

# FORT MORGAN NEWS

## November 2020~Issue 165



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all FMCA members!

Clean up efforts are ongoing here in Fort Morgan after Hurricanes Sally (Sept) and Zeta (Oct). Baldwin County Solid Waste estimates that debris removal will continue through November and likely into December. Please remember to separate organics (trees & limbs) from demolition or other home debris when piling for pick up. Keep in mind that debris pickups are easier for the crews to get to if the piles are alongside Hwy 180.

On October 27th, the FMCA Executive Board had a productive meeting with representatives from ADCNR, Gulf State Parks and Volkert Engineering regarding the upcoming Fort Morgan Bike Path Extension. I feel that we were able to share some of the community concerns with the "right" folks and bring to light some of the issues that the design team and DCNR may have not considered in the first phase of the design plan. Some of the suggestions we made focused on the need for the path to be placed on the South side of 180 East of the Pines Boat Launch to minimize impacts to private property and for the route to be on the North side of 180 West of the Pines Boat Launch to help minimize impacts to sensitive habitat. We were very adamant regarding maintenance budgeting and location of rest facilities as well. I have been contacted by Volkert twice since the meeting and I will continue to lend opinion based on membership comments collected via email prior to the meeting.



Last month, we were lucky to have our State Representative, Steve McMillan, present to give members information regarding the potential for a Fort Morgan Landmark District. No updates from Rep. McMillan yet but I continue to reach out regarding this important legislation.

This month, we are excited to host the Executive Director of Mobile Baykeeper, Casi Callaway. Ms. Callaway will be speaking to our association specifically about the Baykeepers' SWIM program and providing additional information about water quality testing site sponsorships.

The FMCA will meet this month at the Shell Banks Church Fellowship Hall on the evening of November 9th at 6:30pm. Please keep in mind the ADPH guidelines regarding COVID-19 while in attendance. We have lots to discuss and I hope to see you there.

Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA.

**Joe**

Joe Emerson  
#fortmorganstrong

### **Agenda for this month's FMCA General Meeting:**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance | Joe Emerson, President                     |
| Previous FMCA General Meeting Minutes  | Jim Aucoin, Secretary                      |
| Treasurer's Report                     | Greg Strategier, Treasurer                 |
| Government Affairs Report              | Michael Ludvigsen, FMCA Government Liaison |

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Advisory Cte.                                     | Ernie Church, Chair             |
| Old Business  |                                 |
| - Landmark District   |                                 |
| - FM Bike Trail Update  |                                 |
| New Business  |                                 |
| - Holiday Party<br>- Board Election Committee<br>- SWIM Program<br>- Open Floor | Casi Callaway, Mobile Baykeeper |
| Adjournment: Next Meeting, 14 December  |                                 |

**Notice: FMCA Officer Elections- January 11 2021~~~~~Jim Aucoin, Secretary, FMCA**

Secretary Jim Aucoin is coordinating the list of candidates for the four offices. If you wish to nominate yourself or another member for an office, please email Jim Aucoin at [jimaucuin@yahoo.com](mailto:jimaucuin@yahoo.com). Current officers are requested to let Jim Aucoin know if they want to stand for the office they hold for another term.

**FMCA Bylaws: ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

Section 1 The officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

Section 2 Officers shall be elected annually by a majority of the votes cast at the regularly scheduled January General Meeting. The first item on the agenda shall be the elections. Nominations shall be made by a Nominating Committee of three current members elected by the membership at the October general meeting. Nominations also may be made from the floor after announcement of the Nominating Committee's nominee for each of the four offices. Nominations shall not be closed until the general members have an opportunity to nominate candidates from the floor. Each nominee shall be given five (5) minutes to state his or her qualifications and present a platform. Voting will immediately follow the close of nominations for each office. Outgoing officers shall deliver all records to the respective incoming officers at the conclusion of the meeting.

Section 3 Vacancies occurring in an office before the end of term, with the exception of Section 5 below, shall be filled by election by a majority vote of current members. Such officer shall serve until the end of the unexpired term.

Section 4 Working closely with the Executive Board and general membership, the President shall provide the leadership to develop and accomplish the goals and objectives of the Association as approved by the membership. The President shall preside at meetings of the Association as facilitator through the democratic process and may call special meetings and appoint ad hoc committees.

Section 5 In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President. Upon the President's resignation, removal or inability to perform the duties of office, the Vice-President shall become President until the next annual election of officers. The Vice-President shall be responsible for representing the interests of the general membership, for assisting the President in facilitating the democratic process and for carrying out the decisions of the members.

Section 6 The Secretary shall keep, in permanent form: the minutes of the Association and the Executive Board, a list of committees and their members and a record of attendance at all meetings to be provided by the Membership Committee chair. The Secretary also shall conduct the correspondence and maintain the official administrative records of the Association.

Section 7 The Treasurer shall receive all monies, pay all legitimate bills, and prepare a financial report to be submitted at each regular meeting. The Treasurer also shall disburse funds as directed by majority vote of a quorum of members at a scheduled meeting. Amounts of less than two hundred dollars (\$200) for legitimate, receipted expenses shall not require a vote but may be disbursed at the Treasurer's discretion. All checks drawn on the Association account shall bear the signatures of two officers of the Association. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining official financial records of the Association and an alphabetical roster of members, for ensuring the appropriate and legal

disbursement of the Association's funds and for arranging an annual independent accounting review of the Association's financial records.

### **Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department~~~~~**

Fort Morgan Fire Rescue ran 41 calls in October.

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 21 Medical Calls | 3 Elevator Entrapment |
| 16 Fire Alarms   | 1 Vehicle Accident    |

Please remember SAFETY FIRST while cleaning up and making repairs from the storms.

Please remember to get your regular Flu shot and practice Covid 19 safety.

Stay Safe,  
Jerry Ralston, Chief FMVFD

### **Fort Morgan Peninsula Neighborhood Safety & Crime Report ~~~~~**

"If you see something, Say something". It is so important, for the Sheriff's Office to know what you know.

**EMERGENCY: 911 -Report all potentially life-threatening and suspicious activities**

**Sheriff's Department—Administrative Office.....972-6802**

**Sheriff's Office Website: [www.sheriffofbaldwin.com](http://www.sheriffofbaldwin.com)**

**Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):**

**<http://sheriffofbaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>**

### **Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee~~~~~Ernie Church, FM P&Z Advisory Cte Chair**

The Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning advisory committee met at the Shell Banks Church Fellowship Hall at 9 am Oct 21st to consider case V-200029, a variance request by the Fort Morgan Marina to rebuild a bait house within the 50-foot flood zone setback. The committee voted to recommend that the Baldwin County Board of Adjustment approve the variance request.

Future Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning Committee meetings will be noted on <https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/> as well as associated case files if a meeting is scheduled.

