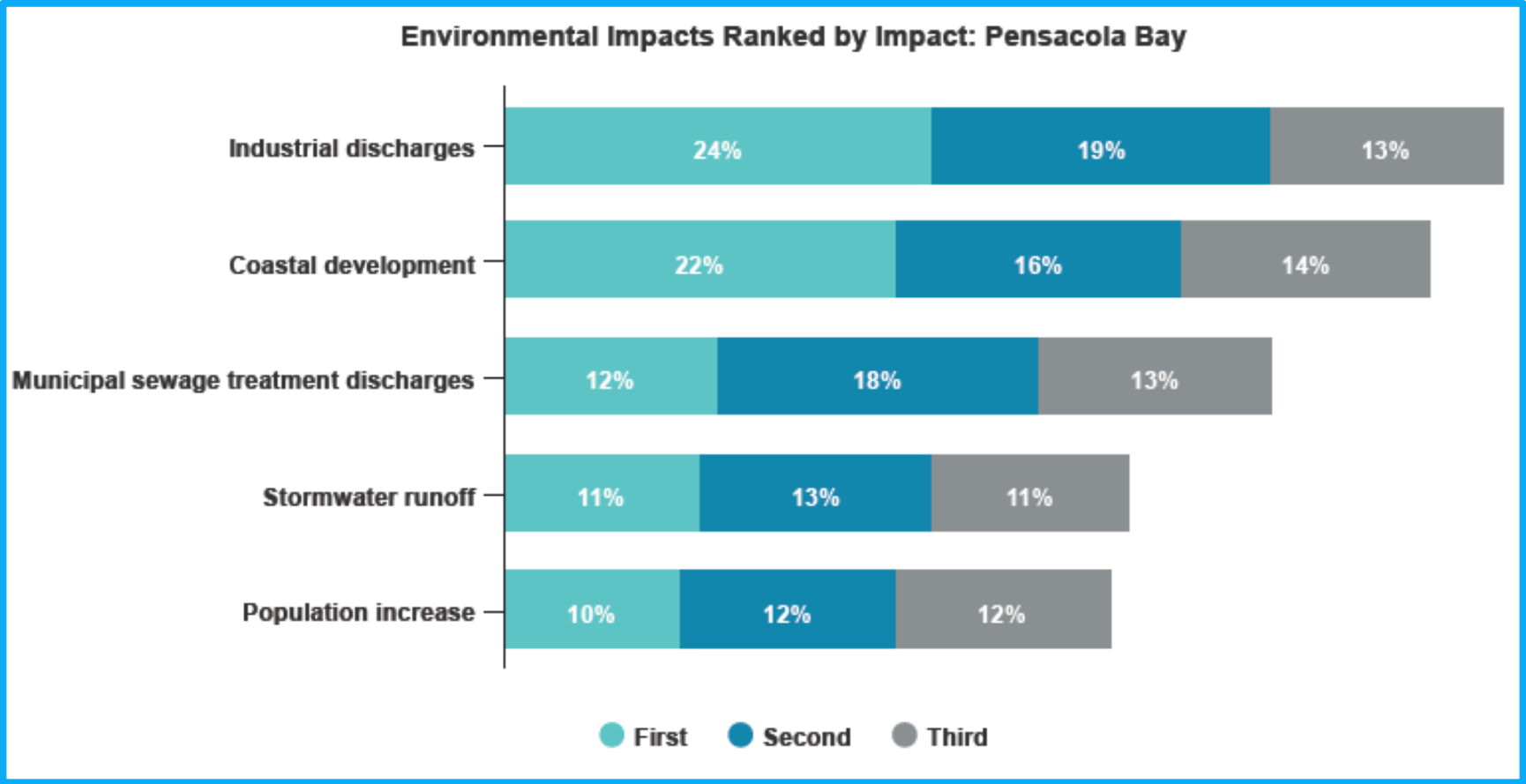
Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan



