ATTENDANCE RECORD

DATE(S)	SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	LOCATION
October 28, 2009 9:30 A.M.	COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District District Assembly Room 7400 Leake Ave.,New Orleans, La.

PURPOSE **MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE**

PARTICIPANT REGISTER*

NAME	JOB TITLE AND ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Linda Andrus	Accountant	225 342-1289
Annette Williams	Accountant / DNR	225(342-4842)
Darryl Clark	Tech. Inst USFWS	337-291-311
Jim Boggs	Task Force USFWS	337-291-3115
Rick Raynie	OCPR	225-342-9436
Brent Haase	OCPR	225-342-1475
Chris Allen	OCPR	225-336-9264
Cecelia Linder	NOAA Fisheries	301-713-0174 X162
Henry "Skip" Haller	Madison Land Co	228 832-7878
TERRY FRICKEY	CONRAD INDUSTRIES	985-384 3060
SKIP HUBERT	LAH LLC	504-400-2955
Kelley Templet	OCPR	225-342-1592
Brad Winkler	KBR	(504) 841-0077
Lee Forbes	KBR	504.841.0078
Buck Sutter	NOAA Fisheries	727-824-5301
Miles Croom	NMFS Habitat Conservation Division	727-824-5317
Jenneke Visser	ULL	337 482 6966
TODD FOLSE	OCPR	985-447-0991
Edmond Mouton	LDWF	337.373.0032
Dena Weifenbach	OCPR	337 482 0688
P.J. HAHN	PLAQUEMINES PARISH	504-297-5631
Joe Henn	Dir. Business Dev., Providence Eng & Env Gp	225 678 0393

LMV FORM 583-R
JAN 88

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

ATTENDANCE RECORD

DATE(S)	SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	LOCATION
October 28, 2009 9:30 A.M.	COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District District Assembly Room 7400 Leake Ave.,New Orleans, La.

PURPOSE **MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE**

PARTICIPANT REGISTER*

NAME	JOB TITLE AND ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Michelle Fischer	Geographer - USGS	225-578-7483
Brad Crawford	EPA	214 665 7255
Sean Duffy	GSMA	504-833-4190
Kevin Roy	USFWS	
André Williams	CWPPRA Outreach	337-266-8542
Beth McCasland	USACE	504-862-2021
Greg Steyer	USGS	225-578-7201
Blaine Clancy	City of Slidell - Engineer	985-646-4270
Freddie Castello	Scientific Solutions	432-6403
Jacquelyn Cole	Jackie Clarkson's Office	504-658-1070
Susan R. Laudeman	The Historic N.O. Collection Curator of Education	504 598-7154
LUKE THERIOT	DISTRICT DIRECTOR - CONGRESSMAN MELANCON	225-621-8490
Rachel Roch	Outreach Manager - USACE	504-862 2587
Jane Watson	Associate Director - USEPA	214 665 6653
Susan Testroet-Bergeron	CWPPRA Outreach	337-266-8623
Marnie Winter	Jeff Parish	504-736-6443
Nic Matherne	Lafourche Parish Govt	985-632-4666
Leslie Suazo	Terrebonne Parish	985-873-6889
Leo Richardson	GOHSEP	225-439-5578
Albertine McKimble	PPG	504.912.5973
Bob Schroeder	Feinstermaker	504-210-1780
ANDREW MACINNES	USACE-PRO	504 862-1062

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JAN 88

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

ATTENDANCE RECORD

DATE(S)	SPONSORING ORGANIZATION	LOCATION
October 28, 2009 9:30 A.M.	COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District District Assembly Room 7400 Leake Ave.,New Orleans, La.

PURPOSE **MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE**

PARTICIPANT REGISTER*

NAME	JOB TITLE AND ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
William McCartney	Coastal Zone Manager St. Bernard Parish Gov't.	504 442-2426
Michael Truscelair	NRCS New Orleans F.O.	985-758-2162
Quin Kinler	USDA - NRCS	225-382-2047

LMV FORM 583-R
JAN 88

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

BREAUX ACT

Coastal Wetlands, Planning, Protection And Restoration Act

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

New Orleans, Louisiana

BREAUX ACT

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT
TASK FORCE MEETING

AGENDA

October 28, 2009 9:30 a.m.

Location:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office
7400 Leake Ave.
New Orleans, Louisiana
District Assembly Room (DARM)

Documentation of Task Force meetings may be found at:
http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/cwppra_mission.htm

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
   - **c.** Request for Agenda Changes/Additional Agenda Items/Adoption of Agenda

2. **Discussion/Decision: Adoption of Minutes from the June 3, 2009 Task Force Meeting (Tom Holden, USACE) 9:40 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.** Mr. Tom Holden will present the minutes from the last Task Force meeting. Task Force members may provide suggestions for additional information to be included in the official minutes.

3. **Report: Status of Breaux Act Program Funds and Projects (Gay Browning, USACE/Travis Creel, USACE) 9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** Ms. Gay Browning and Mr. Travis Creel will provide an overview of the status of CWPPRA accounts and available funding in the Planning and Construction Programs.

4. **Report/Discussion/Decision: FY10 Planning Budget Approval, including the PPL 20 Process, and Presentation of the Public Outreach Committee Report and the FY10 Outreach Budget (Tom Holden, USACE/Scott Wilson, USGS) 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.**
   - **a.** The Technical Committee will recommend to the Task Force that the PPL 20 Planning Process Standard Operating Procedures include selecting three nominees in the Barataria, Terrebonne, and Pontchartrain Basins, and two nominees in all other basins, except Atchafalaya where only one nominee would be selected. If only one project is presented at the Regional Planning Team meeting for the Mississippi River Delta Basin, then an additional nominee would be selected for the Breton Sound Basin.
   - **b.** The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the FY10 Planning Budget in the amount of $4,913,588.
   - **c.** The Technical Committee will report on a task they assigned to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee to look at ways to reduce the FY11 Planning Budget with a recommendation by the September 3, 2010 Technical Committee meeting
   - **d.** Mr. Scott Wilson will present the quarterly CWPPRA Outreach Committee report.
   - **e.** The CWPPRA Outreach Committee will request Task Force approval for the FY10 Outreach Committee Budget in the amount of $487,148.

5. **Discussion/Decision: Annual Request for Incremental Funding for Administrative Costs for Cash Flow Projects (Gay Browning, USACE) 10:15 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.** The USACE will request funding approval in the amount of $23,337 for administrative costs for cash flow projects beyond Increment 1. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request for funds.

6. **Report/Discussion: Status of FEMA claims (Garret Broussard, OCPR) 10:20 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** Mr. Garret Broussard with the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) will report on the status of past and present FEMA claims for CWPPRA projects.

7. **Discussion/Decision: Request for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Incremental Funding (David Burkholder, OCPR) 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendations to approve requests for total O&M budget increases in the amount of $7,735,114 and incremental funding in the amount of $8,461,520.
   - **a.** PPL 9+ Projects requesting approval for FY 12 incremental funding in the total amount of $2,740,375, for the following projects:
     - Freshwater Introduction South of Highway 82 (ME-16), PPL-9, USFWS
       Incremental funding amount: $461,521
     - Four Mile Canal Terracing & Sediment Trapping (TV-18), PPL-9, NMFS
       Incremental funding amount: $12,649
     - Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b), PPL-11, NRCS
       Incremental funding amount: $2,266,205
   - **b.** PPL 1-8 Projects requesting O&M budget increases totaling $7,268,166 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $5,350,904, for the following projects:
     - GIWW to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration (BA-02), PPL-1, NRCS
       Budget increase amount: $1,587,844
       Incremental funding amount: $1,441,742
     - Point au Fer Island Canal Plugs (TE-22), PPL-2, NMFS
       Budget increase amount: $2,309,159
       Incremental funding amount: $2,255,062
     - Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration (TE-28), PPL-3, NRCS
       Budget increase amount: $1,929,063
       Incremental funding amount: $1,212,572
     - Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration (TV-04), PPL-3, NRCS
       Budget increase amount: $1,442,100
       Incremental funding amount: $441,528
   - **c.** PPL 9 Project requesting approval for an O&M budget increase and FY 12 incremental funding:
     - Holly Beach Sand Management (CS-31), PPL-11, NRCS
       Budget increase amount: $466,948
       Incremental funding amount: $370,241

8. **Report: Coast-wide Nutria Control Program - Annual Report (Edmond Mouton, LDWF) 11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Mr. Mouton with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will present an Annual Report on the LA-03b Coast-wide Nutria Control Program (CNCP).

- - - LUNCH BREAK - - - 60 minutes

9. **Discussion/Decision: Request for FY12 Project Specific Monitoring Funds for Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b) (Greg Steyer, USGS) 12:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendations to approve a request for specific monitoring funds for the Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b) in the amount of $85,170

10. **Report/Discussion/Decision: Request for FY12 Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS)-Wetlands Monitoring Funds (Greg Steyer, USGS) 12:40 p.m. to 12:55 p.m.** At the September 29, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting, Technical Committee tasked the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee and the Academic Advisory group to work with Mr. Greg Steyer to develop options to decrease the cost of the CRMS program to the original budget and report on findings at the Fall 2010 Technical Committee Meeting. Following a presentation by USGS on the status/progress of CRMS over the past year, the Task Force will vote on the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the CRMS FY12 monitoring funds in the amount of $7,500,000.

11. **Discussion/Decision: Status of Unconstructed Projects (Tom Holden, USACE) 12:55 p.m. to 1:05 p.m.** The Task Force will consider approving the Technical Committee's recommendations to deauthorize the below listed projects:
    - **a.** Request for Approval For Final Deauthorization:
        - Mississippi River Sediment Trap (MR-12), PPL-12, USACE
            The purpose of the project is to create a sediment trap in the bed of the Mississippi River by dredging an area that would force sediment deposition. The sediment deposited into the trap would then be mined to create marsh.
        - Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery (AT-04), PPL-9, NMFS
            The purpose of the project is to re-establish sedimentation processes that would promote sub-delta and marsh development in the area by dredging a system of distributary channels through Castille Pass.
    - **b.** Request for Approval to Initiate Deauthorization:
        - Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration (CS-09), PPL-2, NRCS
            The purpose of the project is to restore, to the extent possible, the altered hydrology of approximately 2,800 acres of wetlands in the area of Brown Lake.

12. **Discussion/Decision: Request for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Budget Increase and Incremental Funding to Temporarily Remove the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration Phase I (PO-16) and Phase II (PO-18) Pump Discharge Pipes in Preparation for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee Enlargement (Tom Holden, USACE/Darryl Clark, USFWS) 1:05 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.** The U S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and OCPR request Task Force approval for an O&M Budget increases totaling $100,000 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $100,000 for the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration Phase I (PO-16) and Phase II (PO-18) projects. The USACE is proceeding to elevate the hurricane protection levee forming the eastern boundaries of the PO-16 and PO-18 projects. As part of these hurricane protection levee activities, the USACE is requiring that the USFWS remove discharge pipes associated with the projects pumping stations, to elevate and widen the Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee. In turn, the USACE has agreed to relocate and refurbish the three pumping stations and install new discharge pipes through the elevated levee. The cost estimate for removing the discharge pipes is $100,000. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation for O&M budget increases totaling $100,000 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $100,000, for the following projects:

    - **a.** Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 1 (PO-16), PPL-1
        Budget increase amount: $50,000

Incremental funding amount: $50,000

b. Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 2 (PO-18), PPL-2
Budget increase amount: $50,000
Incremental funding amount: $50,000

13. **Discussion/Decision: Request to Change the Project Scope to Remove a Water Control Structure at the Lake Chapeau Hydrologic Restoration and Marsh Creation Project (TE-26) (Tom Holden, USACE/Richard Hartman, NMFS) 1:20 p.m. to 1:35 p.m.** The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in project scope to the use existing O&M funds on the Lake Chapeau Hydrologic Restoration and Marsh Creation Project (TE-26) to remove a water control structure. On previous funding requests for the TE-26 project, the project sponsors proposed repairing structure #3, which had been breached. However, the breach has expanded to such an extent that the project sponsors deemed the planned repairs to be cost prohibitive. The project sponsors also request Task Force approval that any remaining funds approved for breach repair be rolled into the project's future O&M budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to use the existing obligated funds in the O&M budget to remove TE-26 project structure #3, and also leave the remaining O&M funds in the budget for future TE-26 O&M events.

14. **Discussion/Decision: Request to Change the Project Scope for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52), due to a project cost increase of over 25% (Tom Holden, USACE/Richard Hartman, NMFS) 1:35 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.** The NMFS and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in the project scope on the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52), due to an increase of over 25% from the original estimated project cost. The original fully funded cost estimate was $____. The fully funded revised budget is $_____ or __% over the original budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to change the project scope for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52).

15. **Discussion/Decision: Request to Change the Project Scope for the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20), due to a project cost increase of over 25% (Tom Holden, USACE/Darryl Clark, USFWS) 1:50 p.m. to 2:05 p.m.** The USFWS and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in the project scope on the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20), due to an increase of over 25% from the original estimated project cost. The original fully funded cost estimate was $20,998,000. The fully funded revised budget is $27,936,726 or 33% over the original budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to change the project scope for the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20).

16. **Report: NRCS and Louisiana OCPR Request for Task Force Fax Vote to begin Construction of the PPL 17- Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09) (Tom Holden, USACE/Britt Paul, NRCS) 2:05 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.** The Technical Committee voted by email to recommend Task Force approval of a construction request by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR). The Task Force approved the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve construction of the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying North American Waterfowl Conservation Act (NAWCA) Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

17. **Discussion/Decision: Revision of CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedure Requirement for 30 % and 95% Design review requirements (Tom Holden, USACE/Darryl Clark, USFWS) 2:15 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.** The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to modify the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as follows:

- Require project sponsors to respond to written comments within 45 days following 30% Design Review Conferences. Comments and responses shall be provided to the Technical Committee along with notification to proceed to 95% design. Section 8(1) of the CWPPRA SOP only requires that responses to the 30% Design be included in the Final Design Report. It is recommended that the following be added to the second paragraph of SOP Section 6(e)(2) (30% Design Review): "Agencies shall have 15 days after the 30% Design Review meeting to submit comments. Project sponsors shall provide a written response to 30% Design Review comments within 30 days following the end of the commenting period. These responses shall be included in the sponsoring agency's concurrence letter sent to the Technical Committee after the design review meeting."

18. Report: Status of the PPL 1 - West Bay Sediment Diversion Project (MR-03) (Cherie Price, USACE) 2:20 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Ms. Cherie Price with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will provide a status on the West Bay Work Plan and dredging in the Pilottown Anchorage Area.

19. Additional Agenda Items (Col. Al Lee, USACE) 2:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

20. Request for Public Comments (Col. Al Lee, USACE) 2:50 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.

21. Announcement: Date of Upcoming CWPPRA Program Meeting (Travis Creel, USACE) 2:55 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The PPL 19 Public Meetings will be held November 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vermilion Parish Police Jury Courthouse Building, Courtroom #1, 2nd Floor, 100 North State St., Abbeville, Louisiana and November 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana in the District Assembly Room (DARM).

22. Announcement: Scheduled Dates of Future Program Meetings (Travis Creel, USACE) 3:00 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.

2009

November 17, 2009	7:00 p.m.	PPL 19 Public Meeting	Abbeville
November 18, 2009	7:00 p.m.	PPL 19 Public Meeting	New Orleans
December 2, 2009	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge

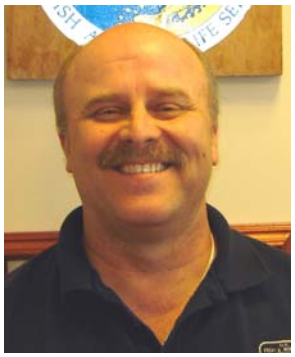
2010

January 20, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
January 26, 2010	1:00 p.m.	Region IV Planning Team Meeting	Rockefeller Refuge
January 27, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Region III Planning Team Meeting	Houma
January 28, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Region II Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
January 28, 2010	1:00 p.m.	Region I Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
February 17, 2010	10:00 a.m.	RPT Voting Meeting	Baton Rouge
April 14, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
June 2, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
September 22, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
October 27, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
November 16, 2010	7:00 p.m.	PPL 20 Public Meeting	Abbeville
November 17, 2010	7:00 p.m.	PPL 20 Public Meeting	New Orleans
December 1, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge

23. Decision: Adjourn

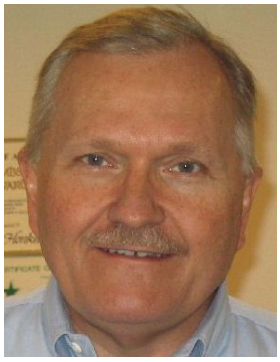
Task Force Members

Col Alvin B. Lee
District Commander and District Engineer
U.S. Corp of Engineers, New Orleans District



Mr. Jim Boggs
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mr. Garret Graves
Senior Advisor to the Governor for Coastal Activities
Governor's Office of Coastal Activities



Mr. William K. Honker
Deputy Director, Water Quality Protection Division
Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Christopher Doley
Office of Habitat Conservation
National Marine and Fisheries Service

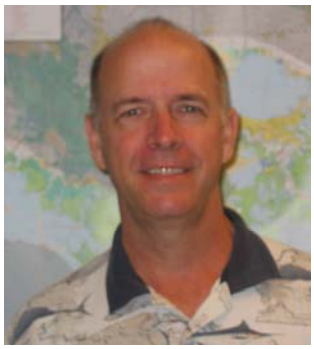
Mr. Kevin Norton
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Technical Committee Members

Mr. Thomas A. Holden
Deputy District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mr. Darryl Clark
Senior Field Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mr. Kirk Rhinehart
Planning Administrator
Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration
State of Louisiana OCPR



Mr. Brad Crawford
Civil Engineer
Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Rick Hartman
Fishery Biologist
National Marine and Fisheries Service

Mr. Britt Paul
Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Planning & Evaluation Committee

Ms. Melanie Goodman
CWPPRA Program and Senior Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mr. Kevin Roy
Senior Field Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Ms. Kelley Templet
Coastal Resources Scientist
State of Louisiana OCPR

Mr. Brad Crawford
Civil Engineer
Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Rachel Sweeney
Ecologist
National Marine and Fisheries Service

Mr. John Jurgensen
Civil Engineer
Natural Resources Conservation Service

October 27, 2009

Colonel Alvin Lee
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Dear Colonel Lee:

Due to a request for my attendance at a meeting called by the Governor on Wednesday, I hereby appoint Jerome Zeringue as my designee to represent the State of Louisiana at the CWPPRA Task Force Meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 in my absence.

Sincerely,

Garret Graves, Executive Assistant
Governor's Office of Coastal Activities

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

OCT -7 2009

Colonel Alvin B. Lee
District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Colonel Lee:

As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representative on the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Program Task Force, I am delegating Jane Watson to act in my behalf at the CWPPRA Task Force meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

Sincerely yours,

William K. Honker
Deputy Director
Water Quality Protection Division

cc: Ms. Melanie Goodman

October 2009

Summary of Organizational Structure and Responsibilities

1.0 Introduction.

Section 303(a)(1) of the CWPPRA directs the Secretary of the Army to convene the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force, to consist of the following members:

- the Secretary of the Army (Chairman)
- the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
- the Governor, State of Louisiana
- the Secretary of the Interior
- the Secretary of Agriculture
- the Secretary of Commerce

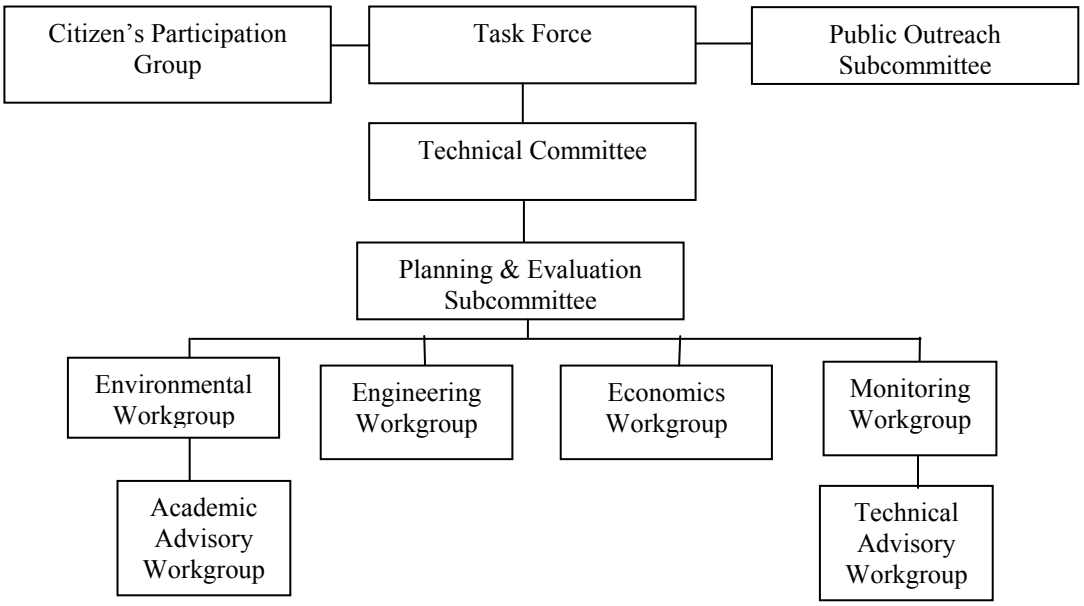
The State of Louisiana is a full voting member of the Task Force except for selection of the Priority Project List [Section 303(a)(2)], as stipulated in President Bush's November 29, 1990, signing statement of the Act. In addition, the State of Louisiana may not serve as a "lead" Task Force member for design and construction of wetlands projects on the priority project list.

In practice, the Task Force members named by the law have delegated their responsibilities to other members of their organizations. For instance, the Secretary of the Army authorized the commander of the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to act in his place as chairman of the Task Force.

A summary is presented of the structure and description of duties of the organizations formed under CWPPRA to manage the program is presented in the following pages.

Figure 1

CWPPRA Organizational Structure



2.0 Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force.

Typically referred to as the "Task Force" (TF), it is comprised of one member of each, respectively, from five Federal Agencies and the Local Cost Share Sponsor, which is the State of Louisiana. The Federal Agencies of CWPPRA include: the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) of the US Department of the Interior, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Marine Fisheries Service of Department of Commerce (USDC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The Governor's Office of the State of Louisiana represents the state on the TF. The TF provides guidance and direction to subordinate organizations of the program through the Technical Committee (TC), which reports to the TF. The TF is charged by the Act to make final decisions concerning issues, policies, and procedures necessary to execute the Program and its projects. The TF makes directives for action to the TC, and the TF makes decisions in consideration of TC recommendations. Table 1 lists the membership of the TF.

Table 1
Membership of the Task Force

Member's Representative	Mailing Address of Representative
Secretary of the Army (Chairman) Colonel Alvin B. Lee District Commander TEL (504) 862-2077 FAX (504) 862-1259	U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, New Orleans District Executive Office 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 alvin.b.lee.col@usace.army.mil
Governor, State of Louisiana Mr. Garret Graves Senior Advisor to the Governor for Coastal Activities, Governor's Office of Coastal Activities TEL (225) 342-3968 FAX (225) 342-5214	Capitol Annex 1051 North Third Street, Suite 139 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 garret@la.gov
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency Mr. William K. Honker Deputy Director, Water Quality Protection Division TEL (214) 665-3187 FAX (214) 665-7373	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 honker.william@epa.gov
Secretary, Department of the Interior Mr. Jim Boggs Field Supervisor TEL (337) 291-3115 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Louisiana Field Office 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 jim_boggs@fws.gov
Secretary, Department of Agriculture Mr. Kevin Norton State Conservationist TEL (318) 473-7751 FAX (318) 473-7682	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 Kevin.Norton@la.usda.gov
Secretary, Department of Commerce Mr. Christopher Doley Director, NOAA Restoration Center Office of Habitat Conservation TEL (301) 713-0174 FAX (301) 713-0184	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway, Room 14853 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 chris.doley@noaa.gov

The District Commander of the USACE, New Orleans District, is the Chairman of the TF. The TF Chairman leads the TF and sets the agenda for action of the TF to execute the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TF, the New Orleans District: (1) provides administration, management, and oversight of the Planning and Construction Programs, and acts as accountant, budgeter, administrator, and disburser of all Federal and non-Federal funds under the Act, (2) acts as the official manager of financial data and most information relating to the CWPPRA Program and projects. Under the direction of the District Commander, the Planning & Project Management - Coastal Restoration Branch of the Corps functions as lead agency and representatives of the Program.

2.1 Technical Committee.

The TC is established by the TF to provide advice and recommendations for execution of the Program and projects from a number of technical perspectives, which include: engineering, environmental, economic, real estate, construction, operation and maintenance, and monitoring. The TC provides guidance and direction to subordinate organizations of the program through the Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee (P&E), which reports to the TC. The TC is charged by the TF to consider and shape decisions and proposed actions of the P&E, regarding its position on issues, policy, and procedures towards execution of the Program and projects. The TC makes directives for action to the P&E, and the TC makes decisions in consideration of the P&E recommendations. The TC Members are shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Membership of the Technical Committee

Member's Representative	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Tom Holden (Chairman) Deputy District Engineer TEL (504) 862-2204 FAX (504) 862-1259	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Office of the Chief 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 thomas.a.holden@usace.army.mil
Mr. Troy Constance Chief, Restoration Branch TEL (504) 862-2742 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 troy.g.constance@usace.army.mil
Mr. Darryl Clark Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3111 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd. Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 darryl_clark@fws.gov
Mr. Kirk Rhinehart Planning Administrator, Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration TEL (225) 342-2179 FAX (225) 342-1377	State of Louisiana OCPR 450 Laurel Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-4027 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 kirk.rhinehart@la.gov
Mr. Richard Hartman Fishery Biologist Chief, Baton Rouge Field Office TEL (225) 389-0508, x203 FAX (225) 389-0506	National Marine Fisheries Service Rm 266 Military Science Bldg South Stadium Drive LSU Baton Rouge LA 70803-7535 richard.hartman@noaa.gov

Mr. Brad Crawford, P.E. Civil Engineer TEL (214) 665-7255 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 crawford.brad@epa.gov
Mr. Britt Paul, P.E. Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources TEL (318) 473-7756 FAX (318) 473-7682	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 britt.paul@la.usda.gov

The Chair's seat of the TC resides with the USACE, New Orleans District. The TC Chairman leads the TC and sets the agenda for action of the TC to make recommendations to the TF for executing the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TF, the Chairman of the TC guides the management and administrative work charged to the TF Chairman.

2.11 Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee.

The P&E is the working level committee established by the TC to form and oversee special technical workgroups to assist in developing policies and processes, and recommend procedures for formulating plans and projects to accomplish the goals and mandates of CWPPRA. Table 3 contains a list of the P&E Members.

Table 3
Membership of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee

P&E Subcommittee Member	Mailing Address of Representative
Ms. Melanie L. Goodman Senior Project Manager TEL (504) 862-1940 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Melanie.l.goodman@usace.army.mil
Mr. Kevin Roy Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3120 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd. Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 kevin_roy@fws.gov
Mr. Brad Crawford, P.E. Civil Engineer TEL (214) 665-7255 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 crawford.brad@epa.gov
Mr. John Jurgensen, P.E. Civil Engineer TEL (318) 473-7694 FAX (318) 473-7747	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov

Ms. Kelley Templet Coastal Resources Scientist TEL (225) 342-1592 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division 450 Laurel Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-4027 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 kelley.templet@la.gov
Ms. Rachel Sweeney Ecologist TEL (225) 389-0508, x206 FAX (225) 389-0506	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service c/o Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-7535 rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov

Table 3 (Continued)
Membership of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee

Other Representatives	Mailing Address of Representative

The seat of the Chairman of the P&E resides with the USACE, New Orleans District. The P&E Chairman leads the P&E and sets the agenda for action of the P&E to make recommendations to the TC for executing the Program and projects. At the direction of the Chairman of the TC, the Chairman of the P&E executes the management and administrative work directives of the TC and TF Chairs.

2.111 Environmental Work Group (EnvWG).

The EnvWG, under the guidance and direction of the P&E, reviews candidate projects to: (1) suggest any recommended measures and features that should be considered during engineering and design for the achievement/enhancement of wetland benefits, and (2) determine the estimated annualized wetland benefits (Average Annual Habitat Units) of those projects. A list of primary contacts of the EnvWG Members is presented in Table 4.

Table 4
Membership of the Environmental Work Group

EnvWG Member	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Kevin Roy (Chairman) Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3120 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd, Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 kevin_roy@fws.gov
Ms. Beth McCasland Biologist TEL (504) 862-2021 FAX (504) 862-2572	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 elizabeth.l.mccasland@usace.army.mil

Ms. Renee Sanders Coastal Resources Scientist TEL (225) 342-9432 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division 450 Laurel Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-4027 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 renee.sanders@la.gov
Mr. Ron Boustany Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3067 FAX (337) 291-3085	Natural Resources Conservation Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 180 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 ron.boustany@la.usda.gov
Mr. Ken Teague Environmental Scientist TEL (214) 665-6687 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 teague.kenneth@epamail.epa.gov
Mr. Patrick Williams Fisheries Biologist TEL (225) 389-0508, x208 FAX (225) 389-0506	National Marine Fisheries Service c/o Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-7535 patrick.williams@noaa.gov

The seat of Chairman of the EnvWG resides with the USFWS. The EnvWG Chairman leads the EnvWG to accomplish its work.

Table 4 (Continued)
Membership of the Environmental Work Group

Other Agency Representatives	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Greg Miller Project Manager/Biologist TEL (504) 862-2310 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 gregory.b.miller@usace.army.mil
Mr. Ronny Paille Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3117 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 ronald_paille@fws.gov
Mr. Robert Dubois Fish and Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3127 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 robert_dubois@fws.gov
Mr. Troy Mallach Biologist TEL (337) 291-3064 FAX (337) 291-3085	Natural Resources Conservation Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 180 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 troy.mallach@la.usda.gov
Mr. Manuel Ruiz	

Fishery Biologist Marine Habitat Program TEL (225) 765-2373 FAX (225) 765-2489	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 mruiz@wlf.louisiana.gov
Mr. Michael Carloss Wildlife Biologist Coastal Refuges Program Manager TEL (337) 373-0032 FAX (337) 373-0181	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries 2415 Darnell Rd New Iberia, LA 70560-9622 mcarloss@wlf.louisiana.gov
Ms. Honora Buras Coastal Resources Scientist DCL-A TEL 225-342-4103 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 honora.buras@la.gov
Ms. Sue Hawes Project Manager for the Environment TEL (504) 862-2518 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Office of the Chief P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 suzanne.r.hawes@usace.army.mil
Mr. Travis Creel Project Manager TEL (504) 862-1071 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Travis.J.Creel@usace.army.mil
Ms. Heather Warner-Finley Fishery Biologist Marine Habitat Program Manager TEL (225) 765-2956 FAX (225) 765-2489	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 hfinley@wlf.louisiana.gov

2.112 Engineering Work Group (EngWG).

The EngWG, under the guidance and direction of the P&E, provides engineering standards, quality control/assurance, and support, for the review and comment of the cost estimates for: engineering, environmental compliance, economic, real estate, construction, construction supervision and inspection, project management, operation and maintenance, and monitoring, of candidate and demonstration projects considered for development, selection, and funding under the Act. A list of the primary contacts for the EngWG is presented in Table 5.

Table 5
Membership of the Engineering Work Group

EngWG Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. John Petitbon, E.I. (Chairman) Civil Engineer TEL (504) 862-2732 FAX (504) 862-1356	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District General Engineering Branch – Cost Engineering Section P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 john.b.petitbon@usace.army.mil

Mr. Dain Gillen Engineer 3 TEL (225) 342-6307 FAX (225) 342-6801	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Engineering Division 450 Laurel Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-4027 dain.gillen@la.gov
Mr. Brad Crawford, P.E. Civil Engineer TEL (214) 665-7255 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 crawford.brad@epa.gov
Mr. John Jurgensen, P.E. Civil Engineer TEL (318) 473-7694 FAX (318) 473-7747	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov
Mr. Ronny Paille Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3117 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 ronald_paille@fws.gov
Mr. Patrick Williams Fisheries Biologist TEL (225) 389-0508, x208 FAX (225) 389-0506	National Marine Fisheries Service c/o Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-7535 patrick.williams@noaa.gov

The EngWG Chairman leads the EngWG in its tasks. The seat of Chairman of the EngWG resides with the USACE New Orleans District.

Table 5 (Continued)
Membership of the Engineering Work Group

Other Agency Representatives	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Loland Broussard Civil Engineer TEL (337) 291-3069 FAX (337) 291-3085	Natural Resources Conservation Service 646 Cajundome Blvd. Suite 180 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 loland.broussard@la.usda.gov
Ms. Patty Taylor, P.E. Environmental Engineer TEL (214) 665-6403 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 taylor.patricia-a@epa.gov
Ms. Melanie Magee Environmental Engineer TEL (214) 665-7161 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 magee.melanie@epa.gov

Mr. Jason Kroll Water Resources Staff TEL (318) 473-7816 FAX (318) 473-7747	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, LA 71303 jason.kroll@la.usda.gov
Mr. Rudolph A. Simoneaux III, E. I. Engineer Intern II TEL (225) 342-6750 FAX (225) 342-6801	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Engineering Division 450 Laurel Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-4027 rudy.simoneaux@la.gov

2.113 Economics Work Group (EcoWG).

The EcoWG, under the guidance and direction of the P&E, reviews and evaluates candidate projects that have been completely developed, for the purpose of assigning the fully funded first cost of projects, based on the estimated 20-year stream of project costs. A list of primary contacts of the EcoWG Members is presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Membership of the Economics Work Group

EcoWG Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Matthew Napolitano (Chairman) Economist TEL (504) 862-2445 FAX (504) 862-1299	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Economic and Social Analysis Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Matthew.P.Napolitano@usace.army.mil
Mr. Bill Waits Agricultural Economist TEL (318) 473-7686 FAX (318) 473-7747	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 bill.waits@la.usda.gov
Mr. Gary Barone Financial Scientist TEL (301) 713-0174 FAX (301) 713-0184	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway, Room 14226 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 gary.barone@noaa.gov
Ms. Honora Buras Coastal Resources Scientist DCL-A TEL 225-342-4103 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 honora.buras@la.gov

The USACE New Orleans District holds the EcoWG Chairman seat. The EcoWG Chairman leads the EcoWG to complete their evaluations.

2.114 Monitoring Work Group (MWG).

The MWG, under the guidance and direction of the P&E, develops standard operating procedures and oversees the development and implementation of field monitoring programs for the CWPPRA program. A list of primary contacts of the MWG Members is presented in Table 7.

Table 7
Membership of the Monitoring Work Group

MWG Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Rick Raynie (Co-Chairman) Biological Monitoring Section Manager TEL (225) 342-9436 FAX (225) 242-3632	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 rickr@dnr.state.la.us
Mr. Greg Steyer (Co-Chairman) Ecologist TEL (225) 578-7201 FAX (225) 578-7478	U. S. Geological Survey (representing USFWS) National Wetlands Research Center Coastal Restoration Field Station P.O. Box 25098 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70894 gsteyer@usgs.gov
Ms. Beth McCasland Biologist TEL (504) 862-2021 FAX (504) 862-2572	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 elizabeth.l.mccasland@usace.army.mil
Dr. John D. Foret Wetland Ecologist TEL (337) 291-2107 FAX (337) 291-2106	NOAA Fisheries Service Estuarine Habitats & Coastal Fisheries Center 646 Cajundome Blvd Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 John.foret@noaa.gov
Mr. Robert Dubois Fish and Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3127 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 robert_dubois@fws.gov
Ms. Cindy Steyer Coastal Vegetative Specialist TEL (225) 389-0334 FAX (225) 382-2042	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service P.O Box 16030, LSU Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70893 Cindy.steyer@la.usda.gov
Mr. Ron Boustany Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3067 FAX (337) 291-3085	Natural Resources Conservation Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 180 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 ron.boustany@la.usda.gov
Mr. Ken Teague Environmental Scientist TEL (214) 665-6687 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 teague.kenneth@epa.gov

The seats of Co-Chairman of the MWG resides with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LADNR) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). These Chairmen lead the MWG in monitoring program activities.

2.1141 Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

The TAG, under the guidance and direction of the MWG, reviews projects selected and funded for implementation, for the purpose of designing a project-specific monitoring plan to evaluate and report the level of project effectiveness. A list of primary contacts of the TAG Members is presented in Table 8.

Table 8
Membership of the Technical Advisory Work Group

TAG Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Rick Raynie Biological Monitoring Section Manager TEL (225) 342-9436 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR/Coastal Restoration Division P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 rickr@dnr.state.la.us
Mr. Greg Steyer Ecologist TEL (225) 578-7201 FAX (225) 578-7478	U. S. Geological Survey (representing USFWS) National Wetlands Research Center Coastal Restoration Field Station P.O. Box 25098 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70894 gsteyer@usgs.gov
Ms. Beth McCasland Biologist TEL (504) 862-2021 FAX (504) 862-2572	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Environmental Planning and Compliance Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 elizabeth.l.mccasland@usace.army.mil
Mr. Ken Teague Environmental Scientist TEL (214) 665-6687 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 teague.kenneth@epa.gov
Ms. Joy Merino Fisheries Biologist TEL (337) 291-2109 FAX (337) 291-2106	National Marine Fisheries Service Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center 646 Cajundome Blvd., Room 172 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 Joy.merino@noaa.gov
Ms. Cindy Steyer Coastal Vegetative Specialist TEL (225) 389-0334 FAX (225) 382-2042	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service P.O Box 16030, LSU Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70893 Cindy.steyer@la.usda.gov
Mr. Robert Dubois Fish and Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3127 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 robert_dubois@fws.gov
Ms. Sue Hawes Project Manager for the Environment	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Office of the Chief

TEL (504) 862-2518 FAX (504) 862-1892	P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 suzanne.r.hawes@usace.army.mil
Mr. Ron Boustany Wildlife Biologist TEL (337) 291-3067 FAX (337) 291-3085	Natural Resources Conservation Service 646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 180 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 ron.boustany@la.usda.gov
Ms. Melanie Goodman Project Manager/Biologist TEL (504) 862-1940 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 melanie.l.goodman@usace.army.mil

The Chairman of the TAG resides with the LADNR. The Chairman leads the TAG in project-specific monitoring activities.

2.115 Academic Advisory Group (AAG).

While the agencies sitting on the TF possess considerable expertise regarding Louisiana's coastal wetlands problems, the TF recognized the need to incorporate another invaluable resource: the state's academic community. The TF therefore retained university services to provide scientific advisors to support the Program. A list of primary contacts of the AAG Members is presented in Table 9.

Table 9
Membership of the Academic Advisory Group

AAG Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Dr. Jenneke Visser (Chairman) Associate Professor - Research TEL (225) 578-6377 FAX (225) 578-6326	Coastal Ecology Institute Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803 comvss@lsu.edu
Dr. Larry Rouse Associate Professor TEL (225) 578-2953 FAX (225) 578-2520	Oceanography and Coastal Sciences Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA 70803 lrouse@lsu.edu
Dr. Charles Sasser Professor of Research TEL (225) 578-6375 FAX (225) 578-6326	Coastal Ecology Institute Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803 csasser@lsu.edu
Dr. Gary Shaffer Associate Professor TEL (985) 549-2865 FAX (985) 549-3851	Department of Biological Sciences Southeastern Louisiana University Hammond, Louisiana 70402 shafe@selu.edu

Mr. Erick Swenson Research Associate TEL (225) 578-2730 FAX (225) 388-6326	Coastal Ecology Institute Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803 eswenson@lsu.edu

The AAG, under the guidance and direction of the P&E; provides support during the screening and development, and ranking of candidate and demonstration projects. The AAG works with the EnvWG and MWG in support of their respective work in project development. The AAG also assists the FC in carrying out the feasibility studies authorized by the TF.

The AAG Chairman seat, which is traditionally held by a university academic, leads this group in completing their work.

2.116 Financial Administration Team.

As stated previously, the New Orleans District: (1) provides administration, management, and oversight of the Planning and Construction Programs, and acts as accountant, budgeter, administrator, and disburser of all Federal and non-Federal funds under the Act, (2) acts as the official manager of financial data and most information relating to the CWPPRA Program and projects. Under the direction of the District Commander, the Planning & Project Management - Coastal Restoration Branch of the Corps functions as lead agency and representatives of the Program. The list of contacts in the Financial Administration Team is presented in Table 10.

Table 10
Financial Administration Team

Member's Representative	Mailing Address of Representative
Ms. Gay B. Browning (Lead) Program Analyst TEL (504) 862-2755 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 gay.b.browning@usace.army.mil
Ms. Wanda Martinez Program Analyst TEL (504) 862-2785 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Protection and Restoration Office, Restoration Branch P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 wanda.martinez@usace.army.mil
Mr. Darryl Clark Senior Field Biologist TEL (337) 291-3111 FAX (337) 291-3139	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Blvd. Suite 400 Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 darryl_clark@fws.gov
Ms. Lana Humphries	State of Louisiana OCPR/Office of Management &

Accountant Manager TEL (225) 342-4077 FAX (225) 242-3518	Finance P.O. Box 44277 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804 lanah@dnr.state.la.us
Mr. Gary Barone TEL (301) 713-0174 FAX (301) 713-0184	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Habitat Conservation Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 gary.barone@noaa.gov
Ms. Sondra McDonald TEL (214) 665-7187 FAX (214) 665-6490	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Management Division (6WQ-AT) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 mcdonald.sondra@epamail.epa.gov
Mrs. Mitzi Gallipeau Program Assistant TEL (318) 473-7607 FAX (318) 473-7747	Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 mitzi.gallipeau@la.usda.gov

2.2 Public Outreach Committee (OC).

The OC is comprised of members from the participating Federal agencies, the State of Louisiana, other coastal programs, and non-profit organizations. Only the core group members, representing the CWPPRA entities, are eligible to vote on budget matters. The committee is currently responsible for formulating information strategies and public education initiatives, maintaining a web site of complex technical and educational materials, developing audio-visual presentations, exhibits, publications and news releases, conducting special events and project dedications and groundbreakings. Additionally, the committee represents the CWPPRA task force at expositions and workshops to promote coastal wetlands restoration.

A list of primary contacts of the OC Members is presented in Table 11.

Table 11
Membership of the Public Outreach Committee

OC Members	Mailing Address of Representative
Mr. Scott Wilson, Chairman Electronics Engineer TEL (337) 266-8644 FAX (337) 266-8513	United States Geological Survey National Wetlands Research Center 700 Cajundome Blvd. Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 Scott_Wilson@usgs.gov
Mr. Dave Marks Outreach Coordinator TEL (337) 266-8623 FAX (337) 266-8513	United States Geological Survey National Wetlands Research Center 700 Cajundome Blvd. Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 marksd@usgs.gov

Ms. Adele Swearingen Public Affairs Specialist TEL (318) 473-7686 FAX (318) 473-7682	United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 Adele.Swearingen@la.usda.gov
Dr. Rex Caffey Associate Professor, Wetlands & Coastal Resources TEL (225) 578-2266 FAX (225) 578-2716	LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant Department of Agriculture Economics Room 179 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-5604 Rcaffey@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ms. Minnie Rojo Environmental Scientist TEL (214) 665-3139 FAX (214) 665-6689	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-EMC) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Rojo.Minerva@epa.gov
Ms. Cheryl Brodnax Marine Fisheries Habitat Specialist TEL (225) 578-7923 FAX (225) 578-7926	NOAA Fisheries Service Louisiana State University Sea Grant Building, Room 125 Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6100 cheryl.brodnax @noaa.gov
Ms. Susan Testroet-Bergeron, BTNEP Formal Education Coordinator TEL (985) 447-0836 TEL (800) 259-0869 FAX (985) 447-0870	Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program P.O. Box 2663 Thibodaux, Louisiana 70310 susan@btnep.org
Ms. Julie Morgan Outreach Program Specialist TEL (504) 862-2587 FAX (504) 862-1892	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Public Affairs Office P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 julie.t.morgan@usace.army.mil
Mr. Steven Peyronnin Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Communications Director TEL (225) 344-6555 FAX (225) 344-0590	Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana 746 Main Street, Suite B-101 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 stevenp@crcl.org
Ms. Honora Buras Coastal Resources Scientist TEL (225) 342-4103 FAX (225) 342-9417	State of Louisiana OCPR P.O. Box 44027, Capitol Station Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4027 honora.buras@la.gov

The Public Outreach Committee performs the functions of communications and public relations for the program on behalf of the Task Force. The primary function of the OC is to coordinate ongoing and future outreach activities with the CWPPRA agencies and the various partner groups and stakeholders. The OC reports to and takes direction from the Task Force. Yearly budgetary planning is coordinate with the Technical Committee.

The Chairman and coordinator for the outreach are located in Lafayette, Louisiana at the USGS National Wetlands Research Center. The Chairman manages OC functions and budgetary

issues. The budget allocation for the outreach program is forecasted, submitted for approval, and managed by the chairman. The Chairman and coordinator manage all outreach activities for the TF. The coordinator position interprets for general audiences the scientific functions and values of wetlands, the scientific causes for Louisiana's coastal land loss, and the various approaches underway or being considered to reduce the land loss rate and create new vegetated wetlands. The outreach coordinator also develops and arranges presentations and provides information material for other officials making public comments as well as providing liaison with local officials and media. The outreach coordinator also manages the educational program, which provides information and materials for classroom use throughout the state. The Chairman and coordinator for outreach serve on local and regional planning efforts and act as the liaisons between the public, parish governments, and the various Federal agencies involved in CWPPRA.

2.3 Citizen's Participation Group (CPG).

The TF also established a CPG to provide general input from the diverse interests across the coastal zone: local officials, landowners, farmers, sportsmen, commercial fishermen, oil and gas developers, navigation interests, and environmental organizations. The CPG was formed to promote citizen participation and involvement in formulating priority project lists and the restoration plan. The group meets at its own discretion, but may at times meet in conjunction with other CWPPRA elements, such as the TC. The purpose of the CPG is to maintain consistent public review and input into the plans and projects being considered by the TG and to assist and participate in the public involvement program. The membership of the CPG is shown in Table 12. The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana holds CPG Chairman seat. The CPG Chairman leads this group in their charge.

