

**COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING,
PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT**

**TASK FORCE MEETING
OCTOBER 31, 1991**

MINUTES

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

MINUTES

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Michael Diffley, representing the Secretary of the Army, convened the fifth meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force at 9:00 a.m., October 31, 1991, in the District Assembly Room of the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Agenda is attached as Enclosure 1. The Task Force was created by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), which was signed into law (PL 101-646, Title III) by President Bush on November 29, 1990.

II. ATTENDEES

The Attendance Records for the Task Force meeting are attached as Enclosure 2. Listed below are the six Task Force members, all of whom were in attendance, with the exception of Mr. Sewell, who was represented by Mr. David Fruge'.

Mr. David Chambers, State of Louisiana
Mr. Russell Rhoades, Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. S. Scott Sewell, U.S. Department of the Interior
Mr. Horace Austin, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Dr. Clement Lewsey, U.S. Department of Commerce
Col. Michael Diffley, U.S. Department of the Army, Chairman

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the fourth Task Force meeting, held on September 24, 1991, (Enclosure 3) were unanimously approved by the Task Force members. [1/155] *

IV. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

The Task Force voted and passed the following motions:

- A. Remand the draft "Task Force Vision Statement" (Enclosure 4) to the Citizen Participation Group for further review and revision. This revised draft will be considered at the next Task Force meeting. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/615]
- B. Adopt the Citizen Participation Group "Policy Statement" (Enclosure 5), with the understanding that future revision by the Citizen Participation Group is anticipated. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/700]
- C. Approve the Priority Project List (Enclosure 6) for transmittal to Congress. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/780]

V. TASKS REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

- A. Colonel Diffley asked Mr. Brown, Chief of the Real Estate Division at the New Orleans District, to establish a liaison with the Soil Conservation Service and the other Task Force members in order to become familiar with their real estate policies and procedures, in preparation for future Section 303(e) decisions. [2/280]
- B. Mr. Chambers stated that Louisiana law stipulates that expenditures from the Louisiana Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Fund for projects located on private lands in no way opens those private lands to public access. Mr. Chambers agreed to provide a copy of this law to Mr. Brown. [2/525]
- C. The Technical Committee will coordinate the development of a project monitoring protocol for the approval of the Task Force. [3/290]
- D. The State of Louisiana, in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Soil Conservation Service, and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, will review existing Local Cooperation Agreements as a starting point for the development of Local Cooperation Agreements for projects to be designed and constructed under the CWPPRA. [3/500 and 3/850]

- E. The Technical Committee will coordinate the preparation of responses to each of the comments made by the Citizen Participation Group on the Priority Project List (Enclosure 7). The Technical Committee will provide these responses to the Citizen Participation Group, as soon as possible. Comment 12 was remanded to the Citizen Participation Group for their consideration during their review of the "Task Force Vision Statement." [3/650]
- F. The Technical Committee will complete the final draft of the Priority Project List Report and the letter transmitting the report to the Assistant Secretary of the Army, by the November 14, 1991 Technical Committee meeting. [3/760]
- G. Each Task Force member will provide Mr. Schroeder with comments on, or additional input to, the "Environmental Report" in advance of the November 14, 1991 Technical Committee meeting. [4/50]

VI. STATUS OF FISCAL MATTERS

- A. Mr. Rodney Pittman, Chief of the Program Management Office at the New Orleans District, stated that we are waiting for the Department of the Treasury to issue a warrant for the Fiscal Year 1992 CWPPRA funds. He noted that the delay is occurring probably because this is the first year of funding and specific procedures are being developed. Mr. Pittman stated that each Task Force member will be reimbursed for Fiscal Year 1992 costs incurred prior to receipt of the Fiscal Year 1992 funds. [4/60]
- B. Ms. Brenda Weber, Chief of the Finance and Accounting Branch at the New Orleans District, stated that preparations are completed to execute the transfer of Fiscal Year 1992 budgeted funds to the other Task Force members, as soon as these funds are received. [4/100]