### **Upcoming Events/ Community Support Opportunities in Fort Morgan:**

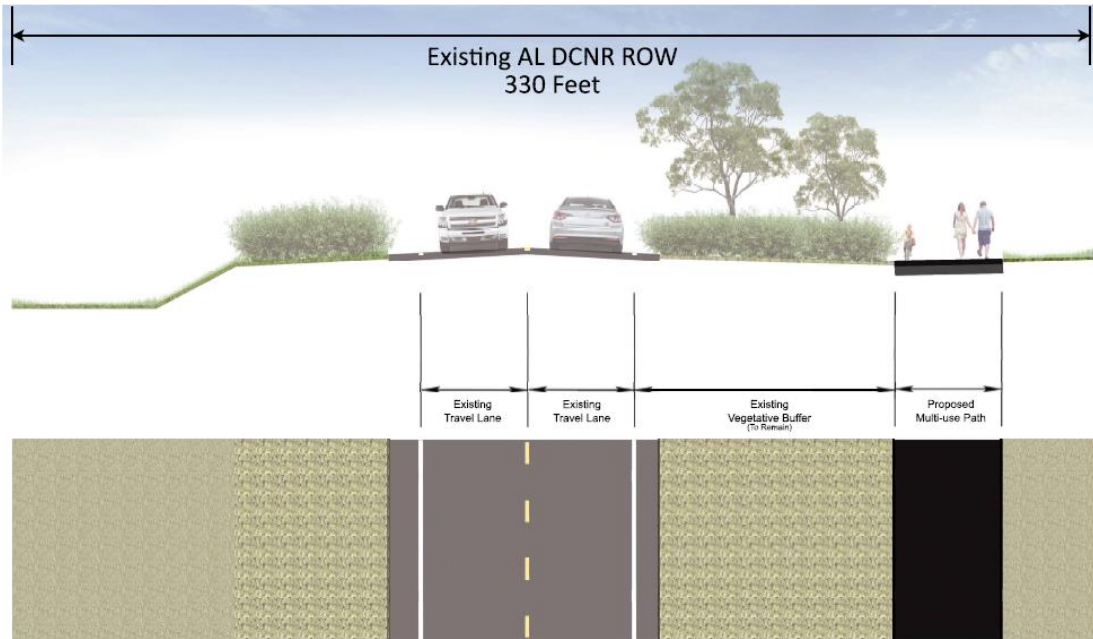
### **Keep Fort Morgan Beautiful~~~~~Chan West**

I challenge all our members and friends to pitch-in and help get our roadsides neat. As the disaster teams and Baldwin County Solid Waste collect the bulk of the post-Sally debris many smaller items are left behind. Grab a bag and grabbers or gloves and clean up. Our regulars did a great job before the hurricane, but they now need the assistance of all of us.



### **Fort Morgan Parkway Bike Trail Extension ~~~~~**

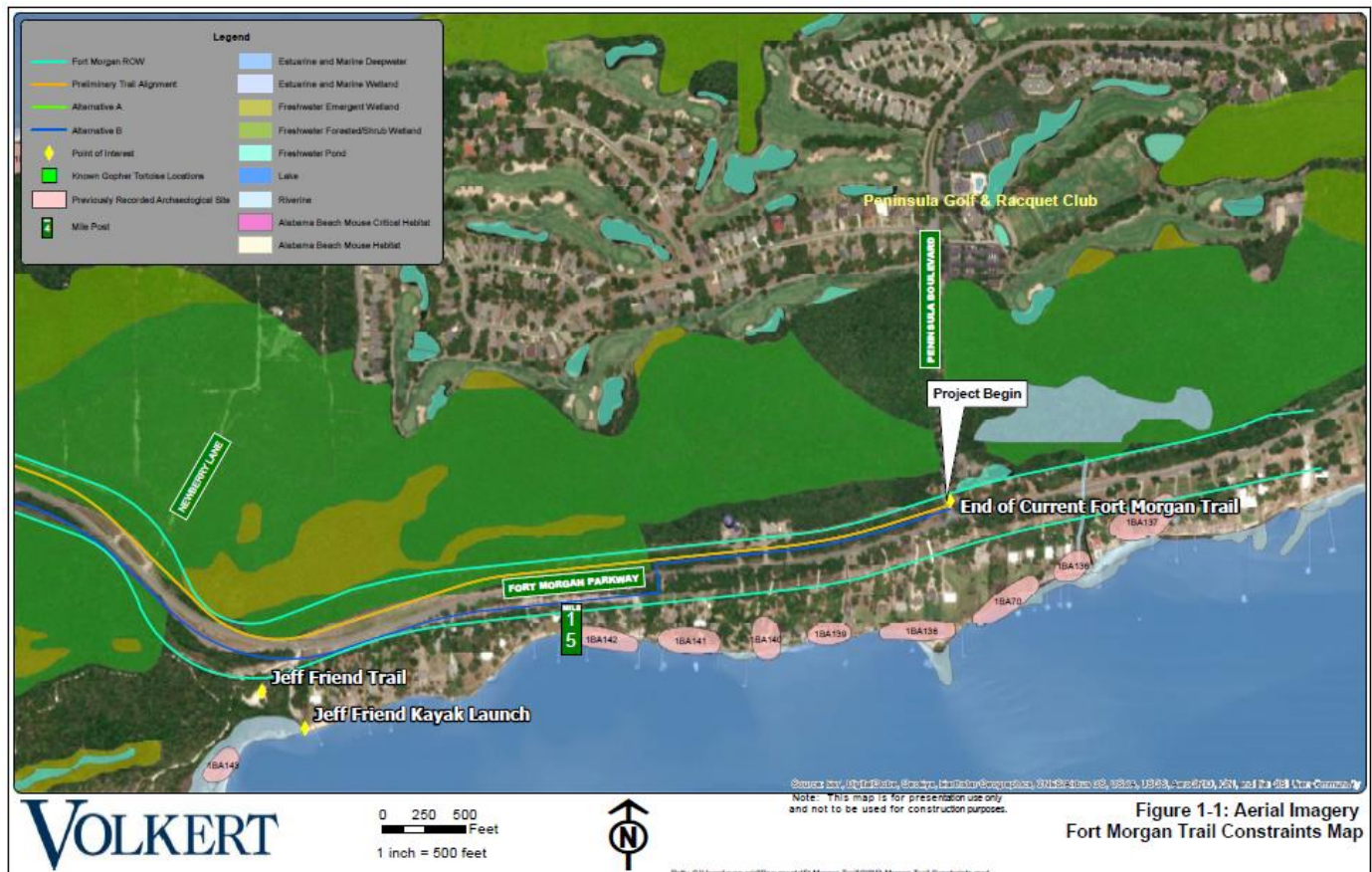
FMCA Board members attended a meeting on 27 October to discuss the potential location along Fort Morgan Highway, crossings and the design concept of the trail with representatives from Volkert (contractor for the project), DCNR and Gulf State Park. Below is a diagram of the design concept as well as preliminary potential routes for the trail. The trail is still in the design stage. Expectation for the earliest to begin initial construction on portions of the trail is spring 2021.