Table 12
Membership of the Citizen's Participation Group

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Mr. Mark Davis, Executive Director (Chairman) 200 Lafayette Street, Suite 500 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-1200 TEL (225) 344-6555 FAX (225) 344-0590	Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association Doug Svendson, Executive Director 1539 Jackson Avenue, Suite 410 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 TEL (504) 586-1473 FAX (504) 586-1634
Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Mr. Carlton Dufrechou, Executive Director Three Lakeway Building, Suite 2070 3838 North Causeway Boulevard Metairie, Louisiana 70002 TEL (504) 836-2215, FAX (504) 836-7283	Louisiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Earl Garber 5229 Evangeline Hwy Basile, La 70515
Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc. 9516 Airline Highway Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70815 TEL (225) 922-6200 FAX (225) 922-6229	Louisiana Landowners Association Newman Trowbridge, Agent 200 Willow Street Franklin, Louisiana 70538-6166 TEL (337) 828-5480 FAX (337) 828-1160
Louisiana League of Women Voters	Louisiana Oyster Growers and Dealers Association

850 North 5th Street, Apartment 103
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802
TEL 1-(800) 288-VOTE
FAX (225) 344-3326

Steamship Association of Louisiana
Channing Hayden, President
2440 World Trade Center
2 Canal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
TEL (504) 522-9392
FAX (504) 523-2140

Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association
Mr. B. Jim Porter, President
801 North Boulevard, Suite 201
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802-5727
TEL (504) 387-3205
FAX (504) 344-5502

Oil and Gas Task Force (Regional Economic Development Council)
Mr. Bill Berry
P.O. Box 60350
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160
TEL (504) 566-6425

Police Jury Association of Louisiana
James Hays, Executive Secretary
707 North 7th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70805-5315
TEL (225) 343-2835
FAX (225) 336-1344

Al Sunseri, President
1039 Toulouse Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
TEL (504) 523-2651
FAX (504) 522-4960

Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Inc.
Randy Lanctot, Executive Director
P.O. Box 65239 Audubon Station
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896-5239
TEL (225) 344-6707
FAX (225) 344-6707

Nature Conservancy of Louisiana
Dr. Keith Ouchley, Director
P.O. Box 4125
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821
TEL (225) 338-1040
FAX (225) 338-0103

Organization of Louisiana Fishermen
Mr. Robert Fritchey, Secretary
P.O. Box 71651
New Orleans, Louisiana 70172-1651
TEL (504) 523-2472

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 3, 2009 TASK FORCE MEETING

For Discussion and Decision:

Mr. Tom Holden will present the minutes from the last Task Force meeting. Task Force members may provide suggestions for additional information to be included in the official minutes.

BREAUX ACT
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

TASK FORCE MEETING
3 June 2009

Minutes

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Alvin Lee convened the 72nd meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force. The meeting began at 9:40 a.m. on June 3, 2009 at the Estuarine Fisheries and Habitat Center, Conference Room 119, 646 Cajundome Boulevard, Lafayette, LA. 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 present.

Mr. Jim Boggs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Mr. Christopher Doley, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Mr. Garret Graves, State of Louisiana, Governor's Office of Coastal Activities (GOCA) [Mr. Jerome Zeringue, GOCA, sat in for Mr. Graves during Agenda Items 3-4, 6-7, and 10-19.]
Colonel Alvin Lee, Chairman, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Mr. Kevin Norton, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Mr. William Honker, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

III. OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Honker announced that Mr. Tim Landers, USEPA, is leaving the USEPA Region 6 office to work at the USEPA Headquarters in Washington, DC. On behalf of the Task Force, Colonel Lee presented Mr. Landers with a Certificate of Appreciation for exemplary service from October 2008 to June 2009 in the CWPPRA Program as a representative for the USEPA on both the Technical Committee and Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Subcommittee. Colonel Lee also presented Mr. Landers with a USACE Commander's coin. Mr. Landers said that his participation in CWPPRA for the last 15 years has been a highlight of his career. Mr. Landers hopes that he can continue to support the CWPPRA Program through his future work at the USEPA Headquarters.

Mr. Honker thanked Dr. Jane Watson, USEPA, for doing an excellent job as a substitute for Mr. Honker's position as a Task Force representative over the past year.

Mr. Garrett Graves requested that Agenda Items 8 (River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp) and 9 (West Bay) be discussed earlier in the meeting. Colonel Lee also requested that Agenda Item 5 (FY10 Planning Budget Development) be covered earlier.

Mr. Honker made a motion to discuss Agenda Items 5, 8, and 9 after Agenda Item 2 (Adoption of Minutes). Mr. Norton seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 2009 TASK FORCE MEETING

Colonel Lee called for a motion to adopt the minutes from the January 21, 2009 Task Force Meeting.

Mr. Honker moved to adopt the minutes and Mr. Graves seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

V. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

A. Agenda Item #5 – Discussion/Decision: Initial Discussion of FY10 Planning Budget Development (Process, Size, Funding, etc.)

Mr. Kevin Roy, USFWS, reported that the FY10 Planning Budget process would begin in June 2009 with agency review of budget line items, development of costs associated with each task, and discussion of the supplemental tasks. The budget development may also include consideration of returning to four annual meetings for the Technical Committee and Task Force. The P&E Subcommittee will meet in August 2009 to finalize the budget within the $5 million cap and will present the FY10 budget at the September 2009 Technical Committee Meeting.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Colonel Lee said that he does not support adding a fourth meeting because of scheduling conflicts. Mr. Honker agreed and added that he would rather spend an additional hour or two at each meeting to reduce travel time for attendees associated with an additional meeting. Mr. Boggs also agreed.

Mr. Graves recommended that the Task Force add extra meetings on a case-by-case basis. Colonel Lee agreed that the Task Force could decide to call a special meeting as needed.

The Task Force directed the P&E Subcommittee not to pursue the potential to have four meetings per year any further and to continue the FY10 Planning process based on three meetings per year.

Mr. Roy stated that the P&E Subcommittee will develop the PPL 20 project selection process to mirror the PPL 19 process. There has been discussion by the agencies and parish representatives to conduct project nominee voting via an online web and phone conference instead of holding a face-to-face coastwide voting meeting. The details will need to be worked out with a test run later this summer to work through any technological glitches.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Honker liked the idea of an online voting process. Colonel Lee agreed and added that the capability of a webinar-type meeting would help reduce costs.

Mr. Boggs made a motion to direct the P&E Subcommittee to move forward with the development of the FY10 Planning Budget and PPL 20 Process. Mr. Honker seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

B. Agenda Item #8 – Discussion: Project Update and Request for Project Scope Change for PPL 11- River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp Project (PO-29)

Colonel Lee stated that the current construction estimate for the River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp Project is $151 million, which is more than $120 million over the currently approved project costs. Colonel Lee asked Mr. Tom Holden, USACE, to brief the Task Force.

Mr. Holden reported that the Technical Committee passed a motion at the April 15, 2009 meeting requiring that the USEPA, State, and USACE develop an action plan to facilitate continuation of the engineering design for the River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp Project under CWPPRA or a seamless transition for final design and construction under another program such as the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA). The USEPA and USACE have achieved a resolution for a path forward based on the State and USEPA's original proposed action plan and the USACE's revisions to that proposed action plan. The action plans were provided to the Task Force along with a summary of the USACE's legal opinion on their ability to move forward and a detailed assessment of the technical aspects of the 30 percent design that need to be addressed. Although the Technical Committee has not recommended the action plan, Mr. Holden feels that the USACE and USEPA have agreed on a path forward to either move the project into another program or to continue it under CWPPRA.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Graves asked Mr. Holden if there was anything else other than fiscal law, environmental regulations, and Planning and Guidance Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies adopted by the Water Resources Council (P&G) that factored into the decision for the Maurepas Swamp Project. Mr. Holden replied that as Commander of the USACE New Orleans District, Colonel Lee has the flexibility to support either direction. If the project continues design under the CWPPRA Program and is later transferred to LCA, there will be a risk that the plan selected under CWPPRA will not be the preferred selected alternative under LCA. The action plan outlines what is needed to resolve the 30 percent design comments to make sure the project is ready to move forward under CWPPRA or another program. The Corps, EPA, and State can work together towards a project management plan (PMP).

Mr. Graves asked if development of the Maurepas Swamp Project has been within P&G compliance. Mr. Holden stated that he could not determine if the project will comply with the P&G requirement under the LCA. Mr. Graves commented that the focus is to identify where there is a divergence in the P&G under the existing USEPA and State relationship. Mr. Holden said that this was correct.

Colonel Lee said that the 30 percent design review is typically when the USACE would have a tentatively selected plan. A gap analysis is needed to determine if the project as it is being developed under CWPRRA would meet requirements of the P&G.

Mr. Graves asked Mr. Holden to clarify the fiscal law factor identified. Mr. Holden said that the USACE's intent is to support continuing this project either with the State and USEPA completing the design or moving the project to another program. The USACE attorneys confirmed that neither CWPPRA nor LCA is more specific or takes precedence over the other. It is the Commander's prerogative to support the Task Force's decision. The gap analysis is essential and it is prudent to begin to reduce risk if the project is moved into LCA. The 30 percent design review comments should be addressed anyway. The USACE engineers would make a recommendation on whether or not the Commander should present this to the Mississippi River Commission (MRC) for construction regardless of how the project is moved forward either by CWPPRA, the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) or LCA.

Colonel Lee added that from fiscal law, the decision could go either way. There is flexibility to continue with the design or transfer the project to LCA.

Mr. Graves asked about the specific fiscal law statute to which Mr. Holden referred. Mr. Holden said that if the Task Force were to move the project into the LCA, then the project needs to be tied in with the fiscal year. The USEPA as the Federal sponsor would notify the Task Force Chair who would then notify Congress of the program's intent to move the project under the LCA authorization and that CWPPRA would suspend funding in the next fiscal year. Moving the project forward under LCA would require a partnership agreement between the LCA and State as well as a Project Management Plan and other documents. If the gap analysis were to show that another alternative, such as a siphon, were just as viable and would meet the P&G guidance of the benefit-cost ratio, then there is a risk that further funds expending time and funds to complete the project design under CWPPRA could be wasted if the CWPPRA selected plan is not the preferred alternative under LCA.

Mr. Graves asked Mr. Holden to clarify the statement that inferred that there was a prohibition of using multiple funding sources to advance a project. Mr. Holden said that the document provided to the Task Force states that the USACE has to use one authority and funding source and would be prohibited from using the LCA funds concurrently with CWPPRA funds. Mr. Graves said that he knows of many projects that were built or progressed with the use of multiple funding sources from different agencies. Mr. Graves asked Mr. Holden to provide the specific statute of regulation that deals with the prohibition of multiple funding sources. Mr. Holden said that he would get this information to Mr. Graves.

Mr. Honker questioned if the risk would be eliminated by proceeding under CWPPRA with full engagement by the USACE during the gap and alternatives analysis. Mr. Holden replied that his hope is that steps taken by the USEPA and State would concur with the P&G and NEPA compliance and that the selected alternative under CWPPRA would be the preferred alternative under LCA. Mr. Holden added that the risk occurs if the gap analysis indicates the possibility of another alternative that wasn't considered or did not thoroughly address impacts to adjacent communities or levee boards.

Colonel Lee asked the Task Force to discuss how to move forward with the gap analysis and finalizing the Work Plan.

Mr. Honker said that on behalf of the sponsoring agency, USEPA, he does not feel that there is enough information for the Task Force to make a good transition time horizon decision at this time. He believes the Task Force should approve the change in scope because it is obvious that the project's construction cost will far exceed what was originally approved. A change in project scope is no additional cost to the program. Mr. Honker also feels that the USEPA and State should engage the USACE in this process so that the gap analysis and other components can be fully assessed to ensure that the design proceeds in a way to minimize risk if the project is eventually transferred into the LCA. The USEPA should begin working with the State and USACE on options and a timeline for transition. There are also budgetary issues to consider as far as the costs of the USACE's involvement. Mr. Honker believes the design process should continue under CWPPRA. Colonel Lee said that Mr. Honker presented some good concepts.

Mr. Graves asked if there was an estimate for the additional costs to pursue the gap analysis and continued design concurrently. Mr. Honker did not have that information. Mr. Holden said that he did not have a cost estimate at this time and added that the USACE has achieved an agreement among the USEPA and State to develop the gap analysis, which includes the scope, cost, and schedule. Mr. Holden proposed taking Mr. Honker's suggestion and phrasing it in the form of a motion. Mr. Graves said that he is supportive of the concept, but just wanted to understand the cost implications of pursuing the gap analysis.

Mr. Norton said that there are two costs to consider: the cost of the gap analysis and the cost to continue the design. If the current design does not end up being the preferred plan, then the amount of money expended on the design process would essentially be lost because the preferred plan design would have to start over. Mr. Norton asked if there could be a scenario in which the MRC would have to approve the project. Mr. Holden answered that this scenario would occur if the State were to move the project under CIAP and if the technical issues were satisfactorily addressed. The difficulty comes when the project is moved to the LCA. Mr. Holden agreed with Mr. Honker's point that the 30 percent design comments must be resolved before the project can move forward. Mr. Graves noted that there is risk no matter which path is taken regardless of the funding source. Mr. Holden clarified that there would be risk no matter which path was taken right now, however beyond the 30 percent design, it would be possible that further design efforts could be at risk if it is not the LCA preferred alternative.

Col. Lee asked about the timeline to conduct the gap analysis. Mr. Holden asked Mr. Troy Constance, USACE, to reply to Col. Lee's question. Mr. Constance stated that he does not

know how much effort is involved with conducting the review. Mr. Constance added that the USACE is proposing to meet with the State and USEPA to develop a working plan for the gap analysis including a scope, cost, and timeline by mid-July.

Mr. Doley asked if the Task Force would have a risk analysis on the preferred project after the gap analysis has been completed to be able to move forward past the 30 percent design. Mr. Constance replied that he would propose to do a plan evaluation and solicit comments on the report. The hope is that the plan selected would be identical to what would be submitted through the USACE. If this isn't the case, then CWPPRA would have to address the reasons why.

Mr. Doley asked if the USACE would be able to tell within the next three or four months whether or not the design is consistent with the USACE's view of what the preferred alternative should be. Mr. Constance replied: Yes. Mr. Holden cautioned that additional public comment may be needed.

Mr. Doley asked Mr. Holden what degree of confidence the USACE would have that the action will result in the preferred alternative before the design gets to the 95 percent level. Mr. Holden said that the USACE would be able to provide a scope, schedule, and cost necessary to close the gaps in the analysis by mid-July.

Mr. Norton commented that the Technical Committee motion stated that the USEPA, State, and USACE would develop an action plan and submit it to the Task Force prior to this meeting. Although there has been a proposed action plan by the USEPA and State and a response to that action plan by the USACE, there really is no action plan for this meeting. Colonel Lee said that a finalized action plan was not ready. Mr. Norton said that some issues need to be communicated and worked out, but does not feel there is an item to vote on at this time. Mr. Norton proposed the State, USEPA, and USACE finalize the action plan and then the Task Force can have a fax vote on the plan in mid-July. Colonel Lee agreed with Mr. Norton.

Mr. Graves expressed concern over the path of the discussion. Waiting another month to make this decision means another month of time will be lost that could have been spent doing additional design work. The State's action plan that was provided to the Federal partners involved more than adequate time to provide comments and come to a resolution at this meeting. The comments were not received in a timely manner. Mr. Graves believes the risk is minimal with proceeding with the 30 percent design and there would be an opportunity to do a course correction in the next month. Mr. Norton suggested voting on the scope change at this meeting, which would allow the design to continue through the next month. Mr. Graves agreed with Mr. Norton's suggestion.

Mr. Honker said, in response to Mr. Holden and Mr. Constance's comments, that he envisions the USACE functioning not only as an external review in the gap analysis, but also working with the USEPA and State to fix any problems with design components as the project moves forward. Colonel Lee said that some of this has already occurred with the 30 percent design review comments. Mr. Norton commented that the intent of the Technical Committee's original motion was that the three agencies would work toward a seamless transition for the final

design. The finalized action plan should facilitate that transition and the State needs to determine if they want to fund the project with a different program or move the project into the LCA.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the public. There were none.

Mr. Norton moved to approve the scope change and current construction cost estimate of $151 million for the River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp Project. Mr. Honker seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

Colonel Lee asked the Task Force if the P&E Subcommittee should be tasked with finalizing the action plan and the have the Technical Committee review the plan before the Task Force fax vote. Mr. Honker said that the USEPA, State, and USACE should be charged with finalizing the action plan.

Mr. Holden said that the USACE, State, and USEPA have met the Technical Committee's direction and now just needs to work through the action plan, which includes the gap analysis and resolution of the 30 percent design comments. The three agencies should be in a position to present the action plan in six weeks.

Mr. Doley asked if the Technical Committee would be informed of the action plan. If there is a budget change, will Technical Committee approval be sought? Is the decision coming back to the Task Force after the action plan is finalized?

Mr. Norton said that the Task Force should set a date for completion and resolution of the action plan. Colonel Lee agreed. Mr. Honker said that there should be a final action plan which would include the gap analysis, time frame, and cost by July 15th.

Mr. Holden said that the three agencies will work to develop the gap analysis, scope, schedule, and cost and present this by July 15th. They will also continue resolving the 30 percent comments. Mr. Holden suggested tabling the issue of providing support for any furtherance of the design.

Mr. Norton moved to task the USEPA, State, and USACE with providing a final action plan by July 15th. The action plan shall consist of a gap analysis, cost for the USACE's efforts, and scope of work beyond the action plan. The agencies shall also continue to resolve the 30 percent design review comments. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

C. Agenda Item #9 – Report/Discussion: Status of the PPL 1 - West Bay Sediment Diversion Project (MR-03)

Mr. Holden highlighted the minutes from the January 2009 Task Force meeting discussion on the West Bay Sediment Diversion Project. The approved Task Force motion passed at the January 2009 meeting was as follows:

> "To require the USACE and State of Louisiana, with participation from with the CWPPRA Technical Committee and consultation with the Maritime industry and other interested

parties, to finalize a Work Plan on the river shoaling in the area of the West Bay Sediment Diversion Project by February 28, 2009. The Work Plan shall include an analysis of the current and historic bathymetry and other related data on this region of the Mississippi River and a quantification of the total historic and recent shoaling that has occurred in the area before and after construction of the project. The report resulting from the Work Plan shall include estimates on the volume of shoaling resulting from the project, shoaling from natural processes, and an estimate of the volume of sediment that has been removed from the river resulting in a decrease in the dredging required in the vicinity of and down river from the West Bay Diversion. A final report resulting from the Work Plan shall be provided to the Task Force within six months. The motion also requires that the draft final Work Plan and report be independently reviewed by a team of experts within thirty days of completion of each document. The independent review team should consist of the CWPPRA Academic Advisory Group and the LCA Science and Technology (S&T) Program."

Mr. Holden said that since the January Task Force meeting, the Technical Committee has been engaged and the final draft Work Plan has been provided to the Task Force. On May 21st, the State's consultant, BCG, presented results from their effort on a geomorphic and bathymetric analysis to the USACE. Mr. Holden said that the USACE requested a copy of BCG's report, but have not yet received it. The USACE has provided the Task Force with an assessment of the results presented and how the State's effort can be used to supplement the USACE's Work Plan. Mr. Holden stated that the USACE, in coordination with the State, are executing the Work Plan and have begun critical portions to take advantage of the high river conditions. The correspondence will be delivered within the six month period as directed. Mr. Holden asked Ms. Cherie Price, USACE West Bay Sediment Diversion Project Manager, to present more details on the project.

Ms. Price said that a special CWPPRA Technical Committee meeting was held on February 27th to present all technical items for inclusion in the draft Work Plan. The draft Work Plan was reviewed by nine agencies that provided 130 comments. These comments were integrated into the Work Plan. Work Plan efforts have been initiated and three data collection events have been completed to date with the first data collection effort funded by the LCA S&T Office.

Ms. Price said that the Work Plan is a decision-making tool and will identify if there are any significant or measurable impacts of the West Bay Diversion on shoaling in the Pilottown Anchorage Area (PAA) and show how shoaling varies with river stage, flow, and seasonal effects over 20 to 50 years. The USACE received a presentation prepared by BCG on the geomorphic assessment. The BCG effort will fit in with one component of the Work Plan's assessment, but the Work Plan contains six more components on a larger scale both temporally and spatially. The Work Plan also includes an analysis of river stage and discharge gage records and an analysis of suspended sediment and bed material to assess the characteristics of shoal material both pre- and post-construction. Significant engineering activities on the lower river will be studied to help determine the effect of these events on the bathymetric and hydrodynamic changes in the river. Components of the Work Plan will help determine if the shoaling trends are resulting from large-scale, long-term effects or if shoaling is a direct result of the West Bay Sediment Diversion. The USACE provided a presentation to the Task Force in November 2008

that showed that the PAA had been shoaling significantly before construction of the West Bay Diversion, but the USACE since realized that there was not enough information to quantify the direct shoaling effects of the diversion.

Ms. Price continued to explain that the Work Plan 1-D modeling effort will predict deposition and scour trends in the river for with and without diversion conditions. Ms. Price noted that the data collection is significant for the Work Plan effort and that previous modeling efforts lacked the necessary field data to determine the amount of sediment leaving through the diversion. It will also analyze the effects of other natural diversions such as Cubit's Gap. A multi-dimensional modeling effort will predict the 3-D nature of flow and sediment transport. Ms. Price said that the migration and change in discharge of the conveyance channel will also be studied. The channel discharge capacity has nearly doubled from 14,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 27,000 cfs at Venice stage. The Work Plan will help to determine why some of these changes are occurring and what the future trends might be.

Ms. Price said that the Work Plan was well received by the two peer review groups: the CWPPRA Academic Advisory Board and LCA S&T Office. The two peer review groups offered comments and suggestions to improve the Work Plan. These suggestions are listed below:

1. Extend the geomorphic analysis in the 1-D modeling effort to the East Jetty on Southwest Pass to look at the entire Mississippi River system effects on the diversion.
2. Collect additional bed material samples and conduct an additional analysis of survey data in the lower reaches of the river.
3. Include a sea level rise analysis in the 1-D modeling effort.
4. Prepare a sensitivity analysis to estimate the uncertainty in the modeling results and to quantify the accuracy of data and modeling tools.
5. Include a sediment budget in the receiving area, which will require additional core samples.

Ms. Price stated that the addition of the above mentioned efforts in the Work Plan would require an additional six months, which would result in a total of 12 months for the completion of the overall Work Plan. The USACE recommends the 12-month Work Plan effort because of these additions and the multi-dimensional analysis of silts and clays. The cost for the 6-month plan is $936,836, while the cost of the 12-month plan is $1,552,172. Ms. Price believes it is essential to learn more about the suspended sediment and bed load in the river. The Work Plan offers an opportunity to expand the knowledge of river sediment transport and hydrodynamics and use this knowledge for adaptive management techniques on future diversions. Ms. Price noted that the West Bay Project cost estimate through 2011 is $33 million. Solicitations for the dredging contract for the PAA were posted on May 28th and the bid openings should occur within the next three weeks.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Honker asked if the Work Plan was already being implemented. Ms. Price replied that three data collection events were initiated to take advantage of high water conditions. Mr. Honker asked how the costs for implementing the Work Plan were being covered. Ms. Price said

that the costs are currently coming out of the authorized Operations and Maintenance (O&M) budget for the project. Ms. Price added that the O&M budget should be adequate to cover the cost of the Work Plan, but that final cost estimates are not yet known.

Mr. Holden responded to Mr. Honker's question and said the O&M should cover the current costs, but the final costs are not yet known until the contracts are negotiated.

Colonel Lee asked Ms. Price to re-state the differences between the 6-month and 12-month plans. Ms. Price said that there are six additional data collection events in the 12-month plan. The 12-month plan will also include the sea level rise analysis.

Colonel Lee clarified his question to focus on the technical standpoint of the 6-month versus 12-month plan. What additional information does the 12-month plan provide the Task Force to help them make future decisions? Ms. Price answered that by extending the model further downstream, additional information can be gleaned to help identify where the sediment is going and if the diversion is reducing sediment loads downstream. The multi-dimensional fine grain analysis will show what grain sizes are in the river and the sea level rise analysis is important to consider in the modeling and analysis. The sensitivity analysis is also needed to determine the level of uncertainty in model results.

Mr. Honker asked Ms. Price when the six-month time frame officially started. Ms. Price replied that it started three days ago. Ms. Price added that the LCA S&T Office felt that it was unreasonable to complete the Work Plan effort within six months and recommended the 12-month plan.

Mr. Doley asked Ms. Price when the dredging would occur. Mr. Price stated that dredging should occur in mid-July. Colonel Lee pointed out that the river water levels have to drop before dredging can begin. Mr. Doley asked about the extent of dredging in the anchorage and how many additional anchorages will be available to the maritime community during this time. Ms. Price said that the anchorage will be dredged according to elevations that existed at the time of construction, which is to dredge a 200-foot wide swath from river mile 1.5 to 6.7.

Mr. Norton asked how the decision to move forward with the 12-month versus the 6-month plan was determined and when did the draft Work Plan become final. Mr. Norton also asked if there were resources within the USACE to study channel dynamics and why was CWPPRA extending beyond the West Bay Project area. Colonel Lee referenced the previous motion from the January 2009 Task Force meeting, which stated that the Work Plan shall include estimates on the volume of shoaling resulting from the project and by natural processes and provide an estimate of the volume of sediment removed from the river resulting in a decrease in dredging required in the vicinity of and down river from the West Bay Diversion. Colonel Lee stated that extending the geomorphic analysis down river would help to address the requirement in the motion.

Mr. Norton asked that once the Work Plan has been accepted, would the USACE use the existing $1.2 million in O&M funds to conduct the 12-month study. Ms. Price replied that they

have already started with the six-month effort, but the recommendation is to move to the 12-month plan.

Mr. Honker commented that the motion from the January Task Force meeting stated that there was supposed to be a Work Plan by February 28th and then a final report six months following the January meeting. Ms. Price said that the draft Work Plan was submitted on February 28th and two weeks were allowed for comments. The Work Plan was finalized on April 24th. Mr. Honker said that the schedule appears to be six months behind. Ms. Price said that the six months starts from the date of Work Plan approval. Mr. Graves said that this was incorrect and that the record clearly states that the Work Plan was to be provided to the Task Force by this meeting so that the Task Force could make a decision today. Colonel Lee said this is the first time external peer review was used and 130 comments had to be resolved before the Work Plan could be finalized on April 24th.

Mr. Graves asked Ms. Price to discuss the process by which the Work Plan was finalized. How did the Task Force or Technical Committee determine that the Work Plan was final and that the comments had been appropriately addressed? Ms. Price said that the final Work Plan was sent to all Technical Committee and Task Force members and no feedback was received. Mr. Graves said that the USFWS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) NMFS, USEPA, and NRCS expressed concerns in April via email about proceeding with the $1 million Work Plan when it was already two months behind schedule. Mr. Graves said that he was not aware that the Work Plan was truly finalized.

Mr. Holden said that once the comments were resolved and the peer review was complete, the Work Plan was circulated to Technical Committee members for concurrence to move forward. Mr. Holden said that the USACE was asked to hold the Work Plan until BCG was able to present their results. This meeting was delayed due to scheduling conflicts. The meeting was finally held on May 21st, where BCG presented a PowerPoint presentation. The USACE has requested a copy of BCG's report from the State. Mr. Holden added that the peer review group believes that the 12-month plan would provide a more detailed analysis to better understand what is occurring in the area.

Mr. Graves said that the State requested appropriate dates for a meeting between BCG and the USACE to occur in mid-April. Mr. Graves expressed concerns that the Work Plan is continuing outside the confines of what was authorized. The deadline has passed and every Task Force member's agency, with exception of the USACE, has expressed concern about moving forward. Mr. Graves said that he was not aware that anyone on the Task Force granted approval for a final Work Plan. It appears that the USACE has unilaterally determined that the Work Plan should extend for another 12 months. CWPPRA has committed $11 million for FY09 to dredge this project area and can't continue to contribute dredging money. The Task Force was supposed to have a document in hand today so that a decision could be made. The anchorage must be sustainable. Mr. Graves does not believe that the 12-month plan is an appropriate path. Mr. Graves questioned the ability of the USACE to carry out a 12-month Work Plan within the confines of the $1 million that is needed to proceed considering the fact that the State expended significant funds and provided a product that addresses some of the goals of the Work Plan.

Colonel Lee said that although the USACE received a briefing from the State on May 21st, the reports from BCG have not been submitted. The USACE does not believe that BCG's presentation provides adequate information to determine if an accurate assessment of the river system has been made. Colonel Lee submitted a letter from the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) dated June 1st to the record. The letter provides comments, issues, and concerns from the BCG West Bay Diversion Study presentation. Colonel Lee asked Mr. Fred Pinkard from ERDC to provide an overview of the assessment.

Mr. Pinkard, Research Hydraulic Engineer with ERDC, attended the May 21st presentation given by the State and BCG. Mr. Pinkard said that it was difficult to perform a technical analysis on a Power Point presentation without the supporting documentation, which has not yet been received. A geometric assessment of the channel is an important part of a detailed geomorphic assessment. In order to do a proper assessment, the limits of BCG's work needs to be expanded further upstream and downstream. BCG looked at data from 1992 to 2008; Mr. Pinkard recommends going back to 1960 because it may take decades to see the effects of factors that impact channel changes. Data over a longer period of time is needed to do a proper assessment.

Mr. Graves said that had the meeting occurred in mid-April as the State requested, then the State could have had time to answer questions about the technical data. Mr. Graves noted that the State's analysis comprised of plotting the USACE's data; there were no assumptions. Mr. Graves was not sure why the USACE had concerns.

Mr. Pinkard clarified that they did not have any concerns over the plotting. The concerns are that the impact of the West Bay Diversion cannot be determined by just looking at data from 1992 to 2008 in the PAA. There are other factors to consider such as natural factors from storms, flood events, and human impacts that determine what actually occurs in a river system and how the system changes over time. The Work Plan would detail what those changes are and how they actually impact the West Bay Diversion area. Mr. Graves said that he did not dispute anything Mr. Pinkard said as the State's effort was never designed to achieve all of the goals of the Work Plan, but was simply designed to look at river conditions before and during operation of the diversion.

Mr. Graves asked if Mr. Pinkard felt that the area is an accumulating point bar. Mr. Pinkard replied that the PAA is shoaling, but that he could not provide an answer without doing a more detailed analysis on the data. Mr. Graves asked if, based on the channel cross sections, there appeared to be shoaling occurring above the diversion. Mr. Pinkard replied that based on the cross sections above the anchorage presented by the State, he does not recall that it looked like shoaling was occurring above the cut. Mr. Graves did not agree. Colonel Lee asked what this meant and if it gave a full assessment of what is happening in West Bay. Mr. Pinkard said that he could not answer that without a more detailed study.

Mr. Graves asked Mr. Brian Vosberg with the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) and Mr. Luke LeBas, OCPR, to explain if the cross sections provided by BCG demonstrate conclusive evidence that there was shoaling prior to the opening of the

diversion channel. Mr. Pinkard added that the best he could recall, BCG presented one cross section above the diversion and he doesn't remember exactly what it showed.

Mr. Brian Vosburg, OCPR, stated that the one cross section presented above the West Bay Diversion did in fact show massive shoaling upwards to 10 feet, not in the anchorage itself, but in the actual navigation channel. In regards to the temporal and spatial scales of the State's data, Mr. Vosberg said the data was provided by the USACE and the State thought that this was the earliest data available that provided regular surveys of the channel's condition. Mr. Vosberg recommended including South Pass and Pass a Loutre if the geomorphic assessment area is extended. Mr. Vosberg commented that nearly all of ERDC's comments listed in the letter Colonel Lee submitted to the record are addressed in the written BCG report.

Colonel Lee said that the USACE asked for a copy of the written report in January and the USACE has yet to receive it. A written copy of the report would be very helpful as it is difficult to make an analysis based on Power Point slides. Mr. Graves said that a report was not provided in January because one did not exist. Colonel Lee stated that the USACE requested that a report be provided as soon as it was completed. Mr. Graves said that the State would provide Colonel Lee with a copy of the report during the week and reminded Colonel Lee that these items could have been addressed sooner had the meeting occurred before May 21st.

Ms. Price added that as she recalled from the presentation, BCG determined that the rate of deposition could not be ascertained between 1992 and 2008, and that much of the shoaling could be a result of a flood that occurred in 2008. So the specific impacts of West Bay on the anchorage area and navigation channel cannot yet be quantified. Colonel Lee said that until the State's report is reviewed, the USACE will not be able to make those assessments.

Mr. Graves apologized for his frustration, but some of the issues faced today will be exponentially greater with projects like Myrtle Grove that is estimated to cost $450 million compared to the $8 million for West Bay. This is not a good example of how CWPPRA can work through these issues to ensure a sustainable and thriving maritime industry and ecosystem, while protecting and restoring the coastal communities. Mr. Graves feels that the Task Force has to find a better way to address these issues. Waiting another year for information and spending more money for dredging is not in the best interest of the CWPPRA Program, particularly with the potential for the program revenue stream to decrease. Mr. Graves feels that the Task Force should make a decision whether or not the 12-month Work Plan is a prudent path forward at this point. Twelve months is too much time and the State doesn't have the money to spend on continued dredging.

Mr. Graves presented several slides of information and background on the current situation, which he hoped would provide a basis for the Task Force to make decision on how to move forward. Mr. Graves said that CWPPRA cannot continue to contribute millions of dollars annually for dredging; there has to be a more efficient use of CWPPRA funds. Louisiana has lost 2,300 square miles of land since the 1930s. The majority of this land loss is due to the construction of levees on the river system. The construction of the levees, the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project, is one of the most successful public works projects in the world and has had benefitted the navigation channel and prevented flooding. However, the levees have also cut

off the sediment flow to the Mississippi River deltaic plain. This is a fragile ecosystem and the levees have had a profound impact.

Mr. Graves said that at the November 2008 meeting the Task Force moved to develop a Work Plan to evaluate the potential for induced shoaling caused in the PAA by the West Bay Project. The Work Plan was to be completed by February 28th. It was very clear that the Work Plan was to be provided at this meeting so that the Task Force could make an informed decision. The Task Force received a copy of the Work Plan on April 8th and was not given sufficient time to provide comments. The Technical Committee never took any action to actually approve the Work Plan and Task Force members expressed concern about proceeding as a result of the evaluation performed by the State. The State asked BCG to review the existing USACE bathymetric data. The data revealed that there has been long-term shoaling in the PAA and the navigation channel and that the anchorage area is located on a building point bar. The data shows that even if the project were closed, there would still be shoaling in the area. Mr. Graves said that some of the dredging performed in 2006 occurred two miles north of the diversion and it was confusing to him why this would be attributable to the project. Mr. Graves presented cross section data that indicated that shoaling occurred prior to construction of the diversion channel.

Mr. Graves said that CWPPRA states that "the primary purpose of the CWPPRA Diversion shall not be to provide navigation benefits." The purpose is for coastal wetlands restoration. Most of the Task Force members may feel threatened that the Task Force is operating outside the confines of the law and may be sued if the Task Force keeps appropriating funds for dredging. The attorneys have advised the Task Force that it is in a precarious situation.

Mr. Graves said that CWPPRA is currently paying for 100 percent of the dredging. There was an artificial baseline for depth when the area was dredged during construction. Mr. Graves talked about the agreement provision that states that "if at anytime the work exceeds 125 percent of the projected total cost, that no new contracts for the projects shall be awarded until such times as the government and State agree in writing to resume work on that or any other phase of the project." Mr. Graves said that even with the $11 million appropriated by the Task Force for the next dredging event, 125 percent of the projected total cost has already been exceeded.

Mr. Graves said that there has been extraordinary land loss since 1937. This is a dynamic system. The dynamic nature is not confined to outside of the levees. Mr. Graves wanted everyone to be aware that things may not remain static in the channel and this is what the data is showing. The State's consultants advised that the area north of the anchorage appears to be at a sustainable depth and the cost of relocating existing pipelines would be between $12 million and $14 million. Mr. Graves asked if the Task Force should consider taking the dredging dollars and using them to fund pipeline relocations so there will be a sustainable anchorage area?

Colonel Lee asked about Mr. Graves' statement that there was absolutely no connection between the West Bay Diversion and induced shoaling north of the PAA for the two mile area.

Is this the analysis given in the BCG report? Mr. Graves asked Mr. Luke LeBas, OCPR, to respond. Mr. LeBas stated that it is clear that shoaling occurred before the diversion was cut.

Mr. Graves clarified that there has been incredible changes in the Bird's Foot Delta. Mr. Graves believes that the outlets in the lower river system have contributed to these changes. He said that the addition of outlets in the river system would change the velocity in the river, however any shoaling that would occur above the diversion would be minimal in terms of attribution to the West Bay Project as compared to any other natural or system changes that are causing shoaling in the area.

Colonel Lee commented that the USACE has expended millions of dollars to dredge the navigation channel adjacent to the anchorage area based on the authorities and appropriations under the MRC for O&M. It took 12 years to get this project built after working through the challenges and issues associated with impacts to navigation and the anchorage area. Everyone recognized that there would be some induced shoaling in the PAA and the navigation community agreed to go forward because there was a Federal cost-share agreement that states that the induced shoaling would be rectified. Dredging of shoaled material has occurred twice and 100 percent of the material has been beneficially used. The only accretion of wetlands in the West Bay receiving area has been from the beneficial use material from these two dredging cycles. From the USACE's perspective, this is a project feature. The USACE is committed to finding out why this is happening, not just for West Bay, but for the adaptive management concept for application to other diversion projects. The MRC has to approve any diversion put on the Mississippi River and the Work Plan is essential to provide the information necessary to make an informed decision.

In response to Colonel Lee's comment about the beneficial use of dredge material being the only accretion in the area, Mr. Graves said that the surveys and core samples from receiving area indicate that there has been some accretion. Mr. Graves feels that the project should be fully analyzed in terms of benefits. CWPPRA needs to find an accurate baseline area to determine what has actually happened as a result of the project and what the impacts from storms and subsidence are.

Mr. Graves stated that he is concerned by the lack of an affirmed Work Plan and the exceeded time frame. Mr. Graves would like to identify a path forward to constrain costs and make a decision on the re-development of the West Bay Project to complement the navigation channel and CWPPRA's restoration efforts. Mr. Graves would like to task the Technical Committee with developing a revised Work Plan based on information the State has provided. The Technical Committee should provide a guidance document in a couple of months. The Task Force can then hold a special meeting to take affirmative action on the path forward for the West Bay Project.

Mr. Holden said that the USACE was tasked by the Task Force to develop a Work Plan that has undergone external peer review. The Task Force's direction was met. The recommendation of the Task Force was to provide an answer within six months from the April Task Force meeting. The peer reviewers recommend a 12-month plan to provide the highest standards and present the Task Force with the best information to make an informed decision.

The USACE could implement the 6-month effort if the Task Force desires, but this would not provide as high a standard as the 12-month plan. Mr. Holden asked if the Task Force would like the USACE to continue with the higher standard 12-month plan to provide the best science and quantification for an informed decision.

Mr. Graves said that there has been a misunderstanding because the answer should have been available today and not in another 12 months. The deadline was firm. The approach should have been what can be done within the confines of the time frame instead of taking liberties to decide on tripling the time frame. Many funds are being expended outside the confines of any authority the Task Force has been granted and it is not appropriate.

Colonel Lee responded that the BCG report was supposed to be ready months ago and there were several months of delays when the 6-month deadline was set. The modelers and other people working on the Work Plan said that it would take longer than 6-months. Colonel Lee said that he made the decision to drive the process. The USACE has coordinated with nine agencies, the State, Project Managers, and two Independent Technical Review (ITR) teams throughout the development of the Work Pan. The ITR teams recommend a 12-month study. If the Task Force does not want to do the 12-month study, then the 6-month study can be executed. Mr. Graves commented that the USACE's Work Plan was not approved.

Mr. Norton said that as time passes, it is easy to lose connectivity with the way decisions were made. Initially, when the timeline was laid out, everyone thought that the dredging activities would have been already completed by this meeting. The minute the dredging is complete, CWPPRA starts accruing a debt against the program because the area will immediately start to shoal again. The maritime industry is not happy with this delay. Mr. Norton stated that the NRCS is a proponent of sediment and freshwater diversions. Everyone believed that if the Task Force closed West Bay, it would be the end of diversions in the Mississippi River. The peer review is important, so that there is a solid understanding of how to proceed with future diversions.

Mr. Norton continued that the Task Force missed the mark at the beginning of the project with regards to West Bay's shoaling impacts in the anchorage areas. Now CWPPRA seems to own everything in the anchorage area whether West Bay is the cause or not. The Work Plan is supposed to define how much of the shoaling is really attributable to West Bay and how much is naturally occurring. The maritime industry feels that CWPPRA should dredge the whole area because of the inability to show any incremental difference. There is evidence that shoaling occurred before the diversion and it will continue to occur if the diversion is closed, but there is no science or information to provide an increment. Mr. Norton's concern is that if the Task Force can't come to a reasonable answer and get all parties at the table working towards a solution and shared responsibility, then the Task Force may have to close the West Bay Diversion. Mr. Norton said answers are needed within six months. Waiting a year will only make the situation worse. The question is: should the Task Force take the time to provide the information or should the Task Force realize that the project is too expensive and needs to be decommissioned? Another option would be to find another location for a diversion.

Mr. Honker expressed concern that no matter what the rigor of study, there will still be people who do not accept its conclusions. The real question is: what degree of rigor is needed to make a decision on how to proceed? The Task Force cannot forecast what other parties may consider an adequate study or not. The Task Force needs to know what percent of shoaling is due to the diversion so that a decision can be made on whether to continue to fund dredging over the project's life or move towards closure.

Colonel Lee said that the USACE is not authorized to dredge anchorage areas unless authorized by Congress. The USACE has been working with the State to inform the Congressional delegation to give the USACE authorization to dredge the anchorage area and appropriate the funds needed. Mr. Boggs asked if this Congressional authorization had short-term possibility. Mr. Holden responded that the USACE provided information to Congress about navigation safety and anchorages, but it is out of the USACE's control right now.

Mr. Graves said that the Task Force has to take advantage of the time given by the dredge cycle to make a long-term decision regardless of Congressional action. Mr. Graves appreciates the technical assistance provided by the USACE. CWPPRA must aggressively pursue a Congressional action to authorize the USACE to dredge anchorage areas. The maritime industry has expressed concern about the safety issues associated with the current condition of the PAA. CWPPRA cannot keep bleeding program funds to sustain the PAA and the project. Mr. Graves wanted it noted that he is concerned that the Task Force made a $30 million decision without any basis for the decision. The Task Force needs something to base decisions on and the state will accept any guidance that is provided from the report and will act on its recommendations.

Mr. Holden requested that the Task Force provide direction on which study to pursue: the 6-month or 12-month plan. Mr. Honker questioned if the 6-month plan was adequate or if something more should be done with the peer review.

Mr. Graves commented that he would like the Technical Committee to determine what components of the Work Plan are most important and provide the Task Force with their guidance. The Task Force should call a special meeting to make a decision.

Colonel Lee asked Ms. Barb Kleiss, LCA S&T Office, to address Mr. Honker's comment about the 6-month versus 12-month option. Ms. Kleiss said that she asked for a volunteer group of experts to review the Work Plan. The experts included Dr. John Wells, Director of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Dr. Joe Fernando, Arizona State University, and Dr. Bob Dean, University of Florida. Ms. Kleiss said that the LCA S&T was concerned about the sampling time period. The river should be sampled for at least an annual cycle to collect data during high and low flow conditions. The LCA S&T also felt that a sensitivity analysis was needed and could not be completed within six months. Ms. Kleiss said that it wasn't that the 6-month plan was bad; the 6-month plan does not allow time for additional data collection and detailed analysis.

Dr. Jenneke Visser, CWPPRA Academic Advisory Group Chairman, asked Dr. Ehab Meselhe from the University of Louisiana – Lafayette to review the hydrodynamics aspects of the Work Plan. Dr. Meselhe's assessment was that to fully understand the amount of accretion

that is attributable to the diversion, a 3-D modeling effort is needed and this effort would be very difficult to accomplish within a six-month period. This is the reason why the CWPPRA Academic Advisory Group recommends a 12-month plan.

Colonel Lee asked the Task Force to discuss whether to pursue the 6-month or 12-month plan. Does the Task Force want to move forward with the 6-month plan as suggested by Mr. Graves with a review of progress in two months?

Mr. Graves said that that work that is ongoing is not authorized. He would like the Technical Committee to review the Work Plan, develop a document that could be executed within two months, and provide the report to the Task Force within two months. Mr. Graves also suggested that the private sector could perform the work or that another Federal agency could take the lead. He added that if the Task Force determines that the Technical Committee's report is insufficient to make a decision, then the Task Force could ask for additional work. Mr. Graves expressed concern that the Work Plan is taking too long and will go beyond the $1 million approved.

Mr. Honker agreed with Mr. Graves that the Work Plan process is taking too long and that the Task Force should have had some answers by now. Mr. Honker asked about the two-month option mentioned by Mr. Graves. It seems that there is more uncertainty in the two-month option. Mr. Honker is more inclined to go with the better defined 6-month or 12-month options.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the public.

Mr. Mike Lorino, President of the Associated Branch Pilots for the Port of New Orleans, thanked the Task Force for moving forward with the $11 million to fund this year's dredging event. Mr. Lorino reported that a grounding of a 22 foot ship recently occurred in the PAA. This has never happened before in the PAA and it is unacceptable. The anchorage is important because the State commissions his organization to bring the ships in safely. Mr. Lorino suggested putting a cutterhead dredge in the PAA and dredging from the edge of the channel. He asked how much it would cost to do this. The use of cutterhead dredging would bring the PAA back to the 1992 depth and allow another 12 to 13 years to study the diversion. Mr. Lorino feels that the 12-month plan will take too long. He added that part of the problem is that the State and USACE are on different sides and the pilots are in the middle. The ships are carrying 600,000 barrels of oil and an accident would cause environmental problems. Mr. Lorino wanted to go on record stating that the channel and anchorages are unsafe for navigation. Mr. Graves commented that this is why the State immediately signed the documents and agreed to transfer the funds to pay for 100 percent of the dredging. Mr. Lorino added that the Federal government needs to grant an exception to allow the USACE to dredge the PAA.

Mr. Sean Duffy, President of the Gulf States Maritime Association and representing the Maritime Navigation Safety Association and the National Association of Maritime Organizations, said that the USACE and State are at different sides of the table and the maritime industry is left in the back of the room. The maritime industry needs more of a voice to move forward in ways that promote coastal restoration and maintain safe navigation. The Task Force

motion made in January said that the Work Plan would be developed with consultation from the maritime industry. Mr. Duffy said that the maritime industry has had a few chances to speak and provide comments, but he doesn't feel his organization has really been heard. He suggested holding a meeting outside of a public forum where the maritime industry and USACE can discuss ways to promote restoration and navigation safety. Mr. Duffy commented that a speaker at a recent Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority meeting said that along with the levees, the addition of hydroelectric dams on the upper Mississippi River system has also taken sediment away. It is almost a year since the navigation safety issues were discussed with the Task Force. Maintaining the anchorage is important to prevent incidents like the one Mr. Lorino mentioned. Mr. Duffy realizes the dynamics of the river and that the BCG study says that the comparison of deposition rates is non-conclusive due to extreme events between 2003 and 2008. Mr. Duffy would like for the river pilots to be involved in these decisions. There needs to be open dialogue between the river pilots and the Task Force. Mr. Duffy summarized by saying that he does not feel that the maritime industry has been an equal partner, which was the intent of the original Task Force motion.

