

## *Nominee for the Environmental Alliance Award*

**Nominee:**

Carol Adams-Davis

**Group:** Mobile Bay Group

**Chapter:** Alabama State Chapter

**Entity:**

**Chapter Chair:** Steve Garrison

**ExComm support:** yes

**The nominee deserves this award because:**

Carol Adams-Davis serves as Vice Chair, Program Chair, and Publicity Chair of the Mobile Bay Group of the Sierra Club and serves on the Executive Committee of the Alabama Chapter of the Sierra Club.

During the years from 2008 through 2011 Carol Adams-Davis has worked on numerous environmental issues along the Gulf of Mexico coast in cooperation with other environmental groups and has promoted alliances with these groups. In January 2008, Carol was the liaison for the Mobile Bay Group of the Sierra Club to set up a 501(C)(3) non-profit Sierra Club Foundation account to give temporary non-profit status to a newly formed organization called Earth Day Mobile Bay, until it could achieve non-profit status. Today Earth Day Mobile Bay is a stand-alone non-profit, no longer under the Sierra Club Foundation umbrella, but still sponsored by the Mobile Bay Group and the Alabama State Chapter. Representing Sierra Club, Carol has worked year-round during the past five years to produce the area's largest and most exhilarating annual Earth Day experience. She has also organized environmental film festivals as part of the Earth Day event. With more than 10,000 attendees, Earth Day Mobile Bay has grown the environmental movement on the Gulf Coast through involving community groups, environmental organizations, government agencies, museums, schools, local businesses, and leadership of Mobile and Baldwin Counties in environmental education throughout the year.

Carol has also worked on climate change as the most serious environmental challenge facing our world. Representing Sierra Club, Carol has campaigned for Renewable Energy Legislation in the state of Alabama for years. She writes frequent articles for publication in our Chapter newsletter relative to these and other issues.

On April 20, 2010, environmental priorities on the Gulf Coast changed overnight with the BP oil disaster, and Carol was quick to become directly involved with addressing environmental consequences of this disaster. The BP oil spill wasn't just an industrial accident that temporarily threatened the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Coastlines. It was an environmental catastrophe of proportions that may take many decades to measure and understand. Since the BP oil spill, Carol Adams-Davis has studied all aspects and ramifications of the BP oil spill, and continues to be well informed on the subject. She has represented the Sierra Club and other environmental organizations at public forums including those sponsored by BP, the Coast Guard, EPA, NOAA, the Department of Interior, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and environmental and academic groups, and through her knowledge and public speaking skills, has

contributed to the continuing resolution of this crisis. As part of the on-going Natural Resource Damage Assessment being conducted by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, as well as community response, recovery, and restoration, Carol has represented the Sierra Club voice at the table by attending dozens of in and out of town taskforce meetings, conference calls, workshop collaborations, hearings, commissions, conferences, and deliberations. Carol continues to be the Alabama Sierra Club representative to the National Sierra Club's Gulf Crisis Leadership Team, led by Jill Mastrototaro, Senior Field Organizing Manager, Sierra Club, New Orleans, Louisiana Office. Representing Sierra Club, Carol has collaborated with individuals and organizations across the full range of disciplines touched by the spill, and broadened our understanding of its impacts. Through Carol Adams-Davis, the Sierra Club Alabama Chapter and Mobile Bay Group are part of several coalitions to help address the problems, solutions, and plans of recovery and restoration of the Gulf Coast region. She participated in the "Gulf Gatherings" and helped draft the Weeks Bay Principles, which are guidelines and principles for the recovery and restoration of the Gulf Coast and the Gulf of Mexico post BP deep-water oil drilling disaster. These principles present a unified vision that will guide our restoration work towards healthy natural resources in the Gulf of Mexico region, including Gulf communities, wildlife, and unique cultures. Carol continues to join a weekly conference call with these representatives to discuss ongoing Gulf restoration issues and principles. The Gulf Gatherings included representatives from each of the following organizations or communities to form an ongoing group alliance:

