



LIVING SHORELINES

Beckwith Camp

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The Beckwith Camp project is located on an 82-acre site that is a facility for team building, retreats, youth camps, and events. It is located on Weeks Bay on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay. Twenty-three reef pyramids were placed approximately 40 ft from the shoreline, and restored more than .1 acre of breakwater and living shoreline habitat.

The 2014 Beckwith Camp project implemented Oyster Castle™ reefs to protect the shoreline of an 82-acre facility used for retreats, youth camps, and events. The design consisted of 23 pyramid shaped reefs. The reefs fronted a Christmas tree breakwater, constructed by the camp each year from donated trees. The trees break down over time, and the Oyster Castle™ reefs were intended to provide a long-term solution. The reefs were constructed with the help of

BECKWITH CAMP FACTS

CONSTRUCTED IN
2014

2%
IMPROVED
SHORELINE PROTECTION



1,265
OYSTER CASTLES™

36
MARSH PLANTS

23
REEFS

57
VOLUNTEERS

156
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

837
LINEAR FEET



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TOP Grasses in Classes. BOTTOM Training volunteer reef builders.

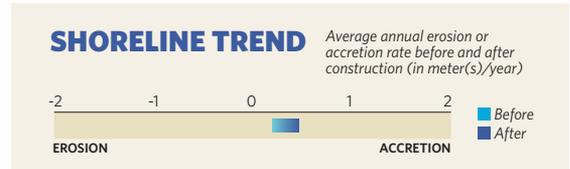
57 volunteers who put in 375.75 manhours to place the 1,265 castles used to construct the reefs. Monitoring has shown settlement by oysters and mussels with high variances in abundance from year to year. In addition, the breakwaters have provided increased habitat for blue crabs and finfish. Shoreline erosion has been maintained for the protected shoreline.

The Future of Beckwith Camp

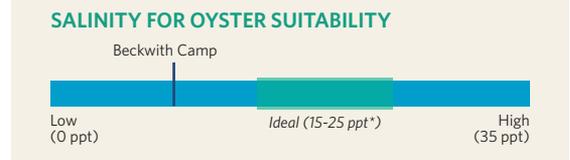
The Nature Conservancy continues to monitor the site to observe shoreline protection and bivalve recruitment results as this site matures.



LOCATION Baldwin County, AL
PARTNERS Beckwith Camp, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, 100-1000: Restore Coastal Alabama
FUNDER NFWF: \$6,600



- BIVALVES**
- This low salinity site saw great mussel recruitment and some oyster development.
 - The Nature Conservancy’s approach to adaptive management means that restoration projects are monitored each year. Using results from monitoring, projects are adjusted to respond to varying location conditions that influence performance.



*ppt = parts per thousand