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Mr. Rhoades emphasized the importance of the continued evaluation and enhancement of the procedures used to rank the projects. [4/115]
- B. Mr. Rhoades stated that the National Environmental Policy Act document prepared for the next Priority Project List should contain a comparison of the relative environmental benefits of the projects included on that list. He noted that the "Environmental Report" prepared for the current Priority Project List does not contain such an evaluation. [4/145]
- C. Colonel Diffley requested that the agenda for the next Task Force meeting include a discussion of Task Force review and approval of the final designs for coastal wetlands restoration projects, prior to allocation of funds for construction. He asked that the Technical Committee address this proposal. [4/160]

VIII. DATE/LOCATION OF THE NEXT TASK FORCE MEETING

The next Task Force meeting was scheduled for December 11, 1991, in the Assembly Room of the New Orleans District, beginning at 9:00 a.m. [4/230]

Comment: This meeting was subsequently postponed and will be rescheduled.

IX. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No written questions or comments were received from the public. [4/435]

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Task Force meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. [4/240]

* The Task Force meeting was recorded on audio tape. These bracketed figures represent the Tape#/Counter# for the discussion of this item.

Encl 1

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 1

AGENDA

Encl 1

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

AGENDA

- I. **Introductions**
 - A. Task Force Members or Alternates.
 - B. Other Attendees.
 - C. Opening Remarks by Task Force Members.
- II. **Adoption of Minutes from the September 24, 1991 Meeting**
- III. **Task Force Vision Statement and Policy Statement**
 - A. Vision Statement - Col. Diffley.
 - B. Policy Statement - Mr. Mielke.
- IV. **Discussion of the Draft Priority Project List**
 - A. Issues to be Resolved.
 - B. Approval of the Priority Project List.
- V. **Potential Non-Federal Funding Sources**
- VI. **LCA Execution Process**
- VII. **Status of the "Environmental Report"**
- VIII. **Status of Fiscal Matters**
 - A. Programming of FY 1992 Funds.
 - B. Distribution of FY 1992 Funds.
- IX. **Additional Agenda Items**
- X. **Date/Location of the Next Task Force Meeting**
- XI. **Request for Written Questions from the Public**

Encl 2

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 2

ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Encl 2



ATTENDANCE RECORD



DATE(S) 10/31/91	SPONSORING ORGANIZATION LOUISIANA COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION & RESTORATION TASK FORCE	LOCATION DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ROOM NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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PURPOSE TASK FORCE MEETING

PARTICIPANT REGISTER *

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Ric Ruebsamen	DOC / NMFS	504/389-0508
Clement Lewsey	DOC / OCRM	202/606 4138
CARL HAKENTIS	GULF INTRACOASTAL CANAL Assoc.	504/523-8281
Gerry Bodin	US Fish + Wildlife Service	318/264-6630
Jan Rusgas	CECW-PC	202-272-1974
Wayne O'Bannon	CELMV-PD-F	601-634-5840
Arnold Robbins	CELMV-PD-F	601-634-5828
David Frugé	USDI / FWS	318-264-6630
Noam Thomas	USEPA	(214) 655 2260
Dave Chambers	Gov. Office	(504) 342-6493
Russ Rhoades	US EPA	214 655 2210
Harold Austin	SCS	318 473 7751
Alvin L. Conner	SCS	318 473-7753
Bill Sargent	LA DWR (CRD)	504 342-9420
Benny Landreneau	USDA-SCS	318-473-7756
Asteyn Poove	CELMN-PD-FC	504 862 2512
Jay Warren	" "	504 862-2543
DAVE CANNON	CELMN-PD-FC	(504) 862 2528
Allen Fuschinger	La. Assoc. of Cons. Districts	(504) 394-2463
Richard Bon	CELMN-PD-RE	504 862 1585
CHRIS ACCARDO	CELMN-LC	504 862-1592
Thomas Chew	MMS	504 736-2793
Rod Pittman	LMN-BC	X 2846

* If you wish to be furnished a copy of the attendance record,
please indicate so next to your name.



