# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit AL-05, Alligator Lake, Alabama Summary of Final Recommended Changes

**Type of Unit:** Recommended new System Unit

**Location of Unit:** On the eastern end of Dauphin Island, south of Mobile, in Mobile County, Alabama

Congressional District: 1

**Date of Final Recommended Map:** April 10, 2015

**Number of Maps:** Unit Al-05 is depicted on one map.

**Base Map Imagery Source and Date:** U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** A minor portion of the proposed new System Unit AL-05 is within existing Otherwise Protected Area (OPA) Unit AL-05P. The remainder of the recommended new unit is currently not within the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS).

Public Comments: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) held a 60-day public comment period from September 12 through November 14, 2011, on the draft map dated September 22, 2009. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the document entitled Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Map for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units Q01P, Q01A/ Q01AP, and AL-05P and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries: The 2008 base map imagery that was used for the draft map dated September 22, 2009, has been replaced with 2013 imagery.

The final recommended map dated

April 10, 2015, includes new Unit AL-05 within the CBRS. Unit AL-05 is comprised of an approximately 14-acre parcel owned by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) that was originally proposed for inclusion within Unit AL-05P on the draft map dated September 22, 2009 (about 1 acre of the parcel is currently within Unit AL-05P and the remainder of the parcel is currently not within the CBRS). This parcel was used by the USCG as a recreational facility until it was substantially damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. All but one of the structures on this parcel were demolished in 2008. Based on communication with the USCG and GSA in 2014, it is the Service's understanding that the USCG no longer uses this parcel for recreation. At the time the USCG was determining whether it should be reported to the General Services Administration for divestiture. Because this parcel is no longer held for recreational purposes, it no longer meets the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) criteria for an OPA, which is defined as an area "established under Federal, State, or local law, or held by a qualified organization, primarily for wildlife refuge, sanctuary, recreational, or natural resource conservation purposes" (Section 12 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act; Pub. L. 101-591). While this property no longer meets the criteria for an OPA, it does meet the criteria for a System Unit. The classification of the parcel is therefore changed from OPA Unit AL-05P to System Unit AL-05 on the final recommended map to reflect this change in status.

System Unit Criteria: The CBRA (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)) requires that the Secretary of the Interior consider the following criteria when making recommendations to the Congress regarding the addition of any area to the CBRS or in determining whether, at the time of inclusion within the CBRS, a coastal barrier is undeveloped: (A) the density of development is less than one

structure per five acres of land above mean high tide; and (B) there is existing infrastructure consisting of (i) a road, with a reinforced road bed, to each lot or building site in the area; (ii) a wastewater disposal system sufficient to serve each lot or building site in the area; (iii) electric service for each lot or building site in the area; and (iv) a fresh water supply for each lot or building site in the area.

The USCG property clearly meets the density criteria with only one structure per 14 acres. While there is infrastructure to the USCG parcel that was put in place long ago to support prior recreational uses (which future development on the property could potentially access), the Service believes that the intent of the infrastructure criterion is to exclude from the CBRS areas where there is intensive private capitalization demonstrating a substantial on the ground commitment to complete development already underway at the time an area is (or was) added to the CBRS. The Service is not aware of such private capitalization or commitment to development for this parcel today, and the parcel is therefore appropriate for inclusion within the CBRS.

Final Recommended Unit: The Service recommends creating a new System Unit AL-05. Included within this new unit is a parcel owned by the USCG (comprising approximately 14 acres). The Service has considered the level of development on the ground (as directed by 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)) and though there is existing infrastructure that was put in place to support prior recreational uses, the Service believes that inclusion of this area within the CBRS is consistent with the intent of CBRA, and therefore recommends its inclusion within Unit AL-05 (see "System Unit Criteria" section above for additional information).

Future construction on the property by the USCG (should it choose to retain the property) would be exempt from CBRA's prohibitions on Federal expenditures

### Alligator Lake Unit AL-05, Alabama

due to an exception for "the construction, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of Coast Guard facilities and access thereto" (16 U.S.C. 3505(a)(5)).

The Service's final recommended map dated April 10, 2015, depicts changes to the CBRS that will only become effective if the revised map is adopted through legislation enacted by Congress.