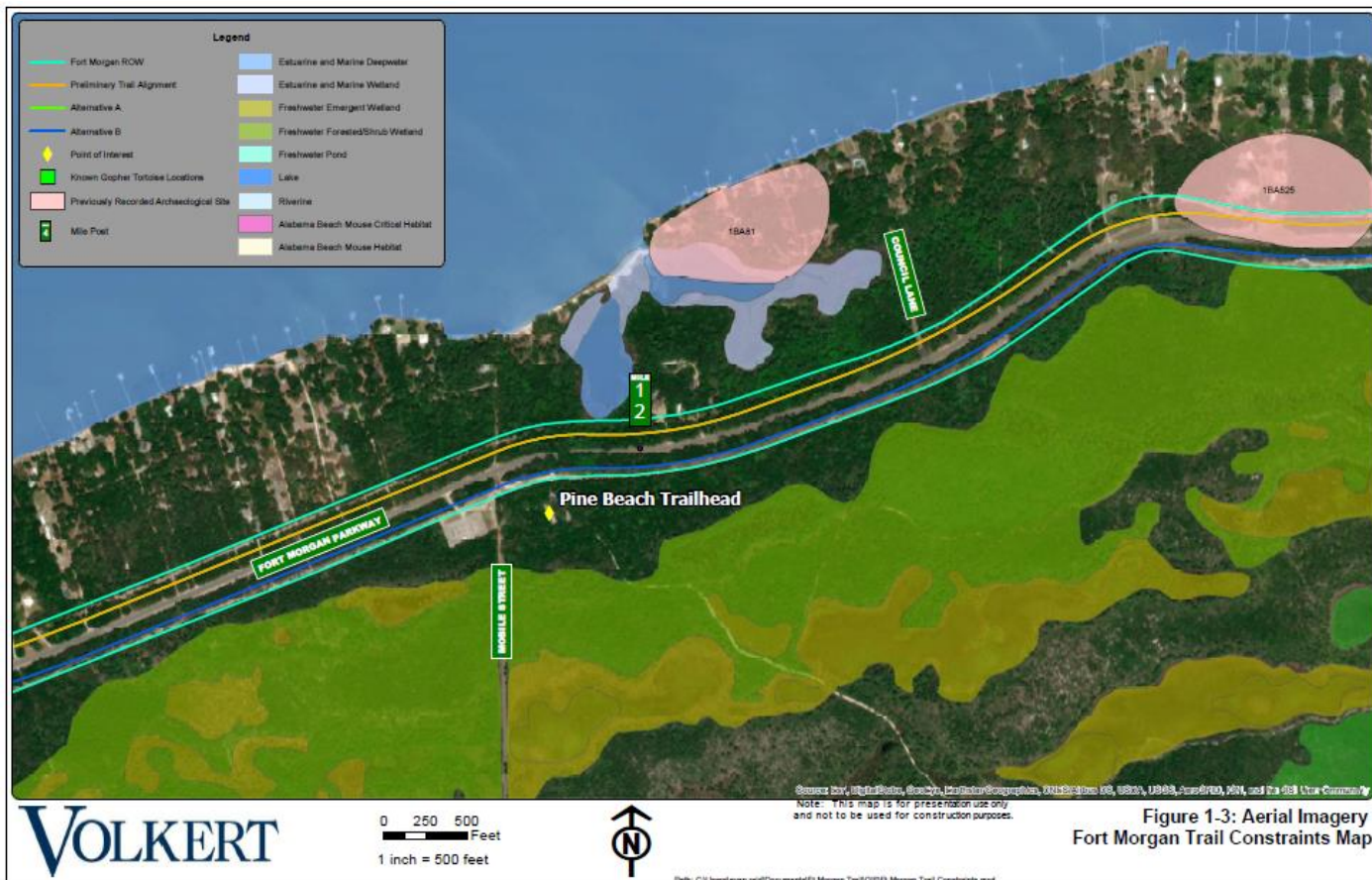
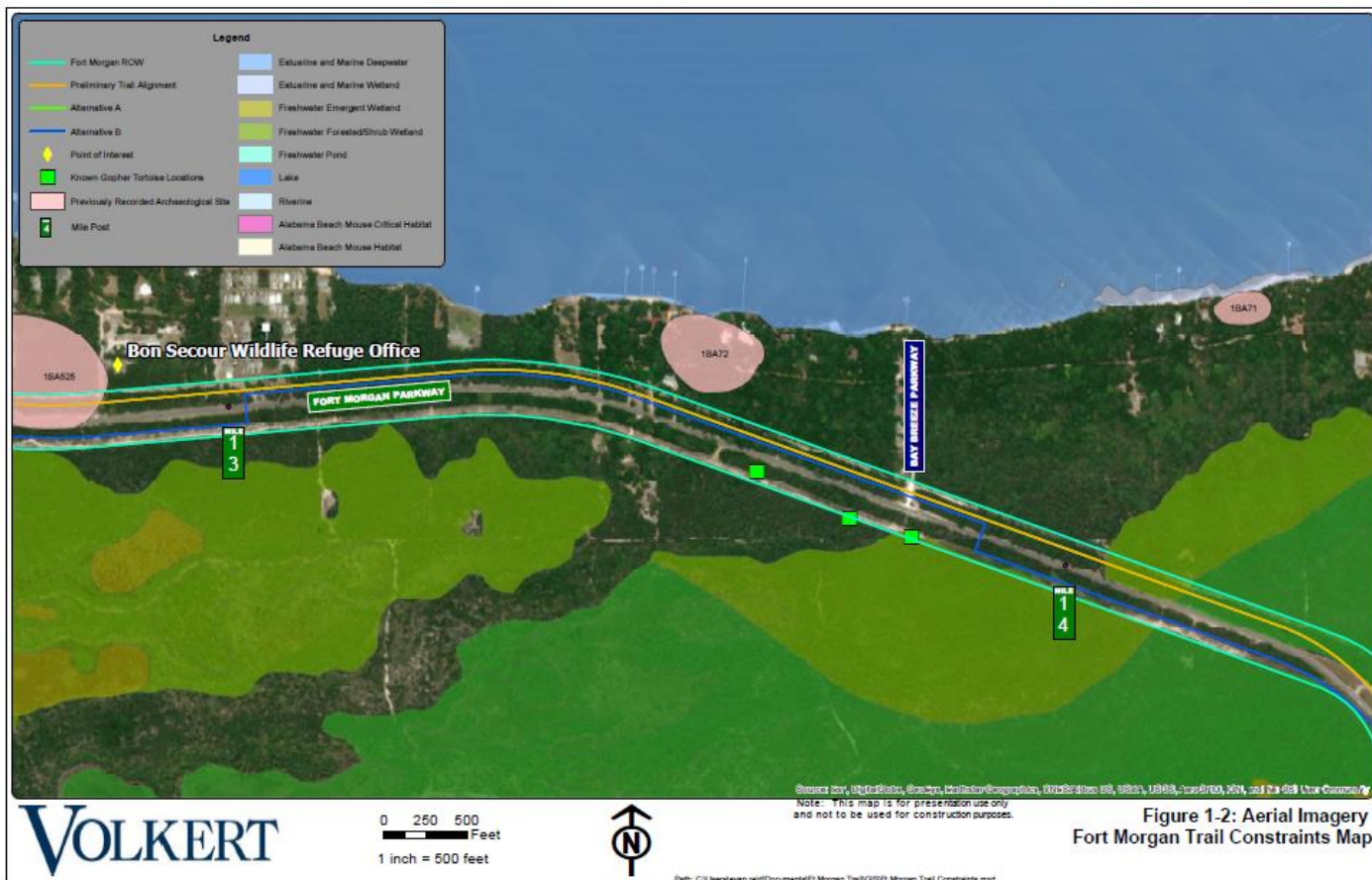
VOLKERT