ATTENDANCE RECORD



DATE(S) 10/31/91	SPONSORING ORGANIZATION LOUISIANA COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION & RESTORATION TASK FORCE	LOCATION DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ROOM NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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PURPOSE TASK FORCE MEETING

PARTICIPANT REGISTER *

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
MARTIN WATKE	U.S. SEN JOHN BREAUX	504-589-2531
JESSICA FOX	COE - Planning Econ	504 862-1922
NICK CONSTAN	COE - PD	" 862-1906
Maumus Caverre	LA - (CCA)	524-5416 (504)
Joe Dicharry	COE - Project Management	504-862-1929
MARY KINSEY	COE RE-L	504 862 1951
MIKE ROLLAND	COE REL	504 862 1987
T. J. BROWN	COE RE-L	504 862 1167
John L. Weber	COE PD-R	504 862 2516
Rick Hartman	NMFS / DOC	504 388-0500
W. EUGENE TICKNER	USAED NEW ORLEANS - C/ENG DIV	504-862-2240
MARTIN CANCIENNE	LA Farm Bur	504-922-6200
Michael Mielke	Coalition to Restore Coastal LA	504-764-8394
STEVE HICKMAN	NATI. PARK SERVICE	504-589-3882
Sue Holmes	COE	504-283-7779
Ronnie Duncan	NATIONAL Park Service	504 589 3802
Rita Schwedel	Anger	504-862-2288
LEN BARR	GOV'S OFFICE	504-342-6493

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* If you wish to be furnished a copy of the attendance record,
please indicate so next to your name.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 4

TASK FORCE VISION STATEMENT

TASK FORCE VISION STATEMENT
IMPLEMENTING
THE
COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

Currently in Louisiana, the losses in coastal wetlands exceed the gains by over 20,000 acres annually. Our goal is to develop a plan and initiate actions that maintain and enhance our coastal wetland resource base.

Our approach--directed by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act--is three-phased:

- implement relatively small scale projects that can be completed in the short term and offer the greatest potential return on investment.
- concurrently develop a Comprehensive Plan with a long-term focus on achieving equilibrium in gains and losses of coastal wetlands.
- execute the Comprehensive Plan and, in so doing, shift from short-term isolated actions to a long-term integrated approach.

In effect, our intention is to take advantage of the best opportunities available today to begin the wetland restoration process (phase one) while we are developing a Comprehensive Plan (phase two) for sustained long-term action (phase three).

Activities to be accomplished in phase one are contained in the Priority Project List. The List reflects the Task Force's judgment of those projects that, if executed, would provide a good starting point for the follow-on actions to be defined in the Comprehensive Plan. The Priority Project List comprises a relatively broad spectrum of discrete and diverse projects. This reflects the fact that opportunities for immediate action themselves are discrete and

diverse. These opportunities vary with project location (e.g., proximity to fresh water and sediment bearing sources); project complexity, cost, environmental considerations and design status; the opportunity cost of failing to take action now; and the assessed potential for both short- and long-term benefits. The Priority Project List was developed on the basis of each project's independent potential for benefiting the wetlands. However, the overall list was judged, validated, and adjusted by the Task Force on the basis of its capacity to provide a foundation for future action.

The blueprint for that future action--the Comprehensive Plan--is developed in phase two. The purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to define a long-term program for protecting and restoring Louisiana's coastal wetlands. It will incorporate the priority list: validating many of the approaches taken on that list, expanding or refining others, and discontinuing still others as more promising approaches are identified. The Task Force's goal is to provide to Congress a plan that is ambitious, technologically feasible, fiscally efficient, and capable of sustaining broad public support both within Louisiana and throughout the nation.