Mr. George Duffy, with NSA Agencies, Vice Chairman of the Governor's Maritime Task Force Advisory and representing the American Association of Brokers and Agents, said that he was involved with the original project proposal. The reason the maritime industry had the agreement put in place is because they knew this was going to happen. The diversion was first dredged to provide a sump area. The cost of dredging has gone up since the original estimate was made. He also stated that the West Bat Diversion is larger and does not have the same flow angle as before. The PAA never had to be dredged before the diversion. Mr. Duffy said that the BCG study is inconclusive. One cannot look at the diversion without having a pre-diversion history, which was not included in the report's sediment analysis. Mr. Duffy said that Mr. Lorino and other members of the maritime industry have stated that ships cannot use the anchorage and shallow draft vessels that normally use the anchorage area are now out in the channel. There is also a potential for chemical spills and loss of life as these boats have started using the main channel. The Task Force needs to make a decision based on everyone's input. Mr. Duffy said that he has not seen any resulting land built except from the beneficial use of material dredged from West Bay.

Colonel Lee commented that funding is in place for a dredging event that will take place as soon as water levels come down. Mr. George Duffy said that he appreciates that this will be done.

Mr. Graves said he was confused by Mr. George Duffy's comment that the data did not indicate that shoaling occurred prior to construction of the project. Mr. Graves stated that the cross sections above, below, and at the diversion seem to indicate otherwise. Mr. Duffy said that the data wasn't detailed enough.

Mr. Graves wanted to make it clear that BCG fulfilled their task of plotting the cross sectional data that was provided by the USCAE. The USACE asked for the BCG report, which is being assembled and will be available by Friday, June 5th.

Colonel Lee said that currently there is a working plan that has been reviewed by nine Federal agencies and independently reviewed by two external peer review groups. Comments from the review teams recommend a 12-month Work Plan. Colonel Lee asked: What is the next step? Does the Task Force move forward on the 6-month study or approve additional costs and time for the 12-month study?

Mr. Doley thought that the 6-month study should give enough information to provide the Task Force with management insight to make a decision, but the 12-month study would provide scientific value. Mr. Doley asked Mr. Holden and Mr. Constance about the additional uncertainty and if the Task Force would have enough information with the 6-month plan to make an informed decision. Mr. Holden said that the 6-month plan may give enough information to make an informed decision with some risk, but there will not be a full understanding of what is happening through an entire cycle. Mr. Doley said that he was concerned about missing another budget cycle with the 12-month plan. Mr. Holden said that the 6-month plan fits in with the budget cycle, while the 12-month plan does not. Mr. Holden asked Ms. Kleiss to address Mr. Doley's question. Ms. Kleiss said that the 12-month study includes the 3-D modeling of silts and clays, which is an important component to help determine the proportion of grain sizes in the receiving area, a sensitivity analysis to help address the uncertainty and risk analysis, and an analysis on how sea level rise may have affected the river. Another component in the 12-month plan is to extend the geomorphic analysis area further south. Ms. Kleiss said that all of these components would not be included in the 6-month plan.

Colonel Lee asked Ms. Kleiss if she believed that the 6-month study would give the Task Force the information needed to make an informed decision on the allocation of induced shoaling. Ms. Kleiss replied that the ERDC hydrologic engineers say that the 6-month study will allow them to make those recommendations.

Colonel Lee asked the Task Force if there was a motion to proceed. Mr. Graves said that the Task Force has already burned six months and that he does not have any confidence that this Work Plan will be issued on time. Mr. Graves said that he would feel more comfortable if another agency took the lead, the Technical Committee approved the Work Plan, and the Task Force proceeded with a shorter time frame.

Mr. Doley said that he was concerned about moving the project to another Federal agency because that agency may not have the capacity to solicit contracts and hire engineering firms to perform the work within six months to match the USACE's timeframe. Mr. Graves suggested using ERDC to some degree, but have another agency manage the work. Colonel Lee did not agree with Mr. Graves' assessment and said that the USACE has the capability to execute the study.

Mr. Graves proposed a motion to have the Technical Committee approve the Work Plan within two weeks from today (by June 17th) and to provide an interim report within two months and continue to proceed with the final report within six months. The Task Force could determine if the interim report offers sufficient information to call for a special Task Force meeting to make a decision on a path forward for the West Bay Project.

Colonel Lee called for a break so the Task Force could prepare the motion. After the break, the Task Force resumed discussion on the issue.

Mr. Graves apologized for coming across too candidly, but added that his frustration is clear. He is concerned because the Task Force's direction was not fulfilled in terms of the Work Plan being approved within the set timeframe. The deadline has passed and current efforts are now outside of the confines of any Task Force resolution or action. Mr. Graves would like a motion that states that the Work Plan must be approved by the Technical Committee and that an interim report will be issued to make certain that there is a path to completion. Mr. Honker agreed that the Task Force needs to approve the Work Plan and that the Technical Committee is better suited for this. Mr. Honker also feels that the two-week timeframe is adequate. Mr. Honker proposed to go with the 6-month version of the study and require check-in points, one being at the October Task Force meeting.

Mr. Doley said that giving this back to the Technical Committee would only delay this further and suggested having the Task Force take ownership and make a decision today.

Colonel Lee asked Ms. Price about the start date of the Work Plan execution. Ms. Price stated that the Work Plan started on May 25th. Colonel Lee said that six months from May 25th would be November 24th. Colonel Lee asked if the six months would include the peer review of the final report. Ms. Price said that the peer reviewers would have to provide comments within 30 days beyond the six month time frame. Ms. Kleiss could not comment on the review deadline. Colonel Lee stated that it is currently undefined as to whether the external review is in coordination within the six month period or if it is 30 days after.

Mr. Boggs made a motion that the Task Force approve the 12-month plan proposed by the West Bay Work Plan group. The Work Plan group would provide an interim report with findings and recommendations in six months. Future funding for the project will be held in abeyance pending the results of the study.

Mr. Honker asked what the Task Force could expect to have with the interim report in six months. Ms. Price said that the six-month information and outputs would be ready. Mr. Doley asked if the study could be stopped after six months as he was under the impression that some of the 12-month aspects needed to start now. Ms. Price said that was correct; some items from the 12-month effort, such as 3-D modeling, would need to start now. Mr. Holden said that in six months the Task Force will get the same informed decision if the work is restricted to six months. If the Task Force is comfortable with the information presented in six months, then they can suspend any further work on those elements that need to be started now. Colonel Lee commented that if the Task Force can't come to an informed decision in six months and the other tasks haven't started yet, the risk is that the process would be delayed. Mr. Holden agreed and added that the Task Force will be given a document with findings and recommendations based on the effort outlined in the six-month plan.

Colonel Lee asked for a second on Mr. Boggs' motion. Mr. Doley seconded. Colonel Lee opened the floor to additional discussion from the Task Force.

Mr. Norton proposed an amendment to Mr. Boggs' motion to further clarify that the six-month report will be an actionable report with conclusions and findings as originally requested. Mr. Boggs and Mr. Doley accepted Mr. Norton's amendment.

The amended motion is as follows: Mr. Boggs made a motion that the Task Force approve the 12-month plan proposed by the West Bay Work Plan group. The West Bay Work Plan group will provide an actionable report that was originally requested with findings and recommendations in six months. Future funding for the project will be held in abeyance pending the results of the study. Mr. Doley seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

D. Agenda Item #10 – Discussion/Decision/Vote: Status of Unconstructed Projects

Mr. Holden reported that the Technical Committee reviewed the status of four unconstructed projects (Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project, Weeks Bay Project, Castille Pass Sediment Delivery Project, and the Mississippi River Sediment Trap Project) at their April 15th meeting. Mr. Holden asked Ms. Rachel Sweeney, NMFS, to present each project and the Technical Committee recommendations.

Ms. Sweeney announced that two years ago there were 46 unconstructed projects and that, much to the credit of the process of reviewing unconstructed delayed projects, there are currently 35 unconstructed projects. Ms. Sweeney presented the Technical Committee recommendations by project.

1. Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project (CS-09) – The project sponsors have requested a change in scope to remove the hydrologic restoration feature and focus only on the construction of earthen terraces. **The Technical Committee recommends Task Force approval to change the project scope from a hydrologic restoration project to a terracing project in the same project area as requested by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the state.**

Mr. Honker moved to approve the change in scope request for the Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

2. Weeks Bay Project (TV-19) – This project suffered setbacks in terms of the project scope due to the engineering feasibility of authorized project features. A main project feature is the construction of shoreline restoration techniques. Unfortunately, this area has many pipelines and poor geotechnical conditions. The original project construction cost was $15 million, but more recent estimates are near $30 million. The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force grant the local project stakeholders, Vermilion and Iberia Parishes, a one-year extension to a previous decision to not deauthorize the project so that they may prepare a feasibility report using CIAP funds to demonstrate whether or not there is a feasible alternative project. The local stakeholders committed to coordinate with the Corps and state project managers to report the project's status at the December 2009 Technical Committee meeting. This is the third 1-year extension that has been granted to this project.

Colonel Lee opened the floor for comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Zeringue said that Mr. Ernest Freyou, Iberia Parish President, wished to express support for the Weeks Bay Project.

Mr. Norton moved to approve the one-year extension for the Weeks Bay Project. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

3. Castille Pass Sediment Delivery Project (AT-04) – This project has not received Phase II funding approval over the past three years. There are potential induced shoaling concerns and the USACE permitting group asked project sponsors to commit to funding the cost of dredging project induced shoaling in perpetuity. The Technical Committee agreed with the State and NMFS to initiate deauthorization procedures.

Colonel Lee opened the floor for comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Doley asked about the estimated volume of induced shoaling. Ms. Sweeney replied that induced shoaling was estimated at 10,000 cubic yards per year. Ms. Sweeney added that the stumbling block was the inability of CWPPRA to commit funds to address induced shoaling in perpetuity. Colonel Lee commented that the Atchafalaya River is not a major use waterway and there is limited funding available to maintain the channel.

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the initiation of deauthorization procedures for the Castille Pass Sediment Delivery Project. Mr. Honker seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

4. Mississippi River Sediment Trap (MR-12) – The project cost estimate at the time of original authorization was around $50 million, while current cost estimates are near $150 million to include O&M. There has been disagreement about the location of the sediment trap. The USACE and State agreed to move the project forward with deauthorization. **The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force initiate procedures to deauthorize the project due to the high cost to implement the project, as recommended by the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee.**

Mr. Honker moved to proceed with deauthorization of the Mississippi River Sediment Trap Project. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

E. Agenda Item #6 – Discussion/Decision: Task Force Consideration for Phase II, Increment I Funding for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project (BA-27c(3))

Mr. Holden stated that at the previous meeting, the Task Force agreed to defer action on the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project and allocation of the remaining $15.7 million in Phase II, Increment 1 funding. The Task Force will now consider approving Phase II, Increment 1 funding for a feasible, separable increment of the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project. Mr. Britt Paul, NRCS, said that Mr. Quin Kinler, NRCS, would brief the Task Force.

Mr. Kinler reported that the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project was not funded for construction in January 2009, but was given consideration to fund a portion of the project. The project was separated into three feasible, separable increments. The NRCS requests that the Task Force fund 8,000 linear feet of shoreline protection (approximately 35 percent of the original length) at a cost of $8.4 million. Mr. Kinler said that Mr. Rick Hartman, NMFS, suggested shifting the proposed shoreline protection area further south to include the intersection of Little Lake and Bayou Perot. The State and NRCS are willing to shift the shoreline protection further south per Mr. Hartman's suggestion.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the Task Force.

Mr. Doley asked if there was any additional cost associated with shifting the shoreline protection area further south. Mr. Kinler replied that he does not have an exact estimate, but the cross sections of the structure are the same for the entire length. The only variability would be in the change in water depth at the shoreline. Mr. Kinler added that he is confident that this adjustment will not significantly increase the cost estimate.

Colonel Lee asked Mr. Kinler to explain the rationale behind shifting the shoreline protection further south. Mr. Kinler replied that the erosion rates are more significant in the southern area. The intersection of Bayou Perot and Little Lake is critical because continued erosion will increase the tidal exchange into the upper part of the basin.

Mr. Zeringue asked Mr. Kinler if there are any existing structures in the lower portion of the shoreline. Mr. Kinler said that there are no structural features in the project area.

Mr. Doley asked Ms. Browning when CWPPRA would expect to receive money being returned to the program that could be used to fund the Barataria Basin Landbridge increment. Ms. Browning answered that she hopes the money will be returned in the next two months.

Colonel Lee opened the floor to comments from the public.

Mr. Nic Matherne, Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Management, gave his support for the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project as this is a critical area of marsh. He understands that funding is contingent upon money coming back into the program. Task Force approval of this request would allow the NRCS to take the necessary steps to prepare for when the money is available and not have to wait until the next meeting. Mr. Matherne said that Lafourche Parish is in full support of the project.

Mr. Norton moved to approve Phase II approval with an Increment 1 cost of $8.5 million for a portion of the Barataria Basin Landbridge Project (BA-27) Construction Unit 7, consisting of approximate 8,000 linear feet of shoreline protection with an Increment 1 cost of $8.5 million, contingent upon funds returned to the program. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

F. Agenda Item #7 – Discussion/Decision: O&M Incremental Funding Correction for Little Lake Shoreline Protection/Dedicated Dredging near Round Lake (BA-37)

Mr. David Burkholder, O&M manager for OCPR, said that the Little Lake Shoreline Protection/Dedicated Dredging near Round Lake Project O&M incremental funding request made on November 5, 2008 for $65,124 inadvertently did not include some expenditures. The correct incremental funding request should have been $113,739. The Technical Committee recommends Task Force approval of $48,615 to cover the shortfall.

Mr. Honker moved to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation for the OCPR request of $48,615 to cover the O&M shortfall for the Little Lake Shoreline Protection/ Dedicated Dredging near Round Lake Project. Mr. Norton seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

G. Agenda Item #11 – Discussion/Decision: Funding Request for Post-Hurricane Operations and Maintenance on Sabine Structures Project (CS-23)

Mr. Darryl Clark, USFWS, said that the Technical Committee recommends Task Force approval through a request from the USFWS and OCPR for an O&M budget increase of $1,213,114, including three-year incremental funding of $1,031,840 for post-Hurricanes Rita and Ike repairs and modifications to the Sabine Structures Project. The purpose of the project is to provide greater salinity and water level control to the eastern part of the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. The structures have not been operating properly since construction due to electrical problems and damage from the Hurricane Rita. The proposed modifications and repairs include the replacement of actuators and gate adjustments. Monitoring results from 2004, when the structure was functioning, indicate that the project reduced salinities inside the project area as compared to reference areas. After Hurricane Rita, the USFWS used Federal supplemental funding to replace the electrical wiring for structures at a cost of $230,000. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was unable to contract the remaining work and the rest of the funds were returned to the USFWS Regional office. The request is to fund modifications to enable the structure to operate properly. Mr. Clark said that Mr. Dewey Billodeau, Project Engineer, was available to answer any questions.

Colonel Lee opened the floor for comments by the Task Force.

Mr. Doley asked why the TVA was unable to bid out the remaining repair work. Mr. Clark replied that the TVA advertised the work twice, but received no bids. Mr. Clark was unsure the exact reason of this and speculated that the TVA's bid requirements may have been too strenuous. Mr. Billodeau added that the project was bid after the hurricanes and a number of the contractors already had work in place and may have been scared off by the complexity of the contract. Mr. Billodeau also said that recent bids for work in this area are more favorable and he does not foresee another bid issue.

Mr. Honker asked Mr. Clark to clarify why the money was returned. Mr. Clark stated that the post-hurricane supplemental funding was to only be used for repairs to damages from the hurricane and not for modifications.

Mr. Doley asked if the same benefits from 2004 were expected after the modifications. Mr. Clark replied: Yes.

Mr. Doley asked Ms. Browning how the anticipated funding would be affected with the approval of this request. Ms. Browning replied that there would still be a surplus of $400,000. Mr. Clark stated that the O&M increase was included in the calculation of available funds in Agenda item 3. And those funds available were over $6 M. Ms. Browning agreed.

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the Technical Committee's recommendation for a budget increase of $1,213,114 for O&M on the Sabine Structures Project. Mr. Norton seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

H. Agenda Item #12 – Report/Decision: Scope Change Request for Little Pecan Bayou Hydrologic Restoration (ME-17)

Mr. Paul said that the Little Pecan Bayou Hydrologic Restoration Project originally included a number of water control structures, but the number of structures was reduced in the revised project design. The project also includes a freshwater introduction feature. The change in scope is needed because the cost has decreased from $15 million (original) to $7 million (revised). The benefits have also been reduced by about 60 percent.

Mr. Norton moved to approve the scope change for the Little Pecan Bayou Hydrologic Restoration Project. Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

I. Agenda Item #13 – Discussion/Decision: Proposed Revision of the Ecological Review CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedure Requirement

Mr. Clark said that the current Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) requires Ecological Reviews (ER) to be prepared by the State at the 30 and 95 percent design levels. So far, 44 projects have ERs completed for the following types of projects: barrier islands, hydrologic restoration, marsh creation, and shoreline protection. The ERs are becoming repetitious for similar types of projects. Most of the content prepared for the ER is similar to the Environmental Assessment performed by the Federal agencies. The Technical Committee recommends Task Force approval to revise the CWPPRA SOP to remove the ER requirement for most projects. The State and/or Federal project sponsors would have the option to request ERs on a project-by-project basis. Mr. Clark said that Ms. Mandy Green, OCPR, was available to answer any questions.

Mr. Honker moved to approve the SOP change to remove the ER requirement and allow the State and/or Federal sponsors to have the option to conduct ERs on a project-by-project basis . Mr. Boggs seconded. The motion was passed by the Task Force.

VI. INFORMATION

A. Agenda Item #3 – Status of Breaux Act Program Funds and Projects

Ms. Browning briefed the Task Force on the current and projected funding situation. The Task Force approved a revised budget of $5.447 million by fax vote on May 7, 2009. There is a

current surplus of $778,581 in the Planning Program. The Construction Program has received $882.6 million in total Federal funds from FY92 to FY09. The FY10 anticipated funds, including the Federal and non-Federal share, are $95.4 million. To date, there are $798.7 million in total obligations and $466.7 million in expenditures. There are 146 active projects: 77 have completed construction, 18 are currently under construction, and 51 have not yet started construction. Three projects began construction in FY08 and nine projects scheduled to begin in FY09, six of which are past due. The unencumbered or available funding in the Construction Program is negative $25,002. There is a potential return of $6.09 million in Federal construction funds. The Construction Program FY10 Federal funding is estimated to be $81.1 million. The total FY09 available funding balance, including the non-Federal cost share, is estimated to be $7.17 million. Task Force approval of all funding requests (Agenda Items #7 and 11) would leave a funding balance of $6.09 million.

Ms. Browning reported that the current unobligated balance is $173.8 million. The programmed or set aside funds total $749,167 and include $778,581 in the Planning Program and negative $29,414 in the Construction Program. The total program funding (Federal and non-Federal) is $1.2 billion. The Department of Interior's projection through FY19 is estimated to be $2.43 billion. The total cost for all projects on PPLs 1-18 including Planning is $2.3 billion. The total funds into the program (FY92 to FY 20) are $2.431 billion. A total of $1.307 billion is required to fund projects approved for construction over the 20-year project life. The gap between the total funds into the program and the total funds required for construction-approved projects is $1.123 billion. The gap increases to $1.129 billion when unapproved cost increases for non-cash flow projects are included. Ms. Browning asked Mr. Clark to discuss the reauthorization of the CWPPRA funding instrument.

Mr. Clark reported that the Sportfish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, which supports the CWPPRA program, will expire at the end of 2009. The trust fund is part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The re-authorization agreement includes a reduction in CWPPRA's percentage of the trust fund from 18.5 to 18.3 percent and reduction in aid to State fish and wildlife agencies from 57 to 56.8 percent. This means the entire trust fund will only receive $645 million next year of which CWPPRA would receive about $82.6 million instead of $89.9 million. Ms. Browning noted that this estimate is only for construction costs. Mr. Clark added that these reductions are due to the economy and because CWPPRA was originally appropriated to receive revenue from the small engine gas tax, which has been less than expected.

B. Agenda Item #4 – Selection of Ten (10) Candidate Projects and up to Three (3) Demonstration Projects to Evaluate for PPL 19

Mr. Holden announced that at the April 15th meeting, the Technical Committee selected 10 projects and 3 demonstration projects as PPL 19 candidates for Phase 0 analysis. The projects are listed in the table below:

Region	Basin	PPL 19 Project Candidates
1 Pontchartrain		Fritchie Marsh-Northshore Marsh Creation and Terracing Project
1	Pontchartrain	Labranche East Marsh Creation Habitat Enhancement
2	Breton Sound	Monsecour Siphon
2	Breton Sound	Dedicated Sediment Delivery and Water Conveyance for Marsh

		Creation West of Big Mar
2	Breton Sound	Breton Marsh Restoration
2	Barataria	Bayou Dupont to Bayou Barataria Marsh Creation
2	Barataria	Chenier Ronquille Barrier Shoreline Restoration and Marsh Creation
3	Terrebonne	Lost Lake Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration
4 Mer	mentau	Freshwater Bayou Marsh Creation
4 Calcasieu-Sabine		Cameron-Creole Watershed Grand Bayou Marsh Creation Project
		PPL 19 Demonstration Project Nominees
Coastwide	DEMO	Bayou Backer Demo
Coastwide	DEMO	Ecosystems Wave Attenuator
Coastwide	DEMO	Viperwall

C. Agenda Item #14 – Report: Public Outreach Committee Report

Mr. David Marks, CWPPRA Outreach Committee Coordinator, reported that the Outreach Committee represented CWPPRA at three conferences this year. Over 1,800 of the interactive CWPPRA CDs were distributed at the National Science Teacher's Association conference. Mr. Marks thanked the Task Force for a successful dedication ceremony on April 22, 2009. The Breaux Act Newsflash currently has 1,849 subscribers, many of whom are active volunteers. The latest issue of *WaterMarks* is now available and is titled "Synergy Among Stakeholders." The next issue of *WaterMarks* will include an update on the barrier islands. Mr. Marks also said that Channel 10 news is covering the meeting today.

Ms. Cheryl Brodnax, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-NMFS, reported on a project NMFS and the Outreach Committee are working on together. The project is a collection of high-resolution photographs showing construction on different restoration techniques. The product was developed by the NOAA Restoration Center to educate the general public and major stakeholders about the CWPPRA restoration program. A 5,000 edition printing will be distributed this fall to key constituents, stakeholders, Congressional and State legislative audiences, and public libraries.

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

There were no additional agenda items.

VIII. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

No additional public comments were made.

IX. CLOSING

A. Announcement: Dates of Upcoming CWPPRA Program Meetings

Mr. Scott Wandell, USACE, announced that the next Technical Committee Meeting will be held on September 9th in Baton Rouge. Colonel Lee announced that the Task Force Meeting

originally scheduled for October 14th has been rescheduled to October 7th. Mr. Wandell said that the two PPL 19 Public Meetings would be held on November 17th in Abbeville and November 18th in New Orleans. There will also be a Technical Committee Meeting on December 2nd in Baton Rouge and a Task Force meeting on January 20, 2010 in New Orleans.

B. Adjournment

Colonel Lee adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

STATUS OF BREAUX ACT PROGRAM FUNDS AND PROJECTS

For Discussion:

Ms. Gay Browning and Mr. Travis Creel will provide an overview of the status of CWPPRA accounts and available funding in the Planning and Construction Programs.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

FY10 PLANNING BUDGET APPROVAL, INCLUDING THE PPL 20 PROCESS, AND PRESENTATION OF THE PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT AND THE FY10 OUTREACH BUDGET

For Discussion/Decision:

a. The Technical Committee will recommend to the Task Force that the PPL 20 Planning Process Standard Operating Procedures include selecting three nominees in the Barataria, Terrebonne, and Pontchartrain Basins, and two nominees in all other basins, except Atchafalaya where only one nominee would be selected. If only one project is presented at the Regional Planning Team meeting for the Mississippi River Delta Basin, then an additional nominee would be selected for the Breton Sound Basin.

b. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the FY10 Planning Budget in the amount of $4,913,588.

c. The Technical Committee will report on a task they assigned to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee to look at ways to reduce the FY11 Planning Budget with a recommendation by the September 3, 2010 Technical Committee meeting

d. Mr. Scott Wilson will present the quarterly CWPPRA Outreach Committee report.

e. The CWPPRA Outreach Committee will request Task Force approval for the FY10 Outreach Committee Budget in the amount of $487,148.

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve the PPL 20 Planning Process Standard Operating Procedures as proposed and the FY10 Planning Budget in the amount of $4,913,588.

Outreach Committee Request:

The Outreach Committee requests that the Task Force approve the FY10 Outreach Committee Budget in the amount of $487,148.

CWPPRA FY 10 PLANNING BUDGET

CWPPRA Planning Task (SPE 20100)

University scientists assistance to the
Louisiana Coastal Conservation and Restoration Task Force (PPL20)

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, Cocodrie, Louisiana

1. Project Management

The Project Manager for this project is Dr. Jenneke M. Visser, who will be subcontracted through Louisiana State University. The Project Manager's duties have been divided over the following subtasks:

1a. Day-to-day operation

The Project Manager will facilitate execution of the main contract; draft subcontracts to Louisiana universities for implementation by LUMCON Grants and Contracts personnel; approve all spending, including subcontract invoices; and act as a single point of contact for the Task Force, the Scientific Steering Committee, subcontractors, and the broader academic community.

1b. Participation in Task Force activities

The Project Manager will attend all Task Force, Technical Committee, and Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee meetings.

1c. Solicitation of Interest

If necessary due to resignation of existing AAG group members, a solicitation will be developed by the Project Manager and approved by the CWPPRA Academic Assistance Subcommittee. It will describe the types of activities in which university scientist participation is expected (e.g. Regional Planning Teams or Environmental Workgroup). The solicitation will describe the selection process, including the minimum selection criteria for each task, and contracting arrangement. To ensure that those from the university community involved in the CWPPRA process are active wetland scientists aware of contemporary research in their field, the Scientific Steering Committee has developed the following selection criteria. Selected scientists should have a Ph.D. or MSc. and five years of research experience in wetlands/river/coastal-related issues and at least one of the following:

- at least two peer-reviewed publications on wetlands/river/coastal-related issues within the last five years
- at least four presentations at national or international meetings on wetlands/river/coastal-related issues within the last five years
- current grants and/or contracts to conduct research on wetlands/river/coastal-related issues which have been awarded through a peer-review process

The solicitation will include an information sheet. This information sheet will be used to indicate the activities that a scientist wants to participate in and the nature of their

availability. A two page CV for each interested scientist will be requested in the solicitation. The solicitation will be send to all scientists currently in the Academic Assistance database, as well as heads of all biology, geology, and civil engineering departments at Louisiana state universities. A copy of the solicitation will also be provided to all members of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee and Technical Committee who may distribute it to any Louisiana state university scientists they wish to ensure are contacted. The deadline for response will be at least two weeks after mailing.

1d. Selection of participating scientists

The Project manager will conduct a preliminary screening of the responses to determine which respondents are currently available for consideration. If sufficient qualified scientists can be identified, the Project Manager will provide the Academic Assistance Subcommittee with a list for consideration which exceeds the number of scientists required by no more than 50%. The Academic Assistance Subcommittee will make the final selection of scientists.

2. Regional Planning Team Assistance

There are four regional planning teams (RPT). These RPTs select projects for nomination on the priority project list. One selected scientist, who has broad familiarity with the region, will be assigned to each RPT. RPT meetings will also be attended by the Project Manager or a designated replacement to provide consistency in assistance to all four regions. The role of the selected ecologist and the Project Manager are to provide the RPTs with the scientific background for any planning activities within the region. The AAG members of the RPTs will review all nominated projects and provide this review to the Technical Committee at least two days prior to the coast-wide voting meeting.

Appropriate Fields of Expertise: Wetland Ecology.

3. Environmental Work Group Assistance

Three scientists will be selected for this task. The role of the selected scientists is to provide advice and assistance to the Task Force personnel and become part of the Wetland Value Assessment (WVA) team. The WVA team will visit each site in the field. Task Force agencies will generally provide boat transportation to field sites. Aspects of the projects will be discussed in the field, and a formal WVA analysis will be conducted by the team after the field visits.

Appropriate Fields of Expertise: Wetland Ecology, Coastal Geomorphology, and Wetland Hydrology.

Current Active Members of the Academic Advisory Group:

Project Management:	Dr. Jenneke Visser, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Regional Planning Team 1	Dr. Gary Shaffer, Southeastern Louisiana University
Regional Planning Team 2	Dr. Charles Sasser, Louisiana State University
Regional Planning Team 3	Dr. Mark Hester, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Regional Planning Team 4	Mr. Erick Swenson, Louisiana State University
Environmental Workgroup	Dr. Larry Rouse, Louisiana State University
	Dr. Charles Sasser, Louisiana State University
	Mr. Erick Swenson, Louisiana State University

Academic Advisory Group Budget

Project Management	30,000
Regional Planning Team Assistance	15,000
Environmental Workgroup Assistance	57,000
Subtotal 102,000	
LUMCON overhead (10%)	10,200
Total 112,200	

SPE 20200 - Maintenance of Web-Based Project Reports and Website Project Fact Sheets

United States Department of the Interior
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

National Wetlands Research Center

July 14, 2009

CWPPRA FY10 Planning Task: ***CWPPRA Web-Based Project Information System Maintenance (Fact sheet Links projects)***

Background:

The CWPPRA is a large interagency program that depends on current and accurate information for project planning and public interaction. To assist in coordinating and compiling information, CWPPRA has developed a real-time, interactive, internet-based data management system. The Task Force funded an effort to initiate a web-based information management system to provide a consistent and comprehensive mechanism to disseminate current programmatic information. This effort was in response to conflicting information that was being disseminated from different databases and fact sheets that where either not current or accurate. Development of the web-based management system is working with the following programmatic databases: CWPPRA Outreach Committee's standardized public project fact sheets, CWPPRA budget analyst reports and databases, the WVA working group spreadsheets, and the USGS CWPPRA project mapping effort. The net result has been a totally standardized real-time updated system that will be available to all interested parties.

The USGS is requesting funds to maintain the overall system, and develop new automated programmatic fact sheet reports, as needed

Cost: $45,200

Budget Breakdown	hours	subtotal
Computer Programmer/Database Administrator	275	22,536
Program Management		3,874
Fact Sheet Editing		8,940
Security Review (Firewall access)		2,384
Software Maintenance		3,725
Hardware Maintenance		3,741
total		45,200

CWPPRA FY 10 Planning Budget

CWPPRA Planning Task (SPE 20200)
Maintenance of Web-Based Project Reports and Website Project Fact Sheets
(Corps of Engineers)

July 2009

Description**:**

The CWPPRA program maintains and utilizes current project information for interagency and public use and information. The system currently in place links together the CWPPRA general public fact sheet information, project manager's quarterly updates, CWPPRA reports and the financial system maintained by the Corps.

The Corps is requesting funds to continue to furnish and insure that project information is current and interactive with the USGS database and the project manager updates, and to create requested reports on the internet-based system.

TASK	DESCRIPTION	COST
SPE 20200	Maintenance of Web-based Project Reports and Website Fact Sheets	$ 4,345

CWPPRA FY 10 Planning Budget
SPE 20200 Maintenance of Web-Based Project Reports and Website Project Fact Sheets

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Justification

Description**:**

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) generates a large number of reports through their activities performed in support of the CWPPRA program. CWPPRA related documents that are generated by the LDNR include project close-out reports, comprehensive monitoring reports, ecological reviews, monitoring plans, progress reports, and summary data and graphic reports. Moreover, the LDNR maintains a web-based searchable database for these reports that is both available to the CWPPRA community from the LDNR website and is linked to the CWPPRA website. These documents can be viewed on-line and downloaded in Adobe Acrobat PDF format.

The LDNR is requesting funds to continue to furnish CWPPRA documents produced by the Department in a format that is conducive to on-line availability and to maintain this availability through links on the LDNR website and through coordination with the CWPPRA website.

TASK	DESCRIPTION	COST
SPE 20200	Maintenance of Web-based Project Reports and Website Fact Sheets	$ 14,608

SPE 20400 – Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities [NWRC]

United States Department of the Interior
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

National Wetlands Research Center

June 26, 2009

CWPPRA Reoccurring Planning Task: *Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities – Continuation for FY10*

Description:

The NWRC has provided the Task Force with GIS planning support since 1992. The scope and complexity of this support has increased over the past 17 years and has resulted in the development of a comprehensive GIS that provides the Task Force with annual planning deliverables that include spatial data sets, spatial data analyses, maps, graphics, and technical support. Providing these products and services to the Task Force requires a standardized GIS data management environment and a good deal of coordination with Task Force members. The GIS products and technical services provided by the NWRC for CWPPRA Planning are, far the most part "reusable", designed to support multi-scale applications, and form the core of the GIS data sets used to support CWPPRA monitoring, land rights, and engineering activities. The system that we have today represents 19 years of the Task Force's investment in GIS technology, data development, and skilled staff. The NWRC continues to incorporate updated data sets and spatial analytical techniques to support the task force on an annual basis. The existing GIS now utilizes data sets created for the LCA Study, providing enhanced spatial data development, analyses and products. A large amount of spatial data has been created to monitor post-hurricane recovery. The NWRC has continued to incorporate available after hurricanes spatial data into the FY09 PPL process and will continue to incorporate new data as required to assist the Task Force.

The NWRC requests reauthorization of the Core GIS Support Task for FY10.

Core NWRC GIS support for FY10

Task	Description	Cost
SPE 20400	Continuation of Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities.	$296,294

Budget Breakdown	
Staff Salaries (2.5 FTEs)	274,305
Server/Workstation Computer & Plotter Maintenance	7,975
Geospatial Software Maintenance	8,700
Supplies	3,139
Travel	2,175
Total	296,294

Benefits:

- Identifies core CWPPRA Planning GIS support as one reoccurring item, rather than splitting support among various technology or map initiatives introduced on an annual basis.
- Insures continued spatial data maintenance, management, and coordination for Task Force.
- Insures incorporation of new spatial data sets and technologies for Task Force.
  - Examples
    - Provide more detailed PPL project analyses incorporating a wider variety of data types.
    - Provide interactive GIS support at pertinent meetings.

Deliverables:

Annual continued core CWPPRA Planning GIS support and products (data, technical support, data coordination, data distribution, and hard copy products) at present levels.

CWPPRA FY10 Planning Budget

SPE 20400 – Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities
Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration Justification

Description

A detailed description of CWPPRA Planning Task SPE 20400 –*Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities- Continuation for FY10* has been provided in the justification for National Wetlands Research Center (NWRC) activities in support of this task. The Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration's (OCPR) use of the SPE 20400 CWPPRA Planning Task Code pertains to administration & management of the contract between the NWRC and the OCPR. This contract is necessary because the OCPR is responsible for maintaining a portion of the data that supports the overall CWPPRA GIS database & information infrastructure. The GIS database/information infrastructure also becomes a resource for the wider Coastal Restoration community via many venues, one being the OCPR's publicly-accessible SONRIS GIS-integrated Map website.

FY 2010 Budget Request

Administration and management of the contract between the NWRC and the OCPR includes writing the actual contract document, reviewing NWRC charges for accuracy, processing invoices, tracking expenditures, and conducting QA/QC of deliverables. Deliverables include updates of the following GIS layers: project boundaries, project infrastructure features, monitoring stations, soil boring sites, biological monitoring program reference areas, Coastwide Reference Monitoring System sites, and OCPR GPS primary & secondary benchmark networks. The charges for many of these database-updating activities should be distributed across all CWPPRA projects because they all benefit, but since there is no practical way to distribute these charges, this is not done. Additional deliverables include the creation of new GIS data layers. Specifically included in this budget request are portions of salaries for the following personnel: the OCPR contract manager, support staff in the OCPR contracts section, support staff in the OCPR accounting section, and support staff at the Division of Administration. The FY 2010 CWPPRA Planning budget request is for $10,955.00.

Benefit to CWPPRA

As stated above, a detailed description of the benefits to CWPPRA of the CWPPRA Planning Task SPE 20400 – *Core GIS Support for CWPPRA Task Force Planning Activities- Continuation for FY10* has been explained previously in the justification for NWRC activities in support of this CWPPRA Planning Task. Additional benefits include making available through the internet the ability to spatially query and download geotechnical data, soil boring data, environmental data, or detailed project reports through the OCPR's SONRIS GIS-Integrated Map website. The website is an invaluable tool in the planning and design of coastal restoration projects and in the dissemination of coastal restoration project information, and is therefore of enormous benefit to CWPPRA.

Contact

Chris Robertson, Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, Applied Coastal Engineering and Sciences (LACES) Division, (225) 342-0241.

CWPPRA FY 10 Planning Budget

CWPPRA Planning Task (SPE 20700)

Project Implementation and Construction: Transfer of Lesson's Learned
(NMFS)

Conduct a two to three day workshop to allow project managers, agency engineers and environmental team members to review select projects that have been competed over the last several years. The intent is to focus project reviews on projects which have transferable implementation and construction issues to provide "lessons learned." The P&E subcommittee would be responsible for coordinating with the Engineering WG to make the selection of projects with transferable results.

It is anticipated that each agency would present two to three projects selected based on the commonality and transferability of issues. Projects could be grouped by types of issues such as retention dike design and construction, marsh elevation design and construction, shoreline protection design and implementation issues, etc. (attached is a partial list of recently constructed projects).

The federal and state project managers for each selected project would coordinate to develop presentation on each project which would emphasize how the project was initially designed and discuss design changes made during Phase 1 activities resulting from technical or institutional feasibility issues; modifications during final design, and project changes during bidding and construction. Presenters should concentrate on emphasizing details that might be useful for other engineers and project managers. Presentations should also identify design and construction challenges, contract issues, lessons learned, and recommendations.

For the purposes of developing time and cost estimates for this task, each agency should anticipate developing presentations ($\pm$ 30 minutes) on two or three projects. Following that presentation there would be a project specific discussion. A general summary will be conducted after each group of projects or at the end of the workshop. It is anticipated that four to six projects could be reviewed each day.

POC: Rachel Sweeney or Richard Hartman (225)389-0508

Barataria Land Bridge I & II CU#5 (BA-27)

Barataria Land Bridge I & II CU#4 (BA-27)

Lake Borgne Shoreline Protection (PO-30)

Grand-White Lakes Landbridge Protection (ME-19)

Little Lake Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection (BA-36)

Goose Point/Point Platte Marsh Creation (PO-33)

Dedicated Dredging on the Barataria Basin Landbridge (BA-36)

Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation (CS-28)

West Lake Boudreaux (TE-46)

Replace Sabine Refuge Water Control Structures (CS-23)

Black Bayou Culverts (CS-29)

East Sabine Hydrologic Restoration (CS-32)

Pass La Mer to Pass Chaland Barrier Shoreline (BA-38-2)

Pass Chaland to Grand Bayou Pass Barrier Shoreline (BA-35)

Timbalier Island (TE-40)

New Cut Dune/Marsh Restoration (TE-37)

Raccoon Island (TE-48)

APPENDIX A

PRIORITY LIST 20 SELECTION PROCESS

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act Guidelines for Development of the 20th Priority Project List Final

I. Development of Supporting Information

A. COE staff prepares spreadsheets indicating status of all restoration projects (CWPPRA PL 1-19; Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Feasibility Study, Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities 1135, 204, 206; and State only projects). Also, indicate net acres at the end of 20 years for each CWPPRA project.

B. DNR/USGS staff prepares basin maps indicating:
1) Boundaries of the following projects types (PL 1-19; LCA Feasibility Study, COE 1135, 204, 206; and State only).
2) Locations of completed projects
3) Projected land loss by 2050 with freshwater diversions at Caernarvon and Davis Pond and including all CWPPRA projects approved for construction through January 2010.
4) Regional boundary maps with basin boundaries and parish boundaries included.

II. Areas of Need and Project Nominations

A. The four Regional Planning Teams (RPTs) will meet individually by region to examine basin maps, discuss areas of need and Coast 2050 strategies, and accept project nominations by hydrologic basin. Proposed project nominees shall support one or more of the Coast 2050 strategies. Nominations for demonstration projects will also be accepted at any of the four RPT meetings. The RPTs will not vote to select nominee projects at the individual regional meetings, rather voting will be conducted during a separate coast-wide RPT meeting. All CWPPRA agencies and parishes will be required to provide the name and contact information during the RPT meetings for the official representative who will vote at the coast-wide RPT meeting.

B. One coast-wide RPT voting meeting will be held after the individual RPT meetings to vote for nominees (including demonstration project nominees). The RPTs will select three projects in the Terrebonne, Barataria, and Pontchartrain Basins based on the high loss rates (1985-2006) in those basins. Two projects will be selected in the Breton Sound, Teche/Vermilion, Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine, and Mississippi River Delta Basins. Because of low land loss rates, only one

project will be selected in the Atchafalaya Basin. If only one project is presented at the Regional Planning Team Meeting for the Mississippi River Delta Basin, then an additional nominee would be selected for the Breton Sound Basin. A total of up to 20 projects could be selected as nominees. Each officially designated parish representative in the basin will have one vote and each federal agency and the State will have one vote. The RPTs will also select up to six demonstration project nominees at this coast-wide meeting. Selection of demonstration project nominees will be by consensus, if possible. If voting is required, officially designated representatives from all coastal parishes will have one vote and each federal agency and the State will have one vote.

C. Prior to the coast-wide RPT voting meeting, the Environmental and Engineering Work Groups will screen each demonstration project nominated at the RPT meetings. Demonstration projects will be screened to ensure that each meets the qualifications for demonstration projects as set forth in Appendix E.

D. A lead Federal agency will be designated for the nominees and demonstration project nominees to assist LDNR and local governments in preparing preliminary project support information (fact sheet, maps, and potential designs and benefits). The Regional Planning Team Leaders will then transmit this information to the P&E Subcommittee, Technical Committee and members of the Regional Planning Teams.

III. Preliminary Assessment of Nominated Projects

A. Agencies, parishes, landowners, and other individuals informally confer to further develop projects. Nominated projects shall be developed to support one or more Coast 2050 strategies. The goals of each project should be consistent with those of Coast 2050.

B. Each sponsor of a nominated project will prepare a brief Project Description (no more than one page plus a map) that discusses possible features. Fact sheets will also be prepared for demonstration project nominees.

C. Engineering and Environmental Work Groups meet to review project features, discuss potential benefits, and estimate preliminary fully funded cost ranges for each project. The Work Groups will also review the nominated demonstration projects and verify that they meet the demonstration project criteria.

D. P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of cost estimates and other pertinent information for nominees and demonstration project nominees and furnishes to Technical Committee and Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA).

IV. Selection of Phase 0 Candidate Projects

A. Technical Committee meets to consider the project costs and potential wetland benefits of the nominees. Technical Committee will select ten candidate projects for detailed assessment by the Environmental, Engineering, and Economic Work Groups. At this time, the Technical Committee will also select up to three demonstration project candidates for detailed assessment by the Environmental, Engineering, and Economic Work Groups. Demonstration project candidates will be evaluated as outlined in Appendix E.

B. Technical Committee assigns a Federal sponsor for each project to develop preliminary Wetland Value Assessment data and engineering cost estimates for Phase 0 as described below.

V. Phase 0 Analysis of Candidate Projects

A. Sponsoring agency coordinates site visits for each project. A site visit is vital so each agency can see the conditions in the area and estimate the project area boundary. Field trip participation should be limited to two representatives from each agency. There will be no site visits conducted for demonstration projects.

B. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups and the Academic Advisory Group meet to refine project features and develop boundaries based on site visits.

C. Sponsoring agency develops Project Information Sheets on assigned projects, using formats developed by applicable work groups; prepares preliminary draft Wetland Value Assessment Project Information Sheet; and makes Phase 1 engineering and design cost estimates and Phase 2 construction cost estimates.

D. Environmental and Engineering Work Groups evaluate all projects (excluding demos) using the WVA and review design and cost estimates.

E. Engineering Work Group reviews and approves Phase 1 and 2 cost estimates.

F. Economics Work Group reviews cost estimates and develops annualized (fully funded) costs.

G. Corps of Engineers staff prepares information package for Technical Committee and CPRA. Packages consist of:

1) updated Project Information Sheets;

2) a matrix for each region that lists projects, fully funded cost, average annual cost, Wetland Value Assessment results in net acres and Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs), and cost effectiveness (average annual cost/AAHU).

3) qualitative discussion of supporting partnerships and public support; and

H. Technical Committee hosts two public hearings to present information from H above and allows public comment.

VI. Selection of 20th Priority Project List

A. The selection of the 20th PPL will occur at the Winter Technical Committee and Task Force meetings.

B. Technical Committee meets and considers matrix, Project Information Sheets, and pubic comments. The Technical Committee will recommend up to four projects for selection to the 20th PPL. The Technical Committee may also recommend demonstration projects for the 20th PPL.

C. The CWPPRA Task Force will review the TC recommendations and determine which projects will receive Phase 1 funding for the 20th PPL.