## Fort Morgan Trail Extension

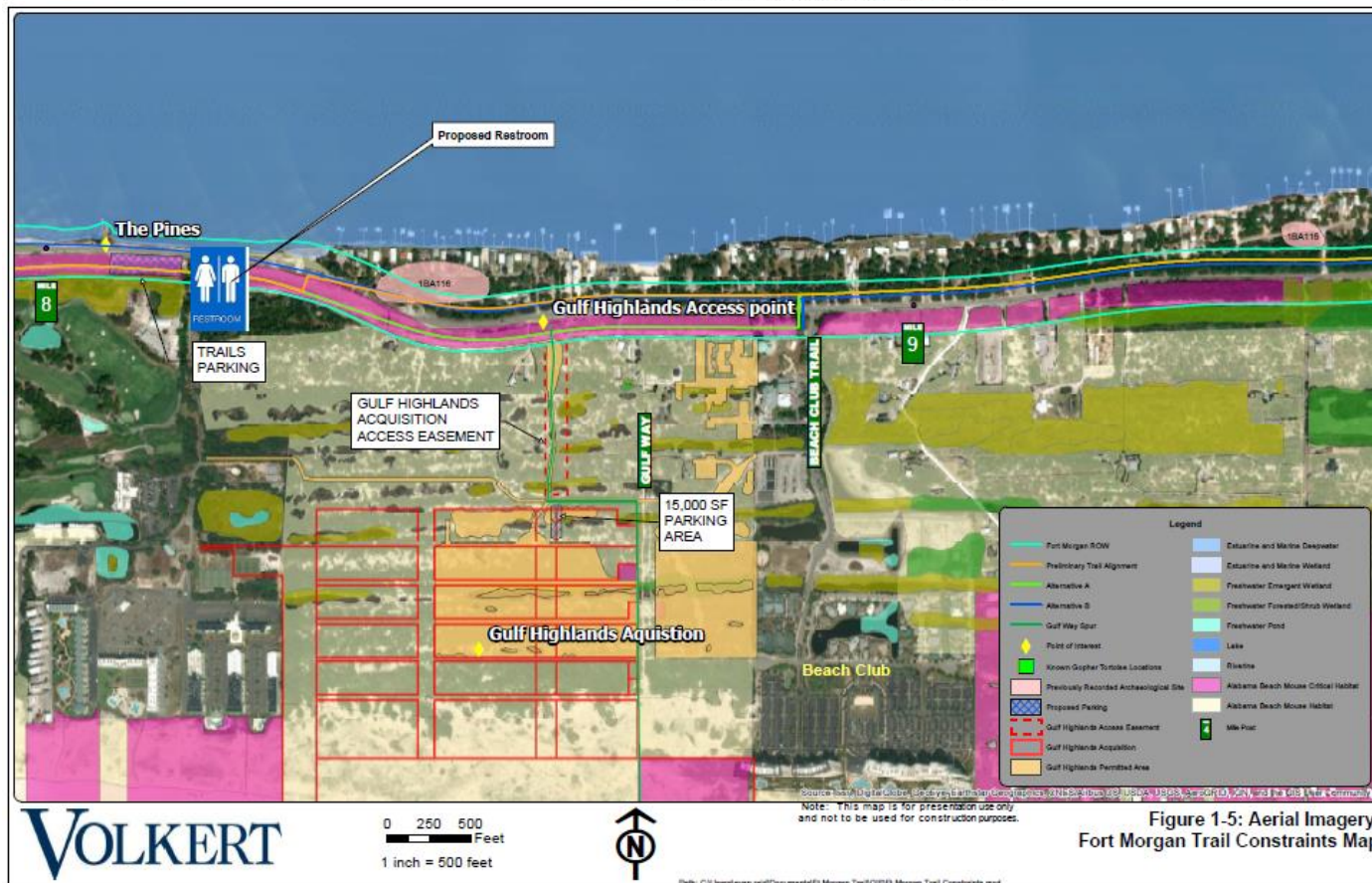
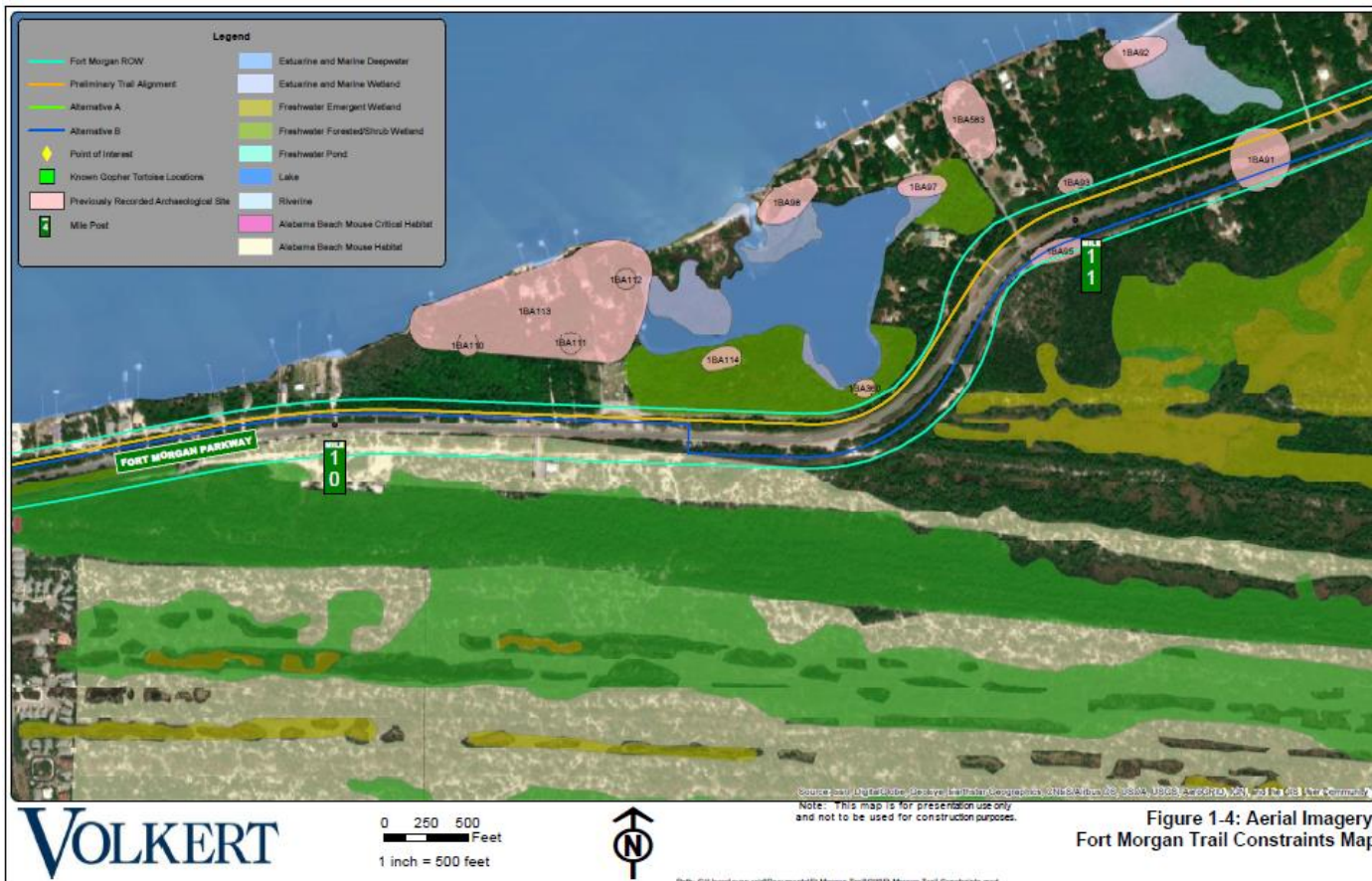
\*Typical sections for discussion only. Element dimensions and landscaping placements to be determined.