Our capacity to sustain public support is key to the final phase. This phase comprises the execution and further refinement of the Comprehensive Plan. It is likely that activities required in this phase will demand sustained and significant levels of investment. Success, therefore, will depend on both the quality of the Comprehensive Plan and the willingness of the American public to support it.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 5

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP "POLICY STATEMENT"

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP

"POLICY STATEMENT"

"The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force recognizes the economic significance and importance of coastal activities such as navigation, including ports and waterways; seafood and wildlife-related industries; oil and gas exploration and production; chemical production; and agriculture, aquaculture, and silviculture. Accordingly, it is the policy of the Task Force to consider the impacts of coastal wetlands restoration projects as they relate to these activities within coastal Louisiana."

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 6

PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

Table 1

Ranking of Projects by Cost (\$) per AAHU

	Lead Task Force Member*	Cost (\$) per AAHU**	Fully Funded Cost (\$1,000)	Cumulative Fully Funded Cost (\$1,000)	Wetland Percentage by Type***		
					F/I	B	S
Fourchon	CO	21	252	252	-	-	100
BA-2 (GIWW to Clovelly)	AG	68	8,142	8,394	83	17	-
Cameron Creole Watershed	IN	128	502	8,896	24	76	-
Bayou Sauvage Refuge	IN	180	1,105	10,001	100	-	-
Turtle Cove	IN/LA	194	386	10,387	100	-	-
Sabine Refuge	IN	253	4,844	15,231	100	-	-
Vegetative Plantings (Demonstration)	AG	282	848	16,079	3	11	86
West Bay Sediment Diversion	AR	305	8,517	24,596	100	-	-
Barataria Bay Waterway	AR	449	1,625	26,221	-	-	100
Lower Bayou La Cache	CO	837	1,254	27,475	-	15	85
Bayou La Branche	AR	2,369	4,327	31,802	100	-	-
Cameron Prairie Refuge	IN	3,171	1,111	32,913	100	-	-
Vermillion River Cutoff	AR/LA	6,196	1,523	34,436	-	100	-
Eastern Isle Dernieres (Demonstration)	EPA	13,949	6,345	40,781	-	-	100
Projects Deferred †							
BA-6 (GIWW to Hwy 90)	AG	323	4,583	4,583	100	-	-
Tiger Pass	AR	1,661	7,078	11,661	100	-	-
Falgout Canal South (Demonstration)	EPA	5,950	6,109	17,770	-	100	-
Lake Salvador Shoreline	AR	10,376	4,427	22,197	100	-	-

* The lead task force member (Federal sponsor) for the project, represented by the following acronyms:

CO—U.S. Dept. of Commerce

LA—State of Louisiana

AG—U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

AR—U.S. Dept. of the Army

IN—U.S. Dept. of the Interior

EPA—Environmental Protection Agency

† Action on these projects will be deferred to the second Priority Project List unless they are pursued separately through the State of Louisiana's Wetland Restoration Plan or unless implementation of one of the above-listed projects is delayed for some unforeseen reason.

** Average Annual Habitat Units

*** Wetland Types:

F/I—Fresh/Intermediate Marsh

B—Brackish Marsh

S—Saline Marsh

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 7

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP COMMENTS
ON THE
PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING

October 24, 1991

RESPONSES
to
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP COMMENTS
on the
DRAFT PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

Comment 1:

Oyster reefs should be included as a variable in the "Wetland Value Assessment" community model.

Response 1:

Additions and revisions to the "Wetland Value Assessment" (WVA) model variables will be addressed during the re-evaluation of the WVA that will take place prior to the formulation of the Second Priority Project List. The purpose of this re-evaluation will be to revise and refine the WVA methodology, as appropriate to improve that methodology's applicability for use in measuring the quality of a wide range of coastal wetlands restoration projects. This process will be undertaken with full coordination with, and participation by, the Citizen Participation Group so that their concerns can be adequately addressed.

