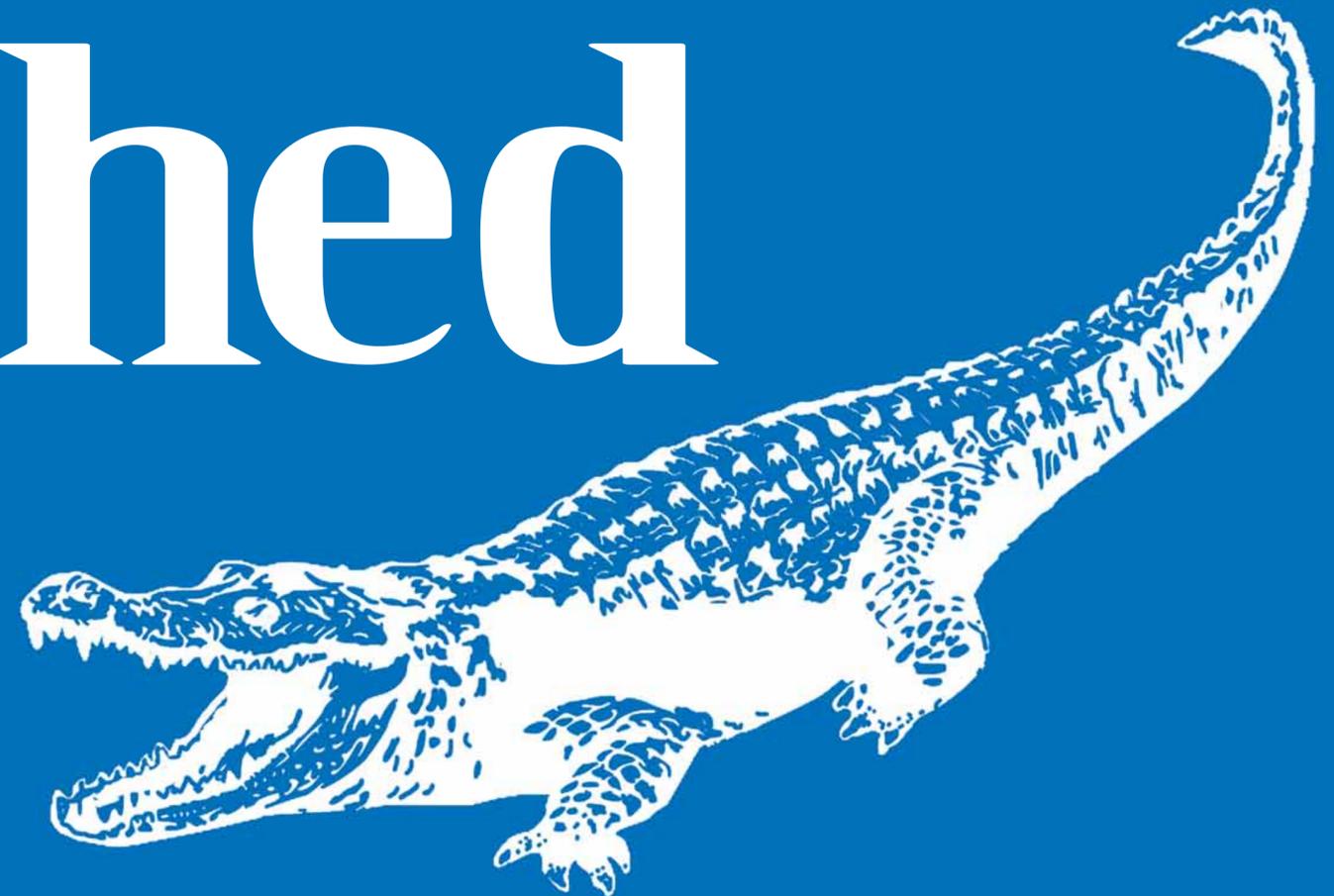




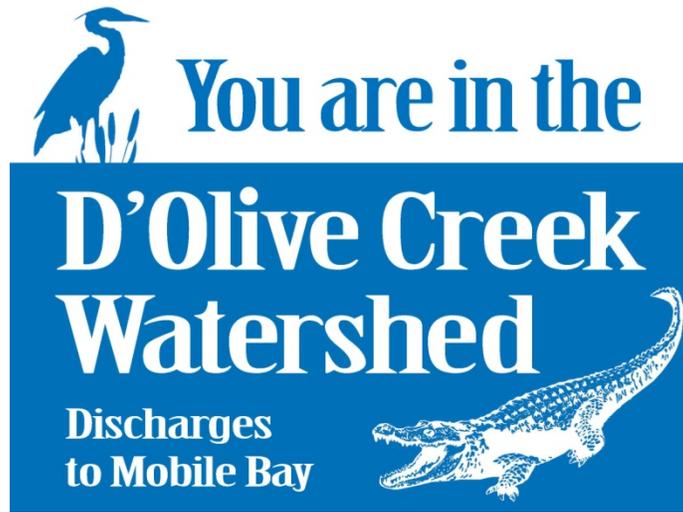
You are in the

D'Olive Creek Watershed

**Discharges
to Mobile Bay**



**Have you seen the signs?
D'Olive Creek Watershed Signs Make Their Debut**



You've probably seen these signs along the roadways and wondered what they are about. The Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) and the City of Daphne partnered to place *these unique* Watershed Signs along local city and state highways. These signs increase public awareness about the importance of watersheds and encourage good stewardship of the City's valuable streams, wetlands, lakes and ground water.

All too often we pass over streams and by lakes without realizing the inter-connection between these bodies of water. The watershed signs *will* help the passerby to realize the extent to which the water whose name they recognize may be separated by miles from the watershed boundaries.

A watershed is the entire area of land that drains into a lake, river or other body of water. Watersheds do not follow political boundaries *and can end up being* split between one or more cities, counties or even states. The D'Olive Creek Watershed drains approximately 7,700 acres of Baldwin County, Daphne and Spanish Fort. The watershed contains over 23 miles of streams which flow into Mobile Bay. Mobile Bay is Alabama's principal estuary, receiving drainage from most of Alabama as well as ~~portions~~ *parts* of Georgia and Mississippi, even Tennessee.

Watersheds are a logical way to think about the connection between the land and the quality of water we enjoy. How we manage and treat the land has a direct impact on the ability of water to support a number of important public uses like swimming, fishing, aquatic species habitat and *a clean* drinking water supply.