#### **Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:**

	TotalAcres	$UplandAcres^*$	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline (miles)	Structures***
Existing Unit	0	0	0	0.0	
Added to the CBRS	13	13	0		1
Removed from the CBRS	0	0	0		0
Reclassified Area	1	1	0	0.1	
Final Recommended Unit	14	14	0	0.2	
Net Change	14	14	0	0.2	1

<sup>\*</sup> Land above mean high tide.





<sup>\*\*</sup> Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery. The structure that is added to the CBRS is owned by the U.S. Coast Guard.

# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit AL-05P, Alligator Lake, Alabama Summary of Final Recommended Changes

**Type of Unit:** Otherwise Protected Area (OPA)

**Location of Unit:** On the eastern end of Dauphin Island, south of Mobile, in Mobile County, Alabama

Congressional District: 1

**Date of Final Recommended Map:** April 10, 2015

Number of Maps: Unit AL-05P is depicted on one map.

Base Map Imagery Source and Date: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591 enacted on November 16, 1990) originally established Unit AL-05P.

Historical Changes to Unit: There have been no changes to the boundaries of Unit AL-05P since its designation in 1990. Adjacent System Unit Q01A was modified via notice published in the Federal Register on February 24, 1997 (62 FR 8258). Unit AL-05P is depicted on the same map as Unit Q01A, but was not modified at that time.

Public Comments: The Service held a 60-day public comment period from September 12 through November 14, 2011, on the draft map dated September 22, 2009. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the document entitled Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Map for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units Q01P, Q01A/ Q01AP, and AL-05P and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

**Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries:** The 2008 base map imagery that was used for the draft map dated September 22, 2009, has been replaced with 2013 imagery. The update of the underlying base map resulted in minor changes between the proposed boundaries of Unit AL-05P depicted on the draft map dated September 22, 2009, and the final recommended boundaries of the unit depicted on the map dated April 10, 2015. The Unit AL-05P boundary is modified slightly to clarify that certain structures are not within the CBRS.

A parcel owned by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (comprising approximately 14 acres) was originally proposed for inclusion within Unit AL-05P on the draft map dated September 22, 2009 (about 1 acre of the parcel is currently within Unit AL-05P and the remainder of the parcel is currently not within the CBRS). This parcel was used by the USCG as a recreational facility until it was substantially damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. All but one of the structures on this parcel were demolished in 2008. Based on communication with the USCG and GSA in 2014, it is the Service's understanding that the USCG no longer uses this parcel for recreation. At the time the USCG was determining whether it should be reported to the General Services Administration for divestiture. Because this parcel is no longer held for recreational purposes, it no longer meets the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) criteria for an OPA, which is defined as an area "established under Federal, State, or local law, or held by a qualified organization, primarily for wildlife refuge, sanctuary, recreational, or natural resource conservation purposes" (Section 12 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act; Pub. L. 101-591). While this property no longer meets the criteria

for an OPA, it does meet the criteria for a System Unit. The classification of the parcel is therefore changed from OPA Unit AL-05P to System Unit AL-05 on the final recommended map to reflect this change in status.

#### **Final Recommended Changes to Unit:**

The final recommended map dated April 10, 2015, modifies the western boundary of Unit AL-05P to better follow the western boundary of the Audubon Bird Sanctuary and remove from the CBRS 21 private properties (containing 12 residential structures and 9 undeveloped parcels) along Audubon Street and Audubon Place. The Service's assessment indicates that these private properties (comprising about eight acres) are appropriate for removal because they are not held for conservation or recreation, are not inholdings of the underlying conservation/recreation areas, and did not qualify on their own as an undeveloped coastal barrier at the time of inclusion within the CBRS.

The boundary of the unit is also modified to add to the CBRS areas that meet the CBRA criteria for an OPA, including: the portions of the Audubon Bird Sanctuary which are not already within the unit; the Dauphin Island Campground; and Magnolia Park; all of which are owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board and held for conservation or recreational purposes.

### Alligator Lake Unit AL-05P, Alabama

### **Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:**

	$Total\ Acres$	UplandAcres*	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline (miles)	Structures***
Existing Unit	127	107	20	0.7	
Added to the CBRS	33	33	0		4
Removed from the CBRS	(9)	(9)	0		(12)
Reclassified Area	(1)	(1)	0	(0.1)	
Final Recommended Unit	150	130	20	0.5	
Net Change	23	23	0	(0.2)	(8)

<sup>\*</sup> Land above mean high tide.