20th Priority List Project Development Schedule (dates subject to change)

December 2009	Distribute public announcement of PPL20 process and schedule
December 2, 2009	Winter Technical Committee Meeting, approve Phase II
Baton	Rouge)
January 20, 2010	Winter Task Force Meeting (New Orleans)
January 26, 2010	Region IV Planning Team Meeting (Rockefeller Refuge)
January 27, 2010	Region III Planning Team Meeting (Houma)
January 28, 2010	Regions I and II Planning Team Meetings (New Orleans)
February 17, 2010	Coast-wide RPT Voting Meeting (Baton Rouge)
March 12, 2010	Agencies prepare fact sheets for RPT-nominated projects
March 23-24, 2010	Engineering/ Environmental work groups review project features, benefits & prepare preliminary cost estimates for nominated projects (Baton Rouge)
March 25, 2010	P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of nominated projects showing initial cost estimates and benefits
April 14, 2010	Spring Technical Committee Meeting, select PPL20 candidate projects (New Orleans)
May/June/July	Candidate project site visits
June 2, 2010	Spring Task Force Meeting (Lafayette)
July/August/ September	Env/Eng/Econ work group project evaluations
September 22, 2010	Fall Technical Committee Meeting, O&M and Monitoring funding recommendations (Baton Rouge)
October 27, 2010	Fall Task Force meeting, O&M and Monitoring approvals, announce PPL 20 public meetings (New Orleans)
October 27, 2010	Economic, Engineering, and Environmental analyses completed for PPL20 candidates
November 16, 2010	PPL 20 Public Meeting (Abbeville)
November 17, 2010	PPL 20 Public Meeting (New Orleans)
December 1, 2010	Winter Technical Committee Meeting, recommend PPL20 and Phase II approvals (Baton Rouge)
January 19, 2011	Winter Task Force Meeting, select PPL20 and approve Phase II requests (New Orleans)

The Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

Public Outreach Committee Strategic Plan

July 2008

CWPPRA
Public Outreach Committee
Strategic Plan

Executive Summary

A critical national resource is rapidly disappearing. Wetland scientists estimate that Louisiana is losing coastal wetland at a rate of twenty-five to thirty-five square miles per year. This is vital land that provides a buffer to storms as well as billions of dollars in revenue from the seafood, transportation and energy industries. The loss to the communities that line the coast, in terms of culture and physical hardship, is incalculable. In recognition of this crisis, Congress passed the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990, also known as the Breaux Act, to provide funding for wetland protection and restoration in Louisiana. Public understanding and support for the Breaux Act's role in coastal restoration is critical to the long-term success of the program.

The Breaux Act Public Outreach Committee is charged with providing guidance, expertise and support in communicating with the public. Because outreach needs have increased, the Committee has developed a detailed strategic plan to direct the future of Breaux Act outreach work in order to make the best, most efficient use of limited funds. The strategic plan is designed to enhance communication with key segments of the population and to identify products and services required to engage their commitment to stopping Louisiana's coastal land loss and to build support for the Breaux Act's work.

Because the Committee lacks the resources to target the entire general public, it has identified specific segments of the population that will allow it to reach the largest number of stakeholders. Louisiana's coastal land loss must be portrayed as an eminent threat to a national resource, with national implications, that can only be saved by prompt public support and involvement.

To foster that support, the Public Outreach Committee has identified four-key target audiences that are critical to promoting coastal restoration in Louisiana. They are executive, industrial national, and local. These key audiences are then broken down into more defined groups, each with clear objectives and specific strategies and tactics for effectively communicating the public outreach message. The majority of the audiences are policy-makers, environmental managers, or opinion-leaders. Not listed in any particular order, they include coastal zone environmental managers, civic leaders, educators, state legislators, statewide and national media, our national congressional delegation, Breaux Act committees, regional federal agencies, national environmental managers, environmental scientists, and energy, navigation, agriculture and tourism leaders. Key audiences in central and north Louisiana are also targeted. Each audience is a dynamic entity that will be evaluated regularly for changes in constituency, product needs and communication strategies.

Another element of our outreach strategy is to partner with other wetland protection organizations to facilitate communication with target audiences. This is a dynamic plan that will evolve with increased interaction with target audiences.

Vision, Mission, and Goal

Vision

To foster a comprehensive awareness of the crisis that Louisiana's coastal wetlands are facing, their importance to the Nation, and to inspire support by stakeholders, community leaders, policymakers, and the public for the conservation and restoration of those wetlands.

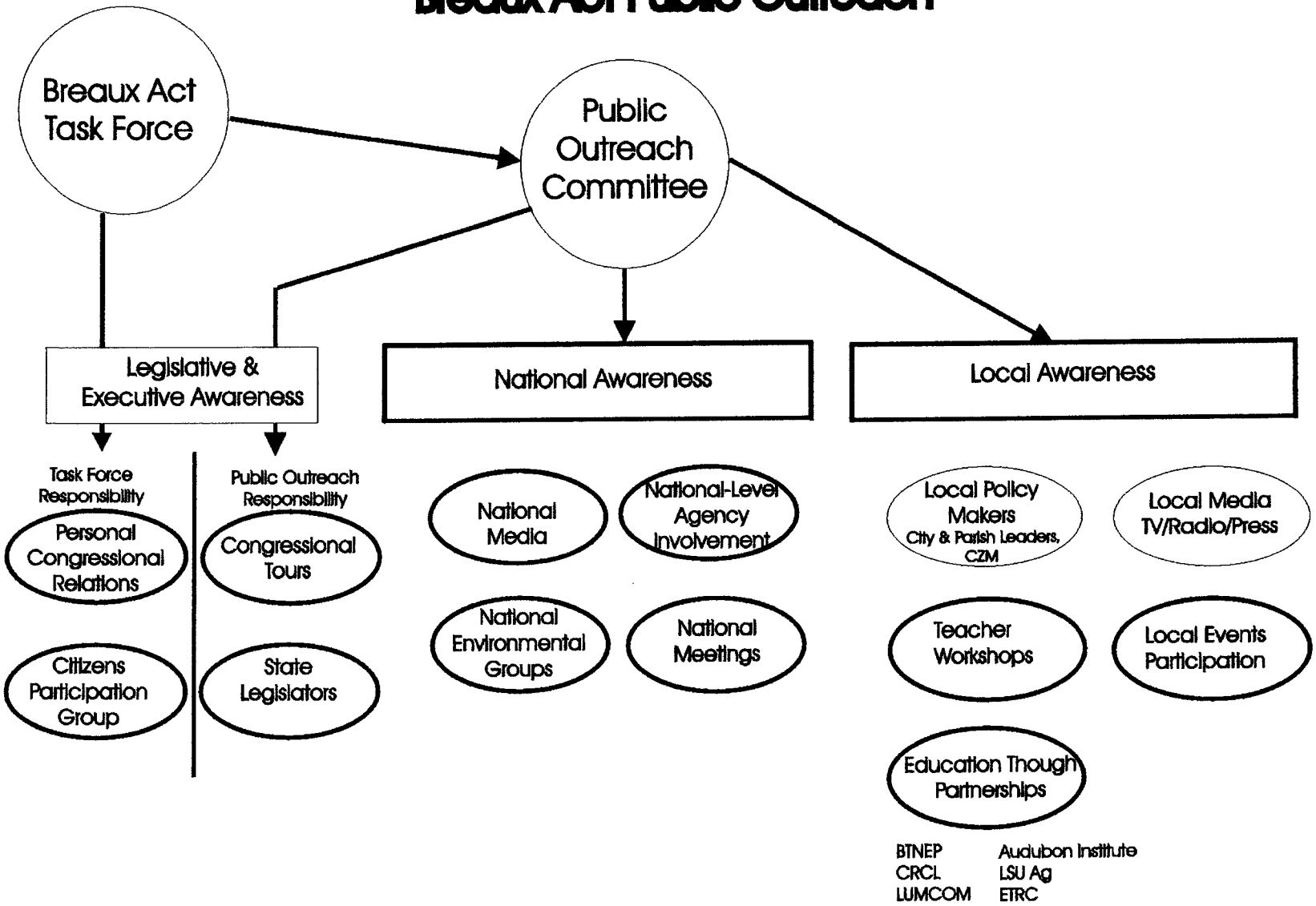
Mission

To support the restoration and sustainability of Louisiana's coastal wetlands by promoting technical solutions, involving public officials, securing economic resources, and increasing public support through education and outreach.

Goal

Increase, both locally and nationally, public awareness of, and support for, the conservation and restoration of Louisiana's nationally important coastal wetlands.

Breaux Act Public Outreach



Executive Awareness

Executive Audience - Objective #1

Educate and involve Louisiana legislators concerning the importance of increasing support for coastal restoration and Breaux Act efforts.

Strategy and Tactics

- Evaluate research collected by the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities on awareness of state legislators about the problems of and solutions to coastal erosion in Louisiana. Use this information to redesign strategy and tactics where needed.
- Support the work of the state and governor's office in planning dedications and inviting and involving legislators in dedication ceremonies.
- Send copies of every press release to all state legislators, to be distributed through the governor's office.
- Provide fact sheets and all products for Governor's office and legislators' use and distribution.
- Create media events that involve Breaux Act and legislators. Identify local news and feature story ideas and create subsequent press releases for projects.
- Keep key staff members on Senate and House Committees informed and involved.
- Assist in the dissemination of Coast 2050 information to state legislators.

Executive Audience - Objective #2

Increase awareness and provide information to the Louisiana congressional delegation and to key congressional leaders.

Strategy and Tactics

- Research and do a needs-assessment to learn what products we need to develop and make available for use by the Louisiana delegation. This would include briefing material, fact sheets, and brochures already produced for other audiences.
- Keep key staff members informed and involved.
- Host and support "coastal awareness" field trips as requested.
- Provide informational products to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to support their awareness-raising effort at the congressional level.
- Create media events that involve Breaux Act projects and congressional delegates and national officials.
- Include news of activities events in the Breaux Act Newsflash.
- Assist in the dissemination of Coast 2050 information.

Industry Awareness

Industry Audience – Objective #1

Increase awareness within industries, such as oil and gas, navigation, agriculture and tourism, concerning the affects of coastal wetland loss.

- Identify 12 top coastal zone industries, and their public affairs contacts.
- Develop information kit and distribute to public affairs departments. Ask the public affairs personnel to share this information with the company leaders.
- Identify and recruit non-government speakers appropriate to each industry. Schedule these speakers to convey the wetland message at industry conferences and meetings.
- Participate in at least two industry-related conferences a year. Present a poster session or a staffed display at conferences attended by members of Louisiana associations of environmental planners, urban planners, developers, insurance adjusters, home builders, environmental lawyers, etc. These people are often contracted by government officials to provide planning or projects or to make recommendations at decision-making levels.
- Analyze other government/industry partnerships in order to discover other ways to broaden our relationships with industry.
- Coordinate efforts with Coast 2050 personnel.

National Awareness

National Audience - Objective #1

Increase national media coverage of coastal erosion in Louisiana and the Breaux Act's restoration role.

Strategy and Tactics

- Identify various national print and broadcast media which would provide beneficial avenues for promoting Breaux Act coverage and increasing awareness of Louisiana's coastal erosion problem.
- Develop story ideas to pitch to national print and broadcast media.
- Invite national media to dedications, other events. Possibly sponsor one large event with tours to various projects just for national media.
- Identify web sites requiring daily or weekly news or feature items and pitch story ideas.
- Investigate the feasibility of developing a scope of work for a national public relations firm to promote Breaux Act activities.
- Integrate Coast 2050 where possible.

National Audience - Objective #2

Increase awareness of coastal erosion in Louisiana and the Breaux Act's restoration role among federal agencies not directly involved in the Breaux Act process at a national and regional level.

Strategy and Tactics

- Identify regional office contacts at federal agencies to elevate awareness from the field office to the regional office level.
- Each agency member of the Outreach Committee will identify the appropriate people and locations within their own agency.
- Direct mail *WaterMarks* to key contacts.
- Include key contacts in the Beaux Act Newsflash.
- Organize and distribute all materials when produced, such as fact sheets and brochures.
- Invite review by non-Breaux Act agencies of Breaux Act outreach planning, strategy and products by different agencies every two years. It would involve review by public affairs/public relations professionals. This would not only allow some objective peer review but would also open dialogue with other agencies.
- Arrange informational tour on CWPPRA and Coast 2050 projects.

National Audience - Objective #3

Increase awareness of coastal erosion in Louisiana and the Breaux Act's restoration role on a national level by providing information to eco-tourism planners, environmental managers, national environmental groups, and the science community. A secondary audience would be people who are already aware of the problem and are looking for information and updates on progress or those with an interest in environmental issues.

Strategy and Tactics

- Participate in regional and national conferences attended by the science community, such as Coastal Zone Conference, Estuarine Research Federation, etc. Present a break out session, poster session or reserve a display space and provide staff to develop opportunities to form connections and referrals. Allow participants to sign up for inclusion in the Breaux Act News Flash.

- Maintain and promote the web site www.LaCoast.gov. Results show that the web site gets many visitors from outside the state of Louisiana looking for information on wetlands restoration. Partner with other web sites to share links. Look for ways to make it interactive for two-way communication.

- Maintain a relationship with the Audubon Institute through collaborative work. Maintain and update the interactive exhibit currently at the Aquarium of the Americas, the Audubon Zoo, and Louisiana Nature Center. The educational activities of the exhibit engage the attention of both school-age children and adults.

- Place-a kiosk at environmental conferences/events and in key tourism locations such as visitor centers, natural history museums, children's museums, high-traffic National Park Service locations and state parks.

- Integrate Coast 2050 information where possible.

Local Awareness

Local Audience - Objective #1

Increase communication with elected officials in the coastal zone at state, parish and local government levels, including levee board officials, coastal zone managers in each parish, as well as water-management district officials.

Focus CWPPRA outreach material on key members of the Louisiana science and technology community.

Strategy and Tactics:

- Investigate opportunities to conduct market research to further identify target audience and optimal means of communication.

- Conduct focus groups to evaluate current materials and gather suggestions concerning target audience product needs.

- Regularly evaluate the target audience list and add to or reevaluate as needed to achieve goals.

- Encourage other groups to conduct and share market research.

- Attend Technical Committee and Planning and Evaluation Committee meetings to identify changes and additions of local landowners, local officials, contractors, etc.

- Use research to re-evaluate *WaterMarks* and suggest modifications according to target audience needs.

- Integrate Coast 2050 objectives wherever possible.

- Maintain "Breaux Act Newsflash". This is an information distribution tool that keeps officials, their constituents, and the media informed and involved with Breaux Act activities by delivering information directly and quickly. It drives traffic back to the web site and keeps the Breaux Act in the minds of current and potential users. The Breaux Act Newsflash provides updates on the status of Coast 2050.

- Reproduce and distribute Fact Sheets for target audiences to distribute in their parishes. The fact sheets are an interpretive topic series of six fact sheets. Topics include:
    1) A Comparative Wetland Inventory of Louisiana and Florida
    2) Closing the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet: Economic and Environmental Implications
    3) Fisheries Impacts of Large-Scale Wetlands Projects

4) Mississippi River Water Quality: Implications for Freshwater Diversions
5) Landowner Incentives in Coastal Wetlands Restoration
6) The role of Coast 2050 in the Breaux Act Project Selection Process

- Create a Breaux Act Program Fact Sheet to be updated and released each year. The program fact sheet should include the total number of projects that are completed, started and proposed; total number of acres benefited to date by these projects and broken down by parish. Information will be presented for an external, non-technical audience with a sufficient number of printed copies to enable distribution to target audiences who can then distribute at the local level.

- Support existing Awards/Recognition Program

- Update parish officials through the CZM program meetings on Breaux Act Outreach activities.

- Develop working relationships with local elected officials through Breaux Act project dedications. Assist local residents in taking ownership of dedication ceremonies.

- Place the Wetland Kiosk in strategic locations. The Governor's Office on Coastal Activities coordinates placement of the kiosk. First priority would be to station the kiosk for one month at each of the state's agency offices, such as Department of Insurance, Department of Transportation, Department of Economic Development, the Capitol building, etc. The state is the largest employer in Louisiana and many key decision-makers at local and state levels come through the lobbies of these agencies. Experience shows that when the kiosk is placed in a lobby, people stop and use it. Redesign the software to update information where and when needed.

- Present a poster session or a staffed display at conferences attended by members of Louisiana associations of environmental planners, urban planners, developers, insurance adjusters, home builders, environmental lawyers, etc. These people are often contracted by government officials to provide planning or projects or making recommendations at decision-making levels.

Local Audience - Objective #2

Increase awareness in central and north Louisiana of coastal erosion in Louisiana and the Breaux Act's restoration role. Target audiences: educators, local officials, state and federal government officials working in central and north Louisiana, people with an interest in environmental issues, print and broadcast media.

Strategy and Tactics

- Facilitate educational outreach through the Outreach Committee's Educational Outreach Coordinator. Supply training and educational materials to organizations and agencies conducting in-service teacher workshops. Promote web site for teacher training and as a resource for educational training material.

- Use the web site, www.lacoast.gov, as a communication tool and look for ways to promote it to encourage traffic to the web site. Develop ways to better utilize the web site for two-way communication.

- Find more distribution networks for WaterMarks and for placement of kiosks. (NRCS to develop.)

Local Audience - Objective #3

Increase awareness about coastal erosion in Louisiana and the Breaux Act's restoration role by educating Louisiana's teachers.

Strategy and Tactics

- Continue to sponsor in-service teacher workshops to demonstrate CD-ROMs distributed by Outreach Committee. Distribute the Breaux Act Fact Sheet, *Restoring Coastal Louisiana*, and any other educational materials. Promote use of the web site to teachers for educational purposes.

- Distribute the curriculum guide to all Louisiana schools through the web site, in-service teacher training and through associations of teachers in social studies and science.

- Support existing educational programs with similar educational goals by providing expertise and participation in planning, facilitation and training. Ex.: Marsh Maneuvers, Wetland Workshops, etc.

- Recognize the demand for materials from social studies and science teachers and provide appropriate information and referrals. Look for ways to develop materials and build partnerships with other groups to develop educational opportunities.

- Distribute *WaterMarks* throughout Louisiana's schools and libraries.

Local Audience - Objective #4

Increase amount of news coverage of coastal erosion in Louisiana and Breaux Act's restoration role in statewide media, including broadcast media and daily, weekly and monthly publications.

Strategy and Tactics

- Write and distribute at least twelve press releases per year. Topics to include announcement of dedications, projects, workshops, events, etc.
- Develop story ideas by collecting project success stories. Provide evaluations of projects being planned or in progress. Look for ways to involve human interest or local interest angles from the projects or activities of Breaux Act program work. The Outreach Coordinator should work with project managers to develop possible story ideas to pitch.
- Invite media to dedications and provide appropriate access to visuals and experts.
- Develop backgrounders on projects and the Breaux Act program to help spokespeople maintain consistency in message and delivery of facts among agencies.
- Approach local radio and television talk shows around the state to develop invitations to appear as guests or panelists.
- Publicize Breaux Act Task Force meetings to local media a minimum of one-week before each meeting. The Outreach Coordinator will write the press release and the Corps' Public Affairs office will distribute it.
- Collect and distribute video b-roll footage of over-flights of project areas to help facilitate the media's use of coverage of a story.
- Write and distribute press releases announcing new products or changes, such as new fact sheets and the topics they cover or significant additions to the web site, etc.
- Be prepared to respond to natural events or unexpected changes in projects or the program when necessary.
- Develop a comprehensive media list in order to reach all print media applicable to a story.

Local Audience - Objective #5

Increase communication with Breaux Act Task Force members and other program committee members and identify ways they can support outreach efforts.

Strategy and Tactics

- At each Task Force meeting, the committee will set-up a current display, show recent press coverage, display new products and educational material, hand out copies of the quarterly outreach report, and highlight photos and coverage from recent dedications.

- Present a report to the Task Force once a year at the July meeting.

- Prepare and submit the committee update report a minimum of two weeks prior to Task Force meetings to insure that they are included in meeting materials.

- Distribute a parish meeting fact sheet to distribute among all Breaux Act agencies listing people to contact when planning public meetings. This would ensure that all users and groups are contacted and involved for every Breaux Act sponsored public event.

- Send copies of press releases and new materials directly to each Task Force member, as well as each P&E, Tech, and Outreach Committee member. Supply them with any materials they could use for distribution within or through their own agencies.

- Identify opportunities for enhancing communications with business/industry sector to increase awareness of risks associated with coastal Louisiana land loss. This likely would include a need for Task Force agencies' assistance at the policy level to address or meet with similarly positioned high-level officials in the targeted business/industry community, e.g., insurance, banking, petroleum, shipping, etc. Activity is likely to take the form of presentations to associations, informal meetings, co-hosting tours of problem areas, etc.

Detailed Descriptions of Budgetary Line Items with Audiences and Objectives

WaterMarks
Executive: Obj. #1, 2
National: Obj. #2
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3
WaterMarks is published by the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force to communicate news and issues of interest related to the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990. *WaterMarks* is currently published three times a year and has a circulation of 8,500.

***LaCoast* Internet Home Page**
Executive: Obj. #1, 2
National: Obj. #2, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3, 5
The Breaux Act Web site continues to be a major source of information about Louisiana's coastal wetland loss and Breaux Act's restorative efforts. The site serves as one of the primary bi-directional communication links between the Breaux Act and the public. Funding will be dedicated to maintaining and updating the site as new information becomes available and to increasing the size of the audience that uses our site as a reference tool. Currently, the site receives over three-quarters of a million hits per year and over 60 requests for products and information per day. The site will soon provide detailed aerial photography and current Breaux Act project maps.

Outreach Assistant/Educational Specialist
Executive: Obj. #1, 2
National: Obj. #2, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Administrative support is needed to assist the committee with various functions. This position produces the Breaux Act Newsflash, coordinates various efforts between committee members, such as the WaterMarks Working Group, maintains the Web site calendar and assists with gathering additional information for LaCoast, assists with committee reports and Breaux Act events and publicity, provides editorial and informational review for various committee projects, and maintains committee records. The educational specialist contacts all parishes (coastal then central and northern parishes) and identifies and contacts educational organizations in order to schedule teacher workshops. Through these workshops, teachers are taught about Louisiana's valuable wetlands, the rapid loss we are experiencing, and how Breaux Act is responding to the loss. This effort includes assistance with national, regional, and local conference participation.

Photography, Video, and Graphics Support
Executive: Obj. #1, 2
National: Obj. #1, 2, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Funding for materials for the media and other specialized audiences such as maps, brochures, invitations, video duplicating, video editing, graphic design and maintenance of CWPPRA displays are included in this line item. Additionally, special photography and videography are included in this category when events require their use.

Conference/Exhibit Support – Display/Registration
National: Obj. #2, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3
Attendance at local, regional and national wetlands conferences (American Wetlands Month, National Science Teachers Association, Coastal Zone '01, etc.) are opportunities for the Breaux Act to display outreach, education and technical publications that give a wide range of audiences the opportunity to learn about our unique situation. This line item pays for registration, fees, electrical connections, shipping, travel and other matters relating to conference participation.

Travel – Regional
National: Obj. #3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3, 4
Frequently there is a requirement to travel within the region to support Breaux Act outreach activities. These events include dedication ceremonies, coordination meetings, television appearances, teacher workshops, public meetings, and special events (i.e., White House Wetlands Working Group). Regional travel is provided to the outreach coordinator and any other person working in an official outreach capacity.

CWPPRA Product Reproduction (video, CD-ROMs, fact sheets, slide show, posters, brochures, etc.)
Executive: Obj. #1, 2
National: Obj. #2, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 3, 5
This source of funding would be used to reproduce in various quantities products such as:

- CD-ROMs,
- fact sheets
- Breaux Act information cards
- 35-mm slide shows
- power-point presentations
- coastal posters
- brochures

and any product deemed appropriate by the outreach committee for general public distribution.

At the present time, the inventory of outreach products is very low, due in part to active participation in regional and national conferences. This funding will be used to replenish some of the supplies used in past years and to develop new materials.

Contractual Support to Assist with Product Distribution (student worker)
National: Obj. #3
Local: Obj. #2, 3
Contractual support is being requested to handle the numerous requests for information and products, the majority of which come through the Web site. Currently, the number of requests averages 60 per day. That number is expected to greatly increase as the outreach effort progresses.

Development of Distribution and Media Database
National: Obj. #1, 3
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 4
To help effectively measure the results of the outreach effort, a database that contains the pertinent information about informational/product requests needs to be developed. This will assist in the coordination of outreach material and serve to generate meaningful quantifiable information about outreach.

North Louisiana Outreach (NRCS) Radio Public Service Announcements
Executive: Obj. #1
Local: Obj. #2, 4
See attached statement of work

Contract Media Writer
National: Obj. #1
Local: Obj. #1, 2, 4
In order to increase print media coverage and to further disseminate the Breaux Act message to various target audiences, contract support is being requested to develop special focus articles about the Breaux Act and Louisiana's coastal wetland issues. These articles will be placed in local, state, and national publications. Specialized publications provide an avenue for reaching specific segments of the population. A professional media writer will be experienced in researching information and targeting messages for specific audiences. The writers will be given projects designed to meet specific goals to be assigned by the Public Outreach Committee. The Public Outreach Committee will have final editorial control over all material.

Public Law 646 Public Service Outreach Campaign
FY 2000-2001
Submitted by Herb Bourque

1. This proposal deals with a $10,000 outreach effort that concentrates on Public Service Announcements throughout Louisiana. Like commercials, PSAs have been proven to work.

2. The PSAs would be done professionally with background sounds unique to the marsh, or music.

3. One aspect of the outreach work would involve the Louisiana Network--our statewide radio network. I would contract with the network which has about 60 radio station outlets and actually purchase air time for 30-second radio spots. They're public service announcements regarding the Breaux Act, but by paying for the service we get more air time and at critical time periods...when people are commuting in their vehicles, at home before work, etc.

4. If I purchase air time, the network usually donates the same amount of time free to me...so, we're actually getting twice the air time.

5.Using radio will do two things...it will reach people who may not have time to read the newspaper...and two...it will reach people at critical times--traveling to work in the mornings or afternoons, or at home listening to the radio before they leave for work.

6.Using PSAs will provide good basic information to the public of Louisiana to let them know that there is such a thing as the Breaux Act...especially the people of north Louisiana.

7.With this money, I will also concentrate on radio stations in central and north Louisiana...many of those folks do not know about PL-646. This is in addition to the Louisiana Network--I will pursue other avenues or outlets for additional air time.

8. I will also use the allocation to buy air time with selected cable networks throughout Louisiana--especially, central and north Louisiana; you've seen the ads play if you have cable--the cable network runs the ads on a specific channel with all the other current events. Paying for this service will ensure good programming time and air play.

9. I will develop and write all PSAs under the auspices of PL-646 with final approval of the PSAs coming from the Outreach Committee before they are aired. The Outreach Committee must allow me to work with radio professionals to be creative in the development of these announcements--background sound, inflection, subject matter, etc.

10. I do not have to handle any money unless you want to MIPR an allocation to me, and then of course, I would be responsible to send all receipts, and purchases to you...an

itemized billing statement with invoices would be provided to the appropriate financial officers.

11. I don't anticipate using the entire $10,000, unless I am mistaken, I can do quite a lot with $6,000-$8,000--I will get the most for my money. This particular effort is just a small part of the many things we can do to reach targeted audiences using different types of media--especially our neighbors to the north.

12.And last, but not least...audio PSAs are a good way to inform and educate people...that's why corporations spend thousands of dollars every year doing them. I think this effort can be productive, useful, and educational to the people of Louisiana. We don't have a specific targeted audience in this particular marketing effort--just the people of Louisiana who listen to radio, or subscribe to cable...and when you get down to it; I suppose that is our "targeted audience."

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

ANNUAL REQUEST FOR INCREMENTAL FUNDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR CASH FLOW PROJECTS

For Discussion/Decision:

The USACE will request funding approval in the amount of $23,337 for administrative costs for cash flow projects beyond Increment 1. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request for funds.

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve incremental funding for cash flow projects in the amount of $23,337 for Corps administrative costs.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

STATUS OF FEMA CLAIMS

For Report/Discussion:

Garret Broussard with the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) will report on the status of past and present FEMA claims for CWPPRA projects.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) INCREMENTAL FUNDING

Discussion/Decision:

The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendations to approve requests for total O&M budget increases in the amount of $7,735,114 and incremental funding in the amount of $8,461,520.

a. PPL 9+ Projects requesting approval for FY 12 incremental funding in the total amount of $2,740,375, for the following projects:

- Freshwater Introduction South of Highway 82 (ME-16), PPL-9, USFWS
  Incremental funding amount: $461,521
- Four Mile Canal Terracing & Sediment Trapping (TV-18), PPL-9, NMFS
  Incremental funding amount: $12,649
- Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b), PPL-11, NRCS
  Incremental funding amount: $2,266,205

b. PPL 1-8 Projects requesting O&M budget increases totaling $7,268,166 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $5,350,904, for the following projects:

- GIWW to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration (BA-02), PPL-1, NRCS
  Budget increase amount: $1,587,844
  Incremental funding amount: $1,441,742
- Point au Fer Island Canal Plugs (TE-22), PPL-2, NMFS
  Budget increase amount: $2,309,159
  Incremental funding amount: $2,255,062
- Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration (TE-28), PPL-3, NRCS
  Budget increase amount: $1,929,063
  Incremental funding amount: $1,212,572
- Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration (TV-04), PPL-3, NRCS
  Budget increase amount: $1,442,100
  Incremental funding amount: $441,528

c. PPL 9 Project requesting approval for an O&M budget increase and FY 12 incremental funding:

- Holly Beach Sand Management (CS-31), PPL-11, NRCS
  Budget increase amount: $466,948
  Incremental funding amount: $370,241

Wandell, Scott F MVN

m: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
nt: Tuesday, October 27, 2009 2:51 PM
To: (Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov); britt.paul@la.usda.gov; Browning, Gay B MVN; Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov; Creel, Travis J MVN; Darryl Clark; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Kinsey, Mary V MVN; kirk.rhinehart@la.gov; Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov; (Watson.Jane@epamail.epa.gov); 'bill honker'; 'Chris Doley'; Constance, Troy G MVN; 'garret graves'; 'garret graves'; Habbaz, Sandra P MVN; 'Harrel Hay'; Hawes, Suzanne R MVN; 'jim boggs'; 'kevin norton'; Lee, Alvin B COL MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; 'Scott Wilson'; (Chris.Allen@LA.GOV); Bren Haas (Bren.Haase@LA.GOV); Cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us; Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org); John Jurgensen; Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov; renee.sanders@la.gov; Wandell, Scott F MVN
Cc: 'Kelley Templet'; 'Darryl_Clark@fws.gov'; 'Patrick Landry (DNR)'; 'Garrett Broussard'; 'Darrell Pontiff (DNR)'; 'Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA'; 'Brian Babin (DNR)'; 'Larry Ardoin'; 'Kirk Rhinehart'; 'David Burkholder'
Subject: RE: Revised Task Force Agenda Item #7 and related spreadsheets

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Attachments: Task Force Agenda Revised Tab 7 27Oct09.doc; Copy of TV-04 OM Budget Adjustment Spreadsheet_Final Rev 27Oct09.xlsx; BA-02 O&M Budget Adjustment Spreadsheet_Final Rev 27Oct09.xlsx; TE-28 O&M Budget Adjustment Spreadsheet_Final Rev 27Oct09.xls

k Force Agenda Revised Tab ... | Copy of TV-04 OM Budget Adjust... | BA-02 O&M Budget Adjustment Sp... | TE-28 O&M Budget Adjustment Sp...

CWPPRA Task Force and Technical Committee, we received Subject and attached revised information for agenda item 7 O&M requests but have not reviewed. Gay will try to review information by tomorrow morning. We will update the agenda and binders to include this revised information unless there are anymore last minute changes.

Thanks,

Melanie

-----Original Message-----
From: David Burkholder [mailto:David.Burkholder@LA.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2009 12:52 PM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Kelley Templet; 'Darryl_Clark@fws.gov'; Patrick Landry (DNR); Garrett Broussard; Darrell Pontiff (DNR); 'Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA'; Brian Babin (DNR); Larry Ardoin; Kirk Rhinehart
Subject: Revised Task Force Agenda Item #7 and related spreadsheets

Melanie,

Attached is a copy of Agenda Item #7 marked up with track changes to show the revisions OCPR would like to make. I have removed the portions of the request involving proposed O&M events due to storm damage for which there are pending FEMA claims. Also attached are revised budget adjustment spreadsheets for the projects with revised request amounts.

David M. Burkholder, P.E.

1. **Discussion/Decision: Request for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Incremental Funding (David Burkholder, OCPR) 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendations to approve requests for total O&M budget increases in the amount of $6,352,096 and incremental funding in the amount of $6,713,688.

   a. PPL 9+ Projects requesting approval for FY 12 incremental funding in the total amount of $2,278,854 for the following projects:

   The request for ME-16 is being withdrawn – the proposed O&M event is entirely storm damage related.

   - Four Mile Canal Terracing & Sediment Trapping (TV-18), PPL-9, NMFS
     Incremental funding amount: $12,649
   - Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b), PPL-11, NRCS
     Incremental funding amount: $2,266,205

   b. PPL 1-8 Projects requesting O&M budget increases totaling $6,352,096 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $4,434,834 for the following projects:

   - GIWW to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration (BA-02), PPL-1, NRCS
     Revised to exclude $792,720 in storm damage repairs
     Budget increase amount: $795,124
     Incremental funding amount: $649,022
   - Point au Fer Island Canal Plugs (TE-22), PPL-2, NMFS
     Budget increase amount: $2,309,159
     Incremental funding amount: $2,255,062
   - Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration (TE-28), PPL-3, NRCS
     Revised to exclude $83,600 in storm damage repairs
     Budget increase amount: $1,845,463
     Incremental funding amount: $1,128,972
   - Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration (TV-04), PPL-3, NRCS
     Revised to exclude $39,750 in storm damage repairs
     Budget increase amount: $1,402,350
     Incremental funding amount: $401,778

The request for CS-31 is being withdrawn – the proposed O&M event is entirely storm damage related.

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Incremental funding amount: $461,521¶
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Deleted: <#>PPL 9 Project requesting approval for an O&M budget increase and FY 12 incremental funding:¶
<#>Holly Beach Sand Management (CS-31), PPL-11, NRCS¶
Budget increase amount: $466,948¶
Incremental funding amount: $370,241¶
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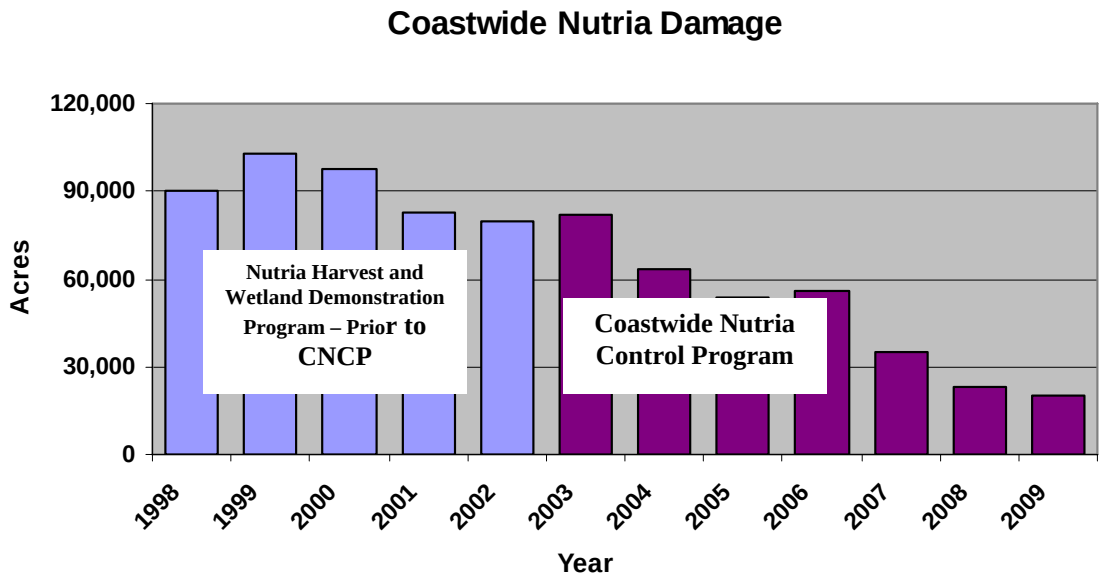
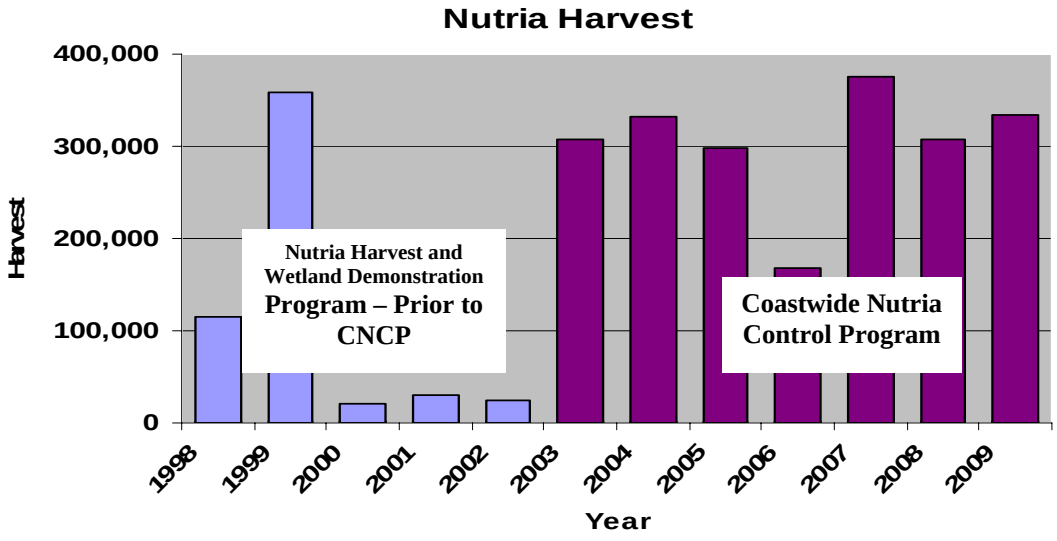

Coastwide Nutria Damage
120,000
90,000
60,000
30,000
0
Acres
Nutria Harvest and Wetland Demonstration Program – Prior to CNCP
Coastwide Nutria Control Program
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Year


Nutria Harvest
400,000
300,000
200,000
100,000
0
Harvest
Nutria Harvest and Wetland Demonstration Program – Prior to CNCP
Coastwide Nutria Control Program
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Year

BA-02 GIWW to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration Project

BA-02 GIWW to Clovelly

PROJECT SPONSORS

- **Federal Sponsor:** National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- **Local Sponsor:** Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- Construction Unit No. 1 – construction was completed in Nov 1998 and included three (3) fixed crest weirs with boat bays, two (2) riprap plugs, and one (1) plug with flap gate.
- Construction Unit No.2 – constructed was completed in Oct 2000 and included a weir with boat bay, a rock plug, weir with barge bay, a variable crest weir, a rock channel plug, lake rim restoration and earthen embankment stabilization
- Maintenance Event No.1 – replacement of timber pile dolphin at Structure 14A.
- Structure operations and navigational aid maintenance for 20 years

INITIAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Project was designed to reduce adverse tidal effects in the project area and to promote freshwater introduction and sediment retention. Project features included:

Construction Unit No.1

- Three (3) fixed crest rock weirs with boat bays.
- Two (2) rock channel plugs.
- Rock plug with culvert and flap gate.

Construction Unit No.2

- Fixed crest weir with boat bay
- Rock riprap channel plug
- Fixed crest weir with barge bay
- Variable crest weir, water control structure
- Riprap channel plug
- 5,665 linear feet lake rim restoration
- 11,711 linear feet earthen embankment stabilization

Total Construction Cost: $6,444,428

MAINTENANCE EVENT No.1 (2006) – DETAILS

- Maintenance needs on project determined in 2006.
- Maintenance resulting from a maritime barge colliding with the timber dolphin system supporting the navigational aids on the southwest side of Structure 14A.
- Tidewater Dock, Inc of Galliano, La. constructed the new timber pile dolphin
- The project was completed in Dec 2006.
- Work funded from the O&M budget

- **BA-02 Maintenance Cost for Construction: $14,000**

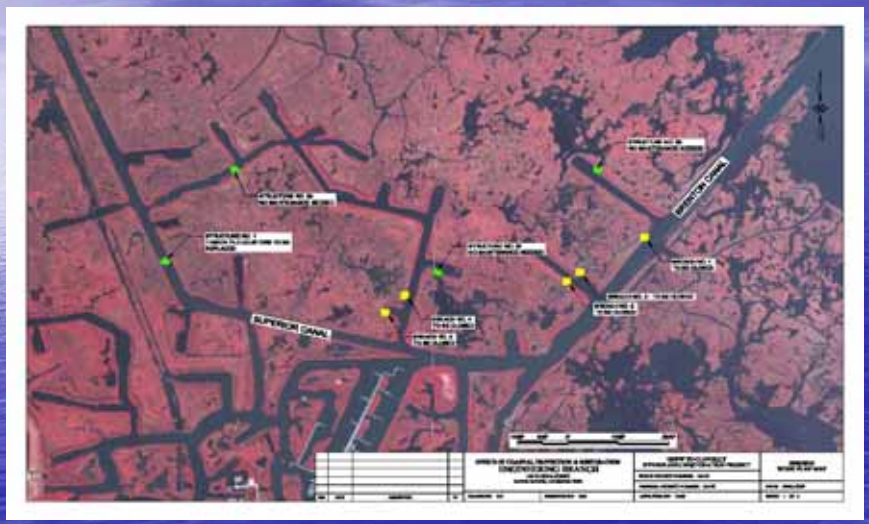
PROPOSED MAINTENANCE DETAILS – EVENT No. 2 (Year 2010)

Maintenance needs recommended for 2010

- Removal and replacement of four (4) timber pile dolphins at Structure No.1
- Recap rock weir Structures No.2 and 4.
- Extend rock plug No.4A approximately 1,500 linear feet to Structure No. 4 to close breach opened during Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
- Removal and replacement of two (2) timber pile dolphins at Structure 14A.
- Rock riprap lift on approximately 5,000 linear feet of the lake rim of Bay L' Ours
- Repair five (5) earthen breaches in the northern project area.

Engineering and Design	$ 115,827
Surveying	$ 25,000
Construction	$ 2,099,647
Construction Oversight & Inspection	$ 107,100
Construction Administration (OCPR)	$ 20,000
Total Project Budget	**$2,367,574**

Proposed Maintenance Event No.3 (2010) Earthen Breach Closures



BA-02 Proposed Maintenance Event No.3 (2010)
Bay L' Ours Breach Closure and Lake Rim Restoration

BA-02 Structure 4A Breach Closure Photos
Pre and Post Storm Photos

Pre-storm

Post-storm

BA-02 Bay L' Ours Lake Rim Restoration

BA-02 Timber Pile Dolphin Replacement Structure No. 1 and 14A

Timber Dolphin – Structure No.14A

Typical Timber Dolphin – Structure No.1

RECOMMENDED BA-02 MAINTENANCE REQUEST

- Total 20 Year O & M Budget: $ 1,235,079
- Estimated O & M Expenditures thru 6/09: $ 244,296
- Estimated O & M funds remaining: $ 990,783
- Projected O & M Budget (3 year*): $ 2,432,525
- **Request $ 1,441,742 for additional three (3) year budget.**

* Projected O & M Budget includes funds needed to construct maintenance event No. 2 ($ 2,099,647) and 3 years of maintenance inspections, structure operations and navigational aid maintenance

Request for CWPPRA Project O&M Funding Increase
Project Performance Synopsis
July 2009

GIWW (Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to Clovelly)
Hydrologic Restoration (BA-02)

Specific objectives of the GIWW (Gulf Intracoastal Waterway) to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration (BA-02) project are (1) to protect and maintain approximately 14,948 acres (6,049 hectares) of intermediate marsh by restoring natural hydrologic conditions that promote greater freshwater retention and utilization, prevent rapid salinity increases, and reduce the rate of tidal exchange; and (2) to reduce shoreline erosion through shoreline stabilization. The goals which contribute to the evaluation of these objectives are to 1) increase or maintain marsh to open water ratios, 2) decrease salinity variability in the project area, 3) decrease the water level variability in the project area, 4) increase or maintain the relative abundance of intermediate marsh plants, 5) promote greater freshwater retention and utilization in the project area, 6) reduce shoreline erosion through shoreline stabilization, and 7) increase or maintain the relative abundance of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV).

Engineering and design components are comparable to the monitoring goals and are essential to the project's success. The final design of the GIWW (Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to Clovelly) Hydrologic Restoration Project (BA-02), consisted of two construction units aimed at protecting the intermediate marshes in the project area; 1) to restore natural hydrologic conditions, Construction Unit I included the construction of three (3) fixed crest rock weirs with boat bays, two (2) rock riprap channel plugs, one rock riprap weir with a boat bay, and one rock-filled channel plug with a corrugated aluminum pipe through the plug embankment with an aluminum flap gate. To further restore natural hydrologic conditions and to stabilize the eastern and southern project shorelines and protect them from erosion, Construction Unit II included the construction of 5,665 linear ft (1,727 m) of lake-rim shoreline protection along the southwestern shorelines of Little Lake, Bay L'Ours, and Brusle Lake, the construction of approximately 5,023 linear ft (1531 m) of bank stabilization along the northern shoreline of Breton Canal, the construction of approximately 11,711 linear ft (3,570 m) of earthen bank stabilization along dead-end oilfield canals on the northern edge of Breton Canal, the construction of two (2) fixed crest weirs with barge bays, the construction of two (2) rock riprap channel plugs, and the construction of one sheet pile variable crest weir with a variable crest section containing a stop log bay with twelve (12) stop logs and a movable crane with a hand winch.

From the land–water analysis, the project area increased by 21 acres (8.5 hectares) while the reference area lost 7 acres (2.8 hectares) between 1996 and 2002. During this period, both construction units of the project were completed and one of the worst droughts (August 1999–May 2001) was recorded in southeastern Louisiana. Despite the 22-month drought, the project area maintained a fresh marsh community while the reference area

lost the fresh marsh community. In addition, water level and salinity data analyses show the area to be classified as an oligohaline marsh (0.5 – 5.0 ppt), which illustrates the project area has not drastically changed marsh classifications.

The rock dike along the lake rim has reduced the average shoreline erosion rate by 0.57 m/yr **(1.87 ft/yr)** in the immediate vicinity of its position. There were two (2) sampling areas lost during the sampling time frame (1993 – 2005); however, the overall rate of erosion has decreased. During the 2007 annual inspection, shoreline segments along the rim of Little Lake and Bay L'Ours exhibited moderate settlement. The ensuing profile survey in 2008 helped to determine the extent of the settlement and which segments required maintenance and/or rehabilitation. The eminent capping of the lake rim shoreline protection structure is expected to continue to contribute to the overall reduction of the shoreline erosion rate meeting the goal of the project.

Closure of the breaches will assist in obtaining the project's goal for promoting a greater freshwater retention and utilization, prevent rapid salinity increases, and reduce the rate of tidal exchange. Closure of the breaches along Bay L'Ours is critical to ensure the reduction of the rate of tidal exchange. Without the closure of these breaches, the influences of the lake will affect the marshes farther inside the project and may cause a loss of marsh as the erosion occurs.

As the data has shown and from field observations, it is recommended that the proposed O&M event occur to ensure the goals of the project are met.