Comment 2:

If a coastal wetlands restoration project negatively impacts an oyster lease, some type of equitable compensation should be provided to the leaseholder.

Response 2:

It is the intention of the Task Force that some form of equitable compensation be provided to a oyster leaseholder whose lease is adversely impacted by a coastal wetlands restoration project.

Comment 3:

The value of oysters should be increased over the project life to reflect the effect of inflation, if this value is to be discounted over the project life.

Response 3:

The method proposed in the comment is appropriate for analysis of private-sector investments. The method used by the Task Force is similar to the method developed to evaluate the mitigation plans included in traditional public-sector water resource projects. It incorporates the assumption of constant price levels and a Federal discount rate which, although influenced by inflationary forces, is not intended to explicitly correct for them. However, one of the secondary ranking criteria is based on an alternative method which discounts both costs and outputs so as to point out any biases of the sort which give rise to the comment. The relatively short project life used, 20 years, also acts to moderate any such bias.

Comment 4:

The Louisiana Land and Exploration Company and the City of New Orleans jointly own approximately 30 percent of the lands affected by the Fourchon Spoil Impoundment Restoration project. The Louisiana Land and Exploration Company and the City of New Orleans cannot agree to support the Fourchon project, because it would be incompatible with their present plans for their property.

Response 4:

The Wisner Foundation, Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, and the Lafourche Port Commission, have been consulted concerning the Fourchon Hydrologic Restoration project. While these parties have voiced some reservations about the project, they have agreed that the evaluation of the project should continue. During the feasibility review process the lead Task Force member will clearly define environmental problems at the site and ensure that any project to be implemented will be designed to avoid use conflicts and potential adverse secondary impacts.

Comment 5:

The individual property rights of private landowners should not be usurped in the interest of implementing any coastal wetlands restoration project.

Response 5:

There is no intention to usurp the property rights of private landowners in the interest of implementing any coastal wetlands restoration project. The Task Force members are required to provide financial compensation to landowners for any real estate rights needed for implementation of a project.

Comment 6:

In the future, the landowners who are potentially affected by a proposed coastal wetlands restoration project should be consulted, as soon as possible, to ensure that they support that project.

Response 6:

It is the intention of the Task Force to consult with potentially affected landowners early and often in the future. The seven public scoping meetings held throughout coastal Louisiana have as an objective to identify landowners who are interested in implementing coastal wetlands restoration projects on their property.

Comment 7:

The Task Force should identify both the acreage of coastal wetlands preserved on the barrier islands themselves, as well as, the acreages of coastal wetlands preserved behind (landward of) the barrier islands.

Response 7:

Approximately 105 acres of saline marsh would be created within the 460-acre project area presently proposed for barrier island restoration. Approximately 2 miles of Eastern Isle Dernieres will be restored. Many believe that the barrier islands protect estuarine and wetland areas, as well. The benefits from this type of protection have not been determined for the Eastern Isle Dernieres project. Future efforts will include attempts to quantify the additional protection benefits provided by barrier islands.

Comment 8:

The aquatic-organism-access variable (V7) should be given additional emphasis in the "Wetland Value Assessment" habitat suitability index models.

Response 8:

Additions and revisions to the "Wetland Value Assessment" (WVA) model variables will be addressed during the re-evaluation of the WVA that will take place prior to the formulation of the Second Priority Project List. The purpose of this re-evaluation will be to revise and refine the WVA methodology, as appropriate to improve that methodology's applicability for use in measuring the quality of a wide range of coastal wetlands restoration projects. This process will be undertaken with full coordination with, and participation by, the Citizen Participation Group so that their concerns can be adequately addressed.