<sup>\*\*</sup> Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery. The structures that are proposed for addition to the CBRS are park-related structures owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board. There are several other park facilities (e.g. a pavilion) that are within the proposed boundaries of Unit AL-05P that are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the definition of a "structure" in 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2).

# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Q01A, Pelican Island, Alabama Summary of Final Recommended Changes

Type of Unit: System Unit

**Location of Unit:** Pelican Island and portions of southeastern Dauphin Island, south of Mobile, in Mobile County, Alabama

Congressional District: 1

Date of Final Recommended Map: April 10, 2015

**Number of Maps:** Unit Q01A is depicted on one map.

**Base Map Imagery Source and Date:** U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (Pub. L. 97-348 enacted on October 18, 1982) originally established Unit Q01A.

Historical Changes to Unit: The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591 enacted on November 16, 1990) modified the southeastern boundary of Unit Q01A to exclude the Mobile Bay Ship Channel from the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) modified the boundary of Unit Q01A (via notice published in the Federal Register on February 24, 1997; 62 FR 8258) to include all of Pelican Island and its associated aquatic habitat within the unit. This modification was made in accordance with Section 3 of Pub. L. 101-591, which allows for modifications to CBRS boundaries to reflect changes that have occurred as a result of natural forces.

**Public Comments:** The Service held a 60-day public comment period from September 12 through November 14, 2011, on the draft map dated September 22, 2009. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the

document entitled Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Map for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units Q01P, Q01A/Q01AP, and AL-05P and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

**Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries:** The 2008 base map imagery that was used for the draft map dated September 22, 2009, has been replaced with 2013 imagery. The update of the underlying base map resulted in minor changes between the proposed boundaries of Unit Q01A depicted on the draft map dated September 22, 2009, and the final recommended boundaries of the unit depicted on the map dated April 10, 2015. The Unit Q01A boundary is modified slightly to account for shoreline erosion along the eastern end of Dauphin Island. Additionally, the eastern boundary of Unit Q01A is extended to clarify that the Sand Island Lighthouse is within the unit (the lighthouse has been within the unit since it was established in 1982).

**Final Recommended Changes to Unit:** 

The final recommended map dated April 10, 2015, modifies the boundary of Unit Q01A to remove from the CBRS the developable portions of 14 private properties (including 10 structures and 4 undeveloped parcels) along Hernando Place in the DeSoto Landing Subdivision. The Service's assessment indicates that these private properties (comprising about six acres) are appropriate for removal from the CBRS because they were inadvertently included within Unit Q01A when the unit was revised by the Service in 1996 to reflect changes resulting from natural forces.

The boundary of the unit is also modified to add to the CBRS the following areas that meet the CBRA criteria for an undeveloped coastal barrier (16 U.S.C. 3502(1) and 16

U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)): associated aquatic habitat located northeast of Pelican Island; the majority of the Dauphin Island Fishing Pier that is owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board; and approximately 98 acres of undeveloped fastland owned by the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association (DIPOA), which includes the majority of the Isle Dauphine Golf Club and portions of the beach on Dauphin Island.

### Pelican Island Unit Q01A, Alabama

### **Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:**

	$Total\ Acres$	$UplandAcres^*$	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline (miles)	Structures***
Existing Unit	1,296	56	1,240	3.2	
Added to the CBRS	407	98	309		0
Removed from the CBRS	(6)	(6)	0		(10)
Reclassified Area	0	0	0	0.0	
Final Recommended Unit	1,697	148	1,549	3.7	
Net Change	401	92	309	0.5	(10)

<sup>\*</sup> Land above mean high tide.





<sup>\*\*</sup> Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery.

# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Q01AP, Pelican Island, Alabama Summary of Final Recommended Changes

**Type of Unit:** Recommended new Otherwise Protected Area (OPA)

**Location of Unit:** On the southeastern end of Dauphin Island, south of Mobile, in Mobile County, Alabama

Congressional District: 1

**Date of Final Recommended Map:** April 10, 2015

**Number of Maps:** Unit Q01A is depicted on one map.

**Base Map Imagery Source and Date:** U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** The recommended new OPA Unit Q01AP is currently not within the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS).

#### **Otherwise Protected Area Criteria:**

Recommended new Unit Q01AP meets the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) criteria for an OPA, which is defined as an area "established under Federal, State, or local law, or held by a qualified organization, primarily for wildlife refuge, sanctuary, recreational, or natural resource conservation purposes" (Section 12 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act; Pub. L. 101-591). The land recommended for inclusion within this new unit is maintained for recreation as a public beach by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board.

