

*Scott Clark*

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act  
Meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee

August 22, 1997

**Draft Minutes**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Tom Podany, Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee (P&ES) chairman, convened a meeting of the P&ES of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force at 9:35 a.m. on August 22, 1997, at the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources in Baton Rouge. The agenda is attached as enclosure 1.

**II. ATTENDEES**

All members of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee were present. The members are listed below. A list of attendees is attached as enclosure 2.

- Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee:  
Mr. Tom Podany, Department of the Army  
Mr. Rick Hartman, National Marine Fisheries Service  
Mr. Carrol Clark, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources  
Ms. Jeanene Peckham, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Mr. Ronnie Paille, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mr. Britt Paul, Natural Resources Conservation Service

**III. PLANNING AND EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE DECISIONS**

**A. Request for Construction Approval on the West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project.**

Mr. Podany presented a request from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, for approval of the West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project (enclosure 3). Mr. Hartman noted that the current estimate of \$5,750,985 was an increase over the approved priority list estimate (an increase of \$897,000), though within 25 percent of the original estimate.

Motion by Ms. Peckham: That the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee recommend construction approval of West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project to the Technical Committee.

Second: Mr. Hartman.  
In favor: All.

**B. Recommendation of an FY 98 Planning Program Budget.**

Mr. Podany distributed summaries of the FY 98 budget that reflected both the discussions at the July 31<sup>st</sup> P&ES meeting and the requested amounts submitted by the agencies (enclosure 4). Ms.

Katherine Vaughan, Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, requested that an additional \$200,000 be set aside in FY 98 to complete Phase 1 of the Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study. The funds could be used for the feasibility report or the EIS, as determined to be necessary. Mr. Steven Gammill, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, submitted a proposal to utilize \$518,300 during FY 97 for a feasibility scope estimate and data collection effort of the Chenier Plain (enclosure 5). As an alternative to these proposals, Mr. Hartman suggested budgeting \$200,000 to complete the Phase 1 work and \$150,000 to develop a feasibility scope estimate and data collection effort for the Chenier Plain. In addition, he asked that \$115,000 be budgeted for the academic advisory group and that approximately \$200,000 be left unobligated for use later in the fiscal year, as discussed on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Mr. Hartman: That the subcommittee recommend approval of an FY 98 budget (see enclosure 6), which includes \$150,000 for Chenier Plain Feasibility Study (scoping and data collection), \$200,000 to complete Phase 1 of the Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study (feasibility report or EIS), \$115,000 for the academic advisory group, \$2,575,802 in agency budgets for completing Priority Project List 7 and initiating Priority Project List 8, \$279,000 for public outreach, \$80,264 for continuing work on GIS/Oyster Lease Maps, \$701,000 for Coast 2050, and \$186,034 in unobligated funds.

Second: Mr. Paul.

In favor: All.

### **C. Discussion of the FY 99 Budget**

The subcommittee reviewed the demands on the FY 99 budget, which is comprised entirely of carryover money from previous fiscal years. Based on the above proposal for the FY 98 budget, approximately \$430,000 would be available for such work as completing Priority Project List 8, COAST 2050, and oyster lease mapping. The subcommittee agreed to monitor the demands on the budget.

### **D. Request from the Corps of Engineers for Approval of Design Change to the Bayou Chevee Project**

Mr. Podany presented a request for approval of design changes to the Bayou Chevee Marsh Creation Project (enclosure 7). Based on a cursory review of cost effectiveness, the revised project would rank 25<sup>th</sup> out of the 29 candidate projects on the 5<sup>th</sup> list. The project originally ranked 9<sup>th</sup>. The revision in design was necessary to account for changed conditions and requirements from the Bayou Sauvage Refuge Manager that submerged aquatic vegetation areas and shorelines be protected with rock. Mr. Podany stated that Colonel Conner had directed the New Orleans District to develop the best plan for the area which would be acceptable to the Refuge Manager and which would fall within the 125 percent construction funding cap. The New Orleans District has set goals to quickly implement several CWPPRA projects, including this one. The results of the WVA indicate that the revised

project would have 42 percent of the benefits attributed to the original plan. Mr. Podany requested that the subcommittee consider approving the design change so that the contract could be awarded this calendar year. Mr. Hartman observed that the revised project design would not have been selected for the 5<sup>th</sup> Priority Project List due to its low ranking in cost effectiveness, and that these funds may be more appropriately used by other, more efficient project. In addition, he expressed concern that approving this project with such a drastic change in cost effectiveness could lead to more such requests in the future, particularly if land owners learn that their requests for costly added project features may be honored. He suggested that the Corps provide an incremental analysis for the ponded areas of the project, to ensure that a more cost effective portion is not being overlooked. Mr. Paille added that the Refuge Manager's primary concern was the northern most cove in the project area, and that this could potentially be protected at one-third of the current cost.

Motion by Mr. Paille: That the Corps of Engineers provide an incremental analysis of the project using three increments (south cove, north cove, and the entire project) prior to the 17 Sep Task Force meeting.

Second: Mr. Hartman.

In favor: All.

#### **E. Discussion of Potential Task Force Meeting Sites.**

Mr. Podany requested that the subcommittee provide input into an evaluation of alternative Task Force meeting sites. Colonel Conner has directed that the New Orleans District prepare an analysis of appropriate sites for next several Task Force meetings. The consensus of the subcommittee was that: 1.) large metro areas easily accessible to the public were best, such as Abbeville, Morgan City, Lafayette, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Thibodaux, Houma, and Lake Charles, 2.) night meetings were not advisable, but that Saturday meetings may be acceptable, 3.) there was no clear advantage of having the meeting at the Doubletree in Metairie over the Corps' office in New Orleans, and 4.) Large public facilities with free parking would be a plus. Mr. Podany stated that members of the Citizen Participation Group are being contacted for input into meeting locations, and that Mr. Gary Rauber will make a report at the next Task Force meeting.

#### **VI. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

None

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

**Meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee**

**Louisiana Department of Natural Resources  
625 North Fourth Street, Room 1123  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**August 22, 1997  
9:30 a.m.**

**Agenda**

1. Request for Construction Approval on the West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project.  
Corps' representatives will request that the subcommittee recommend to the Technical Committee construction approval for this project.
2. Recommendation of an FY 98 Planning Program Budget.  
The subcommittee will review the entire FY 98 planning budget (including funds for Coast 2050, feasibility studies, and public outreach, and miscellaneous activities) and make a recommendation to the Technical Committee.
3. Discussion of FY 99 Budget.  
The committee will review carry-over funds into FY 99 and form a plan for handling the funds, recognizing that ongoing activities, such as Coast 2050 and PPL 8 will require funding in FY 99 to be completed.
4. Request for Approval of Design Change for the Bayou Chevee Project.  
A Corps' representative will request that the subcommittee review a proposal to reformulate the Bayou Chevee project to account for changed conditions and desires of the Bayou Sauvage Refuge manager.
5. Discussion of Potential Task Force Meeting Sites.  
The subcommittee will consider the advisability of holding Task Force meetings at alternative sites in the future, as requested by the Task Force in July.
6. Other Business

22 Aug 97

Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Tom Podany	COE	862-2502
SHARON MARTIN	Gov. OFFICE	342-3968
Britt Paul	USDA ORIS	318-473-7814
Jimmy Johnston	USGS/NWRCC	318-266-8556
Ronny Paille	USFWS	318-262-6662 ext. 234
Janene Fickham	EPA	504-389-0736, <sup>FX</sup> 070
<del>Norm Thoms</del>	<del>EPA</del>	<del>214 662 2260</del>
Rick Hartman	NMFS	(504) 389-0508
Ric Ruebsamen	NMFS	504/389-058
CAROL CLARK	LDIVR	504 342 9418
JAY GAMBLE	CWPPRA	(504) 862-2786
Steve Gammill	DNR	504-342-0981

18Aug97

**MEMORANDUM FOR** Chief, Planning Division  
ATTN: Tom Podany (CWPPRA P&E Subcommittee)

**SUBJECT:** Request for Approval to Proceed to Construction on the  
CWPPRA West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project

1. The Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is ready to begin construction of the CWPPRA West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project. In accordance with the CWPPRA Project Standard Operating Procedures Manual, we request approval from the Task Force to proceed to construction. The required information is as follows:

a) CEMVN-RE-L internal memorandum, dated 18 Aug 97, subject of "West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Section 303(e) Approval", concludes that the project meets the requirements of Section 303(e) of CWPPRA.

b) By letter, dated August 7, 1997, the Natural Resource Conservation Service provided no present or foreseen concerns with over-grazing.

c) Total project cost is currently estimated at \$5,750,985, fully funded through Fiscal Year 2018. As the surveys were just obtained, this cost estimate will be verified shortly. The original PPL 2 maximum total fully funded cost was \$6,067,600.

d) The Cost Sharing Agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the local sponsor, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, was executed on December 27, 1997.

e) CEMVN-PD-RS internal memorandum, dated 4 Aug 97, subject of "West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project, Supplemental Environment Compliance", provides that the project is cleared for construction with regard to NEPA, cultural resources, and HTRW.

f) Plans and specifications were sent to the Lead Agencies for review and comments in June 1997. All comments received have been addressed. The current design is essentially unchanged.

Emcl3

CEMVN-PM-M (1110-2-1150a)

**SUBJECT:** Request for Approval to Proceed to Construction on the  
CWPPRA West Belle Pass Headland Restoration Project

g) The current schedule is enclosed. To meet this schedule please obtain, by fax/phone poll, the requested approval by 03Sep97. Approval is requested contingent upon the final estimate resulting in a total project estimate below 125% of the PPL 2 baseline estimate.

2. If you should have any questions, please call me at (504) 862-2626.



Bill Hicks  
Project Manager

Encl  
as

CWPPRA WEST BELLE PASS HEADLAND RESTORATION

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Execute Cost Sharing Agreement	Dec 96
Execute Escrow Agreement Admendment	Sep 97
Complete Land Acquisition	Sep 97
Advertise Construction Contract	Sep 97
Award Construction Contract	Nov 97

# Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act Estimated Budget

21 Aug 97

	FY95 Amount (\$)	FY96 Amount (\$)	FY97 Amount (\$)	Estimated FY98 Amount (\$)	
<b>State of Louisiana</b>					
DNR	416,700	495,500	371,100	367,473	
Gov's Ofc	94,200	84,900	95,300	95,305	
LDWF	20,000	20,000	15,800	15,800	
<b>Total State</b>	<b>530,900</b>	<b>600,400</b>	<b>482,200</b>	<b>478,578</b>	
EPA	252,300	310,700	354,700	346,270	
<b>Dept of the Interior</b>					
USFWS	152,400	183,600	235,800	223,626	
NBS	87,500	67,800	73,200	45,219	
NBS Mntrng		62,000 <sup>1</sup>	0	0	
USGS Reston		8,800	8,800	8,800	
USGS Baton Rouge	7,800	10,600	12,000	12,000	
<b>Total Interior</b>	<b>247,700</b>	<b>332,800</b>	<b>329,800</b>	<b>289,645</b>	
Dept of Agriculture	509,500	595,900	434,900	438,099	
Dept of Commerce	331,900	304,800	317,300	335,909	
Dept of the Army	759,200	862,100 <sup>2</sup>	792,000	687,301	
<b>Agency Total</b>	<b>2,631,500</b>	<b>3,006,700</b>	<b>2,710,900</b>	<b>2,575,802</b>	
<b>Feasibility Studies</b>					
Barrier Shoreline Study	1,007,000	766,600	355,400	518,300 <sup>8</sup>	2,647,300
Miss R Diversion Study	919,900	993,000 <sup>4</sup>	1,457,600 <sup>3</sup>	712,900	4,083,400
<b>Total Feasibility Studies</b>	<b>1,926,900</b>	<b>1,759,600</b>	<b>1,813,000</b>	<b>1,231,200</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>					
Academic Advisory Group	117,000	75,000	115,000 <sup>7</sup>	75,000	
Public Outreach	56,050	129,000	165,000 <sup>6</sup>	279,000	
DNR Video Repro	1,000				
GIS/Oyster Lease Maps	40,000		105,100 <sup>5</sup>	80,264	
Gov's Office Workshop			15,000		
GIWW Data collection			68,000		
COAST 2050				900,000	
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>214,050</b>	<b>204,000</b>	<b>468,100</b>	<b>1,334,264</b>	
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>4,772,450</b>	<b>4,970,300</b>	<b>4,992,000</b>	<b>5,141,266</b>	
Unallocated Balance	227,550	29,700	8,000	-141,266	
<b>Total Unallocated</b>	<b>227,550</b>	<b>257,250</b>	<b>265,250</b>	<b>123,984</b>	

1 amended 28 Feb 96

2 \$700 added for printing, 15 Mar 96 (TC)

3 transfer \$600k from '97 to '98

4 transfer \$204k from MRSNFR TO Barrier Shoreline Study

5 Increase of \$15.1k approved on 24 Apr 97

6 Increase of \$35k approved on 24 Apr 97

7 Increase of \$40k approved on 26 Jul 97 from Corps Planning Funds

8 Estimated

**Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act**  
**Estimated Budget (Assuming termination of Phase 1 EIS)**

21 Aug 97

	FY95 Amount (\$)	FY96 Amount (\$)	FY97 Amount (\$)	Estimated FY98 Amount (\$)
<b>State of Louisiana</b>				
DNR	416,700	495,500	371,100	367,473
Gov's Ofc	94,200	84,900	95,300	95,305
LDWF	20,000	20,000	15,800	15,800
<b>Total State</b>	<b>530,900</b>	<b>600,400</b>	<b>482,200</b>	<b>478,578</b>
EPA	252,300	310,700	354,700	346,270
<b>Dept of the Interior</b>				
USFWS	152,400	183,600	235,800	223,626
NBS	87,500	67,800	73,200	45,219
NBS Mntrng		62,000 <sup>1</sup>	0	0
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USGS Baton Rouge	7,800	10,600	12,000	12,000
<b>Total Interior</b>	<b>247,700</b>	<b>332,800</b>	<b>329,800</b>	<b>289,645</b>
Dept of Agriculture	509,500	595,900	434,900	438,099
Dept of Commerce	331,900	304,800	317,300	335,909
Dept of the Army	759,200	862,100 <sup>2</sup>	792,000	687,301
<b>Agency Total</b>	<b>2,631,500</b>	<b>3,006,700</b>	<b>2,710,900</b>	<b>2,575,802</b>
<b>Feasibility Studies</b>				
Barrier Shoreline Study	1,007,000	594,400 <sup>9</sup>	107,600 <sup>9</sup>	518,300 <sup>8</sup>
Miss R Diversion Study	919,900	993,000 <sup>4</sup>	1,457,600 <sup>3</sup>	712,900
<b>Total Feasibility Studies</b>	<b>1,926,900</b>	<b>1,587,400</b>	<b>1,565,200</b>	<b>1,231,200</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Academic Advisory Group	117,000	75,000	115,000 <sup>7</sup>	75,000
Public Outreach	56,050	129,000	165,000 <sup>6</sup>	279,000
DNR Video Repro	1,000			
GIS/Oyster Lease Maps	40,000		105,100 <sup>5</sup>	80,264
Gov's Office Workshop			15,000	
GIWW Data collection			68,000	
COAST 2050			255,000	645,000
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>214,050</b>	<b>204,000</b>	<b>723,100</b>	<b>1,079,264</b>
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>4,772,450</b>	<b>4,798,100</b>	<b>4,999,200</b>	<b>4,886,266</b>
Unallocated Balance	227,550	201,900	800	113,734
<b>Total Unallocated</b>	<b>227,550</b>	<b>429,450</b>	<b>430,250</b>	<b>543,984</b>

**Total**  
2,227,300  
4,083,400

1 amended 28 Feb 96

2 \$700 added for printing, 15 Mar 96 (TC)

3 transfer \$600k from '97 to '98

4 transfer \$204k from MRSNFR TO Barrier Shoreline Study

5 increase of \$15.1k approved on 24 Apr 97

6 increase of \$35k approved on 24 Apr 97

7 increase of \$40k approved on 26 Jul 97 from Corps Planning Funds

8 Estimated

9 Assumes a total of \$420,000 is removed from the Barrier Shoreline Study over 2 years from Phase 1 EIS.

Coastal Lands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act  
Fiscal Year 1998 Budget

21 Aug 97

Task	Number	Department of the Interior				State of Louisiana			Department of Commerce		CWPPRA Total Amount (\$)		
		Army Amount (\$)	USFWS Amount (\$)	NBS Amount (\$)	USGS Rsn Amount (\$)	USGS BR Amount (\$)	DNR Amount (\$)	LDWF Amount (\$)	Office of Gov Amount (\$)	EPA Amount (\$)		Agriculture Amount (\$)	
Develop Designs and Cost Est. for PPL7 Cand. Projects	PL7050*									800			12,800
Engr Wk Grp Reviews Designs and Cost Estimates	PL7060*		783							1,710			1,710
Evaluate Benefits of PPL7 Cand. Projects (Env Wk Grp)	PL7070*		783							3,820			4,603
Agencies Prepare Fact Sheets	PL7080*									1,150			1,933
Econ Wk Grp Evaluates Project Effectiveness	PL7090*									1,710			1,710
Lead Agencies Submit Fact Sheets for PPL7 Projects	PL7100*												
Present Candidate Projs for PPL7 to Public (1)	PL7105	8,734	2,740				6,137			5,290	6,063	4,183	33,147
Engr & Env Wk Grps Apply Selection Criteria (1)	PL7110	3,035	3,131				3,454			3,500	2,777	3,047	18,944
PES Selects Draft PPL7 Projects	PL7120	5,597	1,957				7,356			5,350	4,183	2,555	26,998
TC and CPG Review and Approve PPL7 Rcmdmtn (1)	PL7130		1,957				1,237			3,330	3,057	2,655	12,236
Present Draft PPL7 Projects to La. Nat. Res. Com.	PL7140	2,656					2,711			1,000	582	368	7,317
Agencies Prepare Input for PPL7 Report	PL7150	9,015	2,740				15,471			1,000	5,021	3,929	37,176
Task Force Reviews and Approves PPL7 (1)	PL7160		3,327				2,683			4,500	4,280	4,280	19,070
Prepare PPL7 Report	PL7170	24,503					40,16				1,833	737	31,089
Finalize PPL7 Report	PL7180	8,849					2,016				841		11,706
Submit PPL7 Report to ASA(CW)	PL7200	898											898
ASA(CW) Reviews PPL7 Report	PL7250												
ASA(CW) Submits PPL7 Report to Congress	PL7300												
Corps Prepares and Submits Revisions to Rest. Plan	RP3020	3,003	1,174										4,177
Develop a Plan for PPL8 (1)	PL8010	5,432	3,523				7,772			3,100	4,561	3,978	28,366
Interagency Meetings (12)	PL8015	35,258	47,354				15,999			17,020	24,320	16,296	156,247
Mtngs to Select PPL8 Candidate Projects (1)	PL8030		3,131				5,395			6,800	3,945	3,751	30,644
Develop Project Information for WVA	PL8040	9,830	6,654	17,577			37,782			16,700	46,423	48,118	183,084
Develop Dgns & Cost Est for PPL8 Cand Projs	PL8050	146,745	8,220				11,292			35,670	103,430	44,471	349,828
Engr Wk Grp Reviews sgns and Cost Est (7)	PL8060	14,229	391				4,202			5,400	11,978	2,655	38,855
Evaluate Benefits of PPL8 Candidate Projects (Env WG)	PL8070	59,384	67,456				21,284			36,900	34,312	30,946	250,282
Agencies Prepare Fact Sheets	PL8080	7,296	1,174				4,408			9,000	10,913	9,713	42,504
Econ Wk Grp Evaluates Project Effectiveness	PL8090	6,276	391				4,956			3,530	6,460		21,613
Submit Fact Sheets for PPL8 Projs	PL8100						1,382					491	1,873
Program Management--Coordination	PM8010	106,796	14,483				72,814		95,305	72,170	55,130	54,988	480,486
Program Management--Correspondence	PM8020	66,200	3,914				49,394			19,190	17,098	10,628	166,424
Prog Mgmt--Budget Development and Oversight	PM8030	71,957	5,872				2,878			29,820	24,433	26,972	161,932
P&ES Mtngs (7 mtngs; prep and attendance)	PE8010	17,324	7,046				9,718			13,710	13,531	8,239	69,568
Steering Com Mtngs (4 mtngs; prep and attend)	SC8010	10,822	5,872				352			8,400	8,673	10,022	44,141
Tech Com Mtngs (4 mtngs; prep and attend)	TC8010	21,583	8,807				7,851			11,720	14,538	6,193	70,692
Task Force mtngs (4 mtngs; prep and attend)	TF8010	34,257	11,743				7,511			15,480	13,670	21,851	104,512
Public Outreach	FO8010		7,829				11,664			8,500	12,528	8,346	48,867
Prepare Evaluation Report (Report to Cong)	ER8010		1,174				10,691				3,519	6,497	21,881
State Consistency Determination	CW8010						3,259						3,259
Miscellaneous Technical Support	MS8010			27,642			31,788						59,430
Total by Agency		687,301	223,626	45,219	8,800	12,000	367,473	15,800	95,305	346,270	438,099	335,909	2,575,802
COAST 2050	CT2050												

\* Activities marked with an asterisk were previously budgeted during FY 97 and are scheduled for completion during FY 98.

# Proposal to Utilize Funds Budgeted for the Phase II Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study

## Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

*Mar 98*

### Background

There are \$518,300 in CWPPRA Planning funds currently budgeted to conduct the Phase II Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study. Since this contract was awarded to T. Baker Smith and Son, Inc., in mid-1995, our restoration program has significantly expanded concomitant with an increased understanding of coastal restoration in general. This has resulted in our restoration priorities shifting accordingly.

The LDNR in conjunction with the CWPPRA Feasibility Study Steering Team unanimously decided on July 28, 1997 to modify the Phase II chenier plain feasibility study to incorporate a more comprehensive approach to restoration in that region instead of solely addressing erosion and restoration of the gulf shoreline. It has long been the opinion of the steering team that the scope of the phase II study required significant modification based on our experiences and findings from the phase I effort.

As we embark on the COAST 2050 initiative, CWPPRA and the State Wetlands Authority are taking a new approach to strategic coastal planning that heavily involves public input and development of coastal restoration policy to implement ecosystem management in concert with multiple coastal uses, and resources. DNR strongly believes that the chenier plain gulf shoreline and interior wetland and upland habitats should be viewed in the context of an ecosystem and that it is far better to broaden the view of restoration and management of the entire system, rather than focusing on a single system component as proposed in the current phase II scope. Moreover, this effort should focus hard on natural resource problems and issues that have been clearly identified by the public. Key among these issues are; 1) identifying the most practical means of lowering water levels in the Mermentau Lakes Subbasin while maximizing fisheries productivity and minimizing saltwater intrusion effects on agriculture, 2) determining the effects of the proposed Trans-Texas Water Plan on natural resources in the region and, 3) identifying potential mitigative measures to offset adverse impacts of the Trans-Texas Water Plan.

This proposal to modify the approach to the phase II study should be viewed in the context that DNR is managing this study as an agent of the CWPPRA Task Force and that we have, in good faith, executed a contract with T. Baker Smith and Son, Inc. for the phases II and III of the Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study.

### Proposal

1. Formulate a team of experts from local, state, and federal interest that can report to the CWPPRA Technical Committee. This team is herein referred to as the chenier plain team or CPT and would dovetail with the COAST 2050 Region 4 Planning Team. It is critical

*Emcl 5*

that local interests be consulted and involved in this effort due to the wealth of knowledge available on the hydrology of and issues affecting this region. The CPT would be evaluate the current state of knowledge and compile data sources on the chenier plain and make recommendations for funding of data collection efforts in the chenier plain at their discretion. This evaluation of data needs should be completed along with a recommendation for funding of additional data collection efforts submitted to the CWPPRA Technical Committee by March of 1998.

The suggested composition of the CPT is as follows:

**Local Representation:** Tina Horn, Cameron Parish  
David Richard, Stream Management Inc.  
Judge Edwards, Vermilion Corp.

**Federal Representation:** Tom Podany, USACE  
Ronnie Paille or Gerry Bodin, USFWS

**State Representation:** Steve Gammill, or Darryl Clark, LDNR; Paul Kemp, GOCA

2. In the event that the scope of work identified by the CPT falls within the existing contract for phase II, these services, shall be performed by T. Baker Smith, and Son, Inc. or their subcontractor in accordance with the existing contract. Tasks already specified are shoreline-specific and involve 1) sediment budgeting, 2) wave modeling, 3) methods of moving sediment from Trinity Shoal, 4) the coastal mudstream and Vermilion Parish mud flats, 5) identifying funding sources, and 6) identifying socio-economic impacts of restoration projects.
3. We recommend initiating Phase II associated work only after the outcome and review of the Phase I study. This should be complete by the end of 1997. At this time, the steering team could streamline the existing scope of services for the chenier plain if that is deemed desirable.
4. In order to understand and manage the chenier plain ecosystem it is imperative that we acquire as clear and comprehensive an understanding of system hydrology as is technically and economically possible. This would best be accomplished though two-dimensional finite element hydrodynamic modeling.

#### Model Development

Tasks that are outside of the existing TBS contract might include two-dimensional hydrodynamic modeling that would involve extensive data collection on marsh elevations, lake and channel

bathymetry, and tidal conditions. Some modeling has already been undertaken by the USACE under the Black Bayou Diversion Reconnaissance Study. This effort would build on that and would take approximately one year to build the model geometry..

Concurrent with establishing the basin geometry, boundary conditions for the model would be developed and this effort would take up to a year and a half during which time the model would be calibrated and verified.

As the model is being developed the COAST 2050 Region 4 planning team will be developing regional objectives and strategies to achieve those objectives. The model can then be used to refine the ecosystem management plan for the region and provide a measure of predictability of the effects of the management plan strategies.

A very rough time and cost estimate for model development, calibration, and verification would be roughly 2 years and \$1 million dollars. This cost includes tidal, elevation and bathymetric data collection.

#### **Over the long haul**

Only when we have a clearer understanding of regional hydrology will we have the information necessary to make technically sound decisions on large scale ecosystem restoration projects. If we are successful in this effort, in two years, we will have a handle on how to manage the chenier plain ecosystem within the context of multiple coastal uses. Also, at that time, if we decide to embark on a major feasibility study we should be in a much better position to evaluate alternatives.

# Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

Estimated Budget (Assuming the Reconfiguration of Phases 1 and 2 of the Barrier Island Study)

25 Aug 97

	FY95 Amount (\$)	FY96 Amount (\$)	FY97 Amount (\$)	Estimated FY98 Amount (\$)	
<b>State of Louisiana</b>					
DNR	416,700	495,500	371,100	367,473	
Gov's Ofc	94,200	84,900	95,300	95,305	
LDWF	20,000	20,000	15,800	15,800	
<b>Total State</b>	<b>530,900</b>	<b>600,400</b>	<b>482,200</b>	<b>478,578</b>	
EPA	252,300	310,700	354,700	346,270	
<b>Dept of the Interior</b>					
USFWS	152,400	183,600	235,800	223,626	
NBS	87,500	67,800	73,200	45,219	
NBS Mntrng		62,000 <sup>1</sup>	0	0	
USGS Reston		8,800	8,800	8,800	
USGS Baton Rouge	7,800	10,600	12,000	12,000	
<b>Total Interior</b>	<b>247,700</b>	<b>332,800</b>	<b>329,800</b>	<b>289,645</b>	
Dept of Agriculture	509,500	595,900	434,900	438,099	
Dept of Commerce	331,900	304,800	317,300	335,909	
Dept of the Army	759,200	862,100 <sup>2</sup>	792,000	687,301	
<b>Agency Total</b>	<b>2,631,500</b>	<b>3,006,700</b>	<b>2,710,900</b>	<b>2,575,802</b>	
<b>Feasibility Studies</b>					
Barrier Shoreline Study	1,007,000	594,400 <sup>9</sup>	107,600 <sup>9</sup>	350,000 <sup>8</sup>	<b>Total</b> 2,059,000
Miss R Diversion Study	919,900	993,000 <sup>4</sup>	1,457,600 <sup>3</sup>	712,900	4,083,400
<b>Total Feasibility Studies</b>	<b>1,926,900</b>	<b>1,587,400</b>	<b>1,565,200</b>	<b>1,062,900</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>					
Academic Advisory Group	117,000	75,000	115,000 <sup>7</sup>	115,000	
Public Outreach	56,050	129,000	165,000 <sup>6</sup>	279,000	
DNR Video Repro	1,000				
GIS/Oyster Lease Maps	40,000		105,100 <sup>5</sup>	80,264	
Gov's Office Workshop			15,000		
GIWW Data collection			68,000		
COAST 2050			255,000 <sup>10</sup>	701,000	
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>214,050</b>	<b>204,000</b>	<b>723,100</b>	<b>1,175,264</b>	
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>4,772,450</b>	<b>4,798,100</b>	<b>4,999,200</b>	<b>4,813,966</b>	
Unallocated Balance	227,550	201,900	800	186,034	
<b>Total Unallocated</b>	<b>227,550</b>	<b>429,450</b>	<b>430,250</b>	<b>616,284</b>	

1 amended 28 Feb 96

2 \$700 added for printing, 15 Mar 96 (TC)

3 transfer \$600k from '97 to '98

4 transfer \$204k from MRSNFR TO Barrier Shoreline Study

5 increase of \$15.1k approved on 24 Apr 97

6 increase of \$35k approved on 24 Apr 97

7 increase of \$40k approved on 26 Jul 97 from Corps Planning Funds

8 Includes \$200k to complete Phase 1 work, and \$150k to develop Phase 2 feasibility scope.

9 Assumes a total of \$420,000 is removed from the Barrier Shoreline Study over 2 years from Phase 1 EIS.

10 Excludes \$20k COE, \$5k NRCS, \$5k DNR, \$4k USFWLS, and \$16k NMFS moved to COAST 2050 during FY 97 for contracts

Emek 6

21Aug97

**MEMORANDUM FOR** Chief, Planning Division  
ATTN: Tom Podany (CWPPRA P&E Subcommittee)

**SUBJECT:** Request for Approval of Design Changes to the CWPPRA Bayou Chevee Marsh Creation Project

1. For the reasons stated below, the Corps, LADNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service would like to change the purpose of the subject project from a marsh creation project to a shoreline protection project.
2. Initially the project was to have created 150 acres of marsh behind an erodable earthen dike. Due to concerns about the high energy environment of the site with subsequent high erosion rates, there was concern that the use of an earthen dike would not realize the projected benefits of the project. Subsequent field visits discovered that a rock dike had recently been constructed in the middle of the marsh creation area of the project.
3. The project was then revised to tie into the recently constructed rock dike. This new alignment, with a front rock dike, resulted in only 86 acres of created marsh. However, the construction cost remained high (\$2,830,000) resulting in a total project cost at 120% of the baseline PPL 5 cost. Thus, there was a significant reduction in projected benefits and a 20% increase in cost over the baseline project.
4. To reduce the cost of the project, an alternative is to change the purpose of the project from marsh creation to shoreline protection. The proposed project (See enclosed maps of project and dike design) would include a rock dike constructed along the shoreline in about the 2 to 3 foot depth contour. The rock dike design would utilize geotextile fabric to reduce settlement. The rock dike would tie into to the southern end of the existing rock dike and extend along the shoreline for approximately 5,510 feet. The dike would also tie into the northern end of the existing rock dike and extend along the shoreline for approximately 1,850 feet. The dike would continue

Emcl 7

CEMVN-PM-M (1110-2-1150a)

**SUBJECT:** Request for Approval of Design Changes to the CWPPRA Bayou Chevee Marsh Creation Project

north, past a large open water area that is rapidly eroding toward a main line levee, for another 2,425 feet. Fish dips would be located wherever a mouth of a bayou exists and also in front of any large open water areas. The construction cost for this alternative is \$1,750,000; about a \$1,080,000 decrease from the above alternative. Total project costs are reduced to 95% of the original PPL 5 baseline cost. Thus, while the projected benefits will decrease, there is also a reduction in construction and total costs.

5. We request approval of this design change as soon as possible so that we can award the contract this calendar year. If you should have any questions, please call me at (504) 862-2626.



Bill Hicks  
Project Manager

2 Encls  
as

CF: (via Fax)

LA Department of Natural Resources (David Burkholder)  
US Fish and Wildlife Service (Howard Poitevint)

# L A K E P O N T C H A R T R A I N



- PROPOSED FISH DIPS
- PROPOSED ROCK DIKE
- USFWS ROCK DIKE

CHEF MENTEUR PASS

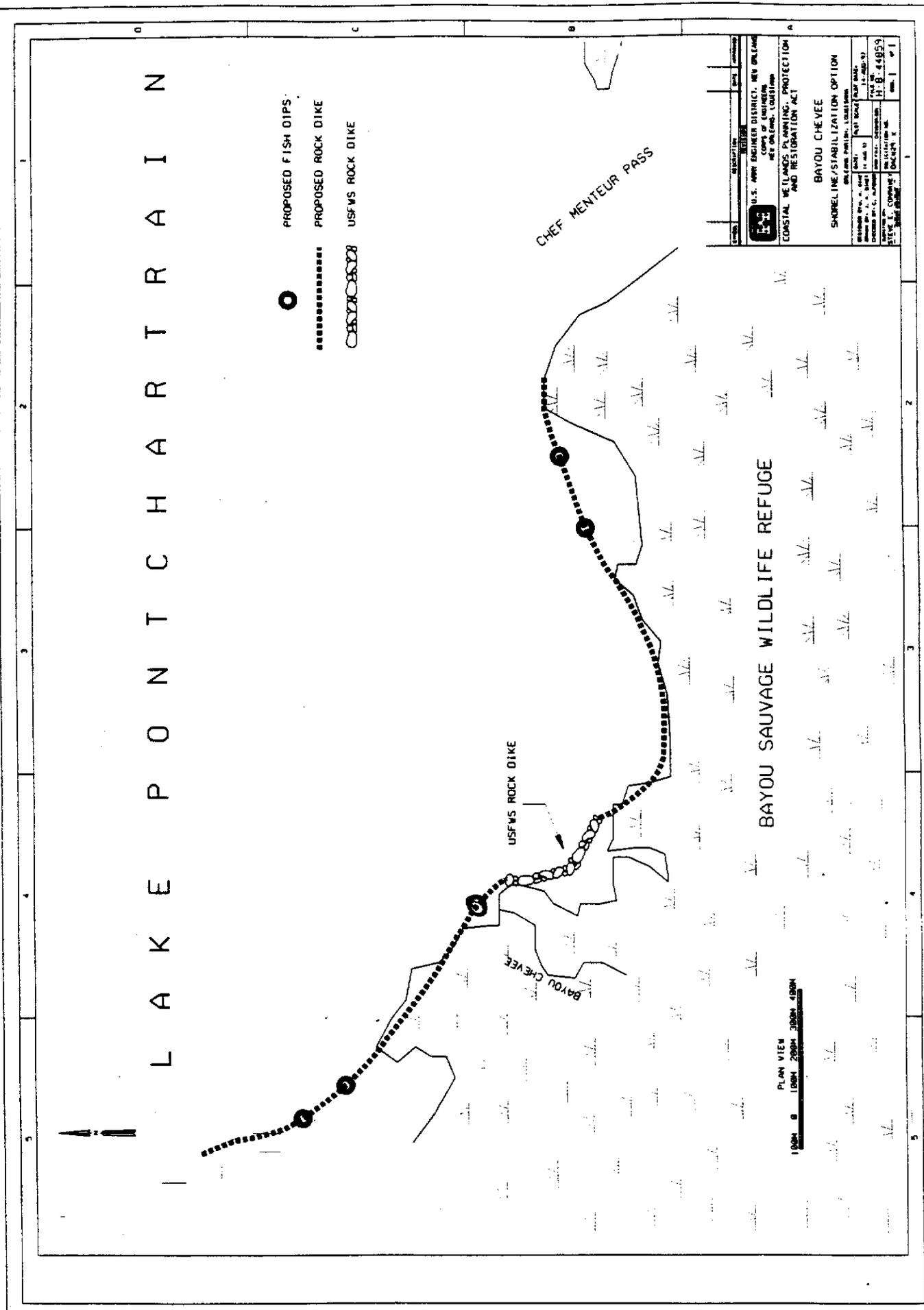
USFWS ROCK DIKE

BAYOU CHEVEE

BAYOU SAUVAGE WILDLIFE REFUGE

PLAN VIEW  
1:2000 0 1000M 2000M 3000M 4000M

U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, NEW ORLEANS Corps of Engineers Office of Civil Works	
COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT	
BAYOU CHEVEE SHORELINE STABILIZATION OPTION ONLY WITH FISHING, LOCALITIES	
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1	PROJECT NO. 44859 DATE: 11/8/89



**BAYOU CHEVEE MARSH CREATION  
PROJECT COST ESTIMATE(S)**

	<u>Original PPL Estimate</u>	<u>Current **1 Estimate</u>	<u>SP Plan **2 Estimate</u>
<b>REAL ESTATE:</b>	\$35,143	\$35,000	\$35,000
<b>HTRW/CULTURAL CLEARANCE:</b>			
Cultural Resources	\$41,200	\$53,500	\$53,500
HTRW	\$17,510	\$14,000	\$14,000
NEPA	<u>Not Included</u>	<u>\$29,975</u>	<u>\$29,975</u>
Subtotal	\$58,710	\$97,475	\$97,475
<b>ENGINEERING &amp; DESIGN:</b>	\$160,086	\$170,471	\$170,471
<b>CONSTRUCTION:</b>			
Construction	\$2,181,656	\$2,830,000	\$1,750,000
Construction S&I	\$128,622	\$58,650	\$58,650
Planting by Locals	<u>Not Included</u>	<u>Not Included</u>	<u>Not Included</u>
Subtotal	\$2,310,278	\$2,888,650	\$1,808,650
<b>O, M, R &amp; R: **3</b>	\$0	\$0	\$350,000
<b>MONITORING:</b>	\$143,067	\$143,067	\$143,067
<b>PROJECT MANAGEMENT:</b>	\$79,856	\$79,856	\$79,856
<b>LOCAL SPONSOR ACTIVITIES:</b>	\$57,040	\$57,040	\$57,040
Contingency (10% Hired Labor Items)	<u>\$46,640</u> =====	<u>\$0</u> =====	<u>\$0</u> =====
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,890,820</b>	<b>\$3,471,559</b>	<b>\$2,741,559</b>
Over/Under Original Estimate		\$580,739	(\$149,261)
% Over/Under Original Estimate		20.1%	-5.2%

\*\*1 Revised marsh creation alignment (86 acres)

\*\*2 Shore Protection Plan

\*\*3 O&M for Shore Protection estimated from average of Clear Marais and Vermilion River CWPPRA jobs