Comment 9:

In connection with the The Falgout Canal South - Wetland Creation Demonstration project, material dredged from the Mississippi River should be taken from areas that would benefit navigation. A prime candidate would be the Pilottown Anchorage. In addition, the Falgout project might take advantage of normal maintenance dredging to reduce the acquisition cost of the material, however, not in connection with Southwest Pass, because it is critical that dredging there be done as expeditiously as possible. Material routinely dredged from the wharfs in New Orleans could be used as a "free" sediment source for the Fourchon project.

Response 9:

Additional potential sediment sources will be identified during further project planning and design. Efforts will be made to minimize costs and to provide as many secondary benefits as possible. It is highly desirable to use more than one sediment source because this is a prototype system proposed to be expanded for use in various locations within coastal Louisiana. It should be noted that Section 302(6) states that "...the primary purpose of a coastal wetlands restoration project shall not be to provide navigation, irrigation, or flood control benefits....".

Comment 10:

The West Bay Sediment Diversion project provides for a contingency closure of the diversion channel if its cross sectional area enlarges by greater than 50 percent. Serious consideration should be given to another contingency closure. Shoaling rates downstream from the diversion channel should be closely monitored. If shoaling adversely affects navigation, the diversion channel should be temporarily closed until Mississippi River conditions allow it to reopen without the adverse impact.

Response 10:

Theoretically, diversion operations would incrementally increase shoaling immediately downstream of the diversion channel by about 300,000 cubic yards annually. Currently about 17 million

cubic yards of shoal material is dredged in this reach of the navigation channel annually. The project proposal includes a long-term monitoring program to assess the impact of diversion operations on shoaling in the Mississippi River navigation channel. Any incremental increase in shoaling will be handled as part of normal channel maintenance dredging operations.

The project is planned in two phases. The first phase sediment diversion would be constructed during low water to only about half of its proposed size. The project's performance would be monitored through at least one high water season before the final phase of construction would be started in the next low water season. Prior to starting this final construction phase, the diversion channel design would be modified as indicated by our monitoring to insure that it will draw off its share of shoal material with the water diverted. If properly designed, the sediment diversion will not increase shoaling in the Mississippi River to a point where navigation can be affected.

The current proposal for contingency closure of the diversion channel is based on the assumption that channel enlargement by 50 percent beyond its theoretical cross section would result in progressively larger portions of the river's discharge being diverted. Such an occurrence could eventually result in excessive shoaling in the navigation channel. To avoid this eventuality, substantial closure of the diversion channel could be affected. In an emergency situation, we anticipate that diversion discharges could be effectively shut down within 10 to 15 days after a dredge is located at the diversion site.

The West Bay Sediment Diversion project would involve discharge of water and sediment from the Mississippi River at about river mile 4.7 Above Head of Passes. Unlike the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion project, and the several other freshwater diversions proposed upstream of Head of Passes, the conceptual design for sediment diversion does not include a pile-founded gated control structure. The sediment diversion would simply consist of a trapezoidal channel cut through the bank of the Mississippi River. The channel would have a constant bottom elevation (-45 ft NGVD) from the river into the shallow open waters of West Bay. The sides and end of the diversion channel would slope upward to intercept the natural elevation of the water bottom in the area. The perimeter outlined by the intersection of

the channel sides and end slopes with the natural water bottom will act as a "weir" for sediment overflow.

The sediment diversion would be uncontrolled, with diversion discharges solely a function of concurrent stages in the Mississippi River and the West Bay marsh development area. As delta growth progresses, the main diversion channel will extend itself into the marsh development area, bifurcate, and many smaller sub-channels will form. A schematic showing features of the proposed sediment diversion is attached.

Comment 11:

The Task Force should develop a consistent format for presenting all projects to the Citizen Participation Group. With input from the Citizen Participation Group, such a presentation format could be: a.) easily understood by laymen; b.) consistent from project to project; and c.) a checklist of the qualitative factors that were considered in evaluating a project. With respect to c.), something very close to the product evaluations in "Consumer Reports", is envisioned. The with- and without- project maps of the Eastern Isle Dernieres project were particularly beneficial. Such visual presentations would be helpful for all projects.