The D'Olive Creek Watershed has been severely impacted through the years. Excessive erosion and sedimentation have plagued the watershed since the 1970s. Increased population growth and urban development have continued to intensify these problems. Increased volume and velocity of stormwater runoff, as well as changes to local drainage patterns, have ~~exacerbate~~ *worsened* concerns over erosions and sedimentation within the stream network, Lake Forest Lake, D'Olive Bay and Mobile Bay.

To respond to these concerns, a coalition of federal, state and local agencies, property owners and developers formed the D'Olive Watershed Working Group (DWWG). In 2009, this group reached a decision that a comprehensive watershed management plan was needed for the D'Olive Creek Watershed. In 2010, the final Watershed Management Plan (WMP) was released with four primary objectives:

- Reduce upstream sediment inputs into the Lake Forest Lake/D'Olive/Tiawasee system.
- Reduce outgoing sediment loads into D'Olive Bay and the Mobile Bay Estuary.
- Remediate and restore past effects of these sediment loads, including lake restoration.
- Mitigate future impacts of development in the watershed, where feasible.

The final watershed management plan is available on the Mobile Bay NEP's website at <http://www.mobilebaynep.com/images/uploads/library/DOLive-Final-Report-Full.pdf> **Efforts**

Efforts are already underway in the implementation of the WMP. One big project to keep an eye on is the Joe's Branch 319 Grant Stream Restoration. The project itself is located in Spanish Fort, *but* true to the saying that Watershed's do not follow political boundaries, neither does the efforts to restore D'Olive Creek Watershed. Several federal and state agencies, the Cities of Spanish Fort and Daphne, and many others are offering technical and financial assistance with the project. The construction phase of the project should begin in this fall.

The overall restoration of D'Olive Watershed will take many years. The City is excited to be a part of the process. Our new watershed signs area a small effort in the process and serve to educate the public of the importance of our Watersheds.