TE-22 POINT AU FER ISLAND HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION PROJECT

TE-22 POINT AU FER ISLAND

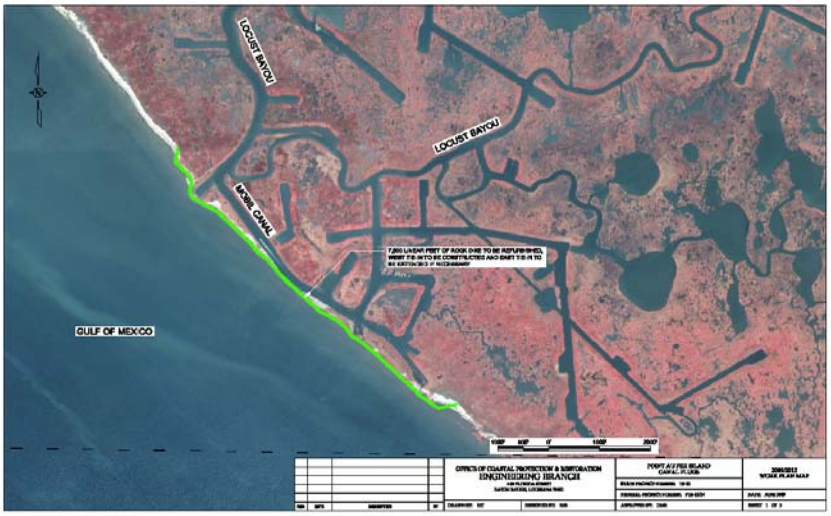
PROJECT SPONSORS

- **Federal Sponsor:** National Marine Fisheries (NMFS)
- **Local Sponsor:** Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- Phase I Construction was completed in Dec 1995 and included the construction of seven (7) channel plugs in Hester and Transco Canals.
- Phase II Construction was completed in May 1997 and included the construction of 3,600 linear feet of rock shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to Mobile Canal.
- Phase III Construction was completed in June 2000 and included a rock shoreline extension 3,037 feet east and 625 west of Phase II and a rock lift was placed on 388 feet of Phase II.
- Maintenance event No.1 - completed in June 2000 in conjunction with the construction of Phase III and included the reconstruction of Plug 4A with dredge material and petraflex mats.
- Maintenance Event No.2 – completed in August 2005 and included and eastward extension of Phase III rock, capping of petraflex mats on the east end of Plug 4A, rock tie-in to the shoreline on east end of Plug 4A and vinyl sheetpile bulkhead closure on the south end of Plug 8.

Proposed Maintenance Event No.3 (2012)
Mobile Canal Repairs



Rock Shoreline – Mobile Canal Photos

Proposed Maintenance Event No. 3 (2012)
Plug 4A Repairs

Plug 4A – East side of Transco Canal

Request for CWPPRA Project O&M Funding Increase
Project Performance Synopsis
July 2009

Point Au Fer Island Hydrologic Restoration Project (TE-22)

The objectives of the Point Au Fer Island Hydrologic Restoration (TE-22) Phase I project are to reduce marsh loss and the potential for saltwater intrusion from storm surges and high tides, and restore hydrologic circulation close to historical conditions before access and pipeline canals were dredged. The objective of Phases II and III is to reduce the chance of breaching between the Gulf of Mexico and Mobil Canal during over wash events, consequently reducing the potential for interior marsh loss via shoreline breaching and beach over washing. The goals which contribute to the evaluation of the project are (1.) Reduce the rate of marsh loss (Phase I); (2.) Reduce the rate of canal widening (Phase I); and (3.) Maintain or decrease local shoreline erosion rate within the project area (Phases II and III).

The Point Au Fer Island Hydrologic Restoration Project was constructed in three (3) phases. Phase I consisted of seven (7) canal plugs located in two pipeline canals. Four (4) timber plugs, Plugs No. 1, 2, 7, and 8, were constructed in Hester Canal (east-west). One (1) timber plug, Plug No. 6, and two (2) reef shell plugs, Plugs No. 3A and 4, were constructed in Transco Canal (north-south). Construction of the Phase I canal plugs was completed in December 1995. Phase II consisted of approximately 3,600 linear feet of rock shoreline protection of Areas 1, 2, and 3 along the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to the Mobil Canal. Phase II construction was completed in May 1997. Phase III consisted of extending the rock shoreline protection 3,037 linear feet to the east (Area 4) and 625 linear feet to the west (Area 5). Prior to construction, a change order added an additional lift of rock over 388 linear feet of the Phase II shoreline protection to repair a breach area located near the east end of Phase II. Additionally, Phase I Plug No. 4 was rebuilt with dredged material. Also, the existing Transco Canal steel bulkhead/rock plug (Plug No. 4A), located approximately 200 feet south of Plug No. 4, was reinforced by placing Petraflex mats (articulated concrete mats, 8' x 20' x 9") along the Gulf shoreline to the west and east of the existing Plug No. 4A. A total of 67 mats were placed on the west side and 58 mats were placed on the east side of Plug No. 4A. Phase III construction was completed in June 2000 (Phase III Final Report, 2000).

Monitoring was halted as a result of a joint meeting between the state and federal sponsor in 2003 due to the structural problems with the project features and the difficulties measuring and attributing any effects to the project. However, a land / water analysis was performed on the 2008 aerial photography. Other land / water analysis results include 1994, 1997, and 2000 for this project. Using the 1994, 2000, and 2008 land / water analysis data sets, the number of acres lost/gained, the annual change and the annual change rate were calculated for the time periods 2000 – 2008 (short-term) and 1994 – 2008 (long-term). Table 1 summaries the data for the short-term while table 2 summaries the long-term data for the project and reference areas.

Table 1. Short-term (2000 – 2008) annual changes and change rates for the project and reference areas associated the Point Au Fer Island Hydrologic Restoration Project (TE-22).

	Project Area I	Project Area II	Reference
Lost (-) / Gain (+), Acres	-93	-45	-16
Annual Average Change, Acres	-11.63	-5.6	-2
Annual Change Rate	-0.34%	-0.33%	-1.34%

Table 2. Long-term (1994 – 2008) annual changes and change rates for the project and reference areas associated the Point Au Fer Island Hydrologic Restoration Project (TE-22).

	Project Area I	Project Area II	Reference
Lost (-) / Gain (+), Acres	-101	-67	-23
Annual Average Change, Acres	-7.32	-3.91	-1.67
Annual Change Rate	-0.21%	-0.23%	-1.16%

Based on data from the land / water analysis results and the project area being adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico, it is recommended that the proposed operations and maintenance (O&M) funding be approved for the capping of 7,500 linear feet of rock shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico near Mobile Canal and 450 linear feet of existing petroflex mats on the western side of the Transco Canal bulkhead. Without this O&M event, there is an increase chance of breaching or overtopping which would allow a direct hydrologic connectivity to the Gulf of Mexico that would ultimately increase the potential for interior marsh loss as well as degradation of the shoreline.

TE-28 Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration Project

TE-28 Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration

PROJECT SPONSORS

- **Federal Sponsor:** National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- **Local Sponsor:** Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- Construction was completed in July 2000.
- Maintenance Event No.1 (2003) - consisted of shoreline protection along Bayou Decade, levee refurbishment and timber pile dolphin repairs.
- In-kind Services (2002, 2003, 2006 & 2007) – Apache Minerals repaired breaches and refurbished levees along Turtle Bayou, Superior Canal and Jug Lake.
- In-kind Services (2003) – ConocoPhillips repaired breaches and refurbished levees along Carencro Bayou, Little Carencro Bayou and Brady Canal.
- Structure Operations – Three (3) water controls structures in Jug Lake
- Navigational Aids – maintenance of four (4) navigation lights along south bank of Bayou Decade.

Proposed Maintenance Event No.2 (2010)
Jug Lake Refurbishment and Breach Repairs

TE-28 Brady Canal
Jug Lake Photos

East Side of Jug Lake

West Side of Jug Lake

TE-28 Brady Canal
Water Control Structure Photos

Structure No. 23

Structure No.21

TE-28 Brady Canal
Timber Pile Dolphin Photos

Southwest side Structure No.6

Southeast side of Structure No.6

Request for CWPPRA Project O&M Funding Increase
Project Performance Synopsis
July 20, 2008

Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration (TE-28)

The objectives of the Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration, (TE-28) are to 1) maintain and enhance existing marshes in the project area by reducing the rate of tidal exchange, and 2) improve the retention of introduced freshwater and sediment. The goals that contribute to the evaluation of these objectives are to 1) decrease the rate of marsh loss, 2) maintain or increase the abundance of plant species typical of a fresh and intermediate marsh, 3) decrease variability in water level within the project area, 4) decrease variability in salinities in the southern portion of the project, and 5) increase vertical accretion within the project area.

The Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration (TE-28) project was completed in July 2000 and involves the installation and maintenance of fixed crest weirs with barge bays and variable crest sections, construction and maintenance of earthen embankments, rock and rock armored earthen embankments, and the placement of rock armor to stabilize channel cross-sections. These structures are designed to reduce the adverse tidal effects in the project area (that have occurred through man-made channels and the enlarged natural channels) and to promote freshwater introduction to better utilize available freshwater and encourage sediment retention.

Two (2) CWPPRA projects are anticipated to affect the TE-28 project. The North Lake Mechant Landbridge (TE-44) project is currently under construction. This project is located south of the Brady Canal Hydrologic Restoration project. With the creation of marsh and the closing of gaps along the Small Bayou LaPointe ridge, the influence of Lake Mechant to the upper reaches of the basin may be reduced. The second project, Penchant Basin Plan (TE-34), modifies the boat bay structure at the intersection of Bayou Penchant and Brady Canal along with other features throughout the basin. It is anticipated that this structure will allow more freshwater to enter Brady Canal with the hopes of overbank flow into the marsh.

The 2004 Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring Report was the last comprehensive report composed, while a status and trends report was generated in 2007. In the 2004 report, the southern project and reference areas were experiencing an increase in salinity. Using the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) recently developed for the CRMS-Wetlands project the pre-construction values were similar to the most recently collected 2006 data. The FQI did decrease for the sampling period between these time periods; however, the reduction was a function of the drought south Louisiana experienced in 2002. Also, during the 2006 sampling period more plant species were identified in 2 of the 3 areas than in past sampling events. Habitat Mapping was done in 2002, post construction, but there is no recent data from the project area available for comparison.

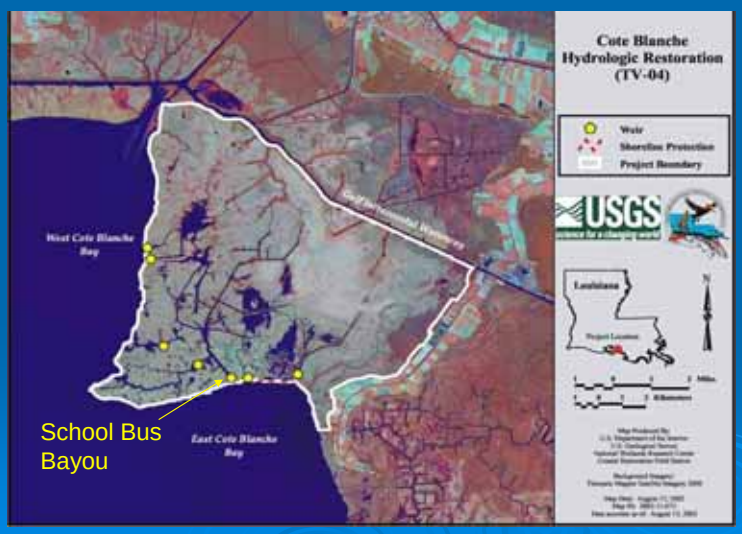
Without the recommended approval of the proposed operations and maintenance (O&M) funding for repair of breaches along the southern boundary of the project, more tidal exchange will occur. Increased tidal exchange will likely cause additional erosion and increased salinity in the project area. The breach repairs along Brady Canal will prevent the direct exchange of water from the

marsh and canal. Because the marshes in this area are floating, the exchange of water needs to be reduced in terms of volume and occur much more slowly such as overbank flow. With the construction of the TE-44 and TE-34 projects and the proposed maintenance, it is anticipated that the project area will begin to benefit ecologically and perform as intended.

TV-04 Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration

September 2009

Plan View of TV-04 Cote Blanche



Historical Information

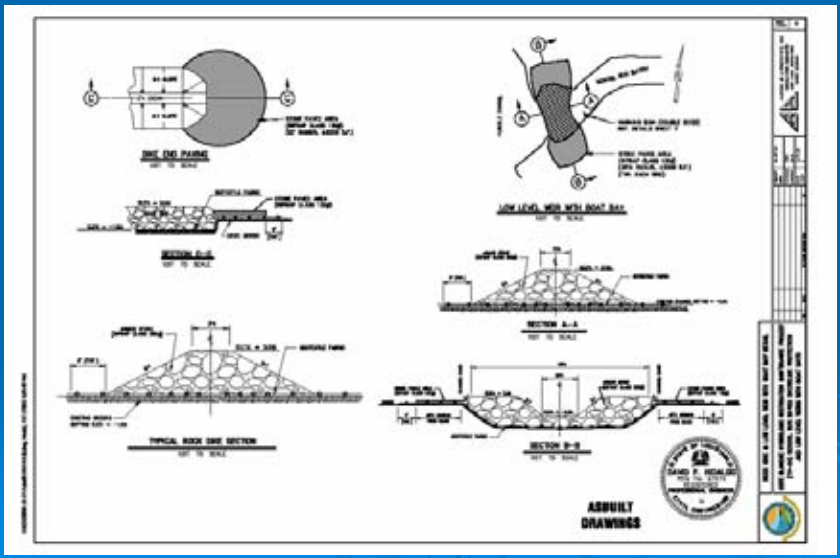
- The Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration project area consists of 31,637 acres of freshwater marsh in the Teche/Vermilion Basin in St. Mary Parish. The project boundaries include the GIWW to the north, Hwy 317 to the east, East Cote Blanche Bay to the south, and West Cote Blanche Bay to the west.
- Project goals are to create a lower energy environment by reducing the larger openings that penetrate fragile interior marsh and act as direct conduits for increased tidal influences.
- The project was funded on the CWPPRA PPL 3 list.
- Initial construction was completed in 1999. Maintenance events were completed in 2001, 2005 & 2007.

Initial Construction Details

- The project was completed in January 1999 at a constructed cost of $3,875,018.
- The project consisted of low level weirs at Mud Bayou, Humble-F Canal, Bayou Long, Bayou Carlin, Humble Canal, Jackson Bayou and British American Canal. Approximately 3,500 L.F. of PVC shoreline protection was constructed along the southern boundary.

Typical section of Schoolbus Bayou Dike & Sign needing repair

Proposed Typical Sections to be Reestablished



TV-04/Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration Monitoring Conclusions
9/2/2009

Aerial Photography:
Analysis of aerial photogra phy taken in January 1997 pre-c onstruction indicated a land-to-water ratio of 90% land to 10% water with in the project area. Approxim ately 73% of the pro ject area was classified as fresh m arsh. Land-to-w ater ratios in the shoreline reference area, and the hydrographic referen ce area were 99.6 % land to 0.4% water, and 94.9% land to 5.1% water, respectively. Analysis of aerial photography taken in December of 2002 indicated a land-to-water ra tio of 82.8% land and 17. 2% water in the project area. The shoreline reference ar ea ratios in 2002 were 76.2 % land and 23.8% water. The hydrographic reference area was 95.5% land to 4.5% water.

The project areas experienced a land loss of 8% while the hydrograp hic reference area lost 4% land. Most of this loss is likely due to dam age from Hurricane Lili and are not project effects.

Shoreline Change:
Wetland gain/loss rates along the project and re ference shoreline were determ ined from the three sets of post-construction data co llected in the fall of 2001, 2004, and 2007. Data indicate a n early stab le projec t sho reline and a net los s of shoreline o n the ref erence shoreline From 1998 to 2007 project shoreline from Humble Canal to the end of the shoreline protection wall ending at the British American Canal had a net loss of only 0.01 m/yr. The shoreline protection wall extends fr om Jackson Bayou to the British Am erican Canal so the area from Hum ble Canal to Jackson Bayou is open tidal energies. The reference shoreline extending west from the Humble Canal had a net loss of 2.66 m /yr from 1998 to 2007. Shoreline position change rate s for the project shoreline for the years 2004 through 2007 had a loss of 0.9 m /yr and an average loss on the reference shoreline of 2.5 m/yr.

The project does appear to be accom plishing the goal of reducing the southern boundary's shoreline erosion rate . Shoreline change results suggest that the shoreline protection wall is functioning and providing shoreline protec tion and stabilization while allowing shoreline stabilization.

Hydrographic/Water Level:
Overall, co mparisons o f water leve l r anges revealed there were no d ifferences between the two interior project stations (TV04- 02 and TV04-03) or between the ref erence stations (T V04-04R a nd TV04-01R). Refere nce interior station TV04-04R had lower water level range than project station TV 04-02 both pre- and post-construction. T V04-04R was affected by weirs and is too far inland to be repres entative of the referen ce area for the project.

The project effect was clear in th e com parisons of reference st ation TV04-01R with project station TV04-03, and re ference station TV04-01R with project station TV04-02.

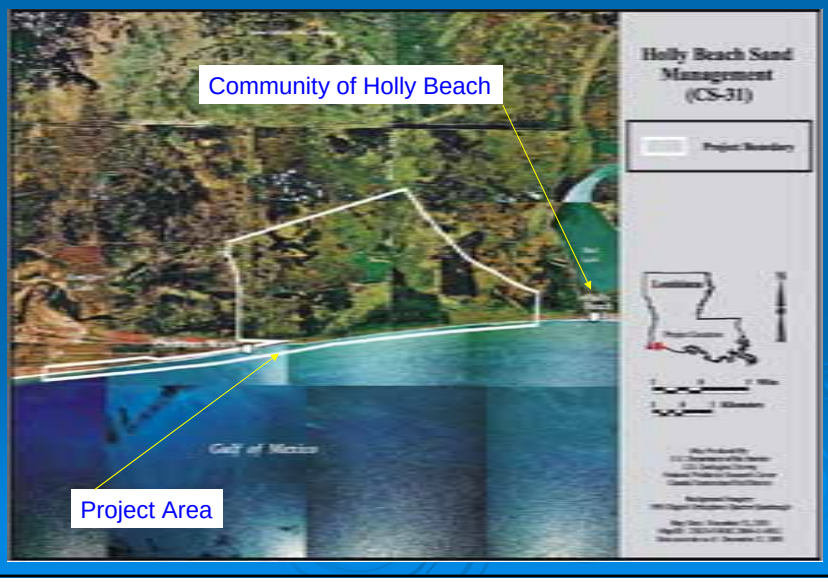
Station TV04-01R had higher water level ranges than the project sondes pre-construction which increased post-construction.

Inundation data for the two interior marsh stations varied greatly. However, water level range data inside the project area was less variable than the two reference stations suggesting that weirs may have had an effect on reducing the range of water level for the year 2004 as compared to pre-construction data.

CS-31 HOLLY BEACH SAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

September 2009

Plan View of CS-31Holly Beach



Historical Information

- The Holly Beach Sand Management (CS-31) project area is located west of Calcasieu Pass along the Gulf of Mexico shoreline, extending between Holly Beach and Constance Beach in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Historical Information – Cont.

- The goals of the project are to protect approximately 8,600 acres of existing intermediate and brackish wetlands north of La. Hwy. 82 between Holly and Constance Beaches,
- and to protect approximately 300 acres of beach dune and coastal Chenier habitat along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico from erosion and degradation due to wave energies.
- The project was funded on the CWPPRA PPL 11 list.
- Initial construction was completed in 2003. A maintenance event was completed in 2006.

Initial Construction Details

- Construction began in July 2002 and was completed in August 2003.
- The project consists of 1.75 M cubic yards of beach fill and 18,797 LF of sand fencing and vegetative plantings.

2006 Maintenance Event Details

- Replace 46,000 LF of sand fencing after Hurricane Rita.
- Construction was completed in November 2006.
- Total Project Cost: $247,271*

(*Note: FEMA reimbursed $222,843)

Holly Beach Sand Fence Damages

Sand Fence and Beach Damages

Request for CWPPRA Project O&M Funding Increase
Project Performance Synopsis
July 29, 2009

Holly Beach Sand Management Project (CS-31)

The volume of sand lost from the beach pre Hurricane Rita to post Hurricane Ike totaled 1.2 million cubic yards. A portion of the sand migrated west of the project, a portion was deposited in the marsh north of Highway 82, and a portion washed out to the gulf.

The vegetation plantings were severely impacted by Hurricane Rita. They were replanted by the La Dept of Agriculture and Forestry and were destroyed in Hurricane Ike.

In the marsh north of Highway 82, yearly mean salinity levels were maintained within the intermediate to brackish range and were be low 3 ppt for the proj ect area through 2004. Following Hurricane Rita, m onthly m ean salinity lev els within the projec t a rea were higher than the brackish range until Decem ber 2005. F rom July to the end of 2006, monthly mean salinities remained below 7 ppt within the project ar ea. In 2007 and most of 2008 salinity remained below the brackish range until September when the storm surge from Hurricane Ike caused salinities to rise to 25 ppt and rem ain above 15 ppt until November.

Interstital salinities averaged around 3 ppt befor e Hurricane Rita. Following Hurricane Rita, these values spiked to 16.59 ppt and were still averaging 13.2 ppt i n 2006. In 2007 and early in 2008, soil salinity values were be tween 5-10 ppt. After Hurricane Ike, they remained around 15 ppt until June of 2009.

Total percent cover of em ergent vegetation was high in the s urveys preceding Hurricane Rita (87% and 76%). F ollowing Hurricane Ri ta, the cover dropped to 7%, but appeared to be recovering by the fall of 2006 (63%), and remained at this level in 2008. The marsh vegetation also appears to be meeting the goal of rem aining within th e interm ediate to brackish class dominated by *Spartina patens* (marshhay cordgrass).

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

COAST-WIDE NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM - ANNUAL REPORT

For Report:

Mr. Mouton with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will present an Annual Report on the LA-03b Coast-wide Nutria Control Program (CNCP).

Louisiana Coastwide Nutria Control Program: Year 7

CWPPRA Project (LA-03b)

Edmond Mouton and Paul Provence
Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Coastal Environments, Inc.
Baton Rouge, LA

PROGRAM FUNDING

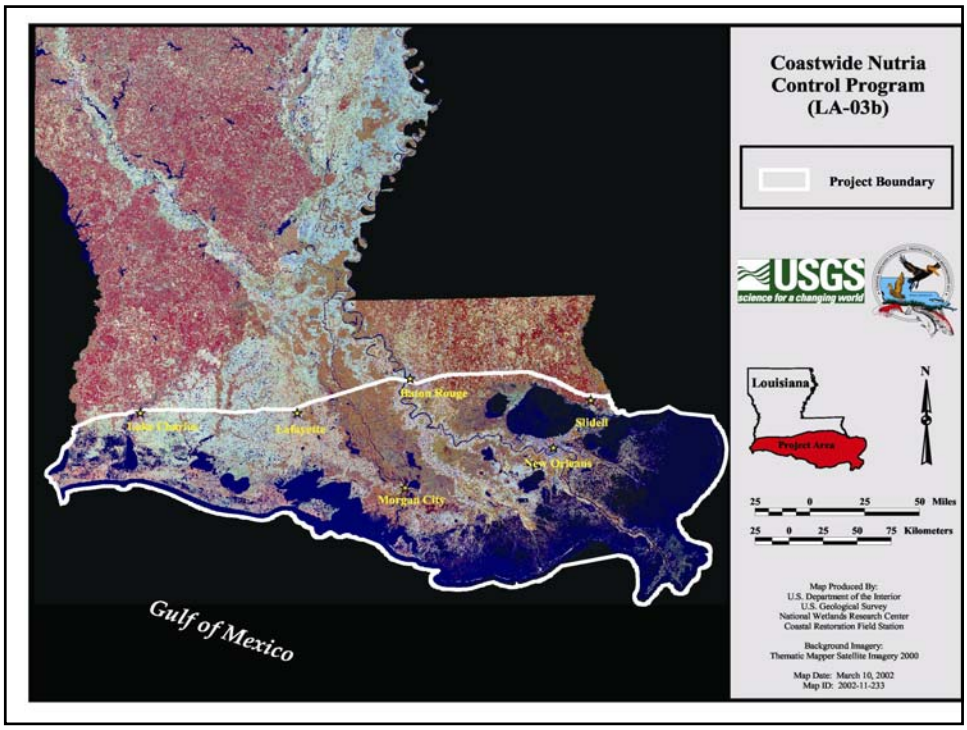
- This project and its data collection is Funded by Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (CPRA/OCPR).

- Implemented by La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, (LDWF) and Coastal Environments Inc., (CEI).

COASTWIDE NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM

- **Goal**: to significantly reduce marsh damage from nutria herbivory by removing **400,000** nutria per year.

- **Method**: incentive payment to registered hunters/trappers was **$4.00** per nutria tail for the first 4 years. In year 5 the payment was increased to **$5.00** per nutria tail delivered to collection station.



Application Process

Application Submitted to LDWF

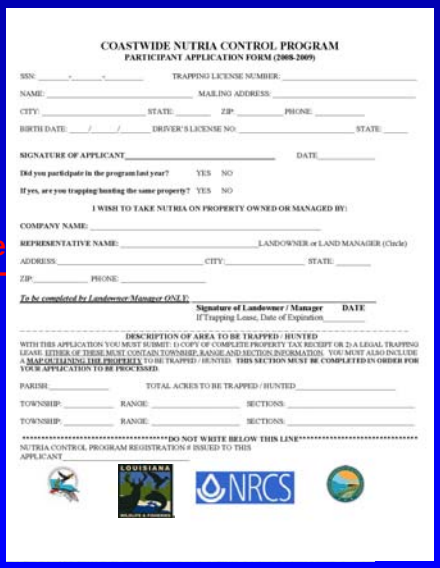
↓

Application Reviewed by LDWF

Approve

↓ Deny

Letter to Participant Indicating Problem



COASTWIDE NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT APPLICATION FORM (2008-2009)

SSN: ____-____-____ TRAPPING LICENSE NUMBER: _____

NAME: _____ MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

BIRTH DATE: ___/___/___ DRIVER'S LICENSE NO: _____ STATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT_____ DATE_____

Did you participate in the program last year? YES NO

If yes, are you trapping/hunting the same property? YES NO

I WISH TO TAKE NUTRIA ON PROPERTY OWNED OR MANAGED BY:

COMPANY NAME: _____

REPRESENTATIVE NAME: _____LANDOWNER or LAND MANAGER (Circle)

ADDRESS:_____ CITY:_____ STATE: _____

ZIP:_____ PHONE: _____

To be completed by Landowner/Manager ONLY:

Signature of Landowner / Manager DATE
If Trapping Lease, Date of Expiration_____

DESCRIPTION OF AREA TO BE TRAPPED / HUNTED

WITH THIS APPLICATION YOU MUST SUBMIT: 1) COPY OF COMPLETE PROPERTY TAX RECEIPT OR 2) A LEGAL TRAPPING LEASE. EITHER OF THESE MUST CONTAIN TOWNSHIP, RANGE AND SECTION INFORMATION. YOU MUST ALSO INCLUDE A MAP OUTLINING THE PROPERTY TO BE TRAPPED / HUNTED. THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER FOR YOUR APPLICATION TO BE PROCESSED.

PARISH_____ TOTAL ACRES TO BE TRAPPED / HUNTED_____

TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ SECTIONS: _____

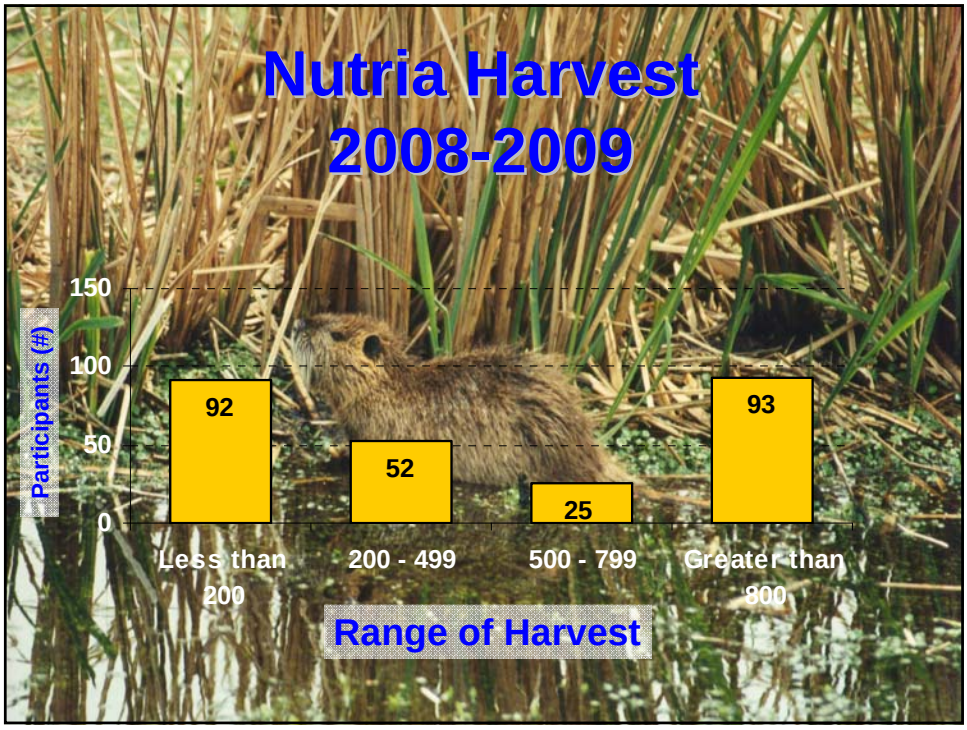
TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ SECTIONS: _____

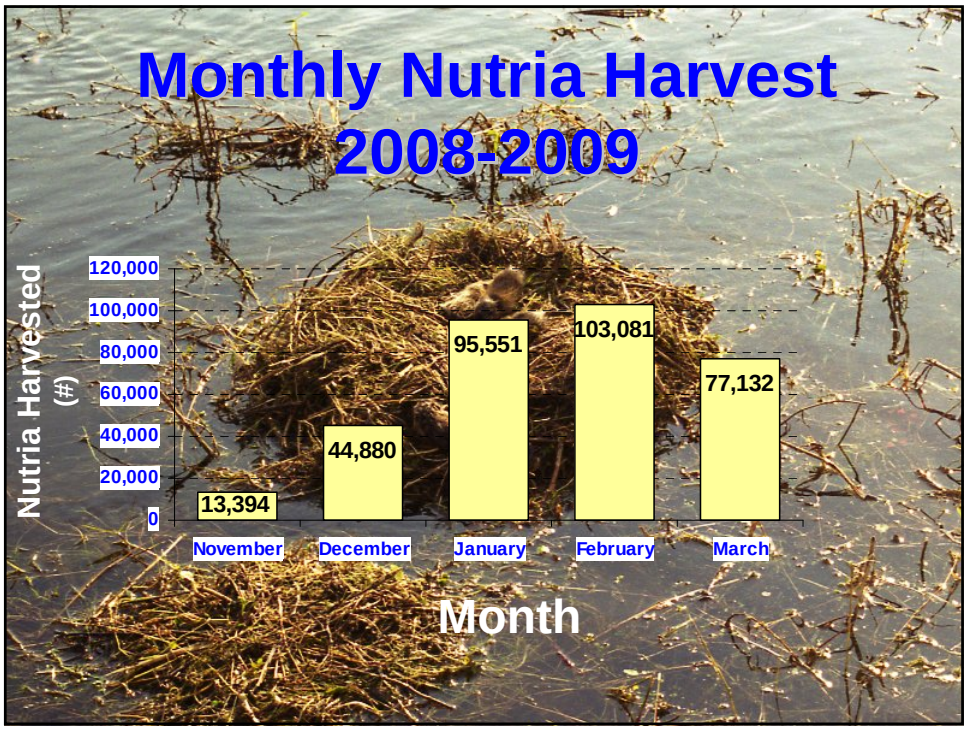
**********DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**********

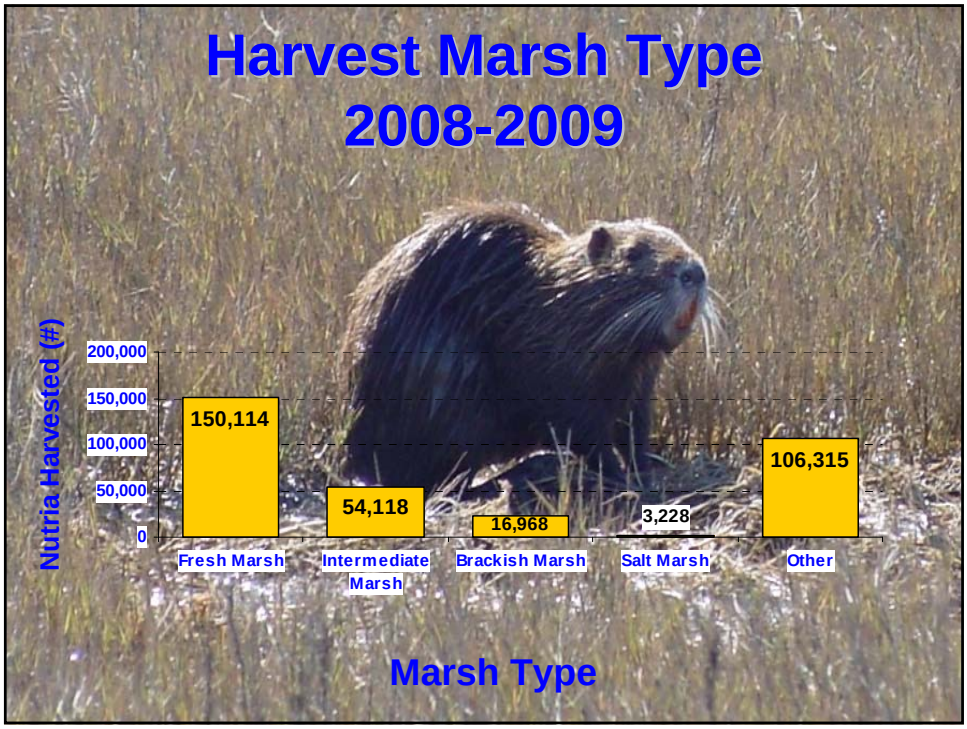
NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM REGISTRATION # ISSUED TO THIS APPLICANT_____

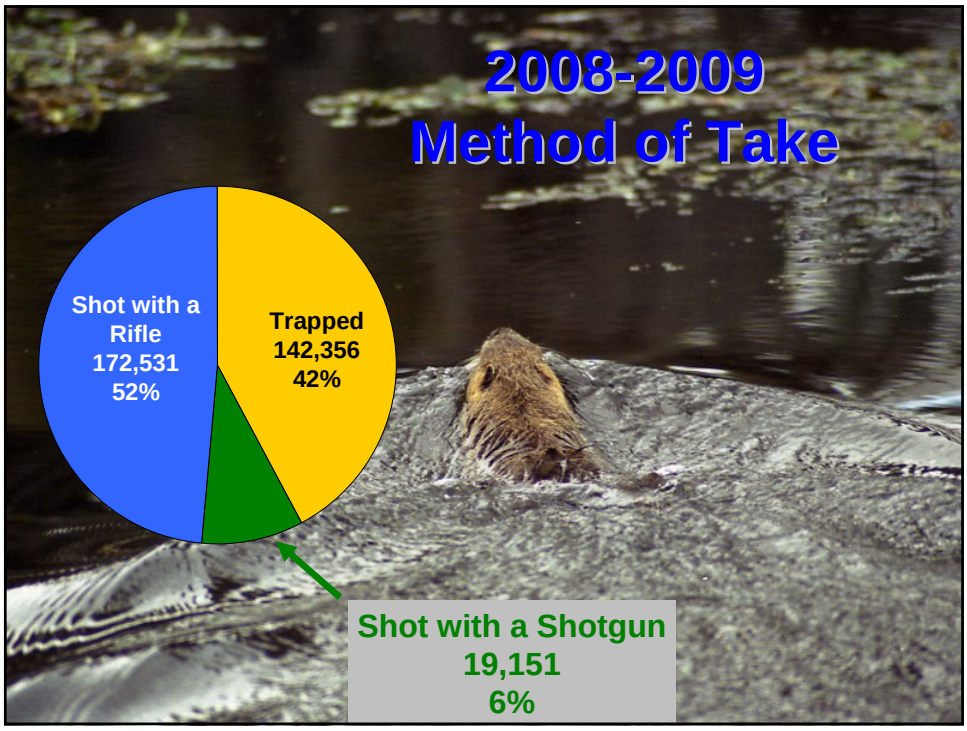
Nutria Harvest 2008-2009

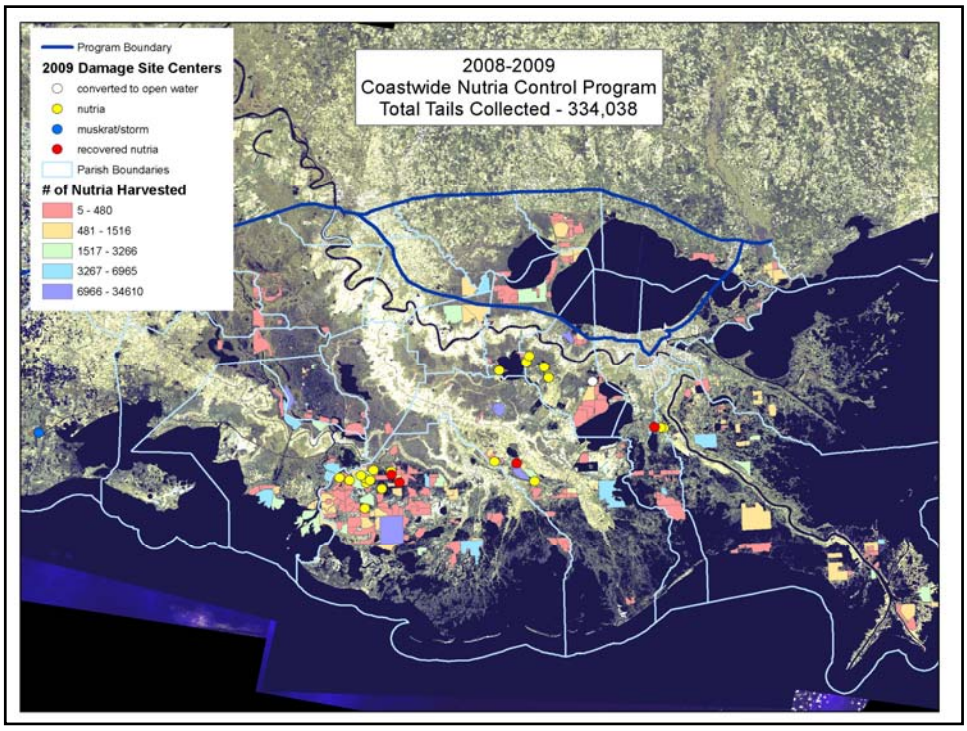
- A total of **334,038** nutria tails, worth **$1,670,190** in incentive payments were collected.
- **262** active participants.


Nutria Harvest
2008-2009
Participants (#)
150
100
50
0
92
52
25
93
Less than 200
200 - 499
500 - 799
Greater than 800
Range of Harvest


Monthly Nutria Harvest
2008-2009
Nutria Harvested (#)
120,000
100,000
80,000
60,000
40,000
20,000
0
13,394
44,880
95,551
103,081
77,132
November
December
January
February
March
Month

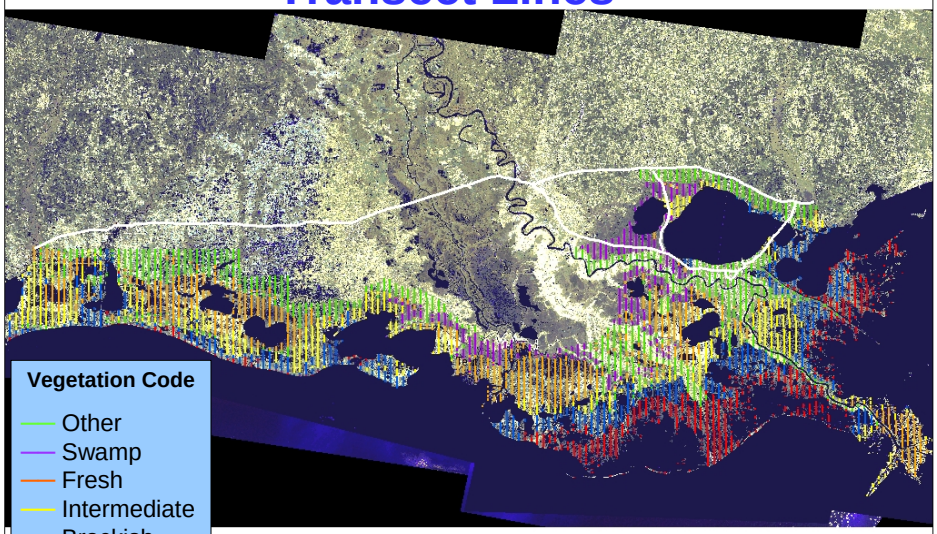

Harvest Marsh Type
2008-2009
Nutria Harvested (#)
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
150,114
54,118
16,968
3,228
106,315
Fresh Marsh
Intermediate Marsh
Brackish Marsh
Salt Marsh
Other
Marsh Type


2008-2009
Method of Take
Shot with a Rifle
172,531
52%
Trapped
142,356
42%
Shot with a Shotgun
19,151
6%


Program Boundary
2009 Damage Site Centers
converted to open water
nutria
muskrat/storm
recovered nutria
Parish Boundaries
# of Nutria Harvested
5 - 480
481 - 1516
1517 - 3266
3267 - 6965
6966 - 34610
2008-2009
Coastwide Nutria Control Program
Total Tails Collected - 334,038

206B Bell Jet Ranger

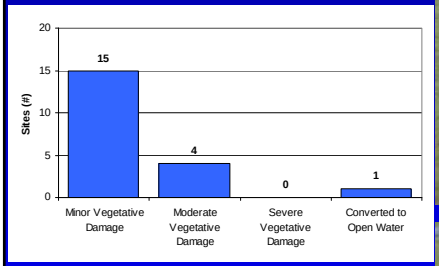
Transect Lines

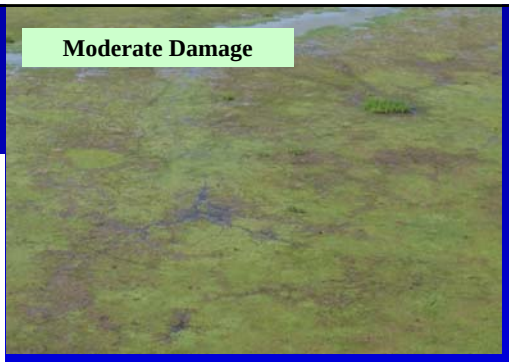


There are 155 transect lines.
A Total of 2,354.70 miles

2008-2009

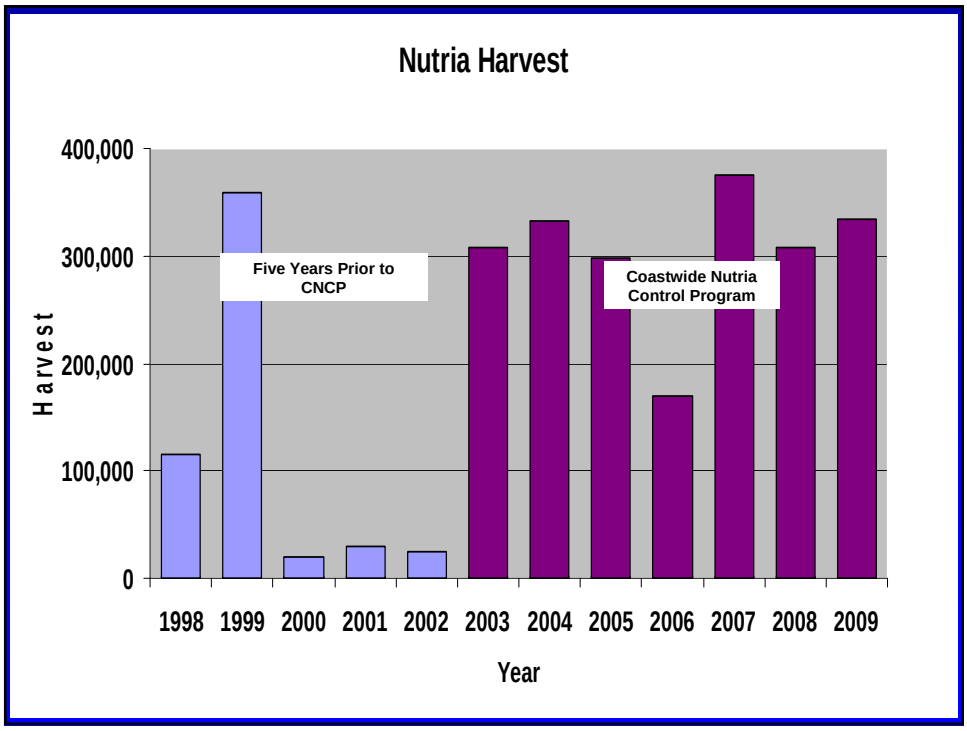
20 Total Nutria Damage Sites

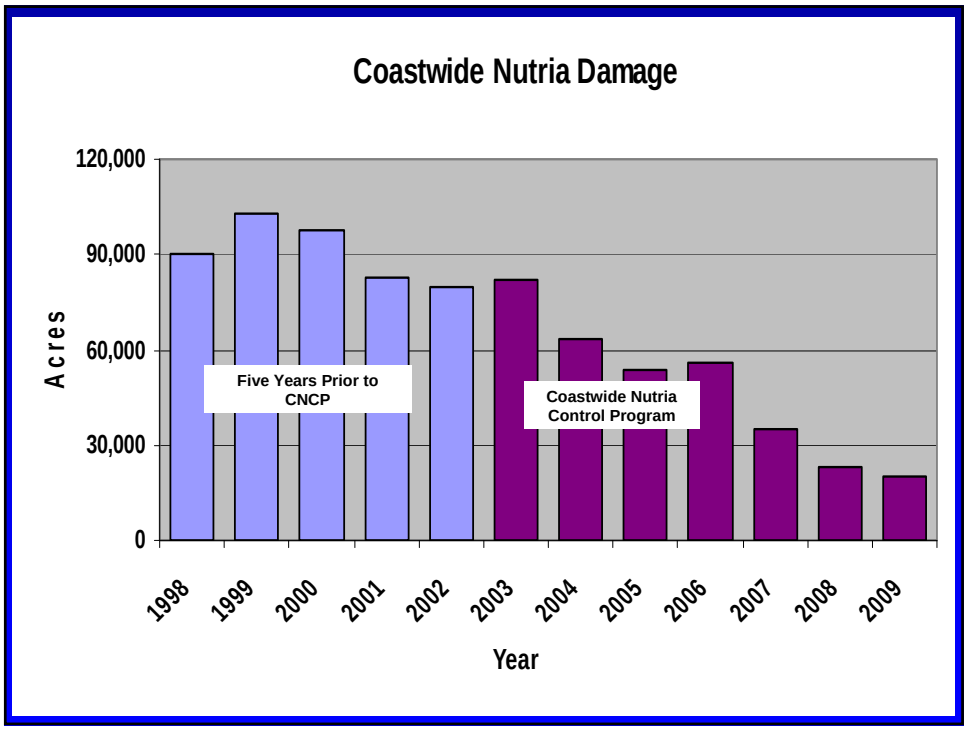


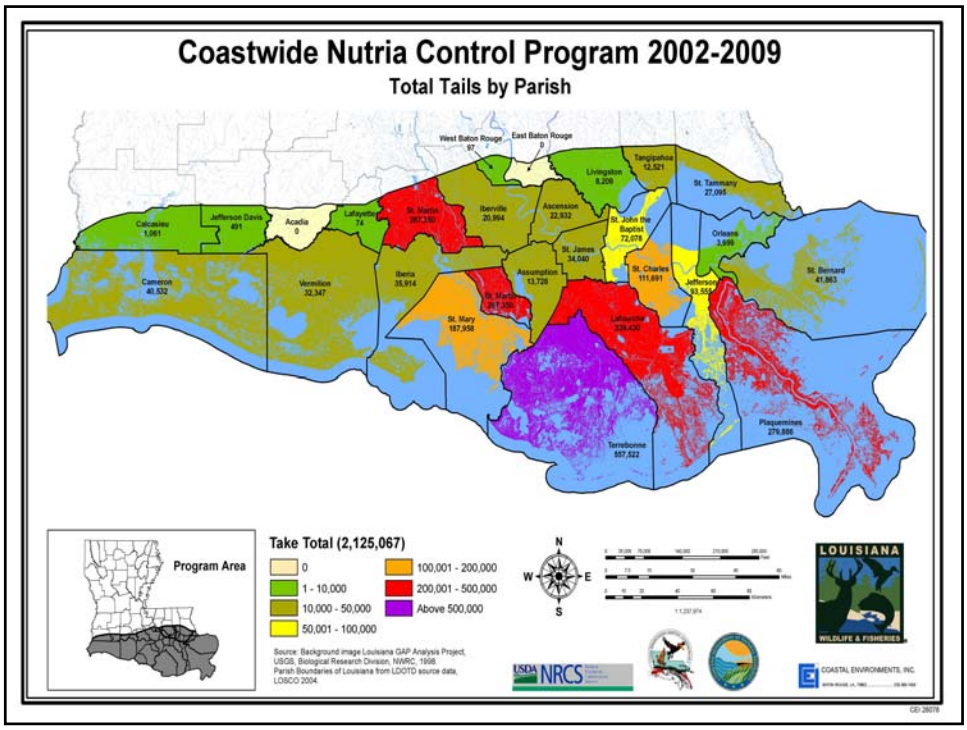


2009 Nutria Damage Survey

- The 2009 Vegetative Damage Survey yielded **20,333** acres of nutria damage coastwide.
- Compared to 2008 (**23,141** acres coastwide), this was approximately a **12% decrease** in the number of damaged acres in 2009.
- The recovered sites **(5)** in 2009 had a combined acreage of **673 acres**.