Response 11:

The Task Force intends to refine the format of future publications and will work closely with the Citizen Participation Group to implement recommendations such as those listed above.

Comment 12:

The Citizen Participation Group recommends that the Task Force consider the phrase "long-term conservation of coastal wetlands and dependent fish and wildlife populations" to refer to a continuous process of conservation, both now and in the future.

Response 12:

Remanded to the Citizen Participation Group for their consideration during their review of the "Task Force Vision Statement."

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

**TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992**

**FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING ACTIVITIES
FOR PLANNING FUNDS**

Ms. Brenda Weber, Chief of the Finance and Accounting Branch, New Orleans District, will brief the Task Force on finance and accounting activities as they apply to CWPPRA planning studies.

**COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING,
PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT**

**REPORT ON PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION BUDGETS
AND EXECUTION PROCEDURES**

Funds in the amount of \$33,084,900 were received in the District on 22 January 1992. To date the following activities are on-going:

A. Finance and Accounting Activities for Planning Funds -

1. During the Task Force meeting of September 24, 1991 the Task Force members unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 1992 Budget presented at the meeting, which detailed spending \$4,582,000 of the \$5,000,000 available for feasibility efforts.

2. Eleven (11) DD Form Interagency Agreements have been issued, committing a total of \$3,201,400, and \$982,000 has been scheduled by the Corps. We are in receipt of 5 signed acceptance copies. Funds cannot be obligated or expended prior to receipt of the acceptance copy.

3. Receipt of additional guidance from Headquarters USACE, citing Office of Management and Budget Circulars A-87, Cost Principles for State and Local Governments; A-128, Audits of State and Local Governments; and A-102, Grants and Cooperative Agreements indicates the need for the State of Louisiana to submit the following documents before a request for reimbursement is processed (Federal agencies are exempt from these requirements):

a. DD Form 577, Signature Card or an equivalent State form for the designated state officials who are authorized to sign requests for reimbursements (encl 1). Generally, two officials are designated, a primary and an alternate.

b. SF Form 269 Request for Reimbursement, and SF Form 270 Quarterly Financial Status Report (encls 2 & 3).

4. Billing Procedures:

a. Each department will provide the name, title, and address of the official designated to receive payments. The Corps finance office will mail reimbursement checks to the designated address.

b. Each department will submit a bill via SF 1080 Voucher for Transfers Between Appropriations and/or funds (previously furnished) for reimbursement to the Project Manager (PM). The PM will review the bill and accept the services on behalf of the government. The PM will resolve all differences before forwarding the bill to the Finance and Accounting Branch.

B. Finance and Accounting Activities for Construction Funds -

1. Funds are currently available. DD Form 448 Interagency Agreements will be issued to the various agencies as provided by the project managers. Billings will be in accordance with the procedures stated above.

2. Approval by the State Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force of Priority List Projects is considered equivalent to a Letter of Intent to cost share the design and construction of a Project on the List; Therefore, the Lead Agency may begin Engineering and Design of a Project with Federal funds prior to completion of an LCA and bill the Corps for up to 75 percent of the total approved E & D cost

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DD Form 577, MAY 88

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5. SIGNATURE		
6. TYPE OF DOCUMENT OR PURPOSE FOR WHICH AUTHORIZED		
THE ABOVE IS THE SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL		
7. NAME OF COMMANDING OFFICER (Type or print)	8. PAY GRADE	
9. SIGNATURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER		

