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BOB RILEY
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Alabama Coastal Recovery Commission Being Created *Executive order to create commission that will recommend plan to protect and enhance state's coastal region after Deepwater Horizon disaster*

MONTGOMERY – Governor Bob Riley will sign an executive order on Monday, September 27 creating a Coastal Recovery Commission that will examine the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster and recommend proposals that protect and enhance Alabama's coastal region that is important to the well-being of the entire state.

The commission will be made up of civic, business and community leaders and chaired by Ricky Mathews, publisher of the Mobile Press-Register. Mathews served as vice chairman of a similar commission created by Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour following Hurricane Katrina.

The Coastal Recovery Commission will present a final report to the Governor and Governor-elect by December 15.

"We must do everything we can to restore what's been lost because of this disaster, but we should also use this moment to strengthen the resilience of our state and coastal communities. The commission will recommend ways that improve our ability to respond to future challenges and examine strategies that will mean far less suffering the next time a catastrophe threatens us," said Governor Riley.

The Coastal Recovery Commission's first meeting will take place on Tuesday beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the 5 Rivers – Alabama's Delta Resource Center, 30945 Five Rivers Blvd. in Spanish Fort.

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