Coastwide Nutria Damage
120,000
90,000
60,000
30,000
0
Acres
Five Years Prior to CNCP
Coastwide Nutria Control Program
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Year


Coastwide Nutria Control Program 2002-2009
Total Tails by Parish
West Baton Rouge 67
East Baton Rouge 0
Livingston 8,208
Tangipahoa 12,521
St. Tammany 27,095
Calcasieu 1,061
Jefferson Davis 491
Acadia 0
Lafayette 74
St. Martin 267,350
Iberville 20,994
Ascension 22,932
St. John the Baptist 72,078
St. James 34,040
Orleans 3,699
St. Bernard 41,863
Cameron 40,532
Vermilion 32,347
Iberia 35,914
Assumption 13,728
St. Charles 111,691
Jefferson 93,559
St. Mary 187,958
Lafourche 339,430
Plaquemines 279,886
Terrebonne 557,522
Program Area
Take Total (2,125,067)
0
1 - 10,000
10,000 - 50,000
50,001 - 100,000
100,001 - 200,000
200,001 - 500,000
Above 500,000
N
W
E
S
LOUISIANA
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
USDA NRCS
COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC.

QUESTIONS ?
www.nutria.com
Edmond Mouton or
Janet Wiebe
337-373-0032

Coastwide Nutria Control Program 2008-2009

Nutria Harvest and Distribution 2008-2009 and A Survey of Nutria Herbivory Damage in Coastal Louisiana in 2009

Conducted by:
Coastal and Nongame Resources
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

As part of the
Coastwide Nutria Control Program*
CWPPRA Project (LA-03b)

Submitted by:
Janet Wiebe and Edmond Mouton

June 30, 2009

* Funded by Coastal Wetlands, Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act through the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the La. Dept. of Natural Resources.

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Section 1

NUTRIA HARVEST DISTRIBUTION 2008-2009

Introduction

Since 2001, annual coast wide aerial surveys assessing herbivory in Louisiana have documented approximately 26,273 acres of marsh converted to open water due to nutria vegetative damage. (This acreage is actual observed acreage multiplied by a constant to account for land not seen from the transects.) This loss of marsh in Louisiana is devastating to the people that depend on it for their livelihood as well as people that use it for recreation. It is vital to the people of Louisiana to protect the wetlands from destruction whenever possible. In order to remove the threat of land loss due to nutria, the Coastwide Nutria Control Program was developed.

The nutria (Myocastor coypus) is a large semi-aquatic rodent indigenous to South America. The first introduction of nutria to North America occurred in California in 1899; however it was not until the 1930's that additional animals were introduced in seven other states. These importations, primarily for fur farming, failed during the Second World War as a result of poor pelt prices and poor reproductive success. After the failures of these fur farms, nutria were released into the wild. Sixteen states now have feral populations of nutria.

The Gulf Coast nutria population originated in Louisiana in the 1930's from escapes and possible releases from nutria farms. Populations first became established in the western coastal portion of the state and then later spread to the east through natural expansion coupled with stocking. During the mid-1950s muskrat populations were declining, nutria had little fur value, and serious damage was occurring in rice fields in southwestern Louisiana and sugarcane fields in southeastern Louisiana; farmers complained about damage to crops and levee systems, while muskrat trappers blamed the nutria for declining numbers of muskrats. In 1958, the Louisiana Legislature placed the nutria on the list of unprotected wildlife and created a $0.25 bounty on every nutria killed in 16 south Louisiana parishes, but funds were never appropriated.

Research efforts were initiated by the federal government in the southeastern sugarcane region of the state to determine what control techniques might be successful. This research conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the 1960's examined movements in relation to sugarcane damage and recommended shooting, trapping, and poisoning in agricultural areas. Ted O'Neil, Chief of the Fur and Refuge Division, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), believed that the problem could only be solved through the development of a market for nutria pelts. A market for nutria developed slowly during the early 1960's and by 1962 over 1 million pelts were being utilized annually in the German fur trade. The nutria became the backbone of the Louisiana fur industry for the next 20 years, surpassing the muskrat in 1962 in total numbers harvested. In 1965, the state legislature returned the nutria to the protected list. As fur prices showed a slow rise during most of the 1970's and early 1980's, the harvest averaged 1.5 million pelts and complaints from agricultural interest became uncommon. From 1971 through 1981 the average annual value of the nutria harvest to the coastal trappers was $8.1 million. The nutria harvest in Louisiana from 1962 until 1982 remained over 1 million annually. The harvest peaked in 1976 at 1.8 million pelts worth $15.7 million to coastal trappers (Figure 1).

The nutria market began to change during the early 1980's. In 1981-1982, the nutria harvest dropped slightly below 1 million.

This declining harvest continued for two more seasons; then in the 1984-1985 season, the harvest jumped back up to 1.2 million. During the 1980-1981 season, the average price paid for nutria was $8.19. During the 1981-1982 season, the price dropped to $4.36 and then in 1982-1983, the price dropped to $2.64. Between the 1983-1984 season and the 1986-1987 season, prices fluctuated between $3.00 and $4.00. Then in 1987-1988 and again in 1988-1989 prices continued to fall (Figure 1). From 1982 through 1992 the average annual value of the nutria harvest was only $2.2 million. Between 1988-1989 and 1995-1996 the number of nutria harvested annually remained below 300,000 and prices remained at or below a $3.00 average.

Due to a strong demand for nutria pelts in Russia in both 1996-1997 and in 1997-1998, 327,286 nutria were harvested at an average price of $4.13 and 359,232 nutria were harvested at an average price of $5.17 during those seasons respectively. In September 1998, the collapse of the Russian economy and general instability in the Far East economies weakened the demand for most wild furs including nutria. The demand for nutria pelts in Russia declined quickly due to the devaluation of the Russian ruble. During the 1998-1999 trapping season, pelt values fell to $2.69 and harvest decreased to only 114,646, less than one-third of the previous year. During the 1999-2000 trapping season there was virtually no demand for nutria pelts. The harvest decreased to 20,110 nutria. This was, by far, the lowest nutria harvest on record since the mid-1950s. The number of nutria harvested in 2000-2001 trapping season increased to 29,544. The value of nutria pelts decreased to $1.75 during the 2001-2002 season, prompting another decrease in harvest to 24,683 nutria.

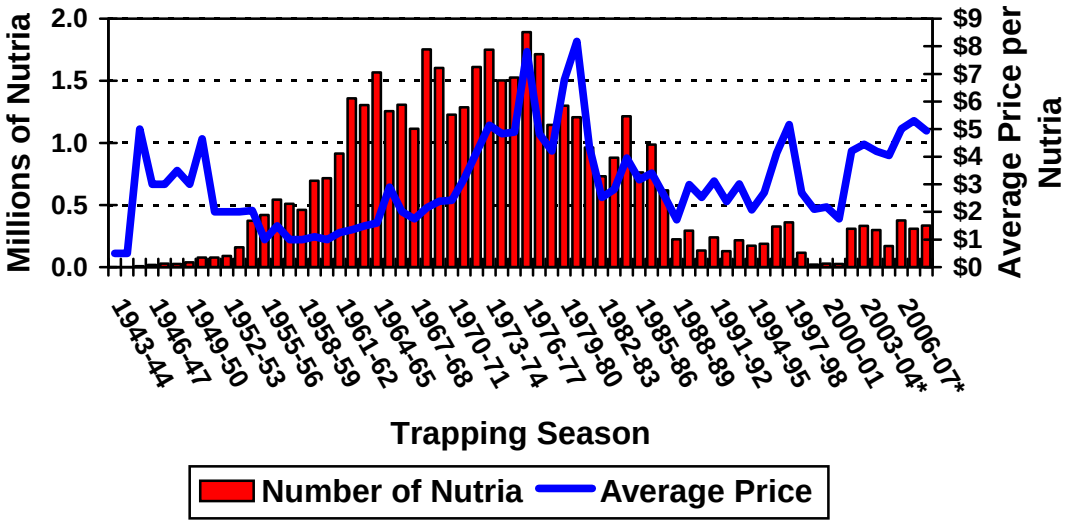


Figure 1

During the strong market period for nutria pelts, there were no reports of wetland damage caused by nutria. However, before the market developed and after the market declined, reports of marsh vegetation damage from land managers became common. Such complaints began in 1987 and became more frequent during the early 1990's. In response, the Fur and Refuge Division of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) initiated limited aerial survey flights, particularly in southeastern Louisiana. Survey flights of Barataria and Terrebonne basins were conducted during the 1990's, with initial support from Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program (BTNEP) and later support from Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). From 1993 to 1996 these flights showed acres of damage increasing from approximately 45,000 to 80,000 acres within the basins. The first CWPRA funded coast wide survey, conducted in 1998, showed herbivory damage areas totaling approximately 90,000 acres. By 1999 this coast wide damage had increased to nearly 105,000 acres.

This rapid and dramatic increase in damaged acres prompted LDWF to pursue funding for the Coastwide Nutria Control Program (CNCP) in January 2002.

The project is funded by the CWPPRA through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) with the LDWF as the lead implementing agency. Task number 1 requires LDWF to conduct an annual aerial survey to evaluate the herbivory damage caused by nutria. Task number 2 of the LDNR and LDWF Interagency Agreement No. 2511-02-29 for the CNCP requires LDWF to conduct general project operation and administration. LDWF is required to 1) conduct and review the registration of participants in the CNCP; 2) establish collection stations across coastal Louisiana; 3) count valid nutria tails and present participants with a receipt/voucher; 4) deliver tails to an approved disposal facility and receive documentation that ensures the nutria will be properly disposed of and shall not leave the facility; and 5) process and maintain records regarding participants, number and location where tails were collected. Task 3 requires LDWF to provide incentive payments to program participants and task 4 requires LDWF to provide a report regarding the distribution of the harvest by township.

The program area is coastal Louisiana bounded to the north by Interstate-10 from the Texas state line to Baton Rouge, Interstate-12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell, and Interstate-10 from Slidell to the Mississippi state line. The project goal is to significantly reduce damage to coastal wetlands attributable to nutria herbivory by removing 400,000 nutria annually. This project goal is consistent with the Coast 2050 common strategy of controlling herbivory damage to wetlands. The method chosen for the program is an incentive payment to registered trappers/hunters for each nutria tail delivered to established collection centers. Initially, registered participants were given $4.00 per nutria tail. To encourage participation, the payment was increased to $5.00 per tail in the 2006-2007 season.

This section reports on the Nutria Harvest Distribution for 2008-2009.

Methods

The application for participation in the Coastwide Nutria Control Program (CNCP) was developed in July 2002 but was modified in June 2003 to obtain better information about the location of nutria harvest. It was made available through the LDWF offices and website, as well as LSU Cooperative Extension offices. In order for a participant to be qualified, the individual must complete the application, obtain written permission from a landowner or land manager with property in the program area, complete a W-9 tax form and provide LDWF with a complete legal description of the property to be hunted or trapped. A map outlining the property boundaries was an added requirement of participants beginning with the 2003-2004 season. Once an applicant was accepted, the participant was mailed information on the program's regulations, collection sites for nutria tails, contact information and a CNCP registration card.

Coastal Environments Inc. (CEI) was selected as the contractor to develop and maintain the program database, collect nutria tails, and distribute incentive payment checks to participants for tail harvests. The contract with CEI, which began with the 2002-2003 season, was extended to include the 2003-2004 through 2006-2007, with the option to renew for 3 years there after. CEI's first renewal season was (2007-2008), and they just completed the second (2008-2009). Tail collection sites were originally established at Rockefeller Refuge, Abbeville, Berwick (Morgan City), Houma, Luling and Slidell.

Collections were made once a week at each site, except for Rockefeller Refuge, Abbeville and Slidell, where collections were made by appointment only, due to low numbers of participants in those areas.

Louisiana's open trapping season began on November 20, 2008, and nutria tail collections began a week later. Collections were made utilizing a 16 foot by 8 foot trailer containing a freezer, sorting table and desk. A participant reported to a collection site, presented his nutria control program registration card and presented his tails to a CEI representative.

One CEI representative conducted an exact count of the nutria tails, which was then verified with the participant to ensure they were in agreement. At that time, the counted tails were placed into a plastic garbage bag labeled with the participant's CNCP registration number and the number of tails contained in that bag. Another CEI representative filled out a voucher for the number of tails delivered, checking to make sure the mailing address of the participant was correct. The participant was asked to provide the following information: 1) the method of taking the nutria, 2) the method in which the nutria carcass was used or abandoned, and 3) the month or months in which the nutria were harvested. When complete, the voucher was signed by the participant who would also indicate on a detailed map of their lease the location or locations where the nutria were harvested. The CEI representative recorded township and range of harvest, number of nutria harvested, and the transaction number on the map. One copy of the voucher was given to the participant, while one copy was retained by the CEI representative.

The information on the voucher was entered into a laptop computer and transferred electronically to the CEI main offices via an FTP site for analysis and quality control.

The data transfer occurred at the end of each collection day. Collected tails were transported to the BFI waste storage facility in Sorrento, Louisiana, at the end of each collection day or multiple times a day if necessary. The CEI representative checked in at a guard station where the vehicle containing the tails was weighed. The vehicle was also weighed when exiting the disposal site in order to calculate the exact amount of waste deposited at the facility. The tails were deposited into a biohazard waste pit under supervision of a BFI employee. The number of bags disposed, as well as weight deposited, was recorded on a receipt given to the CEI representative. Copies of the receipts for all disposals made were supplied to LDWF.

At the end of the collection week, the maps were transported to CEI's office in Baton Rouge. At this time QA/QC of the data transferred for the entire week took place. The trapped/hunted areas that were outlined on the lease maps were digitized into Arc Map GIS 9.2. CEI sent a weekly report to LDWF detailing each transaction, including a digitized map of that week's trapped/hunted areas. Each Monday morning, after receiving a weekly report and bill, LDWF sent a payment to CEI for the amount of tails collected and services rendered. CEI in turn sent participants checks through the mail for the amount of tails turned in. Louisiana's open trapping season ended on March 31, 2009, and nutria tail collections continued for one week into April. After the conclusion of the season, CEI provided LDWF with all the transaction information for the entire season from November to March. This final report contains information recorded on the vouchers, the digitized trapped/hunted area, the nutria control program database and an Arc Map 9.2 project map with related information.

Results and Discussion

Participant Totals

A total of 334,038 nutria tails, worth $1,670,190 in incentive payments, were collected from 262 participants in the 2008-2009 season. Approximately one third of these participants turned in 800 or more tails (Figure 2.)

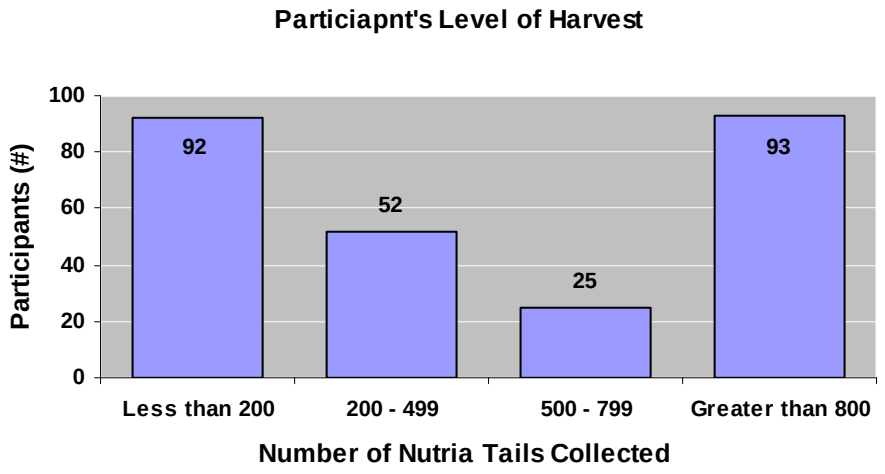


Figure 2

Harvest by Month

The 2008-2009 trapping season began November 20th, 2008 and continued through March 31st, 2009. One hundred three thousand and eighty one (103,081) tails were collected in the month of February making it the most active month of the season (Figure 3.)

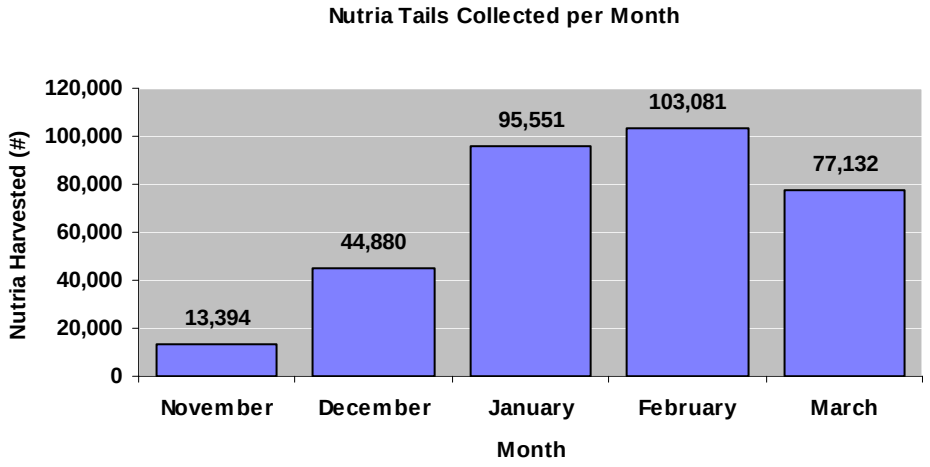


Figure 3

Harvest by Marsh Type

Harvest data were classified by marsh type, which includes: fresh marsh, intermediate marsh, brackish marsh, salt marsh and other. The category "other" includes swamp, mixed forest, open water and agriculture land types.

In the 2008-2009 season, 45% of the nutria harvested fell into the "Fresh Marsh" category, followed by 32% being harvested from the "Other" (Figure 4.).

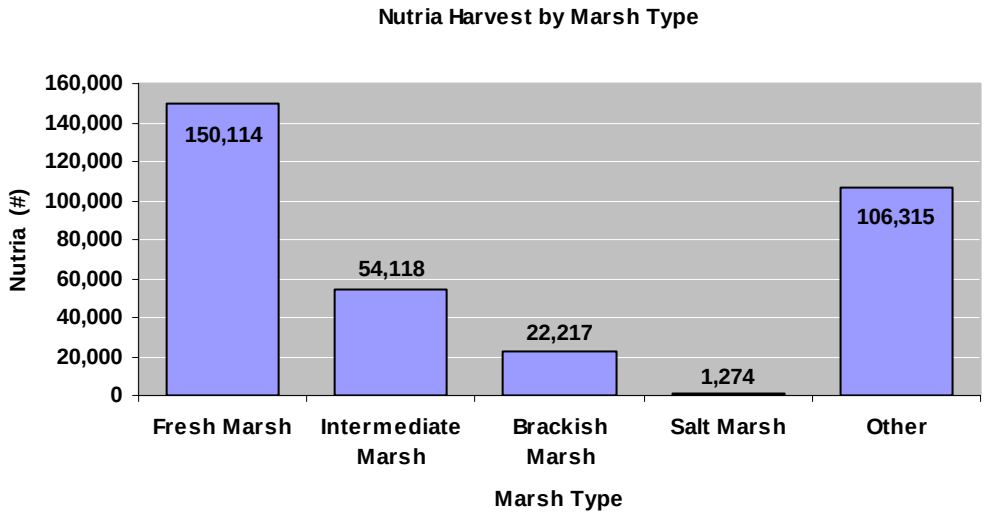


Figure 4

Method of Take

During collection transactions, program participants indicated their method of take: trapped, shot with rifle, or shot with shotgun.

The predominant method used in the 2008-2009 season was shooting with a rifle (Figure 5.)

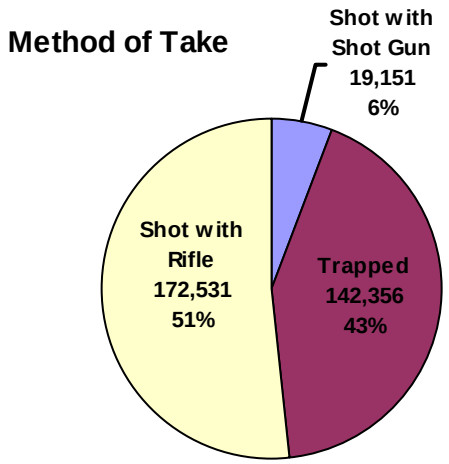


Figure 5

While shooting with a rifle was the most popular method of taking nutria in fresh marsh, trapping was the most utilized method in brackish and salt marshes (Figure 6.)

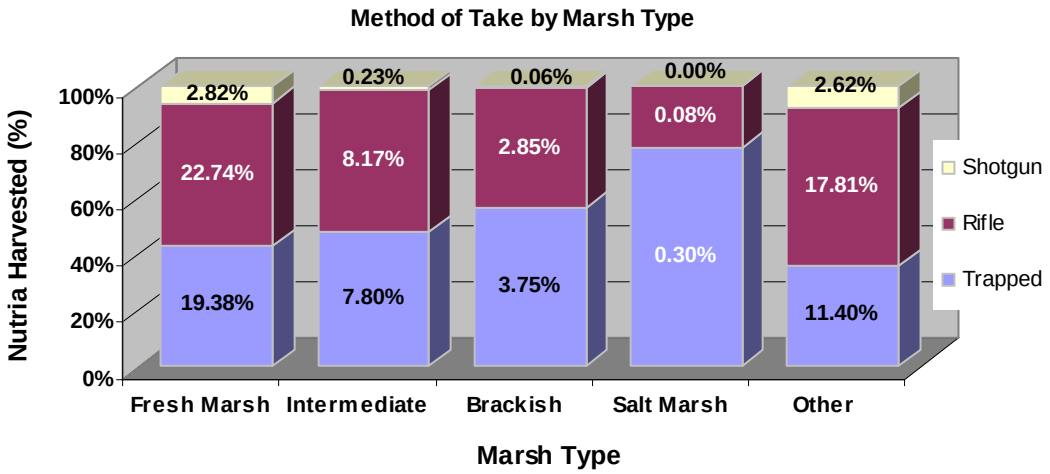


Figure 6

Carcass Use

Use of nutria carcasses, was recorded for each participant transaction. For the purpose of this survey, use categories include: 1) harvested for meat and/or 2) harvested for fur (Table 1.)

MARSH TYPE	Fur	Meat	Abandon Buried	Abandon Vegetation	Abandon Water
Fresh	3,525	3,636	108,227	21,418	16,606
Intermediate	4,853	4,453	39,956	3,825	5,485
Brackish	7,148	6,589	12,629	802	1,565
Salt	940	940	313	21	0
Other	2,571	1,934	86,612	11,769	5,364
Total	19,036	17,553	247,737	37,834	29020

Table 1

Overall, almost 11% of the nutria harvested was utilized for meat and/or fur. This is a little less than half the utilization last season. The remaining 89% were disposed of by approved methods, categories include: 1) buried carcasses, 2) placed in heavy overhead vegetation, or 3) placed in water (Table 1.)

All interested participants were supplied a fur buyer/fur dealer list to encourage the use of animals for the fur and meat, and interested fur buyers/dealers were supplied with a list of program participants.

Harvest by Parish

Nineteen parishes were represented in the 2008-2009 season of the Coastwide Nutria Control Program, with nutria harvests ranging from 231 to 74,587. Terrebonne Parish reported the highest number of tails with 74,587 followed by Lafourche and St. Martin Parish with 48,252 and 44,972 respectively (Figure 7).

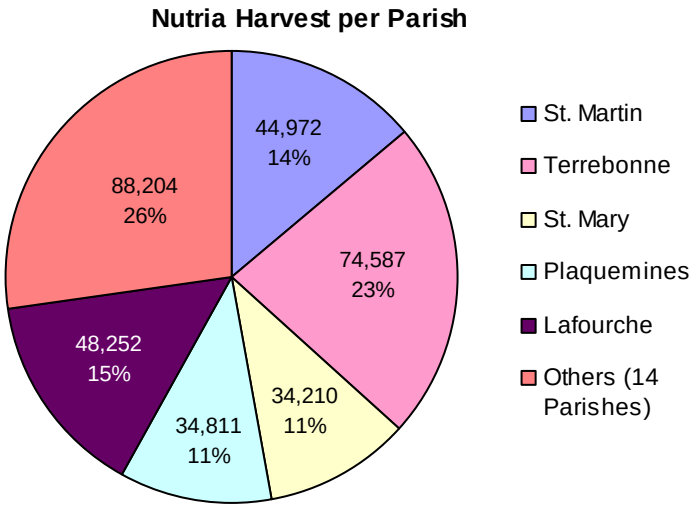


Figure 7

Section 2

A SURVEY OF NUTRIA HERBIVORY DAMAGE IN COASTAL LOUISIANA IN 2009

Introduction

Herbivory damage was noticed in the late 1980s by landowners and land managers when the price of fur dropped and the harvest of nutria all but ceased. The LDWF was contacted to investigate the problem. The first region wide aerial survey became possible because of the interest and concern of many state and federal agencies, coastal land companies and, in particular, funding provided by BTNEP. The objectives of the aerial survey were to: (1) determine the distribution of damage along the transect lines as an index of region wide damage, (2) determine the severity of damage as classified according to a vegetative damage rating, (3) determine the abundance of nutria by the nutria relative abundance rating (4) determine the species of vegetation being impacted and (5) determine the status of recovery of selected damaged areas (Linscombe and Kinler 1997).

Helicopter surveys were flown in May and December 1993 and again in March and April 1996 across the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins. During the December 1993 survey, 90 damaged sites were observed with more than 15,000 acres of marsh impacted along the transects and an estimated 60,000 acres across the study area. In 1996, a total of 157 sites were observed. The damage observed along the transect lines increased to 20,642 acres, and an extrapolated acreage of 77,408 acres across the study area. (The extrapolated coast wide estimate is derived by multiplying the observed acres by 3.75 to account for area not visible from the transect lines.) All of the 1993 sites were evaluated again in 1996, but only 9% showed any recovery. Clearly, the trend identified was a continued increase in both the number of sites and the extent of nutria damage in the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins.

In 1998, the first coast wide nutria herbivory survey was flown, as part of the Nutria Harvest and Wetland Demonstration Program (LA-03a). A total of 23,960 acres of damaged wetlands were located at 170 sites along the survey transects, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 89,850 acres. In 1999, the damage increased to 27,356 acres located at 150 sites, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 102,585 acres. In 2000, the damage slightly decreased to 25,939 acres located at 132 sites, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 97,271 acres. In 2001, the damage decreased to 22,139 acres located at 124 sites, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 83,021 acres. In the 2002 survey, the first survey funded as part of the CNCP and the survey which preceded implementation of the CNCP incentive payments, the damage decreased again, but only slightly to 21,185 acres located at 94 sites, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 79,444 acres. During the 2003 survey, a total of 84 sites had some level of vegetative damage and covered a total of 21,888 acres, with an extrapolated coast wide estimate of 82,080 acres. In summary, the coast wide estimates of nutria herbivory damage prior to implementation of the CNCP incentive payments (from 1998 to 2003) ranged from 79,444 to 102,585 acres.

Vegetative damage caused by nutria has been documented in at least 11 Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) project sites in the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins. Nutria herbivory is only one of many factors causing wetlands loss, but the additional stress placed on the plants by nutria herbivory may be very significant in CWPPRA projects sites and throughout coastal Louisiana.

The previous extrapolated estimates of 79,444 to 102,585 acres of marsh damaged was conservative because only the worst sites (most obvious) can be detected from aerial surveys; the actual number of acres being impacted was certainly higher. When vegetation is removed from the surface of the marsh, as a result of over grazing by nutria, the very fragile organic soils are exposed to erosion through tidal action and/or storms. If damaged areas do not revegetate quickly, they may become open water as tidal scour removes soil and thus lowers elevation. This is evident as the damaged sites that converted to open water over the last five years have been in the intermediate and brackish marsh types. Frequently the plant's root systems are also damaged, making recovery through vegetative regeneration very slow.

In an effort to create an incentive for trappers and hunters, the CNCP was implemented. Task number 1 of the LDNR and LDWF Interagency Agreement No. 2511-02-29 for the CNCP requires LDWF to conduct annual coast wide aerial surveys during spring/summer to document the current year impact of nutria herbivory. Survey techniques followed Linscombe and Kinler (1997), and CNCP funded surveys, have be conducted each spring from 2003 to 2009. Results were analyzed and the numbers of acres impacted or recovered were determined.

This section reports on the 2009 Coastwide Nutria Herbivory Survey.

Methods

The 2009 coast wide nutria herbivory survey was conducted April 6th- 9th, April 15th-17th, and April 20th -22nd. North-South transects were flown throughout the fresh, intermediate and brackish marshes of coastal Louisiana. A total of 155 transects (covering 2,354.7 miles) were surveyed for damage; the transects were spaced approximately 1.8 miles apart, starting at the swamp-marsh interface and continuing south to the beginning of the salt marsh. Due to low nutria population density, salt marsh habitat was not included in the survey. Depending upon visibility and vegetative conditions, an altitude of 300-400 feet was considered optimum. At this altitude, vegetative damage was identifiable and allowed for a survey transect width of about 1/4 mile on each side of the helicopter. Flight speed was approximately 60 mph. Two observers were used to conduct the survey, each positioned on opposite sides of the helicopter. In addition to locating vegetative damage, one observer navigated along the transect line and the other observer recorded all pertinent data.

When vegetative damage was identified, the following information was recorded.

1) Location of each site was determined by recording latitude and longitude utilizing GPS equipment. A real time differential corrected (WAAS Enabled) GPS (Garmin GPSmap 296) was utilized to allow for accurate location of damaged sites. The software used was DNRGarmin (written by Minnesota DNR) operating in ArcView 9.2. The size of each damage site was recorded by logging polygons using stream digitizing with the GPS equipment.

2) The abundance of nutria sign was placed in one of the following nutria relative abundance rating (NRAR) categories: **no nutria sign visible (0)**, **nutria sign visible (1)**, **abundant feeding (2)**, **heavy feeding (3)**.

3) The extent of damage to the vegetation was placed in one of the following vegetative damage rating categories: **no vegetative damage (0)**; **minor vegetative damage (1)** which is defined as a site containing feeding holes, thinning vegetation and some visible soil; **moderate vegetative damage (2)** which is defined as a site that has large areas of exposed soil and covers less than 50% of the site; **severe vegetative damage (3)** which is defined as a site that has more than 50% of the soil exposed; or **converted to open water (4)**.

4) The dominant plant species were identified and recorded for damaged areas, recovering areas and in the adjacent areas.

5) The age of damage and condition is determined by considering feeding activity and vegetation condition. The age of damage and condition was placed in one of the following categories: **recovered (0), old recovering (1), old not recovering (2), recent recovering (3), recent not recovering (4) or current (occurring now)(5)**.

6) The prediction of vegetative recovery is made considering feeding activity, age of damage and the extent of damage. The prediction of vegetative recovery by the end of 2008 was characterized by one of the following categories: **no recovery (0), full recovery (1), partial recovery (2) or increased damage (3)**.

7) The number of nutria observed at each site was recorded.

In addition to searching for new damaged sites, all previously identified damaged sites were revisited to assess extent and duration of damage or to characterize recovery. All data were entered into a computer for compilation. Damaged site locations are provided on the attached herbivory map and a data summary in Appendix B.

Results and Discussion

There were 27 sites included in the 2009 vegetative damage survey, 26 previously classified as damage sites in the 2008 survey and 1 new site. Four of the nutria damage sites from 2008 have completely recovered as well as 2 storm related sites. One site has partially recovered and partially converted to open water. The remaining 20 sites are classified as damage sites and broken into 3 categories (Figure 8.)

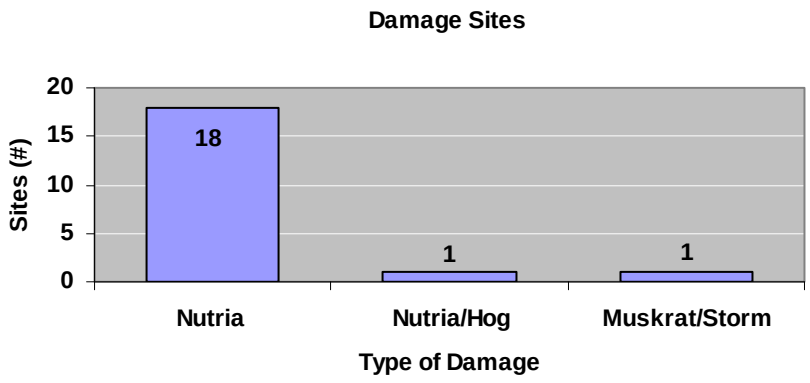


Figure 8

Nutria Damage

The following discussion details the 19 sites that had nutria, or nutria/hog damage (Appendix A). A total of 5,422 acres along transects (extrapolated to be 20,333 acres coast wide) in 2009, were impacted by nutria feeding activity. This represents approximately a 12% decrease in acres impacted by nutria in 2008 (6,171 acres, extrapolated 23,141 acres coast wide.)

Damage by Parish

Terrebonne parish experienced more than half of the damaged acres in 2009 (Figure 9.).

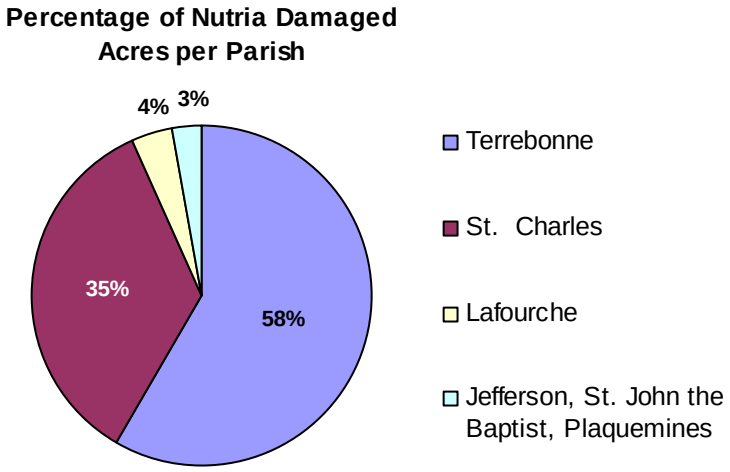


Figure 9

Damage by Marsh Type

Marsh type was recorded for each damage site, as well as the type of vegetation based on the Linscombe and Chabreck 2001 survey (Figure 10.)

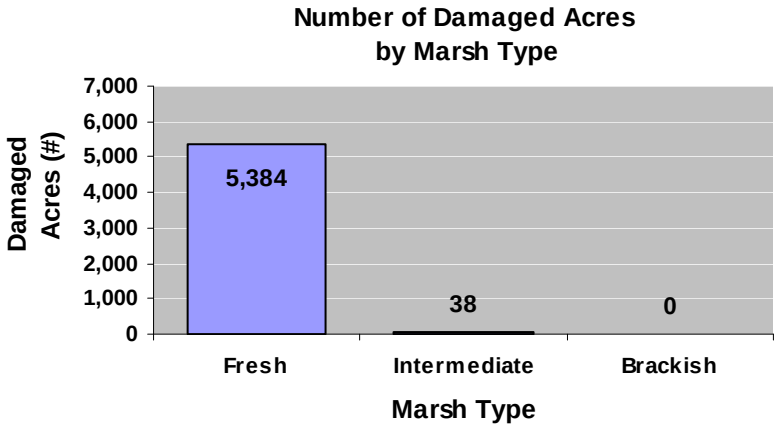


Figure 10

Fresh marsh continued to be the most affected by nutria herbivory (~ 93%). The typical vegetation impacted in fresh marsh was *Eleocharis* spp. and *Hydrocotyle* spp., while *Schoenoplectus americanus* (formerly *Scirpus olneyi*) and *Eleocharis* spp. were commonly impacted species in intermediate and brackish marshes.

Nutria Relative Abundance Rating

A nutria relative abundance rating (NRAR) was used to quantify the abundance of nutria at each site. Categories include: (0) no nutria sign visible, (1) nutria sign visible, (2) abundant feeding sign, and (3) heavy feeding sign; sites converted to open water are not given a NRAR (Figure 11.)

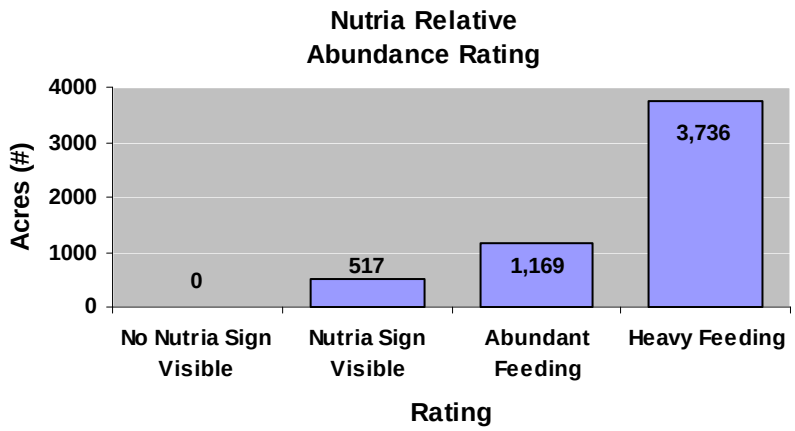


Figure 11

Vegetative Damage Rating

Vegetative damage was also evaluated at each site. A rating system was developed in order to quantify nutria vegetative damage. The vegetative damage rating (VDR) has five categories: (0) no vegetative damage, (1) minor vegetative damage, (2) moderate vegetative damage, (3) severe vegetative damage, (4) converted to open water (Figure 12.)

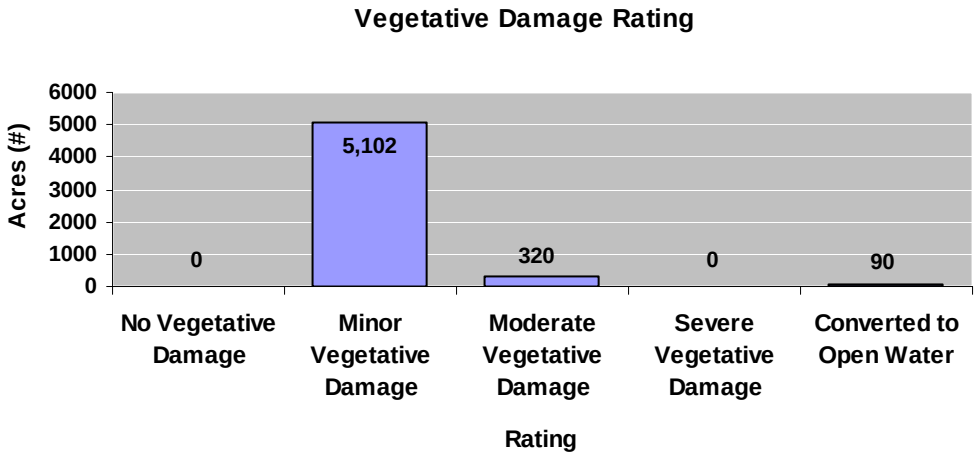


Figure 12

Only 1 partial site converted to open water in 2009. This was site number 94, and it is located at the north end of Lake Salvador. This area is in the Davis Pond Pool, which is heavily influenced by water level fluctuations. The acres converted to open water may be a result of the increased flow of the project.

Age of Damage Rating

Categories for the age of damage and condition rating include: (1) current damage, (2) recent damage-recovering, (3) recent damage not recovering, (4) old damage-recovering, (5) old damage-not recovering, and (0) recovered (Figure 13.)

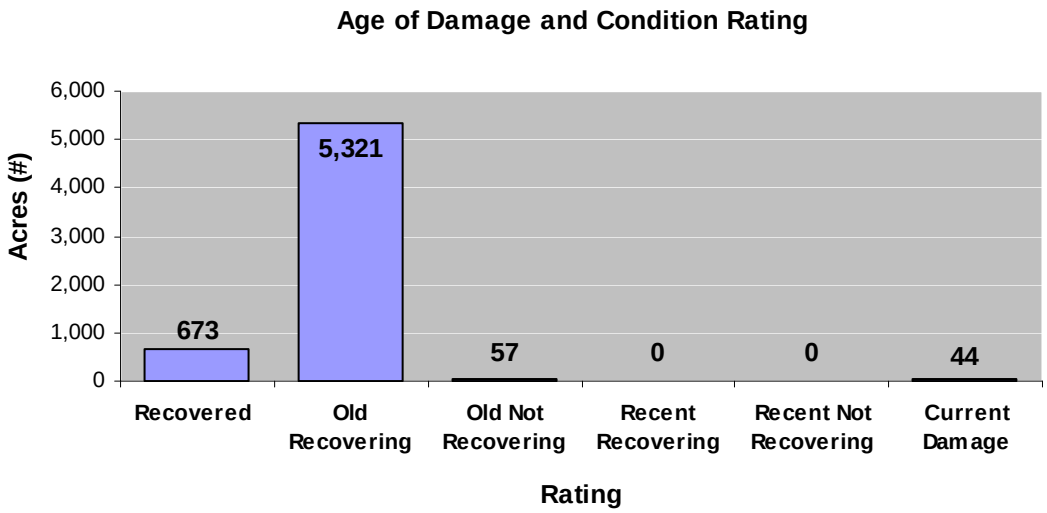


Figure 13

Prediction of Recovery

For each site with current damage, the degree of recovery by the end of the 2009 growing season was predicted. These categories include: (1) full recovery, (2) partial recovery, (3) increased damage and (4) no recovery predicated (Figure 14.)

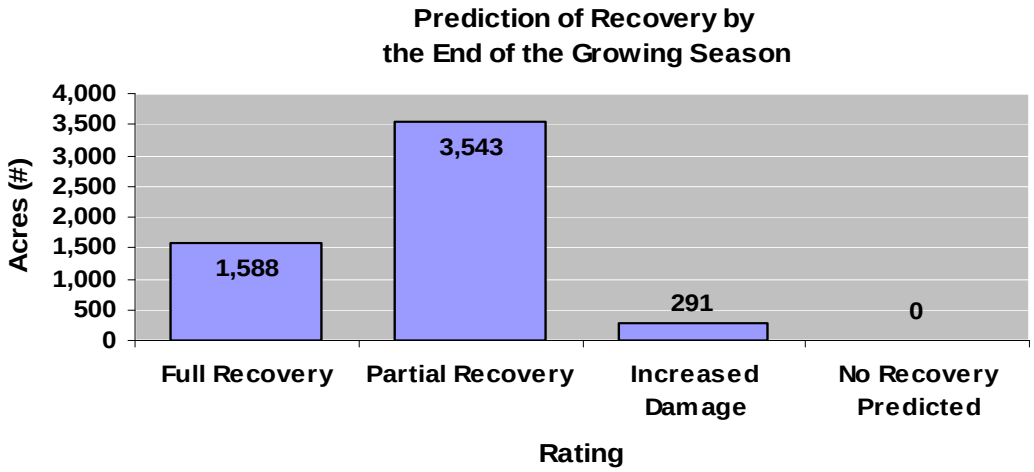


Figure 14

Muskrat Damage

During the 2009 survey, 1 muskrat damage site from 2008 was re-evaluated.

