

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Q01A, Pelican Island, Alabama

Type of Unit: System unit

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

Congressional District: 1

Draft Map Date: September 22, 2009

Imagery Source and Date: U.S. Geological Survey, 2008

Establishment of Unit: Coastal Barrier Resources Act (Pub. L. 97-348) enacted on 10/18/1982

Historical Changes to Unit:

11/16/1990: Pub. L. 101-591 modified the southeastern boundary of Unit Q01A approximately 1,250 feet to the west to exclude the Mobile Bay Ship Channel.

7/12/96: Unit Q01A was modified in accordance with Section 4(c)(3) of Pub. L. 97-348, as amended, which states that System unit boundaries are to be reviewed every five years and modified as necessary to reflect changes that have occurred in the size or location of any System unit as a result of natural forces. The Unit Q01A boundary was adjusted to include: all of Pelican Island, which was migrating across Pelican Passage towards Dauphin Island; the secondary barrier developing on Dauphin Island behind Pelican Island; and all associated aquatic habitat.

Existing Boundary Description: The existing boundary of Unit Q01A is mostly in open water in Pelican Bay. The southeastern boundary is located just west of the Mobile Bay Ship Channel. The eastern boundary extends through Pelican Bay about one mile northeast of Sand Island, which has eroded away, and the former

location of Pelican Island and its shoal system, which have been migrating north and east, and are now connected to Dauphin Island at the Dauphin Island Fishing Pier. The landward boundary was intended to follow a vegetative break.

Proposed Changes to Boundary: No significant changes are being proposed to the southeastern portion of the open water boundary of Unit Q01A. The proposed northwestern open water boundary that crosses Pelican Passage is shifted east to meet the boundary of Unit AL-05P at the shoreline to include additional associated aquatic habitat and an undeveloped portion of the beach. The landward boundary of the unit then runs west approximately 30-50 feet south of the Coastal Construction Line in order to exclude all development in the DeSoto Landing Subdivision from the unit. At the western edge of DeSoto Landing Subdivision, the boundary is adjusted to follow the eastern parcel boundary of the Isle Dauphine Golf Club. The boundary then runs west along the 10 foot contour, which is the geomorphic break between the low-lying portion of the golf course and a ridge to the north that is inappropriate for inclusion. The boundary follows a break in vegetation to the west of the golf club until it reaches the northern boundary of an undeveloped parcel owned by the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association. The boundary turns south to follow the western boundary of the same parcel and then runs west across the seaward boundary of lands owned by the Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board and includes most of the Dauphin Island Fishing Pier in the unit.

Additional Comments: There are ten residential structures located along Hernando Place in the DeSoto Landing Subdivision that are proposed for removal from Unit Q01A. The U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service's assessment indicates that the structures were inadvertently included within Unit Q01A when the unit was revised in 1996 to reflect changes caused by natural forces.

A property owned by the Dauphin Island Property Owners Association, which includes an 80-acre golf course, known as the Isle Dauphine Golf Club, and a 27-acre undeveloped stretch of beach, is proposed for inclusion within Unit Q01A. The Service's assessment indicates that the property meets CBRA's definition of and criteria for an undeveloped coastal barrier and is therefore appropriate for inclusion within the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). The structures associated with the Isle Dauphine Golf Club are not proposed for inclusion within the CBRS.

Acreege, Shoreline, and Structures:

	<i>Total Acres</i>	<i>Upland Acres</i>	<i>Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline (miles)</i>	<i>Structures*</i>
Existing Unit	1390	24	1366	3.2	
Added to the CBRS	384	101	283		0
Removed from the CBRS	4	4	0		10
Reclassified Area	0	0	0	0.0	
Proposed Unit	1770	121	1649	3.9	
Net Change	380	97	283	0.7	(10)

* Structure count derived from Google Earth 2010 aerial imagery

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation
 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 840
 Arlington, VA 22203
 703/358-2161**

September 2011