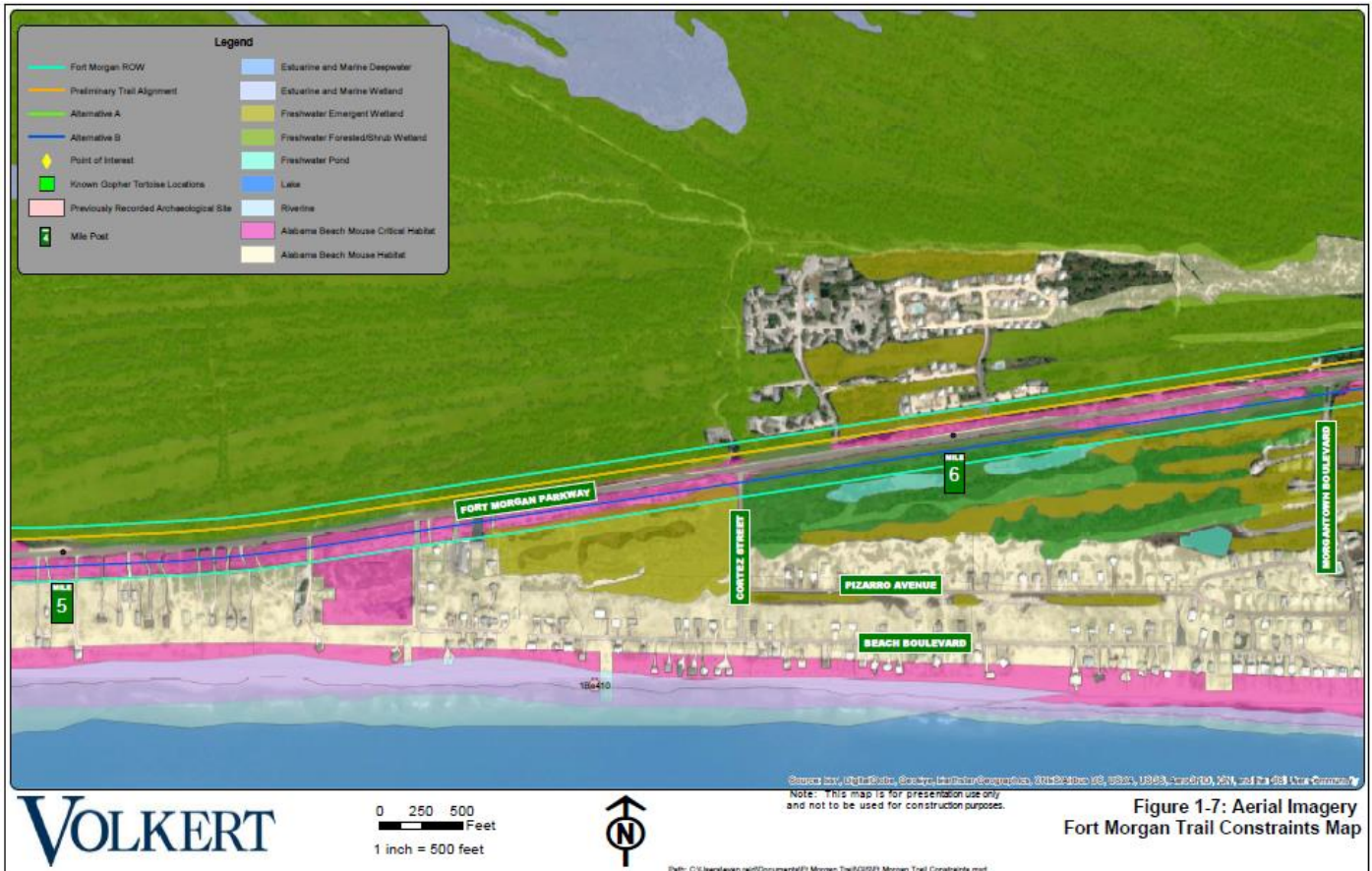
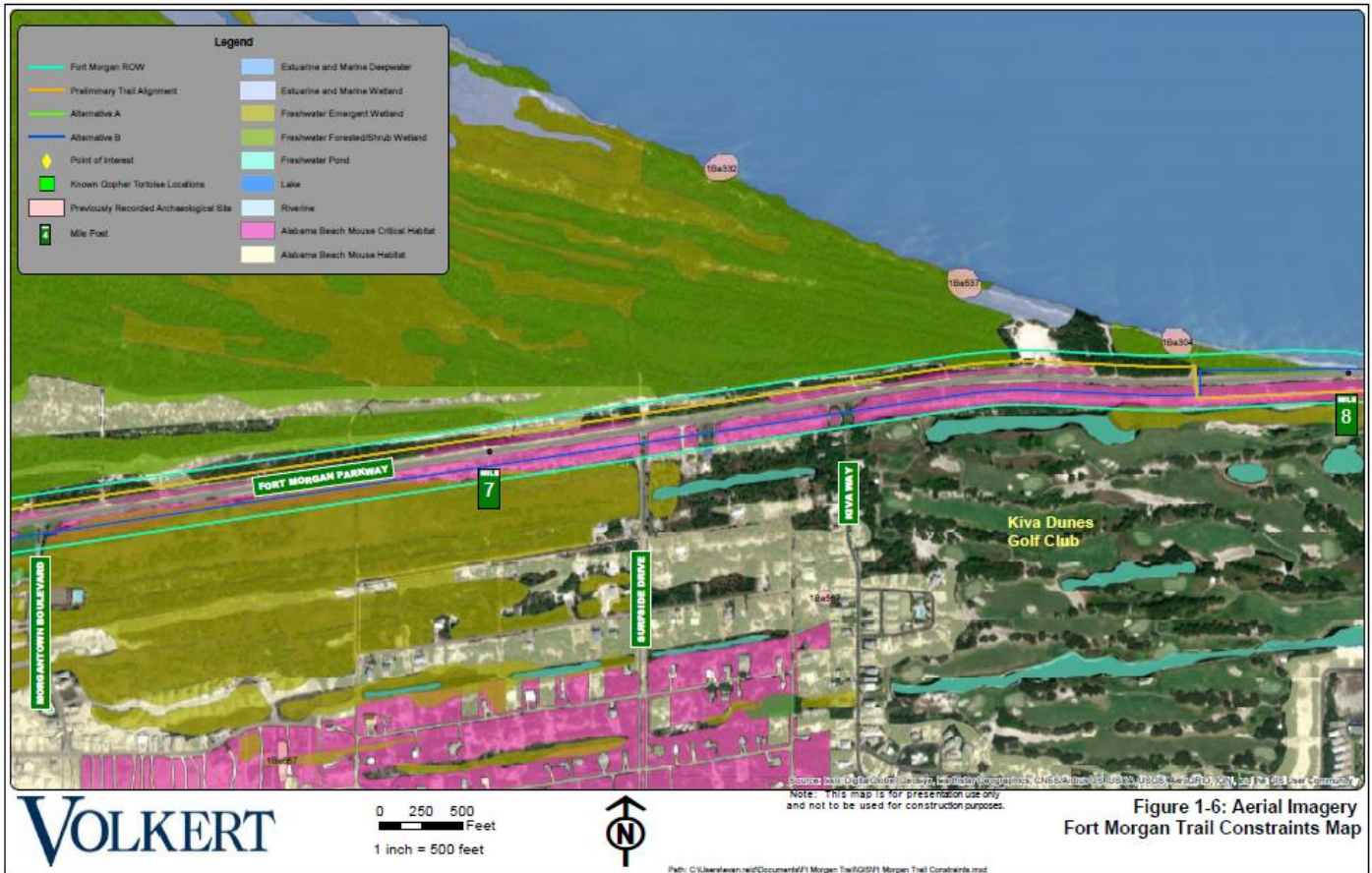