Site #	Damage Type in 2008	Damage Type in 2009/ Condition
422	New Muskrat Site	Storm damage (no muskrat visible)

Table 2

Conclusions

The 2009 vegetative damage survey yielded a total of 5,422 acres of nutria damage along transect lines. This figure, when extrapolated, demonstrates that 20,333 acres were impacted coast wide at the time of survey. When compared to 2008 (6,171 acres or 23,141 acres extrapolated coast wide), there was approximately a 12% decrease in the number of damaged acres.

Due to the distance between survey lines, all areas impacted by nutria herbivory could not be identified. Additionally, there were survey miles where nutria activity was observed but marsh conditions did not warrant a damage classification. Again, only the most obvious impacted areas were detected so the total impact of nutria was probably underestimated, however the trend in both decreasing damage acreage and increased marsh recovery are significant.

Section 3

CNCP: Summary of Results (2002-2009) and Adaptive Management

Since the beginning of the Coastwide Nutria Control Program, the number of nutria damage sites observed by aerial surveys has continued to decline (Figure 15.)

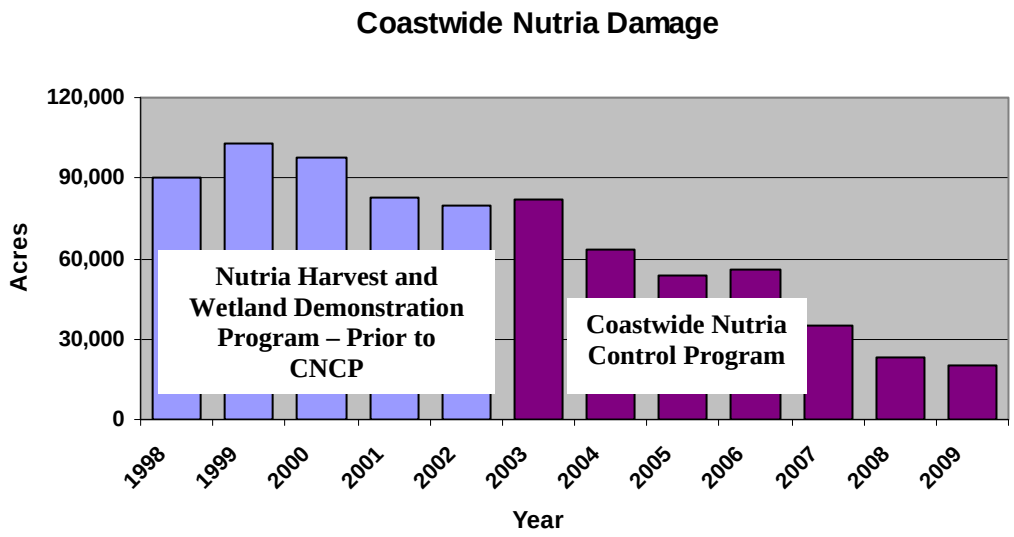


Figure 15

Three years prior to implementation of CNCP incentive payments.

	Nutria Harvested		Herbivory Damage (acres)
1999-2000	20,110	**2000**	97,271
2000-2001	29,544	**2001**	83,021
2001-2002	24,683	**2002**	79,444

Table 3

Seven years of CNCP incentive payment implementation.

	Nutria Harvested		Herbivory Damage (acres)
2002-2003	308,160	**2003**	82,080
2003-2004	332,396	**2004**	63,398
2004-2005	297,535	**2005**	53,475
2005-2006	168,843	**2006**	55,755
2006-2007	375,683	**2007**	34,665
2007-2008	308,212	**2008**	23,141
2008-2009	334,038	**2009**	20,333

Table 4

Once again proving the Coastwide Nutria Control Program successful, the 2008-2009 season ended with a record harvest as well as fewer impacted acres. To date, nutria harvest in coastal Louisiana has increased to an average of 303,552 animals per year, and the number of damage acres continues to decrease.

As in the past, CNCP applications will be sent to all participants who submitted applications over the last two years. LDWF will also continue the coordination with trappers and fur buyers/dealers to encourage the maximum use of the entire animal, and landowners will be encouraged to trap/hunt the existing damage sites.

Appendix A.
A Comparison of Seasons 1-7
(2002-2009)

PARISH	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Nutria Harvested	Percentage	Nutria Harvested	Percentage	Nutria Harvested	Percentage	Nutria Harvested	Percentage	Nutria Harvested	Percentage
Ascension	2,710	0.90%	5,474	1.60%	1,858	0.60%	1,678	1.00%	2,226	0.59%
Assumption	3,128	1.00%	814	0.20%	428	0.10%	2,307	1.40%	2,095	0.56%
Calcasieu	143	-	374	0.10%	448	0.20%	58	0.00%	19	0.01%
Cameron	7,851	2.60%	8,701	2.60%	16,617	5.60%	3,744	2.20%	1,725	0.46%
Iberia	1,412	0.50%	1,960	0.60%	3,521	1.20%	3,014	1.80%	18,910	5.03%
Iberville	0	-	1,567	0.50%	5,559	1.90%	2,360	1.40%	9,172	2.44%
Jefferson	20,529	6.70%	24,896	7.50%	11,036	3.70%	2,875	1.70%	10,405	2.77%
Jefferson Davis	121	-	85	-	175	0.10%	110	0.10%	0	0.00%
Lafayette	39	-	25	-	10	0.00%	0	-	0	0.00%
Lafourche	28,852	9.40%	51,736	15.60%	32,411	10.90%	24,668	14.60%	28,038	7.46%
Livingston	2,631	0.90%	357	0.10%	911	0.30%	1,921	1.10%	1,250	0.33%
Orleans	597	0.20%	0	-	538	0.20%	0	-	575	0.15%
Plaquemines	63,208	20.50%	86,720	26.10%	39,043	13.10%	1,816	1.10%	5,815	1.55%
St. Bernard	5,769	1.80%	13,344	4.00%	4,344	1.50%	0	-	291	0.08%
St. Charles	11,169	3.60%	12,672	3.80%	15,867	5.30%	13,807	8.20%	18,690	4.97%
St. James	95	-	487	0.20%	2,841	1.00%	4,912	2.90%	7,111	1.89%
St. John the Baptist	18,450	6.00%	6,137	1.80%	8,404	2.80%	6,384	3.80%	15,786	4.20%
St. Martin	11,425	3.70%	15,039	4.50%	31,656	10.60%	15,903	9.40%	113,629	30.25%
St. Mary	26,004	8.40%	16,277	4.90%	20,940	7.00%	21,023	12.50%	34,693	9.23%
St. Tammany	4,638	1.50%	3,756	1.10%	5,175	1.70%	1,423	0.80%	2,067	0.55%
Tangipahoa	1,245	0.40%	745	0.20%	565	0.20%	826	0.50%	1,843	0.49%
Terrebonne	92,831	30.10%	72,846	21.90%	81,135	27.30%	57,756	34.20%	99,433	26.47%
Vermilion	5,313	1.70%	8,584	2.60%	14,503	4.70%	2,258	1.30%	1,813	0.48%
West Baton Rouge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97	0.03%
Total	308,160	99.90%	332,596	99.90%	297,535	100.00%	168,843	100.00%	375,683	100.00%

Table 5. Nutria harvested by parish seasons 1-7, Coastwide Nutria Control Program.

PARISH	2007-2008		2008-2009									
	Nutria Harvested	Percentage	Nutria Harvested	Percentage								
Ascension	1,957	0.63%	7,029	2.10%								
Assumption	3,863	1.25%	1,093	0.33%								
Calcasieu	19	0.01%	0	0.00%								
Cameron	649	0.21%	1,245	0.37%								
Iberia	6,119	1.99%	978	0.29%								
Iberville	2,105	0.68%	231	0.07%								
Jefferson	11,299	3.67%	12,515	3.75%								
Jefferson Davis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%								
Lafayette	0	0.00%	0	0.00%								
Lafourche	25,473	8.26%	48,252	14.45%								
Livingston	695	0.23%	444	0.13%								
Orleans	1,333	0.43	656	0.20%								
Plaquemines	41,072	13.33%	42,212	12.64%								
St. Bernard	4,150	1.35%	13,965	4.18%								
St. Charles	18,271	5.93%	21,215	6.35%								
St. James	9,604	3.12%	8,990	2.69%								
St. John the Baptist	6,728	2.18%	10,189	3.05%								
St. Martin	54,726	17.76%	44,972	13.46%								
St. Mary	34,210	11.10%	34,811	10.42%								
St. Tammany	4,356	1.41%	5,680	1.70%								
Tangipahoa	2,323	0.75%	4,974	1.49%								
Terrebonne	78,934	25.61%	74,587	22.33%								
Vermilion	326	0.11%	0	0.00%								
West Baton Rouge	0	0.00%	0	0.00%								
Total	308,212	100.00%	334,038	100.00%								

Table 5 (Continued). Nutria harvested by parish seasons 1-7, Coastwide Nutria Control Program.

PARISH	2002-2003			2003-2004			2004-2005			2005-2006		
	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun
Ascension	0	2,306	404	0	4,093	1,381	100	1,678	80	470	908	300
Assumption	284	2,786	58	47	767	0	188	106	134	1,454	711	143
Calcasieu	0	143	0	0	374	0	213	24	212	57	1	0
Cameron	3,611	4,210	30	4,974	3,639	89	5,779	8,961	1,877	1,362	583	1,799
Iberia	0	1,353	59	636	1,324	0	1,286	1,310	926	1,215	449	1,350
Iberville	0	0	0	717	850	0	4,348	1,211	0	1,156	622	582
Jefferson	5,869	14,094	566	12,991	11,835	70	6,286	4,307	443	2,234	477	164
Jefferson Davis	121	0	0	85	0	0	158	18	0	109	1	0
Lafayette	19	10	10	0	25	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
Lafourche	11,807	16,826	219	28,516	22,780	440	12,221	18,212	1,977	9,113	11,000	4,555
Livingston	0	2,631	0	0	336	21	0	911	0	0	1,921	0
Orleans	287	219	91	0	0	0	538	0	0	0	0	0
Plaquemines	9,899	52,933	376	34,683	51,302	735	18,121	20,642	280	343	843	630
St. Bernard	2,877	2,892	0	5,412	7,783	149	727	3,617	0	0	0	0
St. Charles	2,099	8,706	364	2,801	9,543	329	1,279	13,958	631	1,863	10,915	1,029
St. James	48	47	0	97	350	40	32	2,752	57	278	4,239	395
St. John the Baptist	1,505	11,132	5,813	2,517	2,200	1,420	2,971	4,788	645	2,165	3,488	538
St. Martin	1,497	9,593	335	5,784	8,790	465	10,684	9,703	11,269	4,137	5,355	6,412
St. Mary	11,073	14,849	82	6,616	9,619	42	9,700	10,798	442	9,266	11,202	554
St. Tammany	3,088	1,529	21	2,687	1,069	0	2,692	2,483	0	533	800	90
Tangipahoa	335	894	16	577	169	0	35	530	0	142	638	46
Terrebonne	46,761	45,317	753	44,419	26,335	2,092	31,730	45,893	3,512	28,132	25,577	4,047
Vermilion	2,370	2,729	214	5,119	3,435	30	5,580	7,900	572	1,076	1,182	0
West Baton Rouge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***Total**	103,550	195,199	9,411	158,678	166,618	7,303	114,668	159,810	23,057	65,104	80,912	22,634

Table 6. Method of take by parish for seasons 1-7, Coastwide Nutria Control Program

* Totals may not be exact due to reporting of percentages.

PARISH	2006-2007			2007-2008			2008-2009					
	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun	Trap	Rifle	Shot Gun			
Ascension	0	2,008	218	0	1,905	52	217	6,751	61			
Assumption	354	686	1,056	634	2,944	285	85	933	75			
Calcasieu	19	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0			
Cameron	347	902	477	509	70	70	1,062	128	55			
Iberia	6,695	4,635	7,580	3,623	1,248	1,247	258	524	196			
Iberville	4,907	460	3,860	754	508	843	103	0	128			
Jefferson	4,731	5,568	106	3,901	6,456	943	4,185	8,146	184			
Jefferson Davis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Lafayette	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Lafourche	12,279	11,480	4,279	9,702	11,425	4,345	32,373	13,324	2,555			
Livingston	0	1,250	0	0	695	0	0	444	0			
Orleans	575	0	0	1,333	0	0	656	0	0			
Plaquemines	3,200	2,554	61	30,093	10,609	0	21,394	19,372	1,447			
St. Bernard	146	146	0	4,071	79	370	9,790	4,131	43			
St. Charles	6,637	9,401	2,652	3,607	13,366	1,298	6,111	14,036	1,068			
St. James	203	6,439	469	425	9,128	51	597	7,862	531			
St. John the Baptist	4,223	9,215	2,348	2,323	3,834	572	1,490	8,372	327			
St. Martin	39,972	35,737	37,920	27,937	17,123	9,666	21,134	17,512	6,326			
St. Mary	12,810	19,997	1,886	10,783	21,304	2,123	13,357	18,480	2,974			
St. Tammany	1,452	529	86	1,736	2,216	404	3,377	1,848	456			
Tangipahoa	542	1,189	113	563	1,760	0	321	4,530	124			
Terrebonne	36,867	51,357	11,209	28,055	45,000	5,879	25,846	46,139	2,602			
Vermilion	1,174	494	145	262	65	0	0	0	0			
West Baton Rouge	0	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
***Total**	137,133	164,144	74,465	130,330	149,734	28,148	142,356	172,531	19,151			

Table 6 (continued). Method of take by parish for seasons 1-7, Coastwide Nutria Control Program

* Totals may not be exact due to reporting of percentages.

Year	Number of sites surveyed	Number of sites with current damage	Number of site converted to open water	Sites with vegetative recovery
2002	108[1]	86	8	12
2003	100	81	3	16
2004	93	68	1	24
2005	78	47	2	29
2006	52	31	9	12
2007	34	23	3 (partial sites)	11[2]
2008	23	16	1 (partial site)	6
2009	24	19	1 (partial site)	5[2]

Table 7. Status and number of nutria herbivory sites surveyed from 2002 to 2009.

[1] Two sites could not be evaluated due to high water.

[2] Total includes 1 site with partial recovery.

PARISH	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Terrebonne	41	12,951	34	12,521	27	7,679	18	4,541	14	7,340
Lafourche	8	1,222	7	610	5	381	2	127	0	0
Jefferson	17	3,003	10	1,805	9	1,718	7	1,383	5	874
Plaquemines	10	882	13	2,540	7	2,494	7	1,850	7	1763
St. Charles	6	768	6	1,266	9	2,564	6	4,690	5	3249
Cameron	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	233
St. Bernard	6	921	5	918	5	1,035	4	882	4	1,004
St. John	0	0	1	20	2	111	2	240	2	241
Iberia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	158	0	0
St. Tammany	4	752	2	360	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orleans	2	686	2	962	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Mary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vermilion	0	0	4	886	5	924	2	389	1	76
Jefferson Davis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	88
St. John the Baptist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	94	21,185[1]	84	21,888[1]	69	16,906[1]	49	14,260[1]	40	14,868[1,2]

Table 8. Number of nutria damaged sites and acres damaged along transects by parish in coastal Louisiana, 2002 - 2009.

[1]This figure represents acres damaged along transects only. Actual damage coast wide is approximately 3.75 times larger than the area estimated by this survey.

[2]This figure includes 2,553 acres of marsh previously impacted by nutria that was likely converted to open water in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes due to tidal scour from Hurricane Katrina.

[3]These figures include acres from sites that were partially converted to open water.

PARISH	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF					
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES				
Terrebonne	12	5,915	12	3,768	10	3,162				
Lafourche	2	328	2	338	2	207				
Jefferson	3	177[3]	2	69	1	29				
Plaquemines	0	0	1	11	1	9				
St. Charles	4	2,216[3]	5[3]	2,215[3]	4	1,895				
Cameron	1	167	0	0	1	120				
St. Bernard	1	225[3]	0	0	0	0				
St. John	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Iberia	0	0	0	0	0	0				
St. Tammany	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Orleans	0	0	0	0	0	0				
St. Mary	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Vermilion	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Jefferson Davis	1	81	0	0	0	0				
St. John the Baptist	1	135	1	70	0	0				
Total	25	9,244[1,3]	23	6,471[1,3]	19	5,422[1]				

Table 8 (Continued). Number of nutria damaged sites and acres damaged along transects by parish in coastal Louisiana, 2002 - 2009.

[1]This figure represents acres damaged along transects only. Actual damage coast wide is approximately 3.75 times larger than the area estimated by this survey.

[2]This figure includes 2,553 acres of marsh previously impacted by nutria that was likely converted to open water in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes due to tidal scour from Hurricane Katrina.

[3]These figures include acres from sites that were partially converted to open water.

MARSH TYPE	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Fresh	41	11,593	36	10,871	37	10,565	26	9,811	23	11,273
Intermediate	39	7,416	31	8,086	25	5,128	19	3,789	16	3,421
Brackish	14	2,176	17	2,931	7	1,213	4	660	1	174
Total	94	21,185	84	21,888	69	16,906	49	14,260	40	14,868

Table 9. Number of nutria damaged sites and acres damaged, by marsh type along transects in coastal Louisiana during 2002 to 2009; number includes sites converted to open water.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially converted to open water.

MARSH TYPE	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF					
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES				
Fresh	21	8,842	21	6,127	17	5,384				
Intermediate	3	298	2	44	2	38				
Brackish	1	104	0	0	0	0				
Total	25[1]	9,244[1]	23	6,471[1]	19	5,422				

Table 9 (Continued). Number of nutria damaged sites and acres damaged, by marsh type along transects in coastal Louisiana during 2002 to 2009; number includes sites converted to open water.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially converted to open water.

NUTRIA RELATIVE ABUNDANCE RATING	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
NO NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE	21	5,990	23	5,972	13	3,569	12	2,992	4	519
NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE	31	4,379	26	3,562	29	6,040	28	6,748	26	11,223
ABUNDANT FEEDING	17	4,198	19	6,682	19	5,251	4	4,113	1	573
HEAVY FEEDING	17	5,568	14	5,599	7	2,026	1	273	0	0
TOTAL	86	20,135	81	21,815	69	16,886	47	14,126	31	12,315

Table 10. Number of nutria damage sites and acres damaged by revised nutria relative abundance rating in coastal Louisiana during 2002 to 2009; numbers do not include sites converted to open water.

NUTRIA RELATIVE ABUNDANCE RATING	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
NO NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE	2	73	0	0	0	0				
NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE	12	3,402	13	2,234	6	517				
ABUNDANT FEEDING	5	1,495	8	3,522	8	1,169				
HEAVY FEEDING	4	3,658	2	415	5	3,736				
TOTAL	23	8,628	23	6,171	19	5,422				

Table 10 (Continued). Number of nutria damage sites and acres damaged by revised nutria relative abundance rating in coastal Louisiana during 2002 to 2009; numbers do not include sites converted to open water.

VEGETATIVE DAMAGE RATING	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
NO VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	1	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MINOR VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	28	3,498	26	8,732	35	6,675	34	8,070	21	7,621
MODERATE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	44	13,156	41	9,221	29	9,536	12	5,905	9	4,581
SEVERE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	13	3,451	14	3,862	4	675	1	151	1	113
CONVERTED TO OPEN WATER	8	1,050	3	73	1	20	2	134	9	2,553
TOTAL	94	21,185	84	21,888	69	16,906	49	14,260	40	14,868

Table 11. Number of nutria damage sites and number of acres by the vegetative damage rating in coastal Louisiana 2002 to 2009.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially converted to open water.

VEGETATIVE DAMAGE RATING	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
NO VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	0	0	0	0	0	0				
MINOR VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	17	4,021	17	5,402	15	5,102				
MODERATE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	6	4,607	5	640	4	320				
SEVERE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE	0	0	1	129	0	0				
CONVERTED TO OPEN WATER	3[1]	616[1]	1[1]	300	1[1]	90				
TOTAL	26[1]	9,244[1]	24[1]	6,471[1]	20	5,512				

Table 11 (Continued). Number of nutria damage sites and number of acres by the vegetative damage rating in coastal Louisiana 2002 to 2009.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially converted to open water.

AGE OF DAMAGE AND CONDITON RATING	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Recovered	12	1,119	16	1,674	24	6,049	29	4,169	13[1]	1,341[1]
Old Recovering	51	7,694	51	14,382	53	12,338	39	10,878	21	9,429
Old Not Recovering	31	11,449	17	5,375	5	2,898	2	656	4	1,519
Recent Recovering	0	0	0	0	1	35	1	10	0	0
Recent Not Recovering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	285
Current Damage	4	992	13	2,058	9	1,615	5	2,582	5	1,082
Total	98	21,254	97	23,489	92	22,935	76	18,295	44[1]	13,656[1]

Table 12. Number of nutria damage sites by age of damage and condition rating in coastal Louisiana in 2002 to 2009.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially recovered.

AGE OF DAMAGE AND CONDITON RATING	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Recovered	11[1]	1,783[1]	6	736	5[1]	673[1]				
Old Recovering	14	5,011	15	3,852	16	5,321				
Old Not Recovering	5	2,874	3	1,914	2	57				
Recent Recovering	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Recent Not Recovering	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Current Damage	4	743	5	405	1	44				
Total	34[1]	10,411[1]	29	6,907	23	6,095				

Table 12 (Continued). Number of nutria damage sites by age of damage and condition rating in coastal Louisiana in 2002 to 2009.

[1] Total includes sites that were partially recovered.

PREDICTION OF RECOVERY BY END OF GROWING SEASON	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Full Recovery	7	919	8	4,238	10	338	6	443	4	828
Partial Recovery	59	13,950	64	14,497	50	13,440	36	10,073	27	11,487
Increased Damage	5	1,086	6	1,646	6	2,811	5	3,610	0	0
No Recovery Predicated	15	4,180	3	1,434	2	297	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	94	21,185	84	21,888	69	16,906	49	14,260	31	12,315

Table 13. Number of nutria damage sites and acres damaged, by prediction of recovery rating in coastal Louisiana in 2002 to 2009.

PREDICTION OF RECOVERY BY END OF GROWING SEASON	2007		2008		2009					
	NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF		NUMBER OF	
	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES	SITES	ACRES
Full Recovery	2	350	1	80	2	1,588				
Partial Recovery	21	8,278	22	6,091	16	3,543				
Increased Damage	0	0	0	0	1	291				
No Recovery Predicated	0	0	0	0	0	0				
TOTAL	23	8,628	23	6,171	19	5,422				

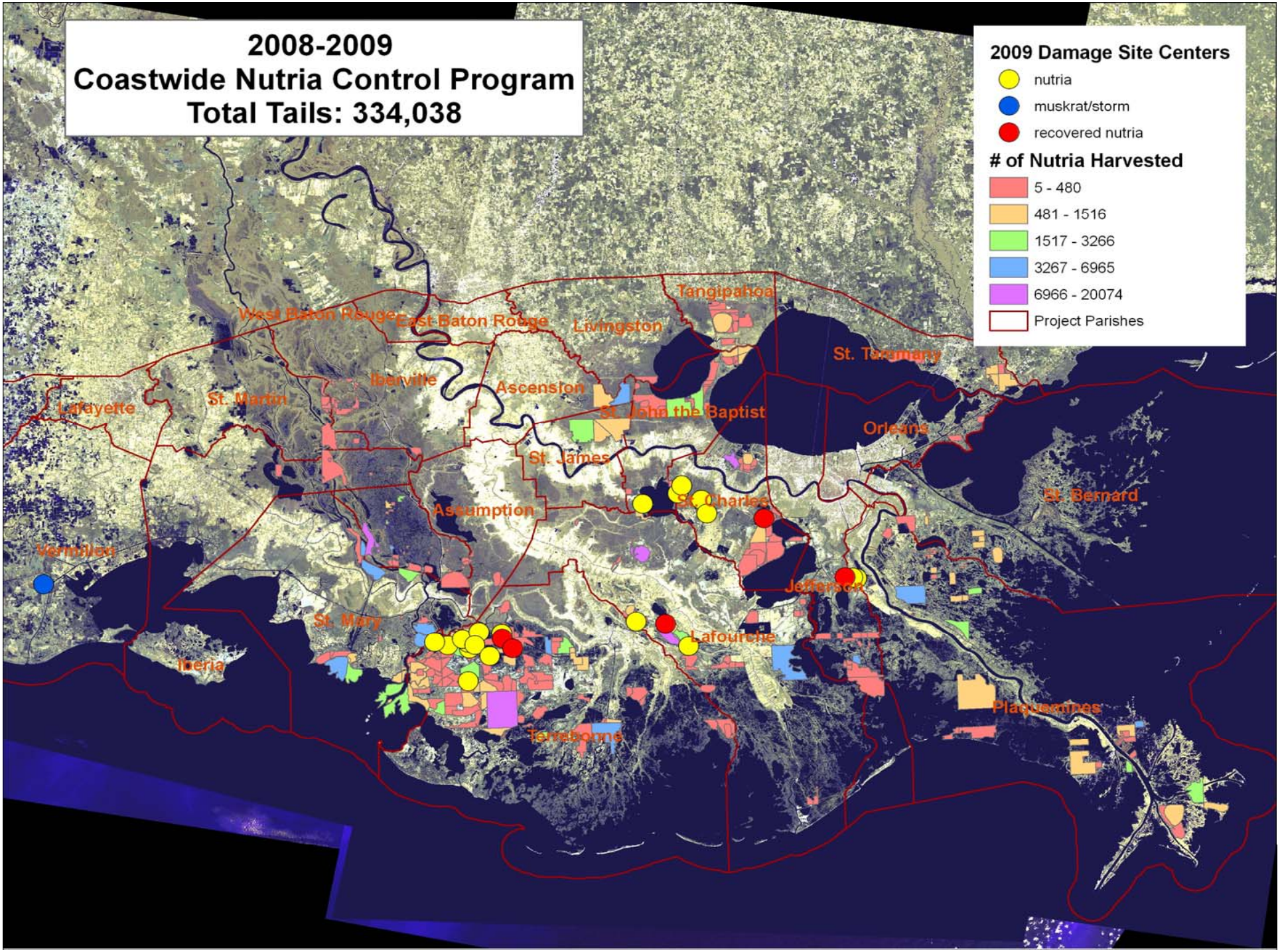
Table 13 (Continued). Number of nutria damage sites and acres damaged, by prediction of recovery rating in coastal Louisiana in 2002 to 2009.

APPENDIX B.
2008 Nutria Vegetative Damage Sites

SITE	MARSH TYPE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DAMAGE TYPE	DAMAGED ACRES	ACRES TO OPEN WATER	NRAR	VDR	AGE OF DAMAGE	PREDICTION	PARISH
8	F	29.574	-91.17139	Nutria	504	0	2	2	2	2	Terrebonne
9	F	29.5813	-91.12733	Nutria	495	0	1	1	1	2	Terrebonne
17	F	29.5385	-91.04686	Nutria	286	0	3	1	1	2	Terrebonne
60	I	29.7173	-90.04149	Nutria	11	0	1	2	1	2	Plaquemines
60B	I	29.716	-90.05147	Nutria	33	0	1	2	1	2	Jefferson
92	F	29.7178	-90.07776	Nutria	36	0	1	1	1	2	Jefferson
94	F	29.8696	-90.2885	Nutria	129	300	3	3	2	2	St. Charles
120	F	29.5907	-91.06539	Nutria	1018	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
171	F	29.9114	-90.47039	Nutria	1281	0	2	1	2	2	St. Charles
238	F	29.9272	-90.52978	Hog/Nutria	148	0	1	1	1	2	St. Charles
274	F	29.5649	-91.08909	Nutria	252	0	1	1	1	2	Terrebonne
311	F	29.5514	-90.97915	Nutria	464	0	1	1	1	2	Terrebonne
344	F	29.5283	-91.02	Nutria	212	0	0	0	0	99	Terrebonne
345	F	29.614	-90.57279	Nutria	80	0	1	1	1	1	Lafourche
349	B	29.504	-91.79	Muskrat/Storm	519	279	0	0	0	99	Iberia
390	F	29.8824	-90.44819	Nutria	144	0	1	1	1	2	St. Charles
392	I	29.7121	-90.075	Muskrat/Nutria	154	0	0	0	0	99	Jefferson
400	F	29.5755	-91.11566	Nutria	390	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
402	F	29.9472	-90.6395	Nutria	135	0	0	0	0	99	St. John The Baptist
408	I	29.895	-93.216	Storm	2228	0	0	2	1	2	Cameron
410	I	29.8315	-93.1977	Storm	676	0	0	2	1	2	Cameron
414	F	29.5978	-90.9507	Nutria	96	0	0	0	0	99	Terrebonne
416	F	29.9967	-92.9448	Nutria	167	0	0	0	0	99	Cameron
417	F	30.0709	-92.9795	Nutria	81	0	0	0	0	99	Jeff Davis
418	F	29.5865	-91.01636	Nutria	54	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
419	F	29.6009	-91.01346	Nutria	183	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
420	F	29.6223	-90.64151	Nutria	258	0	1	1	1	2	Lafourche
421	F	29.5574	-90.5127	Nutria	45	0	0	0	0	99	Lafourche
422	I	29.7318	-92.27	Muskrat	152	0	0	3	5	2	Vermillion
423	F	29.5773	-91.19447	Nutria	35	0	1	1	5	2	Terrebonne
424	F	29.485	-91.10953	Nutria	65	0	1	1	5	2	Terrebonne
425	F	29.5588	-91.1008	Nutria	22	0	2	2	5	2	Terrebonne
426	F	29.948	-90.51209	Nutria	213	0	1	1	5	2	St. Charles
427	F	29.9174	-90.62198	Nutria	70	0	2	2	5	2	St. John The Baptist

Table 14. 2008 Nutria vegetative damage sites with tails harvested.

* The number of nutria tails harvested by site is an average due to multiple trappers and overlapping areas.


2008-2009
Coastwide Nutria Control Program
Total Tails: 334,038
2009 Damage Site Centers
nutria
muskrat/storm
recovered nutria
# of Nutria Harvested
5 - 480
481 - 1516
1517 - 3266
3267 - 6965
6966 - 20074
Project Parishes
Tangipahoa
West Baton Rouge
East Baton Rouge
Livingston
St. Tammany
Iberville
Ascension
St. Martin
Lafayette
St. John the Baptist
Orleans
St. James
St. Charles
St. Bernard
Assumption
Vermilion
Jefferson
St. Mary
Lafourche
Iberia
Plaquemines
Terrebonne

APPENDIX C.
Data collected at each damage site during the 2009 vegetative damage survey.

SITE	MARSH TYPE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DAMAGE TYPE	DAMAGED ACRES	ACRES TO OPEN WATER	NRAR	VDR	AGE OF DAMAGE	PREDICTION	PARISH
8	F	29.574	-91.17139	Nutria	291	0	3	1	1	2	Terrebonne
9	F	29.5813	-91.12733	Nutria	254	0	1	2	1	2	Terrebonne
17	F	29.5385	-91.04686	Nutria	261	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
60	I	29.7173	-90.04149	Nutria	9	0	1	2	1	2	Jefferson
60B	I	29.716	-90.05147	Nutria	29	0	3	2	2	2	Jefferson
92	F	29.7178	-90.07776	Nutria	36	0	0	0	0	99	Jefferson
94	F	29.8696	-90.2885	Nutria	39	90	0	0	0	99	St. Charles
120	F	29.5907	-91.06539	Nutria	1,457	0	3	1	1	2	Terrebonne
171	F	29.9114	-90.47039	Nutria	1,484	0	3	1	1	3	St. Charles
238	F	29.9272	-90.52978	Hog/Nutria	213	0	2	1	1	2	St. Charles
274	F	29.5649	-91.08909	Nutria	198	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
311	F	29.5514	-90.97915	Nutria	464	0	0	0	0	99	Terrebonne
345	F	29.614	-90.57279	Nutria	80	0	0	0	0	99	Terrebonne
390	F	29.8824	-90.44819	Nutria	104	0	1	1	1	1	St. Charles
400	F	29.5755	-91.11566	Nutria	475	0	3	1	1	2	Terrebonne
418	F	29.5865	-91.01636	Nutria	54	0	0	0	0	99	Terrebonne
419	F	29.6009	-91.01346	Nutria	168	0	2	1	1	2	Terrebonne
420	F	29.6223	-90.64151	Nutria	163	0	2	1	1	1	Lafourche
422	I	29.7318	-92.27	Muskrat/ Storm	152	0	0	0	0	2	Vermillion
423	F	29.5773	-91.19447	Nutria	16	0	1	1	1	2	Terrebonne
424	F	29.485	-91.10953	Nutria	14	0	1	1	1	2	Terrebonne
425	F	29.5588	-91.1008	Nutria	28	0	2	2	2	2	Terrebonne
426	F	29.948	-90.51209	Nutria	94	0	2	1	1	2	St. Charles
427	F	29.9174	-90.62198	Nutria	120	0	1	1	1	2	St. John the Baptist
428	f	29.55822	-90.50727	Nutria	44	0	2	1	5	2	Lafourche

Table 15. 2009 Nutria Vegetative Damage Sites.

Data Sheet utilized for 2009 nutria herbivory survey.

2009 NUTRIA VEGETATIVE DAMAGE SURVEY

DATE:_____
TRANSECT#:_____ PHOTOGRAPHY

MARSH TYPE:_____ FRAME #_____

LAT:_____ LAT:_____

LON:_____ LON:_____

LOCATION DESCRIPTION
ON TRANSECT_____
EAST OF TRANSECT_____
WEST OF TRANSECT_____ SITE#_____

DAMAGE TYPE

_____DAMAGE NOT RELATED TO NUTRIA FEEDING
_____DAMAGE - STORM RELATED
_____DAMAGE - MUSKRAT
_____DAMAGE – NUTRIA
_____DAMAGE – OTHER_____
_____DAMAGED AREA SUBJECT TO TIDAL ACTION:____YES____NO
_____**ESTIMATED SIZE OF AREA (ACRES)**

NUTRIA RELATIVE ABUNDANCE RATING

_____ NO NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE (0)
_____NUTRIA SIGN VISIBLE (1)
_____ABUNDANT FEEDING (2)
_____ HEAVY FEEDING (3)
_____CONVE

VEGETATIVE DAMAGE RATING

_____NO VEGETATIVE DAMAGE (0)
_____MINOR VEGETATIVE DAMAGE (1)
_____MODERATE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE (2)
_____SEVERE VEGETATIVE DAMAGE (3)
RTED TO OPEN WATER (4)

NUTRIA VISIBLE IN AREA

_____WERE NUTRIA SIGHTED:_____YES_____NO
_____IF YES, HOW MANY?_____

PLANT SPECIES IMPACTED
PLANT SPECIES RECOVERING
PLANT SPECIES ADJACENT

AGE OF DAMAGE AND CONDITION

_____ RECOVERED (0)
_____OLD RECOVERING (1)
_____OLD NOT RECOVERING (2)
_____RECENT RECOVERING (3)
_____RECENT NOT RECOVERING (4)
_____CURRENT (OCCURRING NOW) (5)

PREDICTION OF RECOVERY BY END OF 2009 GROWING SEASON

_____NO RECOVERY PREDICTED (0)
_____FULL RECOVERY (1)
_____PARTIAL RECOVERY (2)
_____INCREASED DAMAGE (3)

_____**CHECK NEXT YEAR**

CODES FOR NUTRIA HERBIVORY SURVEY DATA

[1]Marsh Type

Fresh F
Intermediate I
Brackish B

[2]Nutria Relative Abundance Rating

No Nutria Sign Visible 0
Nutria Sign Visible 1
Abundant Feeding Sign 2
Heavy Feeding 3

[3]Vegetative Damage Rating

No Vegetative Damage 0
Minor Vegetative Damage 1
Moderate Vegetative Damage 2
Severe Vegetative Damage 3
Converted To Open Water 4

[4]Age of Damage and Condition

Recovered 0
Old Recovering 1
Old Not Recovering 2
Recent Recovering 3
Recent Not Recovering 4
Current (Occurring Now) 5

[5]Prediction of Recovery by End of 2009 Growing Season

No Recovery Predicted 0
Full Recovery 1
Partial Recovery 2
Increased Damage 3

99 – Entry does not apply to this site.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST FOR FY12 PROJECT SPECIFIC MONITORING FUNDS FOR COASTWIDE NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM (LA-03b)

Discussion/Decision:

The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendations to approve a request for specific monitoring funds for the Coastwide Nutria Control Program (LA-03b) in the amount of $85,170.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST FOR FY12 COASTWIDE REFERENCE MONITORING SYSTEM (CRMS)-WETLANDS MONITORING FUNDS

Discussion/Decision:

At the September 29, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting, Technical Committee tasked the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee and the Academic Advisory group to work with Mr. Greg Steyer to develop options to decrease the cost of the CRMS program to the original budget and report on findings at the Fall 2010 Technical Committee Meeting. Following a presentation by USGS on the status/progress of CRMS over the past year, the Task Force will vote on the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the CRMS FY12 monitoring funds in the amount of $7,500,000.

Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) - *Wetlands*

Status Report for the CWPPRA Task Force
October 28, 2009

CRMS Authorizations and Current Request

Summary Budget and Funding To-Date			
	Total Budget	**Approved Funding**	**Remaining Funding**
PPL 1-8	$6,760,637	$6,760,637	$0
CRMS-Wetlands	$60,129,663	$25,790,423	$34,339,240
CRMS Program Total	**$66,890,300**	**$32,551,060**	**$34,339,240**

FUNDING SUMMARY

		Authorizations	**Expenditures**	**Balance**
August 14, 2003	Funding for 2003 - 2005	$12,397,506		
	Existing PPL 1-8 projects $6,760,637			
	From new funding $5,636,869			
January 28, 2004:	Funding for 2006	$3,101,357	$532,000	
October 13, 2004:	Funding for 2007	$532,000	$1,036,109	
October 26, 2005:	Funding for 2008	$1,036,109	$3,185,809	
October 18, 2006:	Funding for 2009	$3,185,809	$4,697,824	
October 25, 2007:	Funding for 2010	$4,697,824	$7,600,455	
November 5, 2008:	Funding for 2011	$7,600,455	$8,396,985	
Subtotal	**2003-2011**	**$32,551,060**	**$25,449,182**	**$7,101,878**
October 28, 2009	Funding for 2012	$7,500,000[a]		
TOTAL	**Funding 2003 through 2012**	**$40,051,060**	**$25,449,182**	**$14,601,878**

[a] (anticipated)

CWPPRA Monitoring FY12 Funding Request

Coastwide Reference Monitoring System – Wetlands	
CRMS - *Wetlands*	$7,500,000
Project-specific (PPL 9-11)	
LA-03b Coastwide Nutria Control Program	$85,170
Total	**$7,585,170**

CRMS Funding Request Background

Did not request replacement of prior year expenditures

- Actual FY09 expenditures were $8.4M

Request based on enough to maintain a 2-yr balance

- Better understanding of annual costs

Outside funding sources

- State will contribute $1M
  - $500K to CRMS-*Wetlands*, $500K to BICM/CRMS-*Waters*
- LCA Program
  - Currently developing monitoring and adaptive management plans
- LCA Science and Technology Program
  - Awaiting appropriations, last funding cycle provided $750K to SWAMP-related activities

Cost Reduction Strategies

CRMS

Reduced scope

- Number of sites reduced
- Swamp sampling frequency reduced to every three years
- Investigating accretion/elevation collection due to issues in highly organic soils

Data available to perform power analysis

Alternative sampling techniques

- Remote sensing – NDVI
- Flooding algorithms

CWPPRA Monitoring Program

BICM (LCA/USGS/State funded) providing value added

- Existing monitoring plans designed or to be designed around BICM – TE-50, TE-52, BA-35, BA-38, BA-40
- BICM data used or to be used in reports – TE-20, TE-24, TE-25, TE-27, TE-30, TE-37, TE-40

CRMS Waters to provide value added

- Being funded through LCA and State, planning is currently underway

Deauthorized Projects

- Monitoring money returned to CWPPRA

CRMS Implementation Status

Site Construction

- Landrights and construction complete except for three sites recently added/moved

Data Collection **(as of August 2009)**:

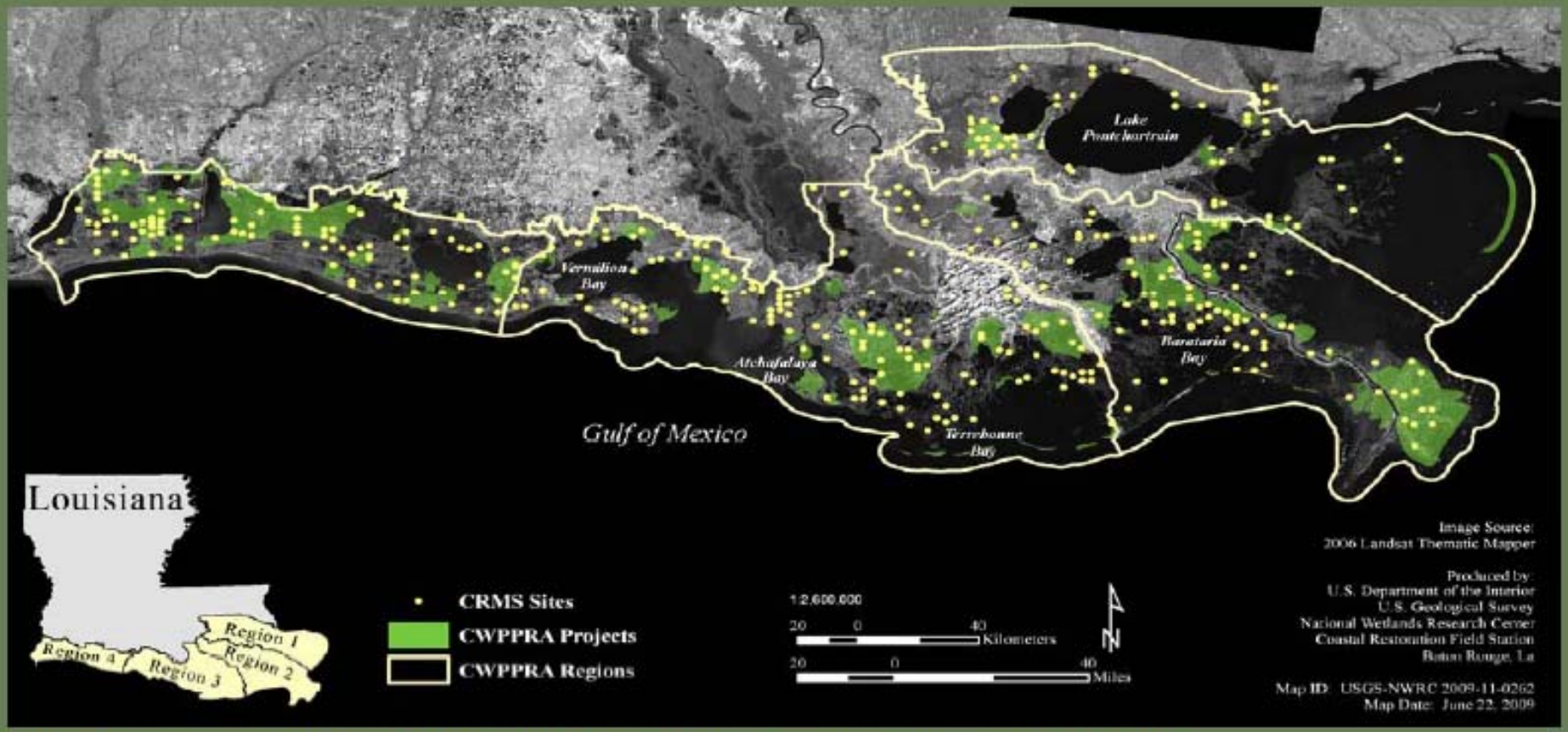
- 304 sites collecting all data types
- 387 sites collecting hydrographic data
- 389 sites being monitored for vegetation in 2009
- 304 sites monitored for surface elevation/accretion in March 2008
- 387 sites sampled for soil properties, data available for 347
- coastwide aerial photography and satellite imagery collected in Fall 2005 and Fall 2008
- 389 sites from 2005 have completed land:water analysis, QAQC, and posted on web;

Reporting

- 8 project-specific reports in 2009 (AT-02, AT-03, BA-04, BA-38, ME-14, MR-09, TE-41, and TV- 09)
- Standard Operating Procedures for Data Collection and Management
- CRMS Hydrologic and Vegetation Analytical Framework Documents

Data available through CRMS, DNR/OCPR SONRIS, USGS, or CWPPRA Websites

CRMS Station Distribution

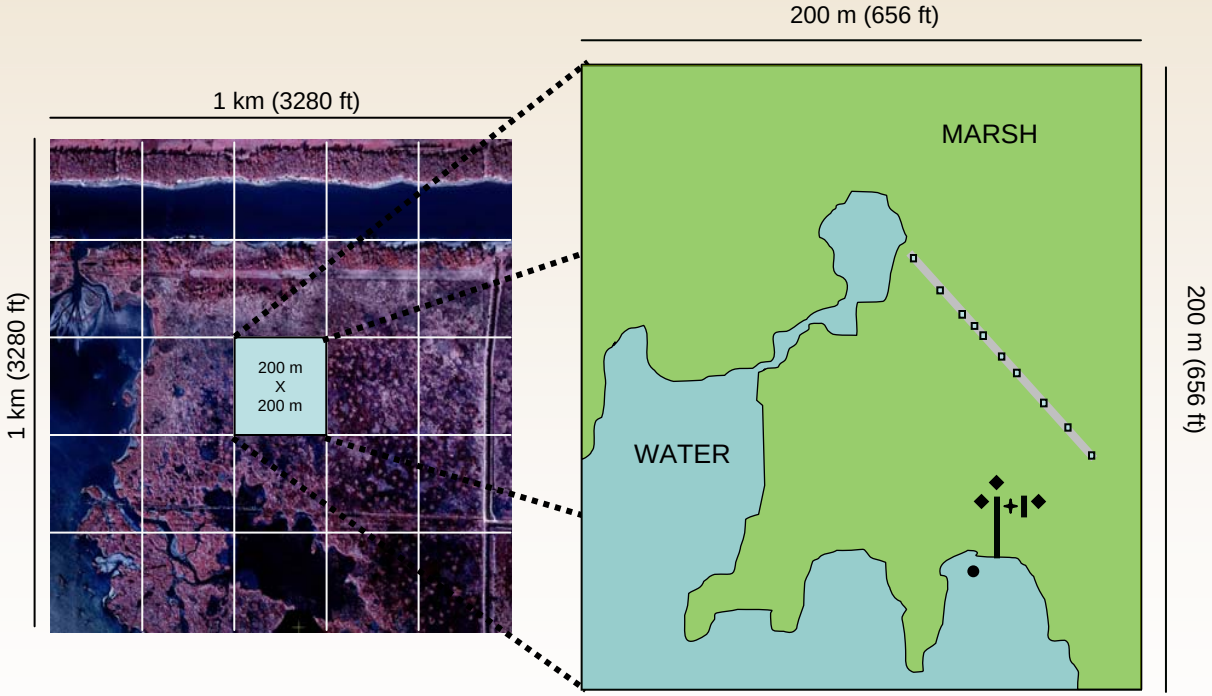


Map of CRMS sites throughout coastal Louisiana in relation to four CWPPRA regions and CWPPRA projects coastwide.