Community Values Survey

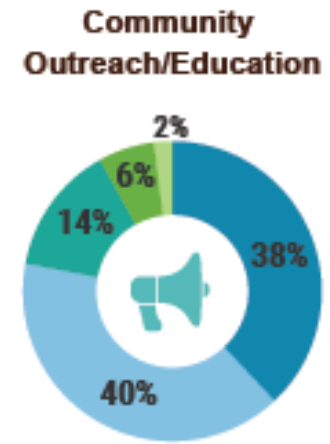
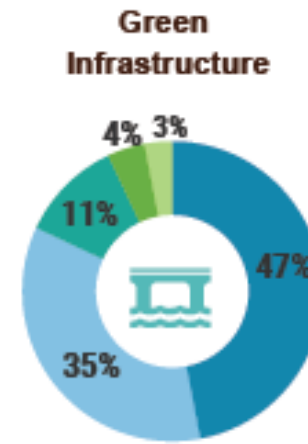
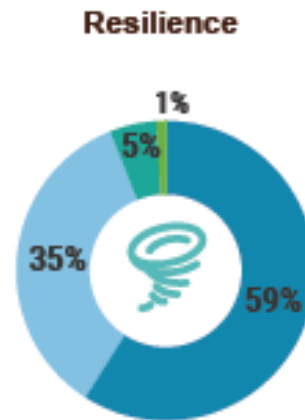
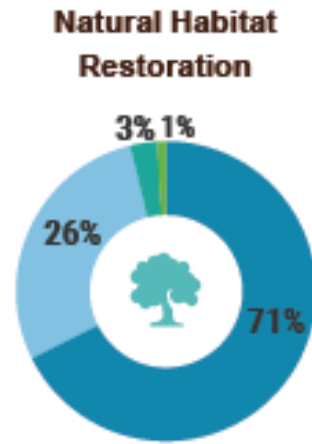
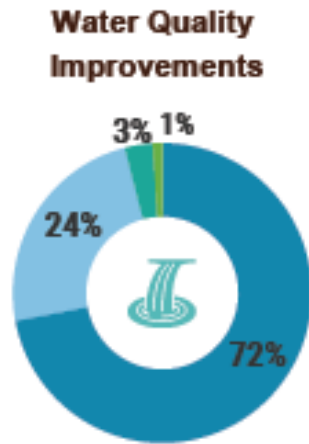