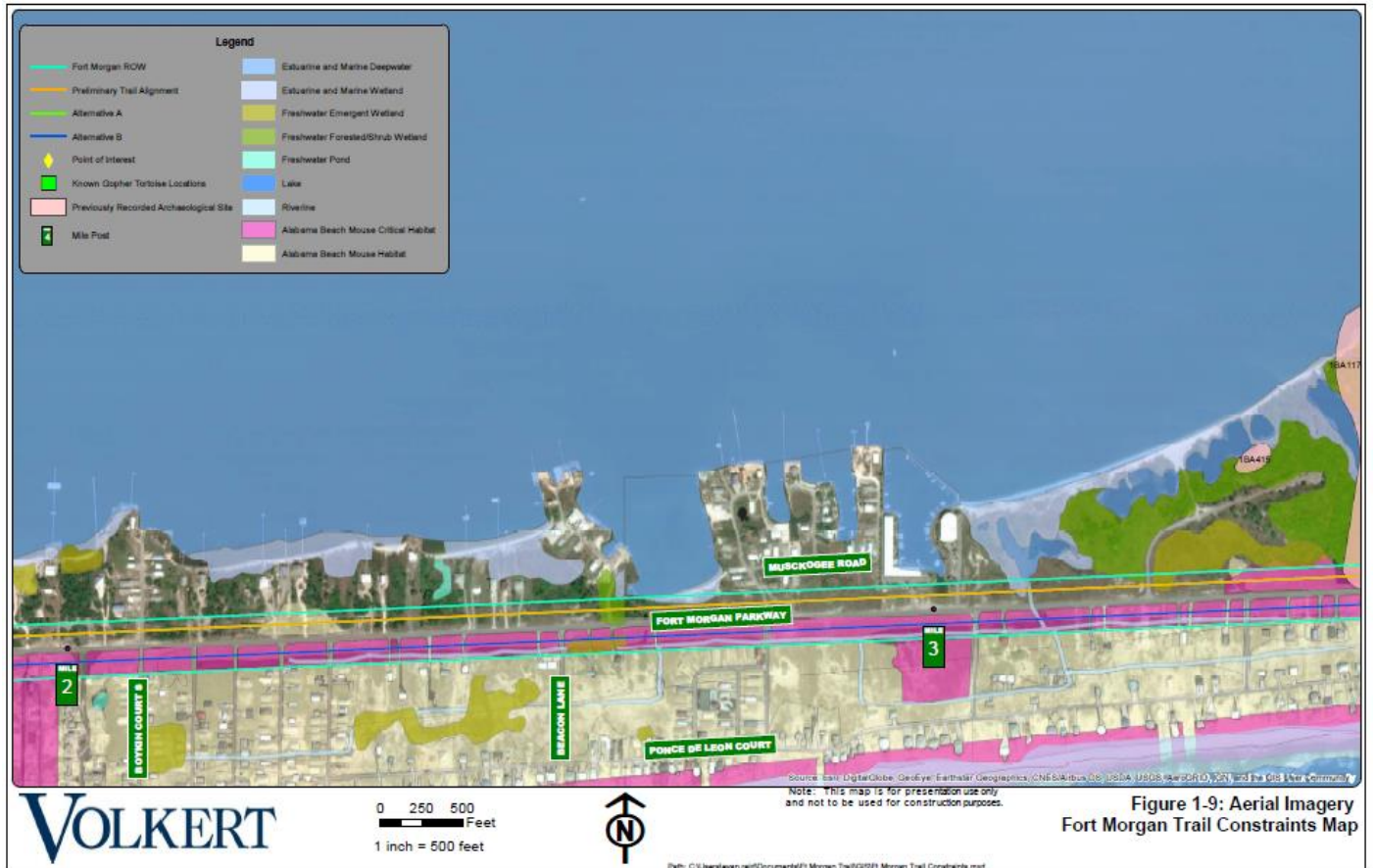
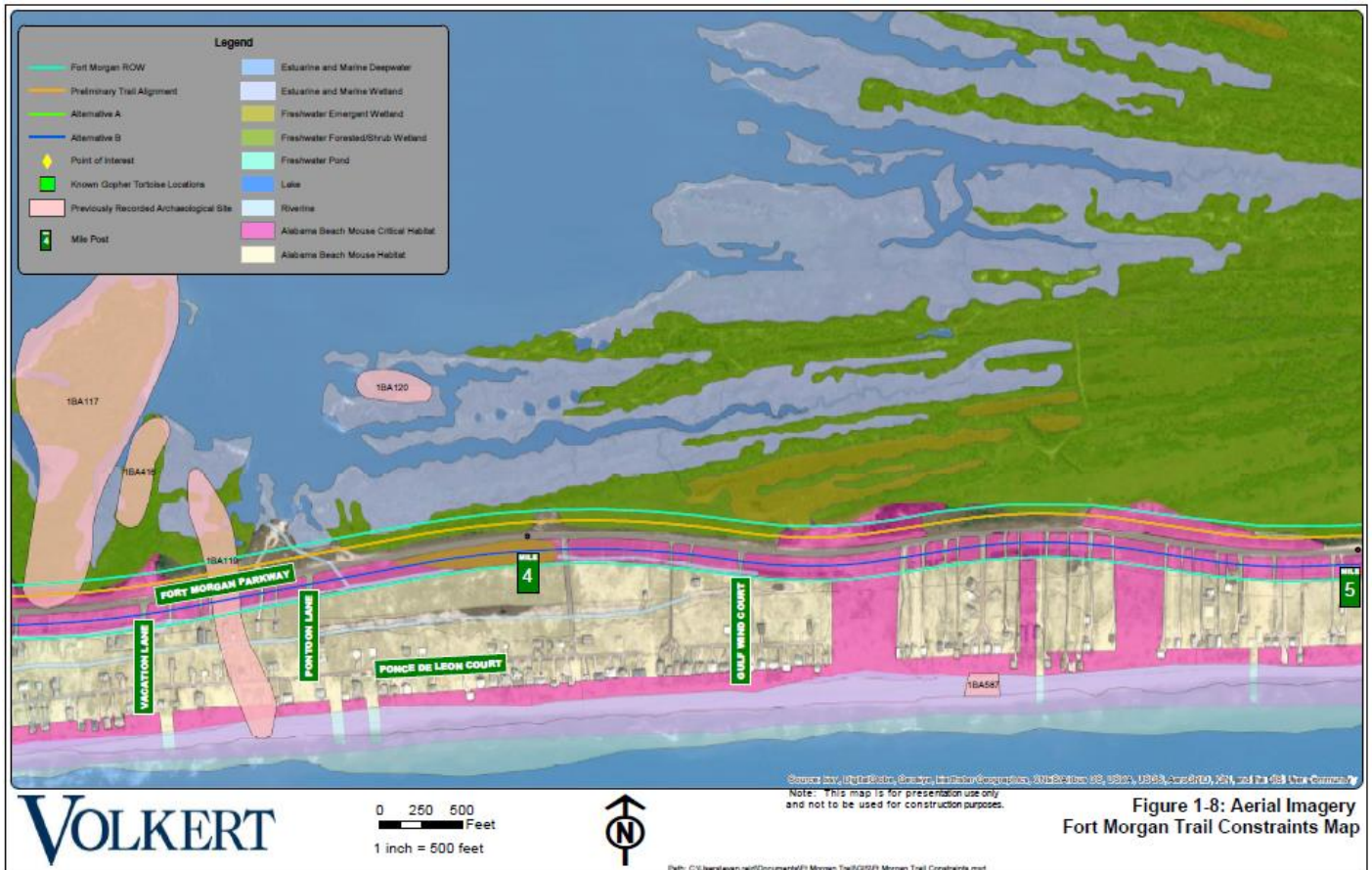