DD Form 577, MAY 88

Previous edition may
be used until exhausted

SIGNATURE CARD

★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1989-233-672

1. NAME (Type or print)	2. PAY GRADE	3. DATE
4. OFFICIAL ADDRESS		
5. SIGNATURE		
6. TYPE OF DOCUMENT OR PURPOSE FOR WHICH AUTHORIZED		
THE ABOVE IS THE SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL		
7. NAME OF COMMANDING OFFICER (Type or print)	8. PAY GRADE	
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OR REIMBURSEMENT</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">(See instructions on back)</p>		Approved by Chief of Management and Budget, No. 80-RO183	PAGE <u> </u> OF <u> </u> PAGES	
1. FEDERAL SPONSORING AGENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT TO WHICH THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED		2. BASIS OF REQUEST <input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCE <input type="checkbox"/> REIMBURSEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> ACCRUAL	3. TYPE OF PAYMENT REQUESTED a. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st time or cash basis b. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd time or cash basis <input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARTIAL	
4. FEDERAL GRANT OR OTHER IDENTIFYING NUMBER ASSIGNED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	5. PARTIAL PAYMENT REQUEST NUMBER FOR THIS REQUEST			
6. FUND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	7. RESURVEY ACCOUNT NUMBER OR IDENTIFYING NUMBER	8. PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REQUEST FROM (month, day, year) TO (month, day, year)		
9. RESURVEY ORGANIZATION Name: _____ Number and Street: _____ City, State and ZIP Code: _____		10. PAYEE (Name check @ or in full as directed then item #) Name: _____ Number and Street: _____ City, State and ZIP Code: _____		
11. COMPUTATION OF AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENTS/ADVANCES REQUESTED				
PROGRAMS/FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES >	(a)	(b)	(c)	TOTAL
a. Total program outlays to date (As of date)	\$	\$	\$	\$
b. Less: Cumulative program income				
c. Net program outlays (Line a minus line b)				
d. Estimated net cash outlays for advance period				
e. Total (Sum of lines c & d)				
f. Non-Federal share of amount on line e				
g. Federal share of amount on line e				
h. Federal payments previously requested				
i. Federal share now requested (Line g minus line h)				
j. Advances required by month, when requested by Federal grantor agency for use in making pre-scheduled advances	1st month			
	2nd month			
	3rd month			
12. ALTERNATE COMPUTATION FOR ADVANCES ONLY				
a. Estimated Federal cash outlays that will be made during period covered by the advance				\$
b. Less: Estimated balance of Federal cash on hand as of beginning of advance period				
c. Amount requested (Line a minus line b)				\$
13. CERTIFICATION				
I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the data above are correct and that all outlays were made in accordance with the grant conditions or other agreement and that payment is due and has not been previously requested.		SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL _____ TYPED OR PRINTED NAME AND TITLE	DATE REQUEST SUBMITTED _____ TELEPHONE (AREA CODE, NUMBER, EXTENSION)	
This space for agency use				

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

(Short Form)

(Follow instructions on the back)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted		2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned By Federal Agency		OMB Approval No. 0348-0039	Page	of pages
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address, including ZIP code)						
4. Employer Identification Number		5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number		6. Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		7. Basis <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual
8. Funding/Grant Period (See instructions) From: (Month, Day, Year)		To: (Month, Day, Year)		9. Period Covered by this Report From: (Month, Day, Year)		To: (Month, Day, Year)
10. Transactions:				I Previously Reported	II This Period	III Cumulative
a. Total outlays						
b. Recipient share of outlays						
c. Federal share of outlays						
d. Total unliquidated obligations						
e. Recipient share of unliquidated obligations						
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations						
g. Total Federal share (Sum of lines e and f)						
h. Total Federal funds authorized for this funding period						
i. Unliquidated balance of Federal funds (Line h minus line g)						
11. Indirect Expense		a. Type of Rate (Place "X" in appropriate box) <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional <input type="checkbox"/> Predetermined <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				
b. Rate		c. Base	d. Total Amount		e. Federal Share	
12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation.						
13. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete and that all outlays and unliquidated obligations are for the purposes set forth in the award documents.						
Typed or Printed Name and Title				Telephone (Area code, number and extension)		
Signature of Authorized Certifying Official				Date Report Submitted		