Just remember....We all live downstream from someone, and what happens in your watershed does not just stay in it.

http://www.secchidipin.org/Watershed_Signs.htm

D'Olive Creek Watershed Management Plan, 2010

Yancey Branch Watershed Signage

Legend

 Yancey Branch Sign Locations

 Yancey Branch Watershed Signage Doublesided-Main Street at Yancey Branch

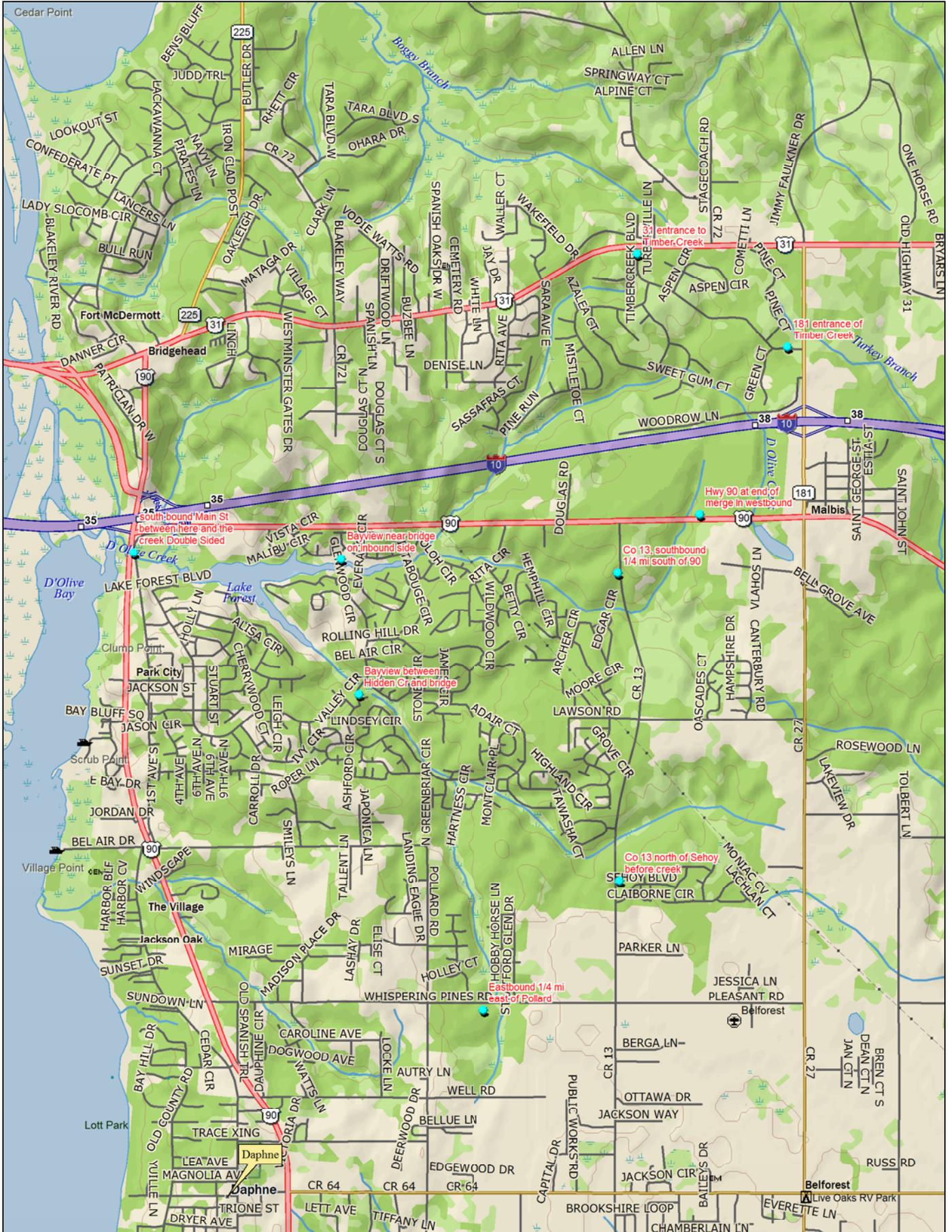
Yancey Branch Watershed Signage Single Sided-Hwy 98 South Bound

 Yancey Branch Watershed Signage Single Sided-Hwy 98 North Bound

Yancey Branch Watershed Signage-Double Sided at Whispering Pines 

Yancey Branch Watershed Signage Doublesided at Camellia Lane-Dauphine Acres 





Data use subject to license.

© DeLorme. Topo North America™ 9.

www.delorme.com



Scale 1 : 43,750



1" = 3,645.8 ft Data Zoom 12-2