Alabama Chapter Sierra Club  
Delta Chapter (Louisiana), Sierra Club  
Mississippi Chapter, Sierra Club  
Mobile Bay Group Sierra Club  
Sierra Club Environmental Justice and Community Partnership Program  
Apalachicola Riverkeeper  
Asian Americans for Change - Gulf Coast Angels  
Bayou Interfaith Shared Community Organizing (BISCO)  
Emerald Coastkeeper  
Environment America  
Equity and Inclusion Campaign  
Galveston Baykeeper  
Grand Bayou Community United  
Greenpeace  
Guardians of the Gulf  
Gulf Islands Conservancy  
Gulf Restoration Network  
Joe Yerkes, Florida Fisherman  
Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation  
Louisiana Association of Family Fishermen  
Louisiana Bayoukeeper  
Louisiana Environmental Action Network  
Louisiana Shrimpers Association  
Lower Mississippi Riverkeeper  
Mississippi Center for Justice  
Mobile Baykeeper

National Wildlife Federation  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Oceana  
Oxfam America  
River Network  
Sassafrass  
South Bay Communities Alliance  
South Walton Community Council  
Southwings  
Surfrider Foundation  
Turkey Creek Community Initiative  
Waterkeeper Alliance / Save Our Gulf

As a representative of Sierra Club, Carol Adams-Davis was asked to be an advising member of the Healthy Environment Committee of Governor Bob Riley's Coastal Recovery Commission of Alabama. The Commission's responsibility was to propose strategies for strengthening Alabama's coastal region to be more resilient in the face of challenges after the BP oil spill. Committee members worked for three months to draft the report entitled, "A Roadmap to Resilience: Towards A Healthier Environment, Society and Economy for Coastal Alabama" (available online [www.crcalabama.org](http://www.crcalabama.org)).

Also representing the Sierra Club, Carol has supported and worked to form a Partnership Coalition to build 100 Miles of Oyster Reefs and Plant and Promote 1000 Acres of Marsh. This program named "100-1000:Restore Coastal Alabama" is a public/private partnership for restoration of Alabama's Gulf Coast. Since the BP oil spill, Carol and many other Mobile Bay Group Sierra Club volunteers have worked with this coalition to build oyster reefs in the waters of Mobile Bay that will create the conditions needed to plant, support and promote more than 1000 acres of coastal marsh and sea grass (see <http://www.100-1000.org/partners>). Partners in the coalition are:

Alabama State Chapter Sierra Club  
Mobile Bay Group Sierra Club  
Alabama Coastal Foundation  
Alabama Wildlife Federation  
Auburn University  
Boat People S.O.S.  
Coastal Land Trust  
Dauphin Island Sea Lab  
Ducks Unlimited  
Envision Coastal Alabama  
Hand Arendall, LLC  
Hands On South Alabama  
Mobile Baykeeper  
Mobile County Wildlife and Conservation Association  
One World Adventure Company  
The Ocean Foundation  
Oxfam International

Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Wildlife Federation  
The Nature Conservancy  
Partners for Environmental Progress  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
University of South Alabama  
Weeks Bay Foundation

Carol is now encouraging the Mobile Bay Group Sierra Club to join in the creation of alliances that will continue to focus attention on environmental issues, which have the greatest potential to unite Alabama in the pursuit of an economy that is founded on the principle: "protecting the environment leads to economic sustainability". After the BP oil spill, more people of the Gulf Coast communities understand that the wise use of energy and resources can lead to a sustainable future and that the environmental solution can create the stable jobs of the future.

Other Sierra Club members in Alabama, as well as adjacent coastal states are impressed with Carol's drive and energy and dedication to environmental restoration. This dedication is also evident to the numerous coalition members with which she has promoted alliances. She is certainly worthy of the Environmental Alliance Award.

**Previous recognition**

yesAlabama Chapter Sierra Club "Environmentalist of the Year, 2010" The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Conservation Committee, Washington, D.C. -- To be presented to Carol Adams-Davis in Recognition of "Outstanding Achievement for Environmental Leadership" in July, 2011, in Washington, D.C.

**Local newspapers to notify:**

Mobile Press-Register, P.O. Box 2488, Mobile, AL 36652  
The Bulletin, 1805 Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526

**Group Newsletter:**

**Chapter Newsletter:**

Alabama Sierran  
Joe Watts - joe@joewatts.com

**Nominator:**

Robert W. Hastings  
Chapter Vice Chair