**Public Comments:** The Service held a 60-day public comment period from September 12 through November 14, 2011, on the draft map dated September 22, 2009. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the document entitled Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Map for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units Q01P, Q01A/Q01AP, and AL-05P and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and

Recommendations, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries: The 2008 base map imagery that was used for the draft map dated September 22, 2009, has been replaced with 2013 imagery. The update of the underlying base map did not result in any changes between the proposed boundaries of Unit Q01AP depicted on the draft map dated September 22, 2009, and the final recommended boundaries of the unit depicted on the map dated April 10, 2015.

Final Recommended Unit: The Service recommends creating a new Unit Q01AP. Included within this new unit are a public beach and a portion of the Dauphin Island Fishing Pier, both of which are owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board.

### Pelican Island Unit Q01AP, Alabama

### Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:

	$Total\ Acres$	UplandAcres*	$Associated\ Aquatic\\ Habitat\ Acres^{**}$	Shoreline (miles)***	Structures****
Existing Unit	0	0	0	0.0	
Added to the CBRS	55	40	15		2
Removed from the CBRS	0	0	0		0
Reclassified Area	0	0	0	0.0	
Final Recommended Unit	55	40	15	0.0	
Net Change	55	40	15	0.0	2

<sup>\*</sup> Land above mean high tide.





<sup>\*\*</sup> Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The southern boundary of Unit Q01AP, which runs along the shoreline, is coincident with the northern boundary of Unit Q01A. To avoid double counting, this piece of shoreline has been counted as part of the shoreline of Unit Q01A, and has not been counted as part of Unit Q01AP.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> Structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery. The structures within the recommended boundaries of Unit Q01AP are park-related structures owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board. There are several other park facilities (e.g. picnic shelters) that are within the recommended boundaries of Unit Q01AP that are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the definition of a "structure" in 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2).

# John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Q01P, Mobile Point, Alabama Summary of Final Recommended Changes

Type of Unit: Otherwise Protected Area (OPA)

Location of Unit: Unit Q01P is comprised of four discrete segments spanning four separate Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) maps. Only the western segment of this unit, which is located west of Gulf Shores at the westernmost end of Fort Morgan Peninsula in Baldwin County, Alabama is being remapped at this time.

#### Congressional District: 1

**Date of Final Recommended Map:** April 10, 2015

**Number of Maps:** Unit Q01P is depicted on four maps; however, the Service only updated one map for the unit which is the subject of this summary.

## **Base Map Imagery Source and Date:** U.S. Department of Agriculture

National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

**Establishment of Unit:** The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591 enacted on November 16, 1990) originally established unit Q01P.

Historical Changes to Unit: There have been no changes to the boundaries of Unit Q01P since its designation in 1990. Adjacent System Unit Q01A was modified via notice published in the Federal Register on February 24, 1997 (62 FR 8258). Unit Q01P is depicted on the same map as Unit Q01A, but was not modified at that time.

**Public Comments:** The Service held a 60-day public comment period from September 12 through November 14, 2011, on the draft map dated September 22, 2009. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see the document entitled Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Map for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units Q01P, Q01A/

Q01AP, and AL-05P and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries: The 2008 base map imagery that was used for the September 22, 2009, draft map has been replaced with 2013 imagery. The update of the underlying base map did not result in any changes between the proposed boundaries of Unit Q01P depicted on the draft map dated September 22, 2009, and the final recommended boundaries of the unit depicted on the map dated April 10, 2015.

#### **Final Recommended Changes to Unit:**

The final recommended map dated April 10, 2015, makes no significant changes to the boundaries of Unit Q01P. The northern boundary of the unit in Mobile Bay has been straightened for cartographic purposes. The eastern boundary of the unit has been modified slightly to be coincident with Baldwin County parcel data.

### Mobile Point Unit Q01P, Alabama

### **Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:**

	$Total\ Acres$	$UplandAcres^*$	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline (miles)	Structures***
Existing Unit	1,915	433	1,482	2.0	
Added to the CBRS	14	0	14		0
Removed from the CBRS	0	0	0		0
Reclassified Area	0	0	0	0.0	
Final Recommended Unit	1,929	433	1,496	2.0	
Net Change	14	0	14	0	0

<sup>\*</sup> Land above mean high tide.





<sup>\*\*</sup> Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery.