

BREAUX ACT
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

TASK FORCE MEETING
February 17, 2005

Minutes

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Peter J. Rowan convened the 57th meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Act Task Force. The meeting began at 9:45 a.m. on February 17, 2005 at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Division Assembly Room, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. The agenda is shown as enclosure 1. The Task Force was created by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA, commonly known as the Breaux Act), which was signed into law (PL 101-646, Title III) by President George Bush on November 29, 1990.

II. ATTENDEES

The attendance record for the Task Force meeting is presented as enclosure 2. Listed below are the six Task Force members in attendance:

Mr. Donald Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Mr. Sam Hamilton, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Mr. Miguel Flores, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
Mr. Rolland Schmitten, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Ms. Sidney Coffee, State of Louisiana, Governor's Office
Colonel Peter J. Rowan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 2004 TASK FORCE MEETING

Colonel Rowan called for a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 13, 2004 Task Force Meeting.

Mr. Donald Gohmert moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Rolland Schmitten seconded, and the Task Force passed the motion to adopt the minutes with no changes.

IV. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

A. Request: Programmatic Assessment of the CWPPRA Program and Coastal Restoration Plan

Colonel Peter Rowan highlighted the history and success of the Breaux Act program. In 1993, the Task Force developed a restoration plan and strategy for CWPPRA. After it became apparent that Breaux Act could not address the scope of the coastal erosion problem in

Louisiana, the Coast 2050 Plan was prepared to identify strategies for comprehensive coastal activities. More recently, in December 2004, the Omnibus Appropriations Bill extended the Breaux Act to 2019 and the Corps completed the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Near-Term Plan. Key features of CWPPRA include a multi-agency Task Force; public and parish involvement; awareness, education, and outreach; and a coast-wide monitoring system.

Colonel Rowan noted that CWPPRA is at a critical juncture, nearly halfway through its authorized life. Authorization is pending for the LCA Near-Term Plan. He believes a programmatic assessment is necessary to look at what CWPPRA has already delivered on a coastal basis and to examine the strategic role of CWPPRA within this new operating timeline and operating environment. One question is how the niche that CWPPRA fills will align with larger coastal programs in Louisiana. The assessment should define what CWPPRA is and is not and examine its role against LCA as well as the restoration priorities, criteria, and guidelines.

Colonel Rowan proposed that the Task Force place organizational priority on this assessment and consider canceling, delaying, or holding in abeyance PPL14 and 15 in order to guarantee a delivery of this programmatic assessment in a less than one year. The primary focus of the Task Force should be to set the future course for the program. The 129 projects on the books under PPLs 1-13 would continue during this time. Colonel Rowan asked the Task Force to prepare itself for the challenges of the next 14 years. The coastal programs are not rivals; rather they are complimentary. This multi-agency Task Force is a critical piece of the program that is geared toward delivery of projects.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion:

Ms. Sidney Coffee agreed that the program is at the juncture where assessment is needed to examine the processes and programming. Speaking for the Governor, Ms. Coffee continued, a lot of work, time, effort, energy, and money has gone into developing the 14th PPL and the parishes have an understanding and trust that these projects would be reviewed. She wanted the Task Force to consider moving forward with PPL 14 and was less inclined to rush forward with the development of PPL 15. She suggested that it would not be necessary to take a whole year for the assessment; it could be completed within six months. Ms. Coffee suggested that an outside firm facilitate the assessment. The parishes should also be involved. Ms. Coffee believed that if the Task Force did not do this, others would do it for them. She would much rather have the Task Force address the issue than someone else.

Mr. Rolland Schmitten believes it is healthy to discuss and learn from successes and failures. He has always held the view that CWPPRA and LCA are compatible and it is good to define and clarify that positive relationship. There will always be a role for quick, small-sized restoration projects. CWPPRA has shown its capabilities of wetland restoration through 15 years of experience. There is also a very positive relationship between CWPPRA and the parishes, public, and private owners. Mr. Schmitten supported the request for a programmatic assessment but was not prepared to do this at the cost of PPL 14. He was prepared; however, to delay PPL15 until the program could determine what's required to complete the assessment.

Mr. Miguel Flores agreed that the PPL 14 process needed to continue. A lot of effort has gone into the development of PPL 14. The Task Force should move forward and approve the projects based upon the Technical Committee's recommendation. Every organization needs to look at itself periodically, then adapt to ensure the needs of the public and State are being met. Mr. Flores was in favor of stepping back to look how CWPPRA might be changed. With respect to PPL 15, the Task Force should determine the scope and potential cost of the assessment to determine the impact to the existing PPL development process. Regardless of the time period to complete, the assessment should be a high quality, thorough product that will determine how CWPPRA fits with LCA.

Mr. Sam Hamilton supported development of this assessment because there are growing pressures to examine Federal spending to ensure programs are achieving the maximum value. It is time to do an updated restoration plan analysis and it should be the highest priority of the Task Force. One reason CWPPRA is so successful is because of the relationship between the State and Federal government and the local communities. Mr. Hamilton supported the selection of a 14th PPL and was agreeable to discussing the future of a 15th PPL. Mr. Hamilton compared CWPPRA to the Everglades Accelerate 8 program. The Accelerate 8 program was retrofitted into the Everglades program to deal with the urgent need to demonstrate "ground results" in the Everglades. In Louisiana, a program like the Accelerate 8 program would not be needed because we already have CWPPRA. This is a great opportunity to showcase CWPPRA's success. A clear picture of the future of CWPPRA and its relationship with overall restoration is important. We need to continue with both LCA and Breaux Act since both programs compliment each other.

Mr. Donald Gohmert agreed with everything stated. CWPPRA is a program that has developed and matured to construct projects that quickly meet local needs. The local people have helped to identify and develop projects; it has been highly successful. CWPPRA is inclusive; it includes Federal, State, and local involvement. Mr. Gohmert stated that he believes that CWPPRA is at a mid-point and needs to show its successes, benefits, and accomplishments. LCA did not come along because CWPPRA was a failure; it came along because of needs much greater than the scope of CWPPRA. Mr. Gohmert stated that he believes that CWPPRA would not duplicate LCA but the Task Force has reached a point where it has to show why it is not duplicative. This should not be done at the expense of PPLs 14 and 15. The assessment is important in order to demonstrate the achievements, results, success, maturity, organization, and efforts of CWPPRA. It is also important to show what is left for CWPPRA between now and 2019 and how LCA would compliment or supplement CWPPRA. We know that we have a \$14B problem in Louisiana. While we are working on what LCA can fund, we need to have CWPPRA to keep what we have before it's lost.

The floor was opened to the public for comments:

Ms. Karen Gautreaux, Deputy Secretary of DEQ, applauded the Task Force for bringing up this issue and supported completion of the assessment. She hoped that the Task Force would support approval of PPL 14.

Mr. Sherwood "Woody" Gagliano, on behalf of St. Bernard Parish President Henry Rodriguez, agreed this issue needed to be discussed. CWPPRA has been very instrumental in allowing local government to provide input on important decisions. The LCA framework does not seem to provide the same opportunity. He requested that this local interaction be allowed to continue under LCA.

Mr. Benny Rousselle, Plaquemines Parish President, wanted to ensure that local governments would be involved in the assessment process. He wanted to make sure that PPL 14 would move forward without delay, though he was not sure if there would be enough resources for PPL 15. If this assessment would enhance the program, he would consider supporting it.

Mr. Randy Moertle, representing landowners across the state, stated that he believed that private landowners need to be present during these discussions since the biggest landowners in the state are private landowners. He is concerned about a statement he heard at the last Governor's Commission, which stated that CWPPRA could be rolled into LCA. The western portion of the state has been left out of LCA. CWPPRA is necessary and needs to include the other side of the state as well. There are no projects for the western side included in PPL 14, but there are some nominations for PPL 15. He would not like to see PPL 15 stopped or delayed.

Mr. Steve Vaughn, District 5 Councilman in Plaquemines Parish, stated that he believes it is crucial to fund PPL 14 as well as to complete the assessment. If it takes six or nine months, it would be a healthy way to determine if CWPPRA is moving in the right direction. Building levees are critical, but marshes behind the levees are needed to protect the levee system. He hoped the Task Force would approve PPL 14.

Mr. Carlton Dufrechou, representing the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, stated that 8,400 acres in the Pontchartrain Basin have benefited from CWPPRA; however, they have lost 15-20 times that amount. He voiced his support of the programmatic assessment of CWPPRA and asked that we try to make the program more efficient than it is now. He also suggested keeping the big picture in mind. The foundation has recognized that *restoration* of the Pontchartrain Basin is probably not feasible. They are looking at what is truly *sustainable*, which should consider the infrastructure and uses for the areas.

Mr. Andrew MacInnes, Coastal Zone Administrator for Plaquemines Parish, stated that he would hate to see PPLs 14 and 15 projects put on hold; they are too important. Half of the projects in CWPPRA have been built, while the others are in review, study, or design. Just because a project is nominated does not mean it will be built; there are projects in the early PPLs that are still not built. He believed that the program could concurrently continue with PPL development and complete the assessment. LCA is so far off in the future; CWPPRA is all they have for now.

Mr. Dan Arceneaux, representing the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Advisory Committee, stated that he worked on the Coast 2050 Plan in the 1990s, but didn't get as much input into LCA. Mr. Arceneaux presented a scenario to the Task Force regarding nominations for PPL15. The St. Bernard Parish President and the Coastal Zone Advisory Committee decided which projects they would nominate at the PPL15 Regional Planning Team meetings and he felt

that he was blindsided by a project proposed by NOAA. NOAA nominated an expensive freshwater diversion project that would cost over \$40 million. He believed that this is why their project did not make the PPL 15 nominee list. He would like concerned citizens and St. Bernard Parish to be included in the discussion for any projects proposed for St. Bernard Parish.

Mr. Skip Haller, private landowner and concerned citizen, stated that he believes that doing anything to affect CWPPRA and its concepts would be a big mistake. He noted that any delay of these projects is a mistake and urged the Task Force to move forward with current projects.

Mr. Windell Curole, Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Administrator, noted that CWPPRA is the process that is working right now, not one that may come along in the future. There is no guarantee that money will be available once LCA is authorized. As long as we have CWPPRA, it is important to do what we can with existing projects. Mr. Curole suggested letting the parishes write the assessment instead of a contractor. He wanted to see 70 percent of the funds go to contractors actually building projects. Mr. Curole would like to move forward with constructing projects and indicated that any assessment should be done quickly.

Mr. Ronald LaBranco, a landowner near White Ditch, commented that he and his family have worked on the White Ditch PPL14 project. He noted that not approving the project at this late date or delaying PPL14 would be very discouraging.

Mr. W.P. Edwards III, Vermilion Parish Coastal Advisory Committee, believes that CWPPRA is a success story while LCA is still a pipe dream. LCA was meant to address the big picture projects that CWPPRA could not address. Mr. Edwards presented several analogies comparing CWPPRA and LCA. His first analogy was that the coast was analogous to a ship full of holes. He likened CWPPRA to "sticking fingers in the holes" until the ship could be brought to the "LCA dry dock". His second analogy was that the CWPPRA was similar to a medic in the field. Unless we deliver a live patient (through CWPPRA), there is no need to take the patient to the "LCA hospital". He believes that the CWPPRA projects need to be built and not postponed while the program is assessed. The public has had the opportunity to speak up if the projects were heading in the wrong direction.

Mr. Al Levron, representing Terrebonne Parish President Don Schwab, noted that there are no projects for Terrebonne Parish in the LCA Near-Term Plan, none in PPL 14, but there is one opportunity for Terrebonne Parish in PPL 15. He asked that the PPL 15 process not be delayed because the parish is located some distance from the Mississippi River and is not included in LCA.

Mr. Cullen Curole, representing Lafourche Parish, thought that the assessment is a valid idea. He would like to see the landowners' associations and parishes take part in the assessment so that CWPPRA can work for everyone in the state. He would like to see CWPPRA move forward, continue working to get LCA, and let the people in the front line do the assessment and provide the Task Force with ideas to improve the system.

Ms. Marnie Winter, representing Jefferson Parish, had no doubt that CWPPRA has been very effective. Jefferson Parish has gotten many important projects on the ground because of the program. She thinks that CWPPRA is at a juncture where it has to determine how it fits with LCA. She stated that she believes that the difference is scale and cost. LCA is needed for more complex projects like sediment diversions and barrier islands. She was encouraged that the State wanted the parishes to be involved and urged the Task Force to let them be involved. She hoped that PPL 14 would move forward since so much has been invested.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for additional discussion:

Mr. Donald Gohmert stated that he believes it is incumbent upon the Task Force to address PPL 14. There are two agencies with projects on PPL14: NRCS and NMFS. Mr. Gohmert was willing to dedicate NRCS staff to start the assessment process without a delay in initiating PPL 14 projects. Other agencies that do not have projects could start the assessment process. He wanted to task the Technical Committee to develop an outline for this assessment including accomplishments, effects on coast-wide restoration, adaptations made by the CWPPRA Task Force, long-term coast-wide restoration goals, identifying the strengths and weaknesses and opportunities to improve as well as to define a future role for CWPPRA. The assessment may also evaluate, update, and prioritize the strategies in the Coast 2050 Plan. In the past, we've completed the restoration plan, the Coast 2050 Plan, and adaptive management all while concurrently continuing to develop priority lists. He would like to make the decision on PPL 15 at the April Task Force meeting once an outline of the assessment is developed and the workload is examined.

Mr. Miguel Flores stated that the public respects the CWPPRA process and believed that if CWPPRA were taken over by LCA there would be a loss of involvement from the agencies and the public. This assessment needs to be realistic to determine what CWPPRA can and cannot do and how CWPPRA can be cost effective in restoring coastal Louisiana. Mr. Flores was prepared to assist and commit staff to the assessment. He believed that the Task Force should move forward with development of PPL 15 and could wait until April to make a final decision when the Task Force has a better idea on its scope, potential cost, and level of effort.

Ms. Sidney Coffee asked if the Federal agencies have the resources to do both PPL 14 and the assessment at the same time. She would like to ensure CWPPRA is a well functioning process and that projects continue. Mr. Sam Hamilton responded that the Federal agencies do not know if they have the resources for the assessment because they do not know the time and effort required. He liked the idea of having the Technical Committee further define the scope of this assessment.

Mr. Hamilton believes that if all the agencies, including the State, concentrated their efforts; it is possible to come up with substantial resources. He noted that everyone here is in strong support and agreement that completion of the assessment is a priority; and that PPL14 is also a priority.