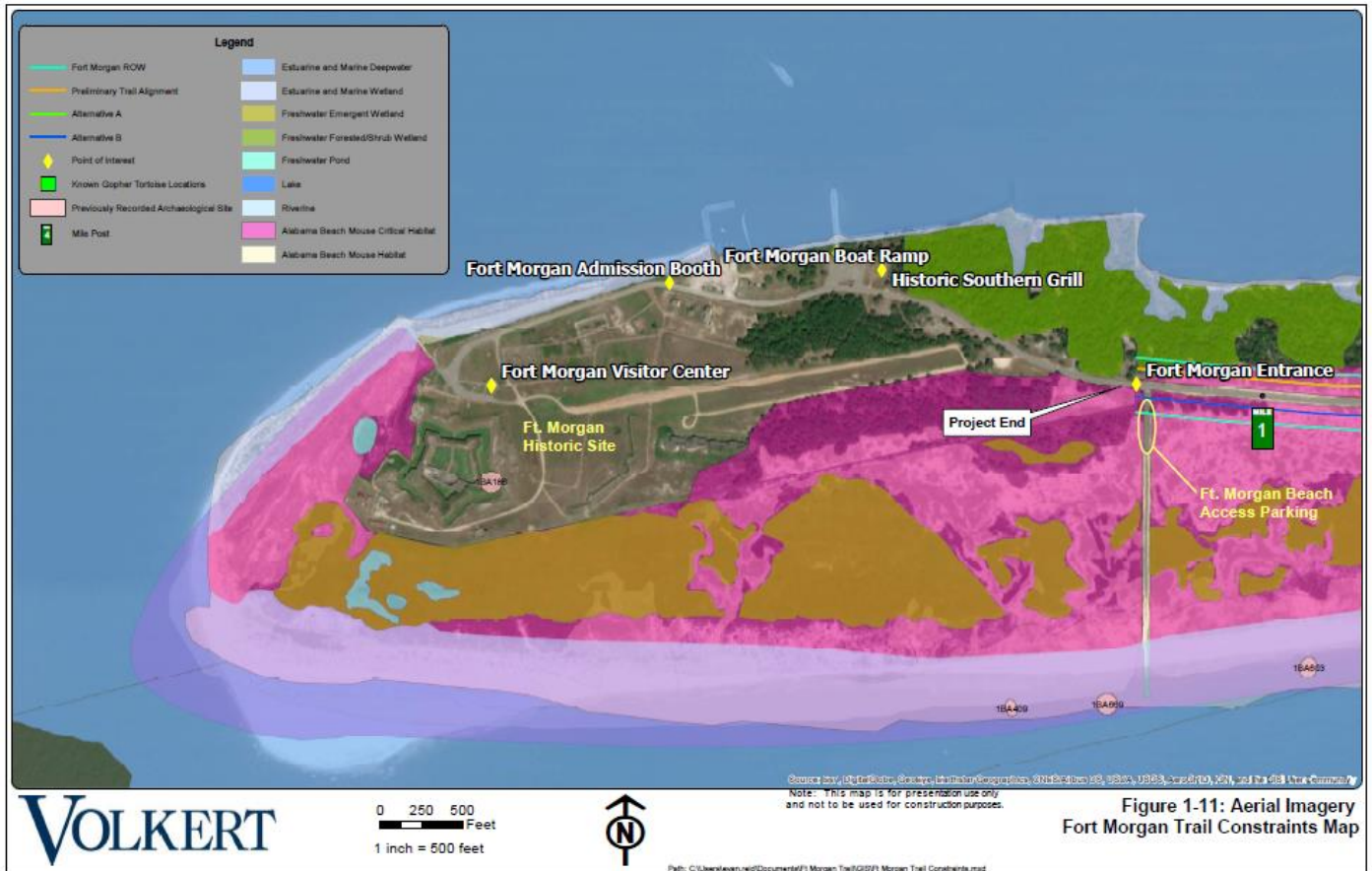
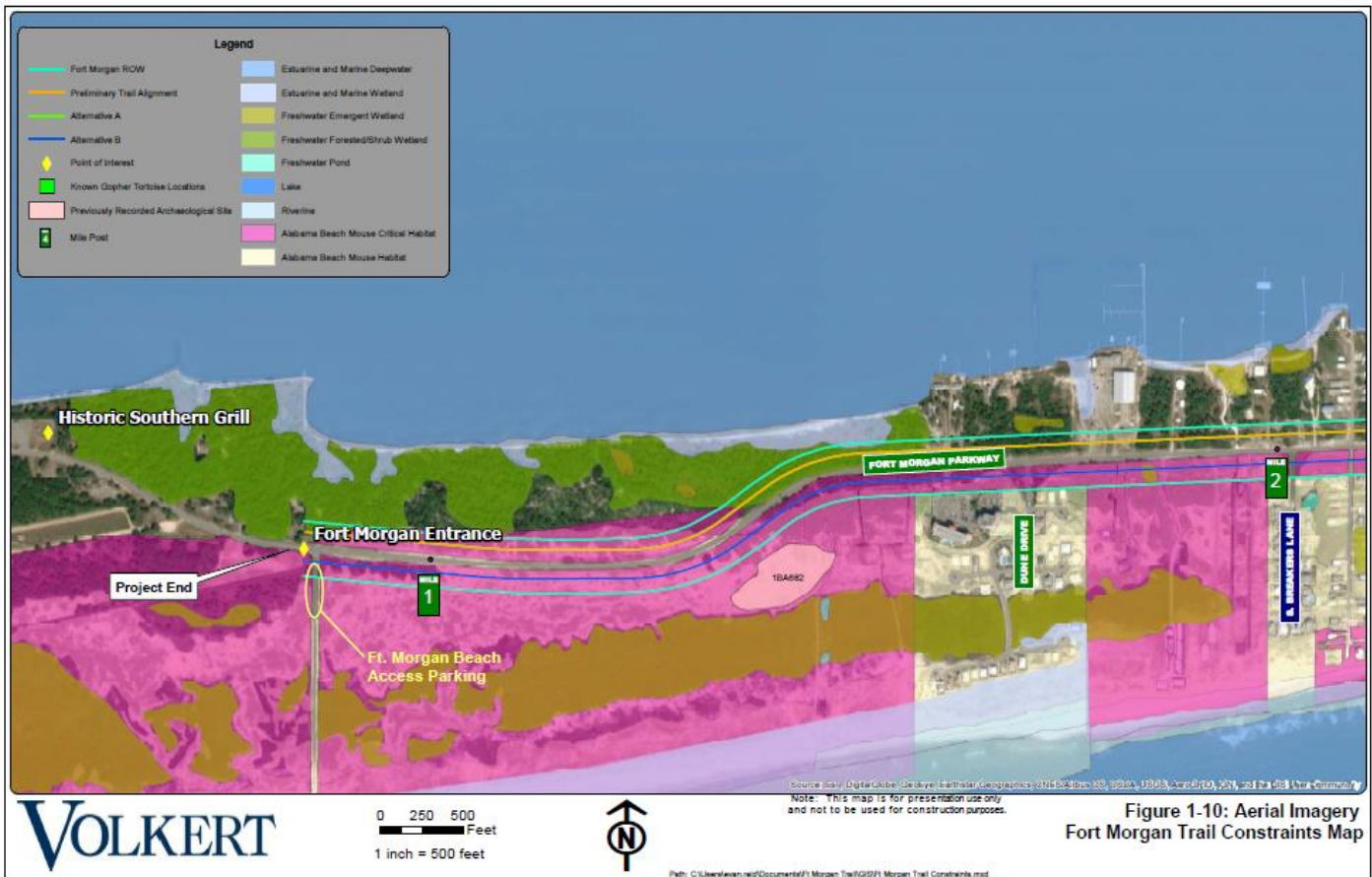