Community Values Survey



Community Values Survey

Top 5 Investment Priorities



Very Important

Important

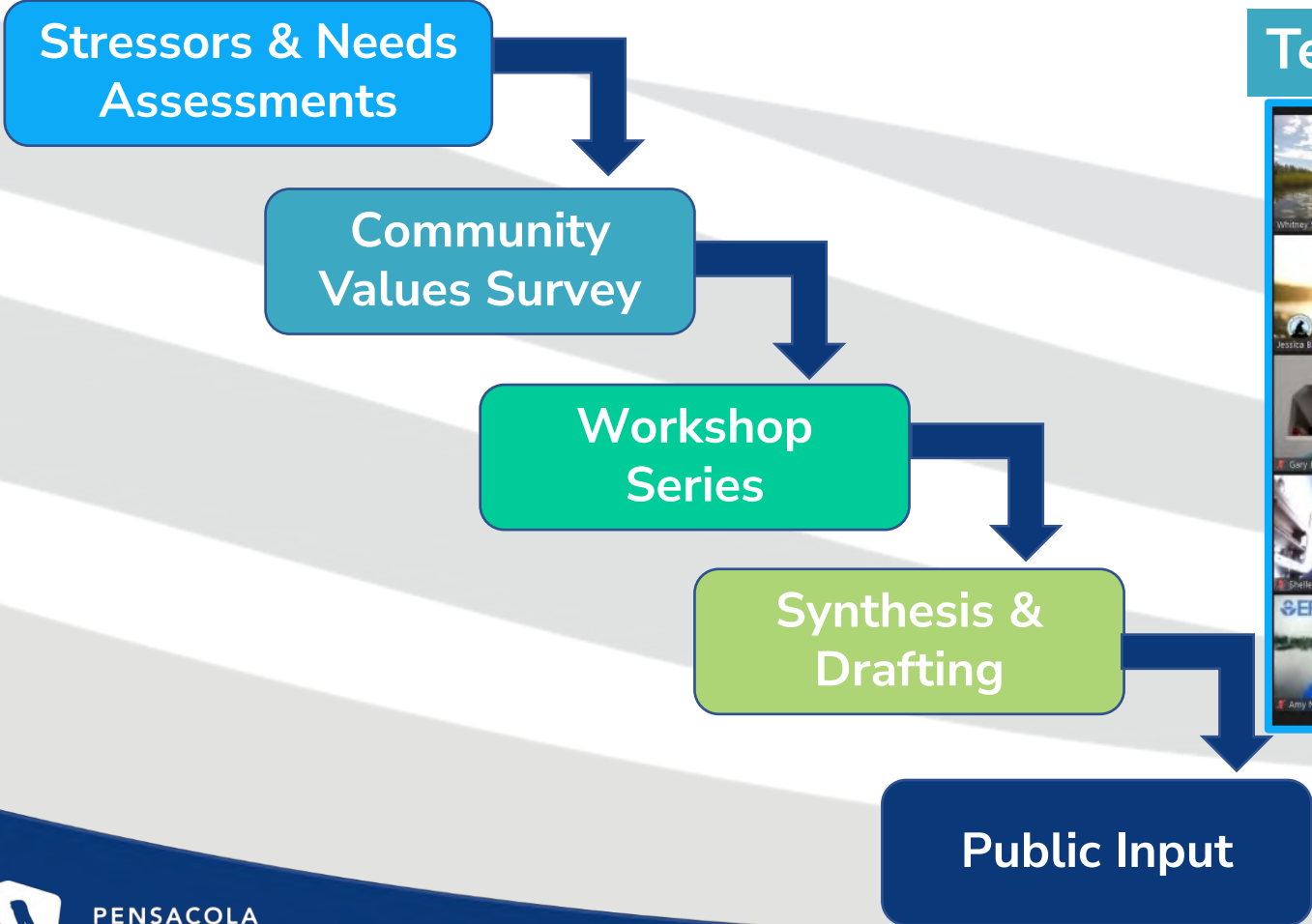
Neither

Low Importance

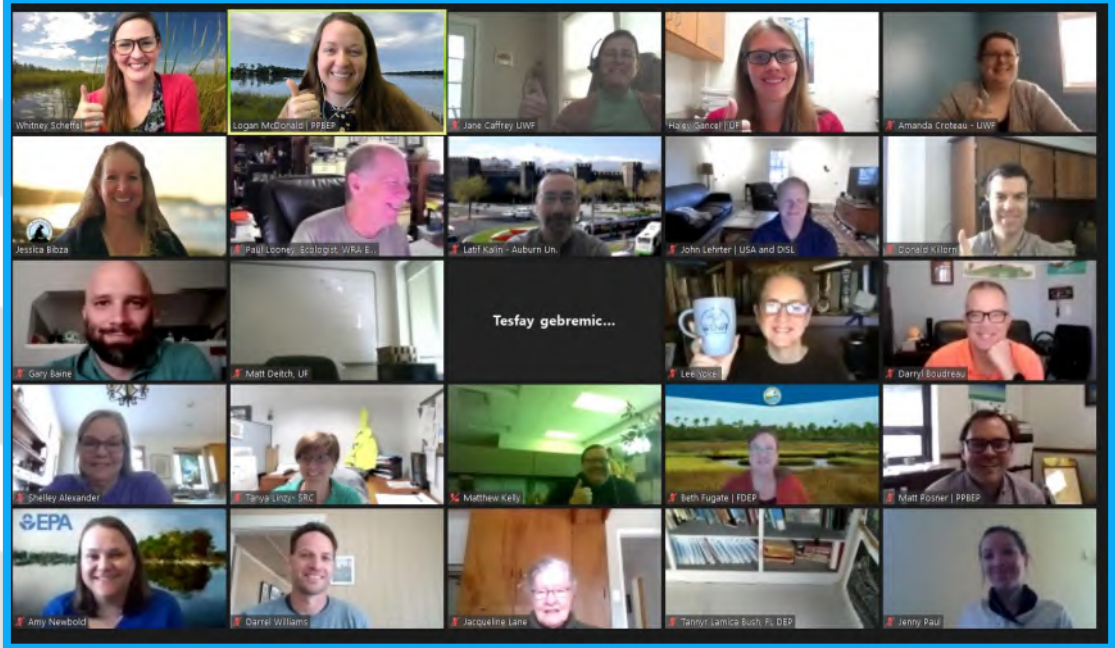
Not at all



Building Consensus



Technical Committee - Workshop Series



Management Plan Goals



GOAL 1
SOURCE OF
WATERSHED
INFORMATION



GOAL 2
STRENGTHEN
COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE



GOAL 3
IMPROVE
WATER QUALITY



GOAL 4
REDUCE SEDIMENT
SOURCES



GOAL 5
CONSERVE AND
RESTORE CRITICAL
HABITAT



GOAL 6
RESTORE AND
CONSERVE FISH
AND WILDLIFE

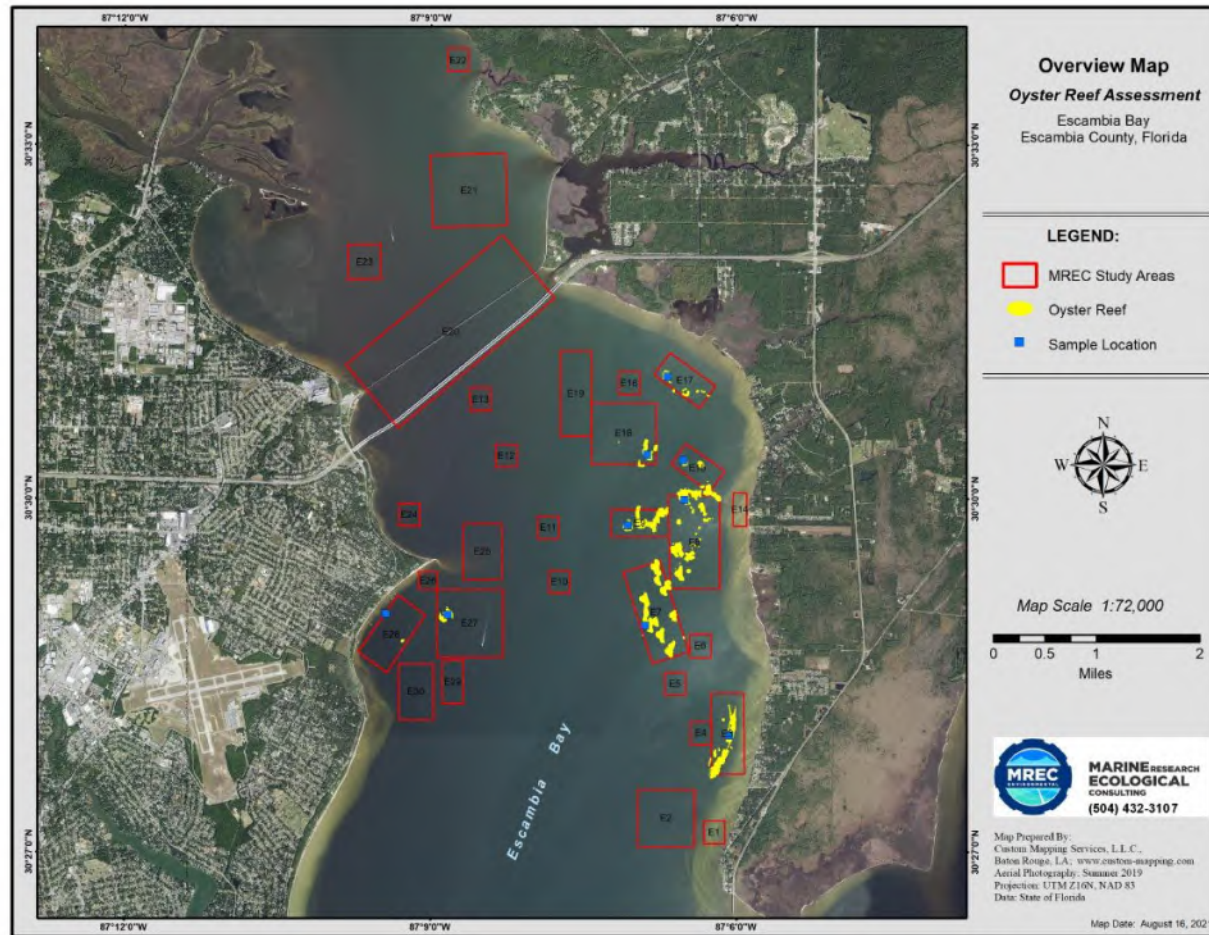


Expanding Monitoring

- Water Quality and Habitat Monitoring
- Seagrass Monitoring
- Fish Trawling
- Oyster Monitoring (Pensacola Bay)
- Manatee Sighting Network
- Economic Valuation



Restoring the Oyster Fishery



Outreach Efforts



National Estuaries Week



EPA Trash Free Waters



Community Grant Program



Protecting What Matters

- Since 2018, **over \$4.8 million** has been secured
- Developed the watersheds' first CCMP
- Enhanced and expanded monitoring, including:
 - Water quality, sediment quality, wetland, seagrass and oyster mapping, and fish trawling
- Reached over 5,000 individuals between Florida and Alabama
- Engaged over 250 stakeholders through meetings and events
- Awarded 18 Community Grants totaling \$450,000



City of Pensacola Highlights

- PPBEP has leveraged **\$441 for every \$1** contributed by the City



Priorities for FY 22-23

- Secure National Estuary Program Designation from Congress
- Release the first ever State of the Bays Report Card (October 2022)
- Implement priority actions of the CCMP, including:
 - Securing funding for Carpenter Creek restoration
 - Securing funding for Pensacola Bay System Oyster Restoration Initiative
 - Securing funding for a Living Shoreline Cost Share Program
- Compound flood model and adaptation planning
- Environmental Justice Work Group





Thank you!

Matt Posner
Executive Director

mjposner@ppbep.org
Office: 850.595.0820
Cell: 850.982.7531

www.ppbep.org