Ms. Sidney Coffee asked the Task Force to provide direction and guidelines to the Technical Committee for the assessment rather than the reverse. The Task Force has to decide

its direction. It would also be helpful for an outside contractor to help facilitate this assessment and should not be in preclusion of involvement of parishes and landowners. Colonel Peter Rowan told the Task Force that he was prepared to provide a draft to them within two weeks for their approval. The Technical Committee would then determine the scope and resources required. Colonel Rowan stated that he sees a strong consensus with moving forward with the PPL14 approval. He heard a question on the fate of PPL15, and agreed to continue to develop the PPL15 nominees while scoping out the assessment.

Colonel Rowan asked Mr. Podany about the critical activities in PPL15 between now and April. Mr. Tom Podany noted that the fact sheets, estimates, costs, and scopes are currently being prepared for the PPL 15 projects. There is a Technical Committee meeting scheduled in March to select the six candidate projects. The Technical Committee needs to know whether these activities should continue or held in abeyance. Mr. Rick Hartman added that time and money has been invested into PPL 15 and that many of the fact sheets are 70-95 percent complete. He recommended completing the fact sheets. The future PPL15 activities could be put on hold pending a resolution on the assessment.

Mr. Donald Gohmert stated that he believes the time frame is also very important since it would determine the amount of staff and resources required. The Task Force agencies have showed they have been able to do these types of analysis in the past while concurrently continuing PPL development. For example, the 1993 Restoration Plan and Coast 2050 were completed without delaying the current PPL process.

Colonel Peter Rowan acknowledged the consensus to continue with PPL 14 projects. The decision whether or not to hold the follow-up PPL 15 meetings would be determined based on the scope and timeframe for the assessment. The Task Force will have an outline for the assessment in 14 days so that the Technical Committee will have it in time for the March Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Miguel Flores wanted to allow the parishes to provide input on their view of what the assessment should contain. Colonel Rowan agreed that there might be a parish organization, such as Parishes Against Coastal Erosion (PACE), that would provide feedback. Ms. Sidney Coffee agreed and asked that PACE concurrently review the outline along with the Task Force.

B. Request: Recommendation to Restrict Phase I Budgets for Ongoing Projects to a Cap of 100% (Including Contingency)

Mr. Tom Podany presented the Technical Committee's recommendation to lower the 125 percent cap on cost estimates and budgets for all ongoing Phase I CWPPRA projects to 100 percent. The 43 projects fall into 4 categories: (1) projects approved for Phase II and completed construction, (2) projects approved for Phase II and under construction but not yet completed construction, (3) projects approved for Phase II but not yet started construction, and (4) ongoing Phase I projects. If the Technical Committee's recommendation to cap these projects were approved, these projects would need to come back to the Technical Committee and the Task Force for budget increases.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion:

Mr. Miguel Flores questioned how the new cap would relate to the current percentages shown in the spreadsheet in the binder. Mr. Tom Podany replied that the projects would be capped at the figure in the column entitled "Phase I Required Estimate". In some cases, this amount is now greater than 100%. This amount would become the new 100% estimate.

Mr. Rolland Schmitt made a motion to cap these projects in Phase I as outlined in the column entitled "Phase I Required Estimate" with the knowledge that these projects could come back to the Task Force to request additional money. Mr. Donald Gohmert seconded. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

C. Request: Recommendation to De-authorize the Marsh Creation South of Leeville Project (BA-29)

Mr. Tom Podany presented the Technical Committee's recommendation to de-authorize the Marsh Creation South of Leeville Project based on a consensus among the agencies. The Technical Committee provided copies of the letters related to the deauthorization and has provided a timeline on the deauthorization procedures to date for the project. It was noted that the Task Force provided preliminary approval to begin the de-authorization process for this project in August 2004.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion; however, there were no comments.

The floor was opened to the public for comments:

Mr. Windell Curole said that the Lafourche CZM Committee is re-examining the relocation and reconstruction of the Leeville Bridge to reduce the CWPPRA project concerns: oyster leases, land ownership, and construction. The Greater Lafourche Port Commission has agreed to change the bridge design. By relocating the bridge, it eliminates the oyster lease and land ownership issues. The only remaining concern is the construction issue. He asked the Task Force to delay their deauthorization decision until July 1, 2005 so that they will know if the Leeville Bridge project would move forward.

Colonel Peter Rowan asked why this change would not be considered a new project. Mr. Windell Curole replied that this suggested change is serving the same basic purpose in the same vicinity. Mr. Gerry Duszynski noted that he had no problem with holding deauthorization of this project in abeyance, but added that they would have to redo soil borings and engineering if the project site were to move. Mr. Windell Curole added that if the Task Force agrees to de-authorize the project, then the port commission would not readjust the design for the more favorable alignment. Mr. Cullen Curole added that this project was also put on hold because the bridge project was on the horizon. As to being a new project, there have been other CWPPRA projects that have been moved within a few thousand feet of the original proposed location.

Mr. Tom Podany said that the project would need approval from the Technical Committee and Task Force in order to change the scope if the Task Force did not act on the deauthorization recommendation. There has been documentation of the problems with the project at its current location, which led to the initiation of the de-authorization process. A re-analysis would be needed to determine if a change in scope is warranted. Mr. Gerry Duszynski added that the original project was inexpensive, but with the soil conditions and water depth, the expenses increased, reducing the cost effectiveness, which is why they did not ask for additional money. Mr. Duszynski added that the original intent was to build the project in one lift. With the soil conditions and water depths at the original project location, the project would require 2-3 lifts to complete.

Ms. Charlotte Randolph, Lafourche Parish President, noted that the Task Force was being asked to de-authorize the only project in Lafourche Parish. This is a very important project and is part of a bigger project; it is saving an area. She asked for more time to study the situation.

Mr. Windell Curole added that the port commission has spent a lot of money considering this adjustment. A decision was needed if the project would continue if the bridge were to be relocated. Colonel Peter Rowan asked what agreement would be in place in six months. Mr. Curole replied that if the program in Washington were approved, the bonds would be sold. Colonel Rowan asked if there was a guarantee to execute this project. Ms. Sidney Coffee asked if DOTD has reviewed this plan. Mr. Curole explained he was trying to look at the possibilities and ways to achieve greater benefits. Mr. Miguel Flores, representing the lead agency for this project, was willing to place the Phase I funding for the White Ditch PPL14 project on contingent approval and entertain a delay of the de-authorization pending the outcome.

Colonel Peter Rowan acknowledged the fact that the project is in the same general location, but it is a new concept and incorporates funding and opportunities from a new source. Mr. Windell Curole replied that any delay would lose the bridge alignment advantage. Colonel Rowan agreed that this would be a great opportunity, but there are means to address this opportunity and still de-authorize the existing project. He noted that there is \$4.2 million that could be allocated to PPL 14. If this project is de-authorized, the funding would increase to \$5.2 million, allowing the first two projects on PPL 14 to be recommended for Phase I approval; otherwise only one could be approved.

Mr. Miguel Flores made a motion to accept the Technical Committee's recommendation to de-authorize the Marsh Creation South of Leeville Project. Col. Peter Rowan seconded the motion. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

D. Request: Selection of the 14th Priority Project List

Mr. Chris Monnerjahn presented the PPL 14 candidate and demonstration projects.

Region 1

1. Irish Bayou to Chef Menteur Pass Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation. This project, located in Orleans Parish, would require the construction of 20,700 linear feet of rock dike and

the creation of 46 acres of marsh. Approximately 147 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$13.3 million.

Region 2

2. Riverine Sand Mining/Scofield Island Restoration. This project, located in Plaquemines Parish, would hydraulically dredge sand from the Mississippi River to restore Scofield Island. Approximately 234 acres of barrier island habitat would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$44.5 million.

3. South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation. This project, located in Jefferson Parish, would require the construction of 10,900 linear feet of rock dike, 1,000 linear feet of panel wall, and hydraulically dredge material from the Pen to create and nourish the marsh. Approximately 116 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$17.5 million.

4. Venice Ponds Marsh Creation. This project, located in Plaquemines Parish, would require hydraulically dredging material from Grand and Tiger Passes to create and nourish the marsh as well as a 100 cfs crevasse. Approximately 593 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$20.2 million.

5. White Ditch Resurrection and Outfall Management. This project, located in Plaquemines Parish, would replace the existing siphon and construct a new, 250 cfs siphon. Approximately 189 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$14.8 million.

Region 3

6. East Marsh Island Marsh Creation. This project, located in Iberia Parish, would require hydraulically dredging material from East Cote Blanche Bay to create and nourish marsh. Approximately 189 acres of additional marsh would remain in the project area after 20 years. The fully funded estimate for this project is \$16.8 million.

Demonstration Projects

7. Barrier Island Sand Blowing Demonstration Project. This demonstration would use sand blowing technology to restore barrier islands. The fully funded cost is \$1.8 million.

8. Beneficial Use of Dredge Disposal Areas Demonstration Project. This demonstration would use dredging technologies to mine upland disposal areas and improve the design of single point discharge fields. The fully funded cost is \$2.4 million.

9. Evaluation of Bioengineered Reefs Performing as Submerged Breakwaters Demonstration Project. This demonstration would construct and monitor the performance of bioengineered oyster reefs as submerged breakwaters. The fully funded cost is \$1.3 million.

10. Floating Wave Attenuator Demonstration Project. This demonstration would test several floating wave attenuator systems to determine if the products can protect the shoreline. The fully funded cost is \$1.3 million.

11. Flowable Fill Demonstration Project. This demonstration would test injecting or applying a flowable, fill material into rock structures and to the erosive face of earthen terraces. The fully funded cost is \$1.2 million.

12. Sand Fence Alternatives for Dune Formation and Colonial Nesting Bird Platforms on Barrier Island Demonstration Project. This demonstration would test the use of biodegradable oyster shell sacks to capture sand and promote dune formation. The fully funded cost is \$490,000.

13. Wetland Enhancement via Treated Sewage Effluent Diversions Demonstration Project. This demonstration would attempt to enhance wetlands by diverting sewage effluents into the marsh. The fully funded cost is \$1.1 million.

Mr. Tom Podany announced that the top-voted projects were the Riverine Sand Mining/Scofield Island Restoration, White Ditch Resurrection and Outfall Management, the South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation, and East Marsh Island Marsh Creation Projects. It was noted that there was only \$5.2 million available for these projects, which would only fund the top two projects. The Technical Committee recommended Phase I approval for the Riverine Sand Mining/Scofield Island Restoration and White Ditch Restoration and Outfall Management projects and contingent approval on the second two projects if funds would be available before August 31, 2005. No demonstration projects were recommended.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion:

Mr. Miguel Flores asked for the meaning of "contingent approval if funds are available by August 2005". Mr. Tom Podany explained that if construction program funds were available before August 31, 2005, then those funds could be used to fund Phase I for the 2 contingent projects. If funding were not available by August 31, 2005, then these projects could be considered as candidate projects under PPL 15. Additional funding could come from projects that come in under budget and returned money to the Task Force or if there would be a de-authorization identified before August 31.

Mr. Gerry Duszynski asked for clarification on the features of the White Ditch Project. Mr. Chris Monnerjan replied that the concept for this project is to rehabilitate the existing siphon but the cost estimate is for full replacement of the existing siphon. An additional 250 cfs siphon is also included. Because it is not currently an operational project, Mr. Duszynski asked that a caveat be placed on the White Ditch project: the land rights issues should be cleared before engineering and design effort are started. Colonel Peter Rowan agreed that this would be a good suggestion for the project.

The floor was opened to the public for comments:

Mr. Andrew MacInnes noted that the Scofield Island Project is very important for coastal restoration and if it is not funded, it will end up requiring repairs similar to the Shell Island Project, which will cost nearly \$200 million. The hesitation on White Ditch stems from land

rights issues. Mr. LaBranco, a landowner, stated earlier that he has spent a lot of his own time to show the area to the agencies. Mr. MacInnes believes that the landowner supports this project.

Mr. Gerry Duszynski asked if CWPPRA would be able to operate the siphon since it is currently parish-owned. Mr. MacInnes could not speak for the parish president, but believes that would be the case. He would like to see CWPPRA operate and maintain the siphon as well as other siphons.

Mr. Miguel Flores asked why the PPL14 Venice Ponds Marsh Creation project (with the highest prioritization score, the highest net acres and the highest net effectiveness) was not at the top of the ranking for Phase I approval. Mr. Andrew MacInnes replied that it was ironic that that highest ranked project came in dead last and added that the Venice Ponds Project was re-nominated for PPL 15 with some clarification about items perceived as a hindrance. Mr. Pat Williams, NMFS, convinced the other agencies that the changes were worthy of further consideration.

Mr. Andrew MacInnes added that he recently addressed a group of high school students at Buras High School. He encouraged them to attend this Task Force meeting and get involved in the public comment process. He asked that they be allowed to address the Task Force.

Mr. Richie Blank, a senior at Buras High School, noted that in the past 12 years the bayou and several fishing areas have disappeared. He noted that Congress needed to know how serious this issue is by acting to curb coastal erosion; otherwise the memories, homes, and economy will be lost. He asked the Task Force to fund the Scofield Island Project and move forward without time consuming studies.

Mr. Jeff Edgecomb, a senior at Buras High School, relayed a possible hurricane scenario should the coast further deteriorate. He stated that he supports reversing coastal erosion; otherwise coastal life in southern Louisiana would be lost.

Ms. Marnie Winter, representing Jefferson Parish, asked the Task Force to consider the South Shore of the Pen Project contingent upon finding available funds before August 31, 2005.

Mr. Greg Linscombe, on behalf of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, stated that they support the East Marsh Island Marsh Creation Project. Marsh Island took the hit of Hurricane Lili in 2002 while protecting the north shore of Vermilion Bay and the northern part of the refuge.

Mr. Skip Haller, representing Madison Land Company, noted that the South Shore of the Pen is a vital area in saving the marsh. He urged the Task Force to fund the Pen Project and added that it does have 100 percent landowner cooperation.

Mr. Rolland Schmitten made a motion for Phase I approval of PPL 14, with immediate approval for the Scofield Island Restoration Project and White Ditch Outfall Management Project, and contingent approval for the South Shore of the Pen Project as well as East Marsh Island Project, if sufficient funds are found by August 31, 2005. The Task Force asked to be

updated at their April and August meetings concerning available funds to approve the contingent projects. If funding were not available, these projects would be considered as candidates for PPL 15. Mr. Rolland Schmitten added a motion to seek further resolution on the landowner issues for the White Ditch Project. Mr. Donald Gohmert seconded. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

E. Request: Request for Change in Scope of the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project (ME-18)

Mr. Tom Podany stated that this agenda item is a request for a change in scope and does not have an impact on funding. NOAA Fisheries recommended that the Rockefeller Refuge Project would be best implemented if four test sections were constructed to determine which best addressed the high energy and poor soil conditions in this area. Once the design is completed, they would return to the Technical Committee and Task Force to seek additional funding, if needed, to finish Phase I and if favorable, Phase II. The Technical Committee recommended the change in scope be adopted, as there is no associated change in cost at this point.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion:

Mr. Gerry Duszynski noted that the goal of this change in scope is to test several alternatives to see the response instead of a large-scale engineering solution.

Dr. Len Bahr recommended consulting a group of shoreline experts led by Dr. Shea Penland not only because of the soil stability issue but also the mud stream from the Atchafalaya. Dr. John Foret, project manager from NOAA Fisheries, replied that public meetings have been held and the project has been reviewed by engineering sources. Over 80 design alternatives were originally considered. Dr. Foret believes the project has gone through the necessary review steps and to wait for another review would be detrimental.

Mr. Greg Grandy, former project manager for the project for the Department of Natural Resources, noted that one of the difficulties is the mud on the shore along the Gulf of Mexico. The problems were presented to the shoreline team mentioned by Dr. Bahr over two years ago as well as to Mr. Nick Krauss with the Corps. Both agree with the recommendation to build test sections. Colonel Peter Rowan noted that the rationale is sound and that as progress moves forward, the team should engage Dr. Penland's team in the process and get input on how to analyze the test sections and design.

Mr. Donald Gohmert made a motion to accept the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the change of scope without a change in cost estimate for the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project. Mr. Rolland Schmitten seconded. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

F. Request: Request for Change in Scope of the Pass Chaland to Grand Pass Shoreline Restoration Project (BA-35)

Mr. Tom Podany presented the Technical Committee's recommendation for a change in scope for the Pass Chaland to Grand Pass Shoreline Restoration Project. During the 35 percent design review, NOAA Fisheries recommended a change to the shoreline protection feature. The initial concept was to build a marsh platform behind an existing dune. Upon further inspection, both beach and dune restoration would be needed in addition to the marsh platform to achieve the original project goals. At this time there is no request to increase the cost of the project.

Colonel Peter Rowan asked what impact the increase in scope would have to the fully funded work estimate. Mr. Tom Podany replied additional funding might be required in Phase II, however, there was no increase being requested at this time.

Mr. Sam Hamilton made a motion to approve the change of scope for the Pass Chaland to Grand Pass Shoreline Restoration Project. Mr. Rolland Schmitt seconded. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

G. Request: Results of the After Action Review of the Fall Phase II Decision Process in 2004 and a Recommendation for Authorization Schedule for the Next Funding Cycle

Mr. Tom Podany presented the Technical Committee's recommendation to change the sequence in which the yearly funding requests are approved. The Technical Committee recommends that in the future, Phase I funding, O&M, monitoring, Corps administration and planning budget approvals be made at the annual Fall Task Force meetings, while Phase II funding approvals be made at the annual Winter Task Force meetings. The current process calls for all of these approvals to be made in the Fall, which resulted in a lengthy meeting. There is also more uncertainty about how much money will be received in the next fiscal year at the Fall meetings than during the Winter meetings.

The floor was opened to the Task Force for discussion:

Colonel Peter Rowan added that in the Fall Task Force meeting, the Task Force tried to look at the yearly cycle a bit differently and asked the Technical Committee to review how the Task Force did. Colonel Rowan noted that there was some uncertainty in terms of the funds available at the Fall meeting. Mr. Sam Hamilton believes it is a reasonable way to proceed, particularly with the uncertainty in available funds. Mr. Hamilton said that this seems to be more efficient and he would support it.

Mr. Donald Gohmert made a motion to accept the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve Phase I, O&M, monitoring, Corps administration, and planning budget requests in the Fall while approving Phase II requests in the Winter, beginning in the Fall of 2005. Mr. Roland Schmitt seconded the motion. All Task Force Members voted in favor and the motion passed.

V. INFORMATION

A. Report: Status of Breaux Act Program Funds and Projects Including Available Funds for Phase I Funding or Other Authorizations

Ms. Gay Browning discussed the funding situation including the planning program, construction program, and status of CWPPRA accounts. The FY05 planning budget was approved for \$5.19 million in October 2004, leaving a surplus of \$512,000 in the planning program. The total cost approved for developing PPL 15 is \$1.179 million. The total cumulative Federal funds received for the construction program is \$585 million; there are \$500 million in obligations and \$247 million in expenditures. There are currently 129 active projects; 64 have completed construction, 12 currently under construction, and 53 have not started construction yet. There are 22 projects scheduled to request Phase II funding and one complex project to request Phase I funding in FY06 for a total increment 1 (construction + 3 years of O&M and monitoring) cost of \$370 million. The total available funds to approve PPL 14 are \$5.2 million, which includes the funding from the pending de-authorization of the Leeville Project.

Ms. Julie LeBlanc gave an overview on the future funding status of the program. The current unobligated balance in FY05 is \$143 million, which does not include obligations for projects approved in October 2004 but does include the FY05 work allowance. The average difference in unobligated funds and "unencumbered" funds from FY00 to FY03 was \$150 million. In FY04, the difference was \$84.0 million. It is expected that this difference in FY05 will be similar to FY04.

The total funding for the program, Federal and non-Federal, with the previous authority is \$1.15 billion. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005, signed in December 2004, extended the Breaux Act through 2019. Based upon the latest Department of Interior projections through FY15 and Corps' estimates through FY20, the total program funding, Federal and non-Federal is estimated to be \$2.06 billion. Assuming that the Task Force would "commit" to 20 years of O&M for projects that have been approved for construction, to date, \$795.3 million of this total has been "committed". This includes the total costs for all PPL 1-8 projects and only the current Phase (either Phase I or II) of all PPL 9+ projects. There is \$1.264 billion remaining between the "committed" funds and the total program ceiling. Although there would not be enough FY06 funding to approval all 22 projects currently scheduled to request funding in FY06, the funding required to fully fund the cost of these 22 projects would not breach the overall funding ceiling of the program.

B. Report: Status of LCA Program

Mr. Kevin Wagner reported that LCA has made a significant step in moving toward authorization; on January 31, 2005, General Strock signed the Chief's Report. The Congressional delegation is working on the draft authorizing language. The Project Execution Team is working on four or five efforts for this year and will possibly execute 11 projects for next year. The budget for FY05 is \$8.5 million, while FY06 almost doubles.

C. Report: Public Outreach Committee Annual Report

Ms. Gabrielle Bodin presented the Public Outreach Committee's Annual Report. There was a dedication ceremony on May 21, 2004, which had statewide media coverage. Senator John Breaux was the master of ceremonies. Six projects were dedicated and one project had a ground breaking. Senator Breaux was recognized at this event for his contributions in restoring coastal Louisiana. The Senator also had an official visit to the USGS National Wetlands Research Center. The Corps served as the lead for the Coastal America Awards Ceremony and CWPPRA Outreach provided support and developed a video on background of the Breaux Act. The Protect the Purchase exhibit, an initiative funded by the Task Force, took advantage of the 200th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase and has visited the Louisiana State Museum, National Parks Service, and Louisiana State Parks system.

The following outreach efforts were conducted during the past FY:

- Beaux Act Newsflash
- LaCoast Web Site
- *WaterMarks*
- CWPPRA Project Fact Sheets - Completed and Being Updated
- CWPPRA Brochure
- Media Coverage
- Sponsored the Restore Americas Estuaries Conference in Seattle
- Exhibited or Presented at Conferences
- Educational Workshops and Information

The following outreach efforts were conducted from October to December 2004:

- The Breaux Act Project Manager's Media Training
- Louisiana Coastal Wetland Educator's Coalition
- CWPPRA Map Unit for High School Teachers

The following are ongoing or upcoming outreach efforts:

- Supporting the Marsh Mission Exhibit
- Partnerships
- Media Coverage
- Hosting Coastal Zone 2005 in New Orleans
- Sponsoring Restore Americas Estuaries Conference in New Orleans
- Exhibiting at Conferences

VI. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Karen Gautreaux was presented a certificate from the Task Force in recognition of her exemplary service as a member of the Task Force representing the State of Louisiana from January 2003 to 2004.

VII. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jimmy Johnston invited everyone to the Fourth Annual Crawfish Boil for the CWPPRA Task Force on behalf of the residents and businesses of Lafayette. Door prizes are welcomed.

Mr. Dan Arceneaux publicly apologized to Ms. Rachel Sweeney, NOAA, for his remarks earlier in the meeting about her not discussing the potential projects with St. Bernard Parish. There appears to be some miscommunication in the parish. He also apologized to Mr. Rick Hartman, NOAA.

VII. CLOSING

A. Date and Location of Next Task Force Meeting

Colonel Rowan announced that the next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., April 13, 2005 [date rescheduled to May 4, 2005] in Lafayette, LA. Mr. Tom Podany announced that the next Technical Committee meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m., March 16, 2005 in New Orleans, LA.

B. Adjournment

Colonel Rowan adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:40 p.m.

BREAUX ACT
COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT
TASK FORCE MEETING
AGENDA

February 17, 2005 9:30 a.m.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District (CEMVN)
Division Assembly Room
7400 Leake Ave.
New Orleans, LA

Documentation of Task Force and Technical Committee meetings may be found at:
http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/cwppra_mission.htm or
<http://lacoast.gov/reports/program/index.asp>

Tab Number

Agenda Item

1. **Meeting Initiation: 9:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.**
 - a. Introduction of Task Force members or alternates.
 - b. Opening remarks of Task Force members.

2. **Adoption of Minutes from October 13, 2004 Task Force Meeting: 9:40 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.**

The agenda item under Tab Number 10 was requested by the Task Force Chairman to be scheduled 3rd on the agenda.

10. **Discussion/Decision: Programmatic Assessment of the CWPPRA Program and Coastal Restoration Plan (Rowan): 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** The Task Force will discuss the need to assess the CWPPRA program and update the CWPPRA restoration plan. This may require delay of consideration of selection of the PPL 14 project candidate projects recommended by the Technical Committee (Item 6). In addition, the Task Force will consider delaying PPL 15 project evaluations so that agencies can focus on the assessment of the CWPPRA program and coastal restoration planning. The goal of these new assessments is to evaluate the program and potentially refine the role of the CWPPRA, in light of fourteen years of program progress, the LCA program and fourteen years of remaining authorization.

3. **Status of Breaux Act Program Funds and Projects Including Available Funds for Phase I Funding or Other Authorizations (Browning/LeBlanc): 10:45 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.** Ms. Gay Browning and Ms. Julie LeBlanc will discuss the construction program and status of the CWPPRA accounts, including a discussion of available funds for Phase I funding of PPL 14. Although the Task Force had budgeted \$9,000,000 for Phase I funding of PPL 14, less than this amount is available. A discussion of available funds is necessary before the Task Force makes any funding decisions.

4. **Decision: Recommendation to Restrict Phase I Budgets for Ongoing Projects to a Cap of 100% (Including Contingency) (Podany) 11:05 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** Due to the limited available CWPPRA funds for ongoing approved Phase I and II CWPPRA projects, it is recommended that the 125% cap for these projects be lowered to 100% to avoid developing a negative "un-programmed" balance in the CWPPRA program budget and to allow the Corps of Engineers to better estimate available funds in the program. The Task Force previously approved application of this cap to new Phase I

& II approvals and for previously authorized Phase II approvals. The Technical Committee recommends approval of this item. If the Task Force approves this agenda item, requests exceeding the 100% cap would require additional approval of the Task Force.

- 5. **Decision: Recommendation to De-authorize the Marsh Creation South of Leeville Project (BA-29) (Podany) 11:15 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.** In July 2003, the Technical Committee recommended to the Task Force de-authorization of the Marsh Creation South of Leeville project. In August 2004, the Task Force provided preliminary approval to de-authorize the project. Subsequent to public notice of the proposed de-authorization, concerns were raised by congressional interests. The Environmental Protection Agency and the LA Department of Natural Resources are recommending proceeding with de-authorization for this project. The Task Force is requested to take action to de-authorize this project because of project costs, technical, engineering, and real estate issues.

- 6. **Decision: Selection of the 14th Priority Project List (Podany): 11:25 a.m. to Noon**
 - a. Overview of PPL 14 candidate projects.
 - b. The Technical Committee is recommending Phase I approval of \$4,817,563 funds for two candidate projects and contingent Phase I approval of \$2,504,752 for two additional candidate projects.

Technical Committee recommendation:

<u>PROJECT NAME</u>	<u>PHASE I COST</u>
<i>For Approval:</i>	
Riverine Sand Mining/Scotfield Island Restoration	\$3,221,887
White's Ditch Resurrection and Outfall Management	<u>\$1,595,676</u>
Subtotal	\$4,817,563
<i>For contingent approval, if funds are available by August 2005:</i>	
South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation	\$1,311,146
East Marsh Island Marsh Creation	<u>\$1,193,606</u>
Subtotal	\$2,504,752
PROJECT TOTAL	<u>\$7,322,315</u>

Lunch Break Noon to 1:15 p.m.

Continue Item Number 6 1:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

- 7. **Decision: Request for Change in Scope of the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project (ME-18) (Podany) 1:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** After a 30% design review for the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project was held on September 28, 2004, it was determined that test sections should be assessed to select a final shoreline protection design for a 95% review. The Technical Committee recommends the change in scope to the Task Force.

- 8. **Decision: Request for Change in Scope of the Pass Chaland to Grand Pass Shoreline Restoration Project (BA-35) (Podany) 2:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.** After a preliminary design review for the Pass Chaland project was held on October 12, 2004, it was determined that addition project elements to marsh creation should include beach and

dune restoration. Estimated fully funded cost from the proposed change in scope would rise from \$17.9 million to \$26.2 million. The Technical Committee recommends the change in scope to the Task Force.

9. **Discussion/Decision: Results of the After Action Review of the Fall Phase II Decision Process in 2004 and a Recommendation for Authorization Schedule for the Next Funding Cycle (Podany) 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** In September and October 2004 the Technical Committee and Task Force meetings held unusually long meetings, which required extensive briefing documentation due to the need to schedule all Phase II requests for these meetings. Although the goals were generally met, improvements should be discussed for the upcoming CWPPRA funding cycle. A discussion of the After Action Review was held at the December Technical Committee meeting. The Technical Committee recommends that future Phase I funding, O&M, monitoring, Corps of Engineer's administration and the program's planning budget approvals be made at the Fall Task Force meeting (October 2005) and that the Phase II funding approvals are made at the Winter Task Force meeting (January 2006). The Task Force will be asked to consider action on the Technical Committee's recommendation.
10. *Agenda item under Tab Number 10 was scheduled 3rd on the agenda.*
11. **Report: Status of LCA Program (Wagner) 2:30 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.** Mr. Kevin Wagner will provide an update of LCA project planning.
12. **Report: Public Outreach Committee Annual Report (Bodin) 2:40 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.** Ms. Bodin will present the Public Outreach Committee's Annual Report.
13. **Additional Agenda Items 2:50 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
14. **Request for Public Comments 3:00 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.**
15. **Announcement: Date and Location of the Next Task Force Meeting 3:10 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.** The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., April 13, 2005 in Lafayette, Louisiana.
16. **Announcement: Dates and Locations of Upcoming CWPPRA Administrative Meetings (Podany):**

2005

March 16, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
April 13, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
June 15, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
July 13, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
August 30, 2005	7:00 p.m.	PPL 15 Public Meeting	Abbeville
August 31, 2005	7:00 p.m.	PPL 15 Public Meeting	New Orleans
September 14, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
October 19, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
December 7, 2005	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge

2006

January 25, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Baton Rouge
March 15, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
April 12, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
June 14, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge

July 12, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
August 30, 2006	7:00 p.m.	PPL 16 Public Meeting	Abbeville
August 31, 2006	7:00 p.m.	PPL 16 Public Meeting	New Orleans
September 13, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
October 18, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
December 6, 2006	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
2007			
January 31, 2007	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Baton Rouge
Adjourn			

Browning, Gay B MVN

From: LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2005 4:04 PM
To: 'betty.jones@la.usda.gov'; 'bpaul@la.usda.gov'; 'cheryl.walters@la.usda.gov'; 'chrisk@dnr.state.la.us'; 'cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us'; 'daniel.llewellyn@gov.state.la.us'; 'deetra.washington@gov.state.la.us'; 'don.gohmert@la.usda.gov'; 'erik.zobrist@noaa.gov'; 'flores.miguel@epa.gov'; 'gautreak@gov.state.la.us'; 'gerryd@dnr.state.la.us'; 'gsteyer@usgs.gov'; 'john_hefner@fws.gov'; 'jonathan.porthouse@la.gov'; 'mcquiddy.david@epa.gov'; 'parrish.sharon@epa.gov'; 'pat.forbes@GOV.STATE.LA.US'; Rowan, Peter J Col MVN; 'randyh@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard.hartman@noaa.gov'; 'rolland.schmitt@noaa.gov'; 'russell_watson@fws.gov'; 'sam_hamilton@fws.gov'; 'sidney.coffee@gov.state.la.us'; Constance, Troy G MVN; 'britt.paul@la.usda.gov'; 'darryl_clark@fws.gov'; 'john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov'; 'jonathan.porthouse@gov.state.la.us'; 'kevin_roy@fws.gov'; 'kirkr@dnr.state.la.us'; 'philp@dnr.state.la.us'; 'rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov'; Hawes, Suzanne R MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; Monnerjahn, Christopher J MVN; 'comvss@lsu.edu'; 'daniell@dnr.state.la.us'; 'finley_h@wlf.state.la.us'; Rauber, Gary W MVN; Browning, Gay B MVN; Miller, Gregory B MVN; 'jonathanp@dnr.state.la.us'; 'ruiz_mj@wlf.state.la.us'; Browning, Gay B MVN; Lopez, John A MVN; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Martinez, Wanda R MVN
Subject: FINAL Minutes and Transcripts from the 17 Feb 05 Task Force Meeting

CWPPRA Task Force, Technical Committee, P&E Subcommittee:

Attached are the FINAL minutes, transcripts, agenda and sign in sheets from the 17 Feb 05 Task Force meeting.



Minutes of Task Force Meeting
Transcripts of Task Force Meeting
agenda Task Force Meeting
signinsheets Task Force Meeting
Task Force Meeting Feb 17 2005
Force_Meeting_17Feb05

Julie Z. LeBlanc
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
(504) 862-1597

-----Original Message-----

From: LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 1:53 PM
To: 'betty.jones@la.usda.gov'; 'bpaul@la.usda.gov'; 'cheryl.walters@la.usda.gov'; 'chrisk@dnr.state.la.us'; 'cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us'; 'daniel.llewellyn@gov.state.la.us'; 'deetra.washington@gov.state.la.us'; 'don.gohmert@la.usda.gov'; 'erik.zobrist@noaa.gov'; 'flores.miguel@epa.gov'; 'gautreak@gov.state.la.us'; 'gerryd@dnr.state.la.us'; 'gsteyer@usgs.gov'; 'john_hefner@fws.gov'; 'jonathan.porthouse@la.gov'; 'mcquiddy.david@epa.gov'; 'parrish.sharon@epa.gov'; 'pat.forbes@GOV.STATE.LA.US'; Peter Rowan; 'randyh@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard.hartman@noaa.gov'; 'rolland.schmitt@noaa.gov'; 'russell_watson@fws.gov'; 'sam_hamilton@fws.gov'; 'sidney.coffee@gov.state.la.us'; Troy Constance; 'britt.paul@la.usda.gov'; 'darryl_clark@fws.gov'; 'john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov'; 'jonathan.porthouse@gov.state.la.us'; 'kevin_roy@fws.gov'; 'kirkr@dnr.state.la.us'; 'philp@dnr.state.la.us'; 'rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov'; Suzanne Hawes; Thomas Podany; Christopher Monnerjahn; 'comvss@lsu.edu'; 'daniell@dnr.state.la.us'; 'finley_h@wlf.state.la.us'; Gary Rauber; Gay Browning; Gregory Miller; 'jonathanp@dnr.state.la.us'; 'ruiz_mj@wlf.state.la.us'; Gay Browning; John Lopez; Melanie Goodman; Wanda Martinez
Subject: DRAFT Minutes and Transcripts from the 17 Feb 05 Task Force Meeting

CWPPRA Task Force, Technical Committee, P&E Subcommittee:

Attached are the DRAFT minutes from the 17 Feb 05 Task Force meeting, for you review and comment. **Comments are requested by COB, Friday, 11 Mar 05.** Enclosures (final agenda and sign-in sheets) will be forwarded with the FINAL version of the documents.

<< File: Minutes of Task Force Meeting - 17 Feb 05 - DRAFT.doc >> << File: Transcripts of Task Force Meeting - 17 Feb 05 - DRAFT.doc >>

Julie Z. LeBlanc
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
(504) 862-1597

**CWPPRA Cash Flow Management
Phase I Estimates - Task Force Approves Capped Estimates at 17 Feb 2005 Meeting**

Proj #	Project Name	Agency	PPL	Phase I Approved	Phase II Request Forecast	Phase II Approved	Construction Start	Construction Completion	Phase I Baseline Est	Phase I Current Est	Phase I Required Est	Percentage Above Baseline
Ph II Approved: Projects Completed Construction												
PO-27	Chandeleur Island Restoration	NMFS	9	11-Jan-00		11-Jan-00	Jun 01 (A)	Jul 01 (A)	156,082	126,252	126,252	80.9%
TE-41	Mandalay Bank Protection Demo	USFWS	9	11-Jan-00		11-Jan-00	Apr 03 (A)	Sep 03 (A)	298,939	367,034	367,034	122.8%
CS-30	Perry Ridge West	NRCS	9	11-Jan-00		10-Jan-01	Nov 01 (A)	Jul 02 (A)	317,399	271,123	271,123	85.4%
BA-27(1)	Barataria Basin Landbridge - Ph 3 CU 3	NRCS	9	11-Jan-00		16-Jan-02	Oct 03 (A)	May 04 (A)	1,040,595	1,300,744	1,300,744	125.0%
TV-18	Four-Mile Canal	NMFS	9	11-Jan-00		16-Jan-03	Jun 03 (A)	May 04 (A)	459,306	567,762	567,762	123.6%
Ph II Approved: Projects Started Construction but Not Completed												
LA-03b	Coastwide Nutria	NRCS	11	16-Jan-02		16-Apr-02	Nov 02 (A)		269,211	269,211	269,211	100.0%
ME-19	Grand-White Lake Landbridge Protection	USFWS	10	10-Jan-01		07-Aug-02	Jul 03 (A)	Oct-04	527,841	527,841	527,841	100.0%
TE-40	Timbalier Island Dune/Marsh Restoration	EPA	9	11-Jan-00		16-Jan-03	Jun 04 (A)	Mar-05	1,360,198	1,693,939	1,693,939	124.5%
Ph II Approved: Construction Not Started												
ME-16	Freshwater Intro. South of Hwy 82	USFWS	9	11-Jan-00		Oct-04	Jun 05	Nov-05	607,136	607,136	766,923	125.0%
TE-44(2)	North Lake Mechant Landbridge Rest - CU 2	USFWS	10	10-Jan-01		Oct-04	Feb 05	Feb-07	1,890,670	1,980,670	1,980,670	73.4%
TE-48	Raccoon Island Shoreline Protection - CU 1	NRCS	11	16-Jan-02		Oct-04	Jun 05	Nov-05	1,016,758	1,270,948	1,270,948	125.0%
ME-22	South White Lake	COE	12	16-Jan-03		Oct-04	Jan 05	Mar-05	1,588,085	1,588,085	1,588,085	100.0%

CWPPRA Cash Flow Management
Phase I Estimates - Task Force Approves Capped Estimates at 17 Feb 2005 Meeting

Proj #	Project Name	Agency	PPL	Phase I Approved	Phase II Request Forecast	Phase II Approved	Construction Start	Construction Completion	Phase I Baseline Est	Phase I Current Est	Phase I Required Est	Percentage Above Baseline
Projects in Phase I												
TE-49	Avoca Island Divr & Land Building	COE	12	16-Jan-03	Oct-05		Jan 06	Jun-07	2,229,876	2,229,876	2,229,876	100.0%
BA-39	Bayou Dupont	EPA	12	16-Jan-03	Oct-05		Nov 05	Jan-07	2,192,735	2,731,479	2,731,479	124.6%
MR-13	Benneys Bay Sediment Diversion	COE	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-05		Jan 05	Nov-06	1,076,328	1,076,328	1,076,328	100.0%
AT-04	Castille Pass Sediment Delivery	NMFS	9	11-Jan-00	Oct-05		Oct-2005		1,484,633	1,855,792	1,855,792	125.0%
BA-36	Dedicated Dredging on Bara Basin LB	USFWS	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05		Jan 06	Jan-07	2,294,410	1,994,410	1,994,410	86.9%
BS-10	Delta Bldg Divr North of Fort St. Philip	COE	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-05		Nov 05		1,155,200	1,155,200	1,444,000	125.0%
BA-30	East/West Grand Terre	NMFS	8	11-Jan-00	Oct-05		Apr 06	Aug-08	1,856,203	2,312,023	2,312,023	124.6%
TV-11b	Freshwater Bayou Bank Stab. Belle Isle to Lock	COE	9	11-Jan-00	Oct-05		Jan 05	Mar-06	1,498,967	1,498,967	1,498,967	100.0%
TE-43	GIWW Bank Rest of Critical Areas in Terre	NRCS	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-05		Jun 05	Sep-06	1,735,983	1,735,983	1,735,983	100.0%
ME-21	Grand Lake Shoreline Protection	COE	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05		Jan 05	Sep-05	1,049,029	1,049,029	1,311,286	125.0%
PO-32	Lake Borgne and MRSG	COE	12	16-Jan-03	Oct-05		Jan 05		1,348,345	1,348,345	1,348,345	100.0%
PO-30	Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection	EPA	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-05		Jun 05	Dec-05	1,334,360	1,667,950	1,667,950	125.0%
MR-12	Mississippi River Sediment Trap	COE	11	7-Aug-02	Oct-05		Jan 06	May-06	1,680,376	1,880,376	1,880,376	100.0%
PO-26	Opportunistic Use of Bonnet Carne Spillway	COE	9	11-Jan-00	Oct-05		Dec 05		150,706	188,383	188,383	125.0%
BA-35	Pass Chaland to Grand Pass	NMFS	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05		Apr 06	Aug-06	1,880,700	2,344,387	2,344,387	124.7%
ME-18	Rocketfeller Refuge	NMFS	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-05		Apr 06	Aug-06	1,929,888	2,408,478	2,408,478	124.8%
TE-47	Ship Shoal - West Flank Restoration	EPA	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05		Mar 06	Oct-06	2,988,960	3,742,053	3,742,053	124.8%
ME-20	South Grand Cheniere Hydrologic Rest	USFWS	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05				2,358,420	2,358,420	2,358,420	100.0%
TE-39	South Lake DeCade - CU 1	NRCS	8	11-Jan-00	Oct-05		Jun 05	May-06	396,489	495,611	495,611	125.0%
TE-46	West Lake Boudreaux, SP & MC	USFWS	11	16-Jan-02	Oct-05		Mar 06	Dec-07	1,322,354	1,322,354	1,322,354	100.0%
TE-50	Whiskey Island Back Barrier M.C.	EPA	13	28-Jan-04	Oct-05		Apr 06		2,293,893	2,751,494	2,751,494	119.9%
TV-20	Bayou Sale	NRCS	13	28-Jan-04	Oct-06		Mar 07	Feb-08	2,254,912	2,254,912	2,254,912	100.0%
PO-33	Goose Point	USFWS	13	28-Jan-04	Oct-06		Mar 07	Nov-08	1,930,596	1,730,596	1,730,596	89.6%
ME-17	Little Pecan Bayou	NRCS	9	11-Jan-00	Oct-06		Mar 07	Feb-08	1,245,278	1,556,598	1,556,598	125.0%
PO-29	River Reintroduction Into Maurepas	EPA	11	7-Aug-01	Oct-06		Nov 06	Nov-08	5,434,288	6,780,307	6,780,307	124.8%
BA-34	Small Freshwater Divr to NW Bara Basin	EPA	10	10-Jan-01	Oct-06		Feb 07	Feb-09	1,889,834	2,362,687	2,362,687	124.4%
MR-14	Spanish Pass	COE	13	28-Jan-04	Oct-06		Dec 06	Apr-07	1,137,344	1,137,344	1,421,680	125.0%
TV-19	Weeks Bay/Commercial Canal/GIWW	COE	9	11-Jan-00	Unscheduled				1,229,337	1,229,337	1,229,337	100.0%
BA-33	Delta Bldg Divr at Myrtle Grove	COE	10	10-Jan-01	N/A		N/A		3,002,114	3,002,114	3,002,114	100.0%
PO-28	LaBranche Wetlands [ON HOLD]	NMFS	9	11-Jan-00	On Hold				821,752	306,636	306,636	37.3%
BA-29	LA Hwy 1 Marsh Creation	EPA	9	11-Jan-00	Unscheduled				1,151,464	1,433,393	1,433,393	124.5%
									64,997,016	69,911,809	76,888,987	110.6%
									Additional Funding Need (within 125%)			987,178