## **Share the Beach**~~~~~

Turtle nesting season ends 31 October. Please be aware that outside lights hinder the nesting process of female turtles. If you own directly on the beach please consider checking into turtle friendly lights prior to the 2021 turtle nesting season (starts 1 May 2021). Contact Alabama Coastal Foundation or US Fish and Wildlife for details. Make sure to continue to fill in holes and take up beach equipment to ensure safe beaches for residents, visitors and turtles throughout the year.

## **Fort Morgan State Historic Site**~~~~~

Check for current updates on daily operations / park entry procedures at Facebook (Fort Morgan State Historic Site) and website <http://www.fort-morgan.org> .

## **Bon Secour NWR**~~~~~

Check for current updates on refuge operations by <https://www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR/>, calling the office at 251-540-7720 or emailing [bonsecour@fws.gov](mailto:bonsecour@fws.gov), messages will be returned as soon as possible.

### **Fort Morgan History:**

*Request for contributions – please contact FMCA newsletter editor if you are interested in researching Fort Morgan history or providing personal memories to share of Fort Morgan*

### **Diary of the Storm – September 26-17, 1906 – Continued from September newsletter Maude M. Midgette, November 1<sup>st</sup> 1912**

About day-break we prepared to leave for the Fort. Even this time the boat could not take every one, so Papa and a few others remained to bring the body of Mr. Johnson from the ruins of what once had been his home. That was a sad, a tedious, task for those left behind to perform it; so, they built a crude box and wrapped the body in a sheet and then proceeded to the Fort where they arrived several hours later.

Now the hour had come for us to leave “Navy Cove” and when we were seated in the boat and had started on our way, every-one turned and looked back at what once had been “our home” for so many happy years and now nothing of it remained but a very small piece of land here and there. We rejoiced over having escaped such a horrible death, still we were sad too, to think we were leaving our ‘dear old Navy Cove’ never to return (that is to live).

Many happy days had we spent on that “dear little strip of sand” and through the woods gathering wild flowers and lovely pond lilies, and often strolling over to the south beach on moonlight nights with the one you loved best by your side enjoying the refreshing breezes from the Gulf. Never again are we to have such glorious times at ‘dear old Navy Cove.’

Never again are we to enjoy the lovely bathing, boating, fishing, and crabbing. Oh! it makes one’s heart ache to even think of it. We cannot (so soon) realize that Navy Cove is no more, but when summer time comes it will be sadly missed; and we will all long so much to be away down there enjoying ourselves.

One in our crowd suggested we should find another Navy Cove, and (all who were there in the storm) move to the same place. That would seem something like home but go where we will, we will never find an ideal spot like the ‘Cove.’ I have heard several remarks since the storm that they had never liked the place but I for one did like it, aye! more than that I loved every grain of sand that was in the place, and do miss it now (even before summer time comes) very much.

To be continued in the December FMCA newsletter. *Thanks to Chan West, long time Fort Morgan resident and FMCA member for this submission.*



## FMCA Executive Board Contacts

### Officers

|                |                 |              |  |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| President      | Joe Emerson     | 251-550-9021 | <a href="mailto:captioesells@gmail.com">captioesells@gmail.com</a>     |
| Vice President | Ernie Church    | 334-220-0851 | <a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>               |
| Treasurer      | Greg Strategier | 337-849-6506 | <a href="mailto:samsplace41805@gmail.com">samsplace41805@gmail.com</a> |
| Secretary      | Jim Aucoin      | 251-610-8167 | <a href="mailto:jimaucuin@yahoo.com">jimaucuin@yahoo.com</a>           |

### Standing Committee Chairs

|                               |                        |                |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|
| Editor Fort Morgan Newsletter | Karrie Lovins          | 580-917-4593   | <a href="mailto:klovins68@icloud.com">klovins68@icloud.com</a> |
| Future Fort Morgan Options    | Ernie Church           | 334-220-0851   | <a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>       |
| Hospitality                   | Thelma Strong          | 251-540-7383   | <a href="mailto:twstrong@gulftel.com">twstrong@gulftel.com</a> |
| Land Use & Conservation       | Chan West              | 251-979-4932   | <a href="mailto:chan@goefish.com">chan@goefish.com</a>         |
| Legal                         | Judy Newcomb           | 251-955-1572   | <a href="mailto:judynewcomb@aol.com">judynewcomb@aol.com</a>   |
| Legislative/Government        | Bonnie Lowry           | 251-540-9327   |  |
| Membership                    | Jennifer Ishler Noojin | (205) 249-1025 | <a href="mailto:jnoojin1@gmail.com">jnoojin1@gmail.com</a>     |
| Sunshine                      | Vickie Matranga        | 251-543-1555   | <a href="mailto:vpowers110@gmail.com">vpowers110@gmail.com</a> |