CRMS Site Configuration

CRMS-Wetlands Sampling Area:
1 km² aerial photography area

CRMS-Wetlands Sampling Area:
200m X 200m area for non-spatial data collection



- 2m X 2m vegetation station
- Surface Elevation Table (SET)
- Accretion plot
- Datasonde collecting water level and salinity
- Boardwalk

CRMS Analytical

• Analytical Teams are developing indices in order to evaluate sites, restoration projects, and ecological condition at basin and coastwide scales

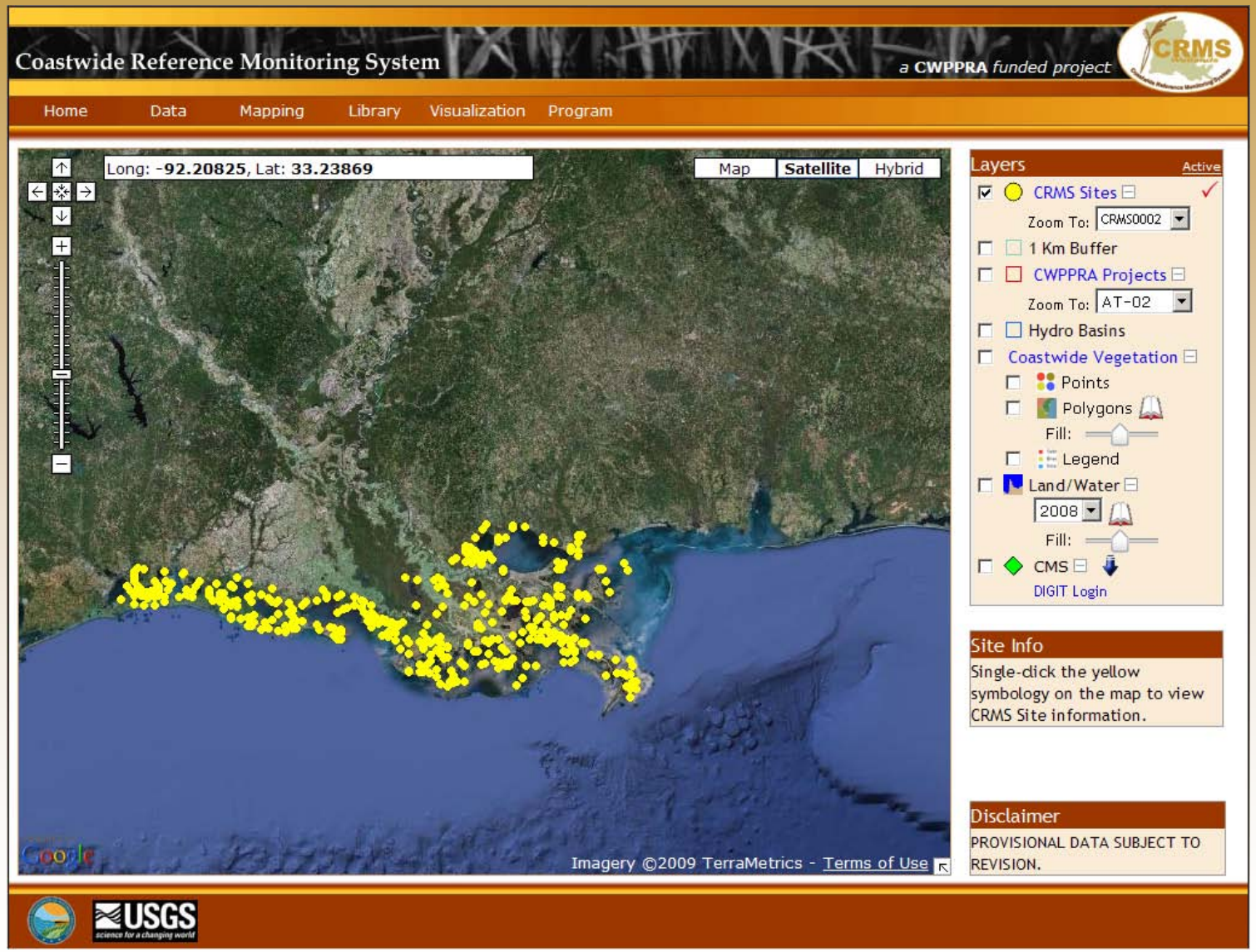
METRICS

- Vegetation
  - Cover
  - Species composition
  - Relative abundance
  - Dominance/calculated
  - Richness/calculated
  - Height
  - NDVI
- Hydrology
  - Water depth
  - Water duration/calculated
  - Flooding frequency/calculated
  - Salinity
  - Temperature
- Soils
  - Bulk density
  - % organic matter
  - Water content
  - Sediment elevation
  - Sediment accretion
  - Shallow subsidence
  - Salinity
  - Temperature
  - pH
  - Soil type
  - Relative sea level rise
  - Deep subsidence
- Landscape
  - Land:water ratio
  - NDVI
  - Fragmentation

INDICES DEVELOPMENT

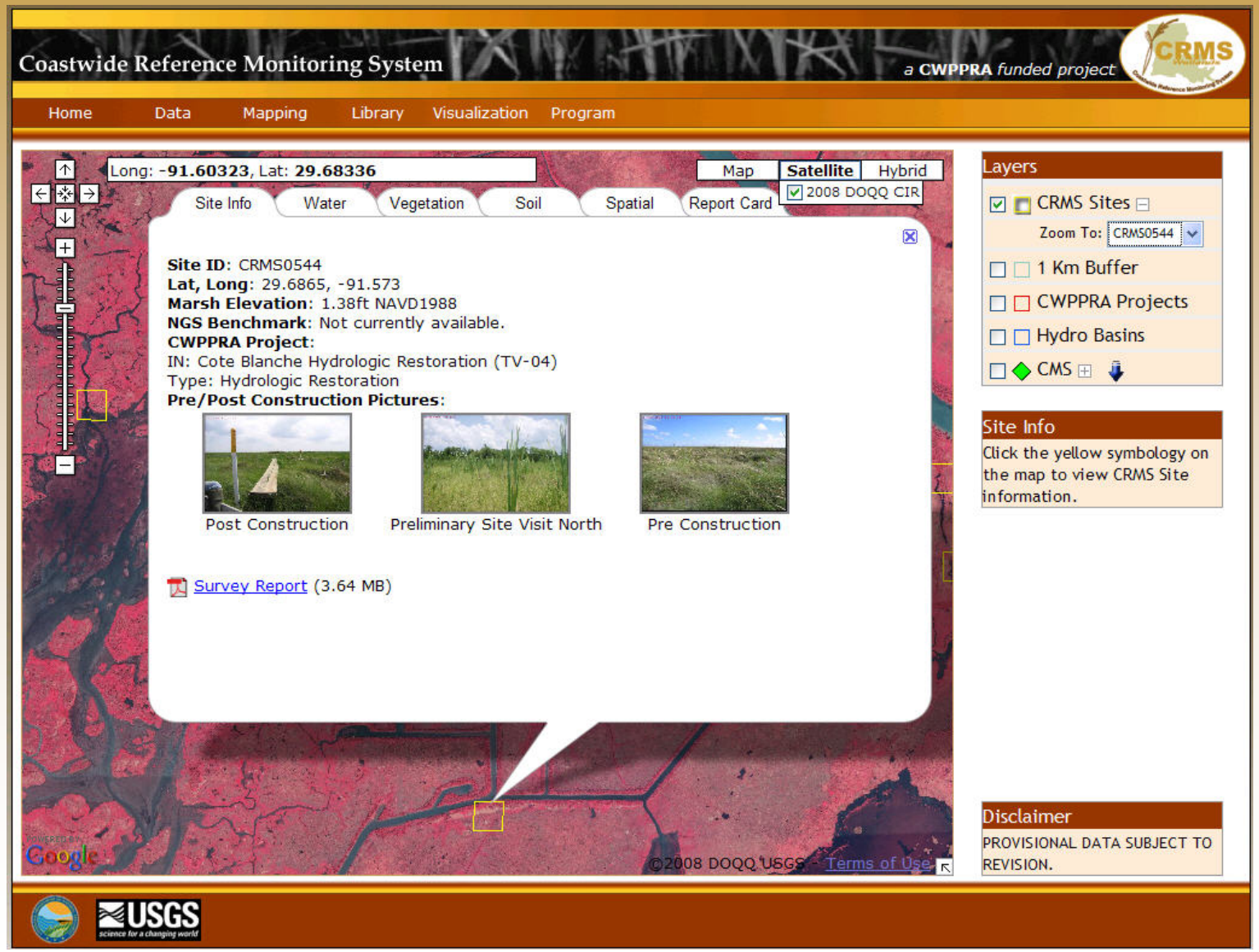
- Hydrologic Index
- Floristic Quality Index
- Sediment Elevation Compensation Index
- Spatial Integrity Index

CRMS Data Delivery & Visualization Tools



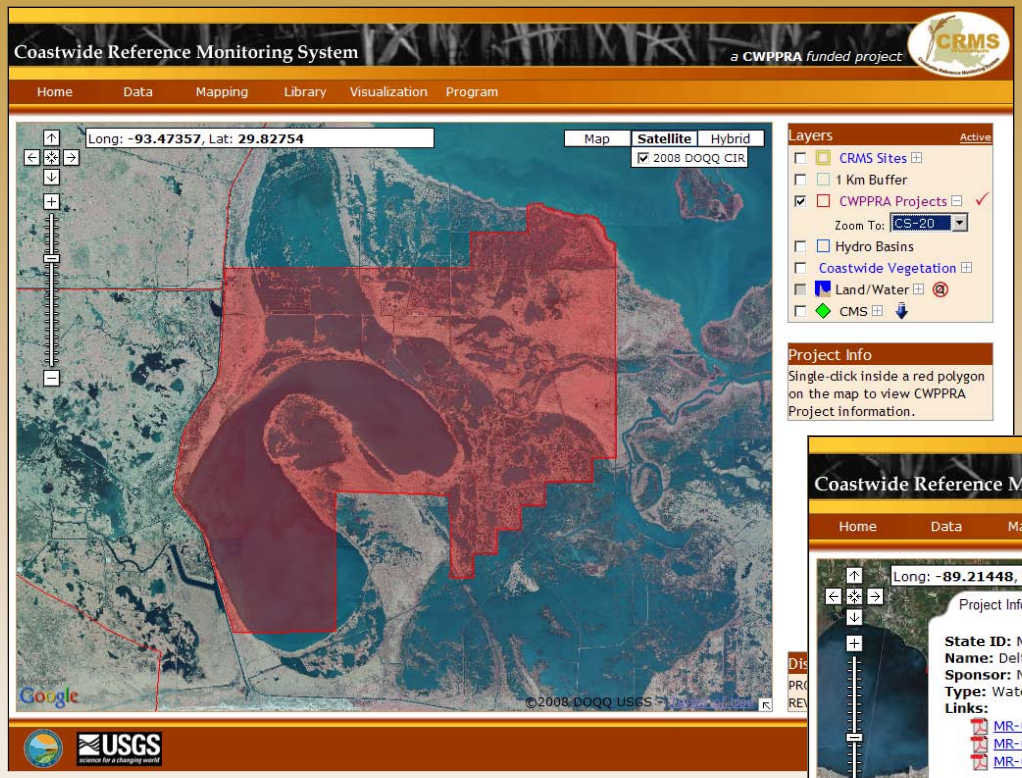
- Incorporates CWPPRA partner suggestions and requests to enable multi-scale evaluations
- Continually evolves as data become available and analyses develop

CRMS Site Information

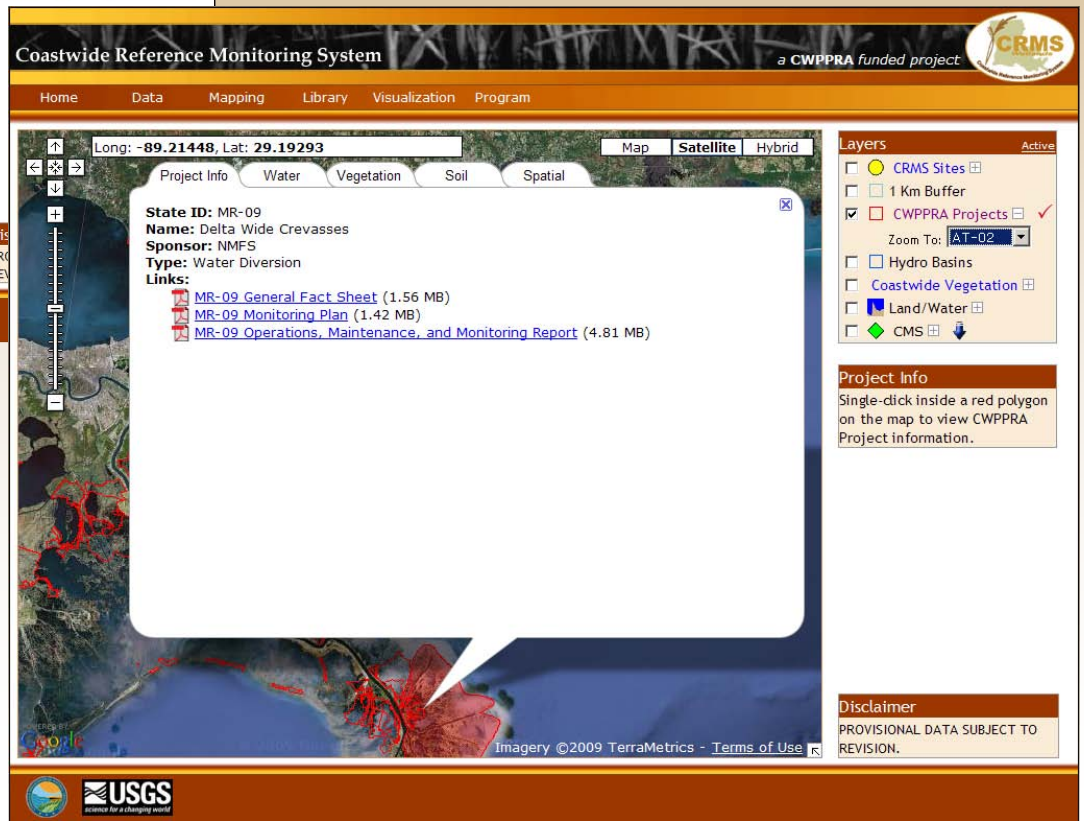


- General site information
- Summaries of water, vegetation, and soils data
- Links to the SONRIS database
- Displays site specific index scores

CWPPRA Project Information

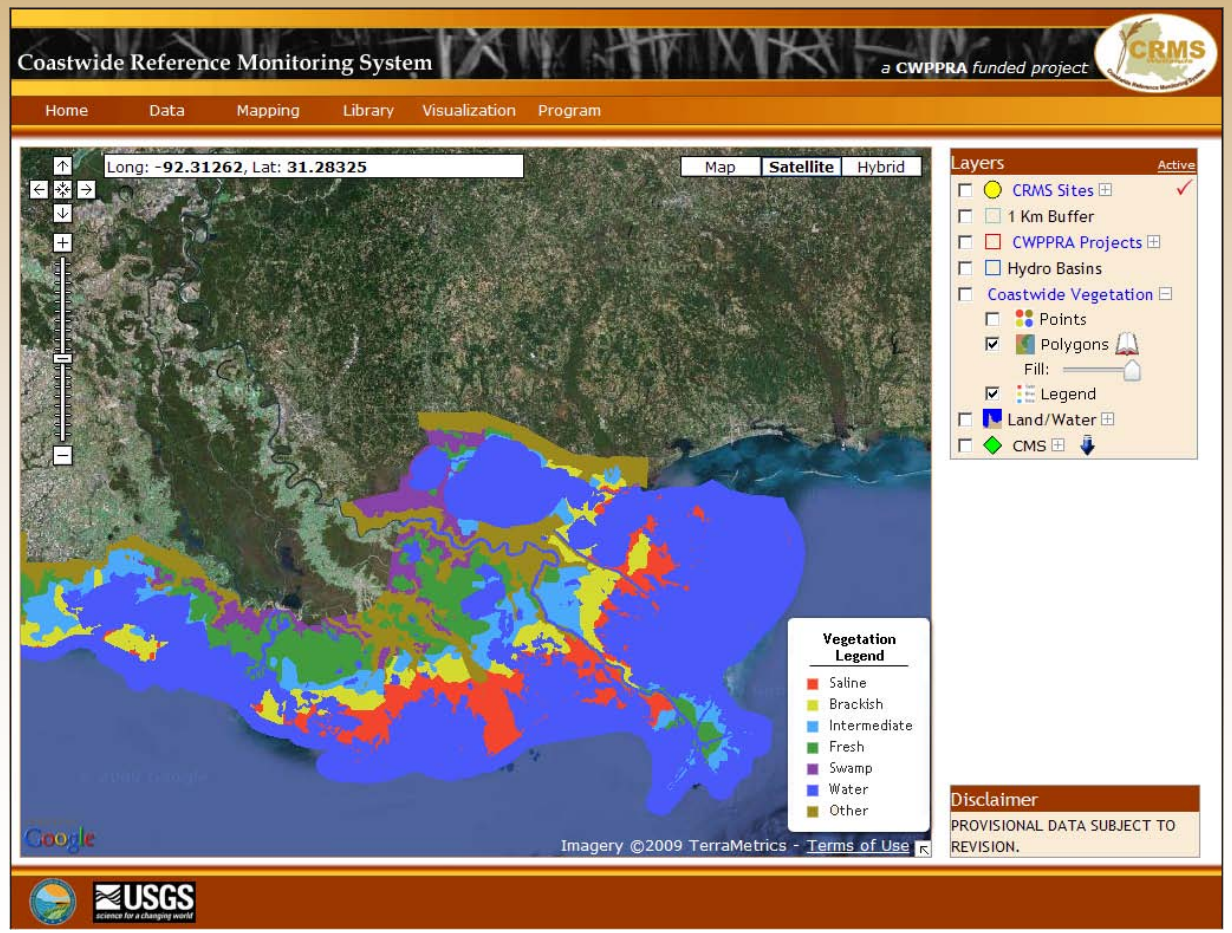


- Users can visualize project boundaries and are provided with project summary information and reports



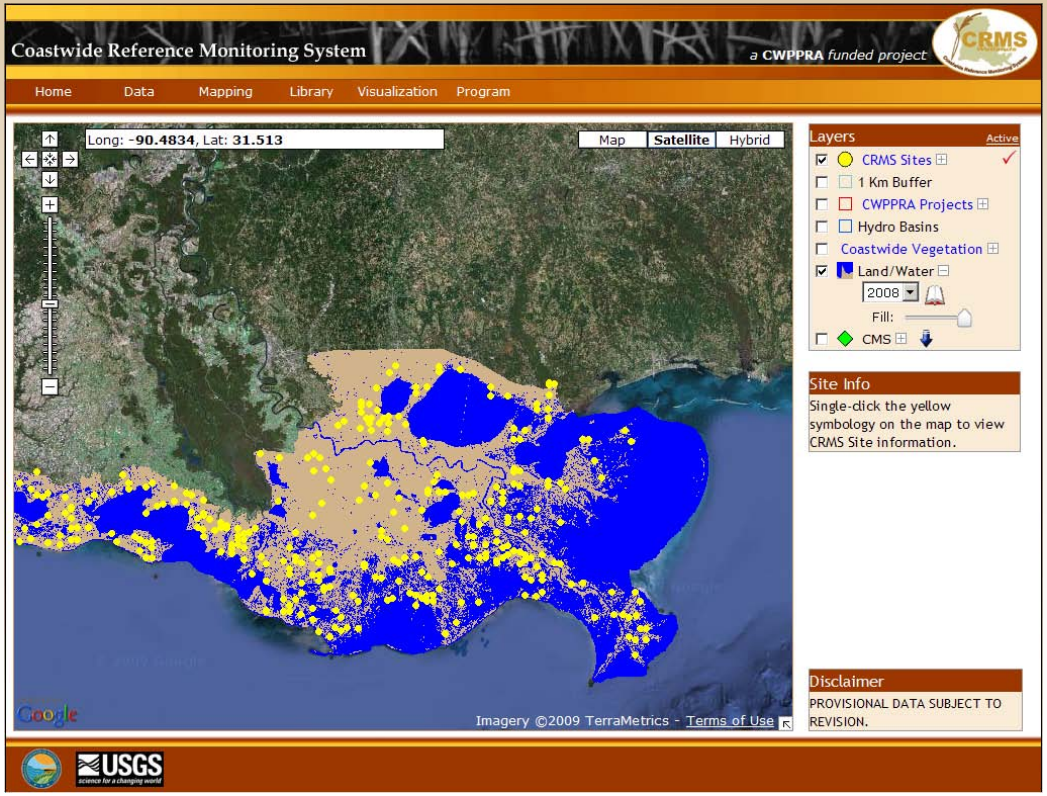
Coastwide Information - Vegetation

- The polygon layers transparency can be controlled using the slider tool.



Coastwide Information Land: Water

- The land water layer displays coastal land water data available for coastal louisiana through multiple years.
- Clicking on the reference icon will load a new window or tab with the corresponding reference page.



CRMS – Short-term Goals

Training

- Continue training on DNR/OCPR SONRIS and CRMS data access, delivery and new functionality
- Expand training opportunities beyond CWPPRA agencies to broader natural resource, science and stakeholder communities

Feedback

- Continue dialog with CWPPRA agencies on new functionality
  - Fall 2009 meetings to discuss deliverables
- Refine and/or develop new indices and a coastal report card
- Use data to support decisions on program modifications, if necessary
- Work with P&E Subcommittee and AAG to develop CRMS cost-cutting options in FY10

Status and trends

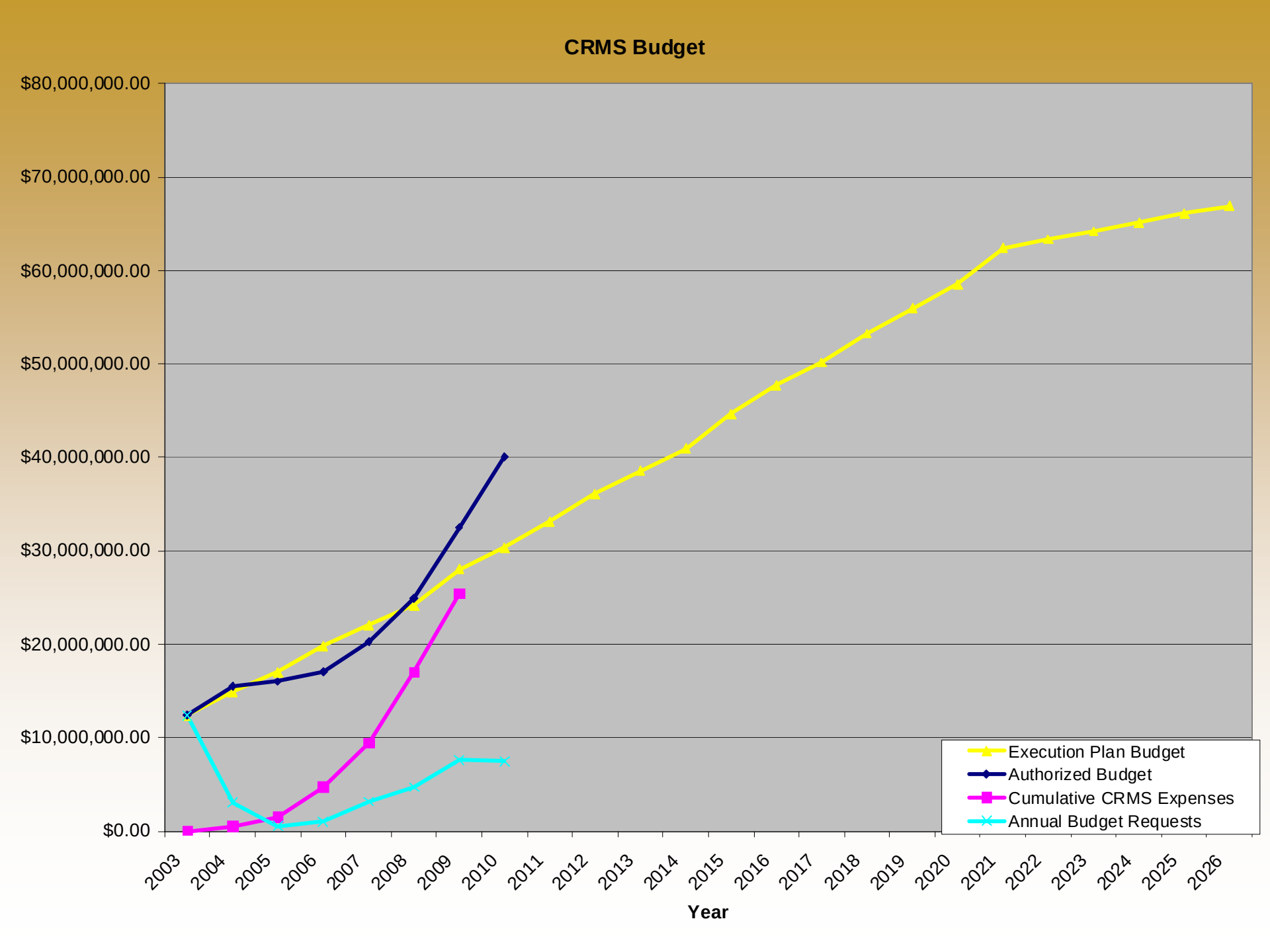
- Coastal land change (incorporate post-hurricane Gustav/Ike into long-term trends)
- Vegetation community change (2006 – 2008)

Project assessments

- Apply CRMS ecological indices to appropriate CWPPRA monitoring data and incorporate findings in OM&M reports

CWPPRA Monitoring FY12 Funding Request

Coastwide Reference Monitoring System – Wetlands	
CRMS - *Wetlands*	$7,500,000
Project-specific (PPL 9-11)	
LA-03b Coastwide Nutria Control Program	$85,170
Total	**$7,585,170**


CRMS Budget
$80,000,000.00
$70,000,000.00
$60,000,000.00
$50,000,000.00
$40,000,000.00
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2023
2024
2025
2026
Year
Execution Plan Budget
Authorized Budget
Cumulative CRMS Expenses
Annual Budget Requests

CRMS Authorizations and Current Request

Summary Budget and Funding To-Date			
	Total Budget	**Approved Funding**	**Remaining Funding**
PPL 1-8	$6,760,637	$6,760,637	$0
CRMS-Wetlands	$60,129,663	$25,790,423	$34,339,240
CRMS Program Total	**$66,890,300**	**$32,551,060**	**$34,339,240**

Detailed Funding Authorizations				
Authorization Date	**FY**	**Approved Budget**	**Expeditures**	**Difference**
	Prior Approved			
Project Specific	PPL 1-8	**$6,760,637**	**$6,760,637**	$0
CRMS-*Wetlands*	**Prior Approved**			
August 14, 2003	2003-2006	$5,636,869	$5,636,869	$0
January 28, 2004	2006	$3,101,357	$3,101,357	$0
October 13, 2004 (a)	2007	$532,000	$532,000	$0
October 26, 2005 (a)	2008	$1,036,109	$1,036,109	$0
October 18, 2006 (a)	2009	$3,185,809	$3,185,809	$0
October 25, 2007 (a)	2010	$4,697,824	$4,697,824	$0
November 5, 2008 (a)	2011	$7,600,455	$498,577	$7,101,878
Subtotal	**2003-2011**	**$25,790,423**	**$18,688,545**	**$7,101,878**
	Current Request			
October 28, 2009(b)	2012	**$7,500,000**		**$7,500,000**
Subtotal CRMS-*Wetlands* only		**$33,290,423**	**$18,688,545**	**$14,601,878**
TOTAL	**2003-2012**	**$40,051,060**	**$25,449,182**	**$14,601,878**

(a) request reduced to only cover expenses to date

(b) anticipated

Anticipated Expenses from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009	
Supervision and Administration	$389,843
Landrights	$49,576
Site Construction, O&M, Engineering Services, Equipment	$1,712,100
Spatial and Temporal Data Collection	$5,452,195
Database Management	$329,720
Analysis and Reporting	$463,551
TOTAL	**$8,396,985**

Creel, Travis J MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 3:34 PM
To: Creel, Travis J MVN
Cc: Wandell, Scott F MVN
Subject: FW: REVISED - CWPPRA Technical Committee 29 September 09 Meeting Agenda DRAFT

Attachments: 2009-09-29 out-year Budget Request for CWPPRA Monitoring.doc; 2009-09-29 Tech Committee Report.doc

2009-09-29 ut-year Budget Req.

2009-09-29 Tech Committee Repo...

-----Original Message-----
From: Ed Haywood [mailto:Ed.Haywood@LA.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 2:12 PM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: David Burkholder; Dona Weifenbach; Todd Folse; 'Scott Wilson'; 'Greg Steyer'; John Troutman; Kelley Templet; Kirk Rhinehart; Bren Haase
Subject: RE: REVISED - CWPPRA Technical Committee 29 September 09 Meeting Agenda DRAFT

Melanie,

Attached is the revised information for the CWPPRA monitoring budget request for this year which was needed because of the confusion surrounding which FY we should be requesting (It is my understanding that the request should be for FY12). In summary, we removed all project-specific requests except for the Nutria Control Project which is provided by NRCS. The CRMS amount did not change.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information.

Thanks,
Ed

Ed Haywood
Coastal Resources Scientist Manager
Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration Louisiana Applied Coastal Engineering and Science (LACES) Division
225-342-9428

-----Original Message-----
From: Greg Steyer [mailto:steyerg@usgs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 9:21 AM
To: 'Goodman, Melanie L MVN'
Cc: David Burkholder; Ed Haywood; Dona Weifenbach; Todd Folse; 'Scott Wilson'
Subject: RE: CWPPRA Technical Committee 29 September 09 Meeting Agenda DRAFT

Melanie, attached you will find the binder information for CRMS and CWPPRA monitoring. If there is anything else you need, please let me know. Thanks

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

August 14, 2003

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF EXECUTION PLAN FOR CRMS AND FY04-06 FUNDING

For Decision

Request CWPPRA Task Force to approve the full implementation of CRMS-*Wetlands* as presented at the April 16, 2003 Task Force meeting, including the following recommendations:

- Create a CWPPRA project called "CRMS-*Wetlands*" with the US Army Corps of Engineers as the federal sponsor.
- Use this project to accept funding from annual cashflow requests to fund the programmatic "CRMS-*Wetlands*" program as outlined in Appendix B.
- Maintain the balance of the PPL 1-8 projects in a dedicated account for those projects. Do not cash-flow those monies.

1. Request approval of project-specific cashflow monitoring in the amount of $155,914, outlined below:

$24,055	Cash flow request for CS-30 Perry Ridge to Texas (West) (PPL 9)
$131,859	Cash flow request for PO-27 Chandeleur Islands (PPL 9)
$155,914	**Total request for Project-specific monitoring from new CWPPRA funding**

2. Request approval of CRMS-*Wetlands* monitoring in the amount of $5,636,869, outlined below:

$12,397,506	Total for CRMS for FY03-06
-$6,760,637	Existing money available for CRMS from PPL 1-8 project budgets
$5,636,869	**Requested from new CWPPRA funding**

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

STATUS OF UNCONSTRUCTED PROJECTS

For Discussion/Decision:

The Task Force will consider approving the Technical Committee's recommendations to deauthorize the below listed projects:

- **Request for Approval For Final Deauthorization:**
  - Mississippi River Sediment Trap (MR-12), PPL-12, USACE
    The purpose of the project is to create a sediment trap in the bed of the Mississippi River by dredging an area that would force sediment deposition. The sediment deposited into the trap would then be mined to create marsh.
  - Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery (AT-04), PPL-9, NMFS
    The purpose of the project is to re-establish sedimentation processes that would promote sub-delta and marsh development in the area by dredging a system of distributary channels through Castille Pass.
- **Request for Approval to Initiate Deauthorization:**
  - Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration (CS-09), PPL-2, NRCS
    The purpose of the project is to restore, to the extent possible, the altered hydrology of approximately 2,800 acres of wetlands in the area of Brown Lake.

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve final deauthorization for the Mississippi River Sediment Trap Project (MR-12) and the Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery Project (AT-04).

The Technical Committee also recommends that the Task Force approve procedures to initiate deauthorization of the Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project (CS-09).

Project Status Summary Report

Project Name	Current Approved Budget (Phase I)	Expenditures	Est. Amount Being Returned to Program	Total Fully Funded Budget
Request for Approval For Final Deauthorization:				
Mississippi River Sediment Trap	$1,880,376	$354,791	$1,525,585	$52,180,839.
Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery	$1,846,326	$1,662,394	$183,932	$31,651,899
Request for Approval to Initiate Deauthorization:				
Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration	$4,002,363	$1,019,839	$2,982,524	$4,002,363

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

FILE

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SEP 8 2009

Planning, Programs, and Project
Management Division
Protection and Restoration
Office - Restoration Branch

Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
858 Convention Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Dear Senator Vitter:

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force (Task Force) is initiating procedures to de-authorize the Mississippi River Sediment Trap Project (MR-12) because the cost to implement, operate and maintain the project is expected to be three times the currently approved project estimate and the Task Force agencies did not concur on the proposed location.

The purpose of this 12th Priority Project List project (Fact Sheet enclosed), located in the Mississippi River between Venice and Head of Passes in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, is to create a sediment trap in the bed of the Mississippi River by dredging an area that would force sediment deposition. The sediment deposited into the trap would then be mined to create marsh. The fully funded cost estimate for the project is $52.2 million.

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Technical Committee will vote at their September 29, 2009 public meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on whether or not to recommend Task Force approval to de-authorize the project as described. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation and make a final decision in a public Task Force meeting in New Orleans on October 28, 2009.

The Task Force is soliciting comments regarding the proposed de-authorization of this project. Comments should be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter to the following address:

Colonel Alvin B. Lee
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
Attention: PPPMD – Restoration Branch (PM-OR), Ms. Susan Hennington
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

If you have any questions regarding this action or the CWPPRA Program, please contact Ms. Melanie Goodman, CWPPRA Program Manager at (504) 862-1940.

Sincerely,

Alvin B. Lee
Colonel, US Army
District Commander

Enclosure

Copies Furnished with enclosure:

Mr. Garret Graves
Senior Advisor to the Governor for Coastal Activities
Governor's Office of Coastal Activities
Capitol Annex
1051 North Third Street, Suite 130
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Mr. William K. Honker
Deputy Director, Water Quality Protection Division
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Water Quality Protection Division
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Mr. Jim Boggs
Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Louisiana Field Office
646 Cajunland Boulevard, Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506

Mr. Kevin Norton
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

Copies Furnished Continued:

Mr. Christopher Doley
Director
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of Habitat Conservation
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14853
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Ms. Marnie Winter
Director
Parishes Against Coastal Erosion
Jefferson Parish Development of Environmental Affairs
1221 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Suite 703
Jefferson, Louisiana 70123

Honorable Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senate
Federal Courthouse
707 Florida Street, Room 326
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801

Honorable Charlie Melancon
House of Representatives
404 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable A.G. Crowe
Louisiana Senate
Post Office Box 94183
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Honorable Ernest D. Wooton
Representative in Congress
8018 Highway 23, Suite 214
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

Mr. Kerry St. Pe
Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program
North Babington Hall
Nichols State University
320 Audubon Street
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301

Copies Furnished Continued:

Honorable Billy Nungesser
President
Plaquemines Parish
8056 Highway 23, Suite 308
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

Mr. P.J. Hahn
Plaquemines Parish Government
Director
Coastal Zone Management Department
8056 Highway 23, Suite 200
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

June 2004
Cost figures as of: September 20

Mississippi River Sediment Trap (MR-12)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2002
Approved Funds: $1.88 M
Project Area: 1,920 acres
Total Est. Cost: $52.1 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 1,190 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation

Location

The sediment trap will be located in the Mississippi River between Venice and Head of Passes in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

The wetlands in the Mississippi River delta are deteriorating from erosion, subsidence, and insufficient sediment input. More than 116,500 acres of marsh were lost in the area between 1932 and 1990.

Restoration Strategy

Since the 1930s, large areas of deltaic marshes have converted to open water throughout the Mississippi River delta. As a result, numerous shallow water sites located near the main river channel are available for marsh creation and restoration through dedicated dredging. The proximity of shallow bays to the Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel offers an excellent opportunity to coordinate annual channel maintenance operations with a large-scale restoration effort.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredges the Mississippi River navigation channel to a depth of 45 feet between the mouth of the river and Baton Rouge. Two studies have identified the potential for using material from an in-river sediment trap for use in delta marsh restoration.

A large pit is dug into the bottom of the river to create a sediment trap that captures material transported along the bottom of the river. The sediment deposited into the trap will then be mined with hydraulic dredges that will pump the material to beneficial use areas to create marsh. Hydrologic modeling suggests that a trap 4 miles long, 1,500 feet wide, and 65 feet deep would optimize the deposition of sediment.

Beneficial use sites for the project are on the east and west banks of the river in West Bay, the Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and Pass a Loutre Wildlife Management Area. Initial construction of the sediment trap will create an estimated 1,440 acres of new wetlands in the western project area and 440 acres in the eastern project area.

Large areas of marsh in the Mississippi River Delta have converted to shallow open water while much of what remains is deteriorated.

Progress to Date

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a complex investigation of the construction of a sediment trap in the Mississippi River between Venice and Head of Passes in 1999. The findings from this investigation led to the Task Force's approval of engineering and design for this project in August 2002.

The project work plan is under development.

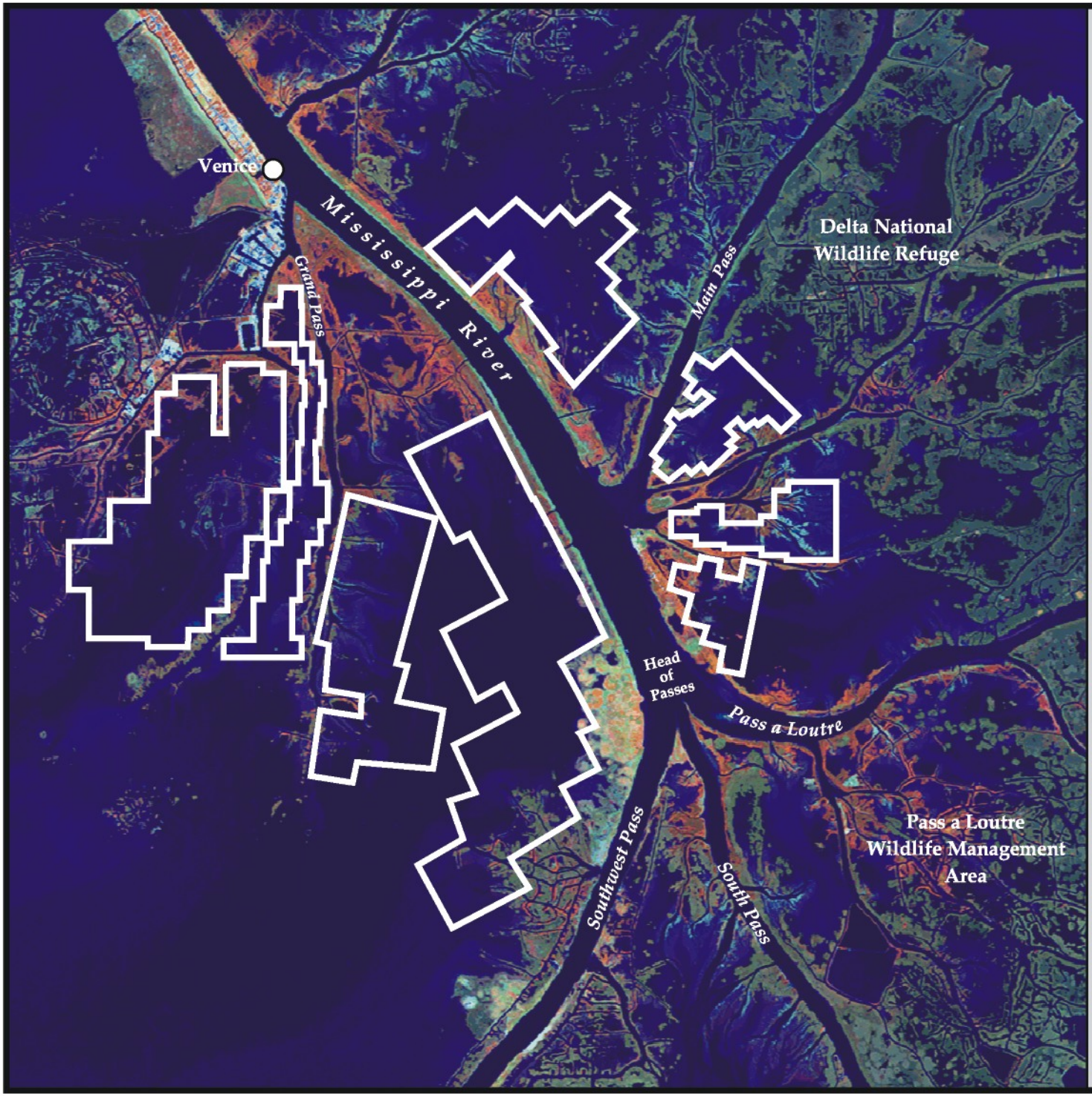
This project is on Priority Project List 12.

For more project information, please contact:

US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans, LA
(504) 862-1597

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308



Mississippi River Sediment Trap (MR-12)

Project Boundary

USGS
science for a changing world

N

1 0 1 2 Miles

1 0 1 2 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
Thematic Mapper Satellite Imagery 2000

Map Date: December 22, 2003
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-221
Data accurate as of: December 22, 2003

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SEP 8 2009

Planning, Programs, and Project
Management Division
Protection and Restoration
Office - Restoration Branch

Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
858 Convention Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Dear Senator Vitter:

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force (Task Force) is initiating procedures to de-authorize the Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery Project (AT-04) for multiple reasons, including: lack of availability and approval of construction funding; anticipated project-induced shoaling in the Atchafalaya River navigation channel; and unwillingness of the project sponsors to accept the special conditions of a Department of the Army permit that would be issued in accordance with Section 10 and 404 authorities and other applicable laws and regulations.

The purpose of this 9th Priority Project List project (Fact Sheet enclosed), located off East Pass in the Atchafalaya Delta in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, is to re-establish sedimentation processes that would promote sub-delta and marsh development in the area by dredging a system of distributary channels through Castille Pass. The currently approved fully funded cost estimate for the project is $31.2 million.

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Technical Committee will vote at their September 29, 2009 public meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on whether or not to recommend Task Force approval to de-authorize the project as described. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation and make a final decision in a public Task Force meeting in New Orleans on October 28, 2009.

The Task Force is soliciting comments regarding the proposed de-authorization of this project. Comments should be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter to the following address:

Colonel Alvin B. Lee
Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
Attention: PPPMD – Restoration Branch (PM-OR), Ms. Susan Hennington
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

If you have any questions regarding this action or the CWPPRA Program, please contact Ms. Melanie Goodman, CWPPRA Program Manager at (504) 862-1940.

Sincerely,

Alvin B. Lee
Colonel, US Army
District Commander

Enclosure

Copies Furnished with enclosure:

Mr. Garret Graves
Senior Advisor to the Governor for Coastal Activities
Governor's Office of Coastal Activities
Capitol Annex
1051 North Third Street, Suite 130
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Mr. William K. Honker
Deputy Director, Water Quality Protection Division
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Water Quality Protection Division
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Mr. Jim Boggs
Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Louisiana Field Office
646 Cajunland Boulevard, Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506

Mr. Kevin Norton
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

Copies Furnished Continued:

Mr. Christopher Doley
Director
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of Habitat Conservation
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14853
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Ms. Marnie Winter
Director
Jefferson Parish Department of Environmental Affairs
Parishes Against Coastal Erosion
1221 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Suite 703
Jefferson, Louisiana 70123

Honorable Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senate
Federal Courthouse
707 Florida Street, Room 326
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801

Honorable Charlie Melancon
House of Representatives
404 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable D. A. "Butch" Gautreeaux
Louisiana Senate
P.O. Box 94183
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Honorable Sam Jones
Representative in Congress
St. Mary Parish Courthouse
Room 304
Franklin, Louisiana 70538

Mr. Kerry St. Pe
Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program
North Babington Hall
Nichols State University
320 Audubon Street

Copies Furnished Continued:

Ms. Carol Vinning
Planning Director
St. Mary Parish Council
Courthouse Building, 5th Floor
Franklin, Louisiana 70538

Mr. Jim Anderson
Iberia Parish Government
Emergency Management
Courthouse Bldg., Suite B-130
300 Iberia Street
New Iberia, Louisiana 70560-4587

Mr. James Miller
CZM Administrator
Terrebonne Parish
Post Office Box 2768
Houma, Louisiana 70361

October 2003
Cost figures as of: September 20

Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery (AT-04)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2000 **Project Area:** 5,368 acres
Approved Funds: $1.48 M **Total Est. Cost:** $31.2 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 577 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Water Diversion

Location

Castille Pass is located off of East Pass in the Atchafalaya Delta in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

Growth of the lower Atchafalaya Delta has been reduced as a result of maintenance of the Atchafalaya River navigation channel. Delta development in the shallow waters of Atchafalaya Bay is dependent on distributary flows and the diversion of sediments into overbank areas through crevasse (an opening within a levee)channels.

The open crevasse channels are frequently short-lived because sediment accumulation within the channels decreases flow efficiency. Also, maintenance dredging, the placement of material dredged from the navigation channel has an effect on riverflow efficiency. As riverflow through a crevasse channel is reduced, the amount of sediment that can be deposited in the delta is likewise reduced, resulting in decreased marsh development.

This restoration technique is an example of what is proposed in the Castille Pass.

Restoration Strategy

The Castille Pass project will re-establish the sedimentation processes that lead to subdelta development in this area of the Atchafalaya Delta.This project consists of dredging and extending Castille Pass to promote subdelta development. Castille Pass would be dredged, extending it towards Fourleague Bay and ending near South Point. This channel will provide water and sediment through distributary channels to the area among several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' beneficial use disposal islands located on the east side of the Atchafalaya River. Excavated sediment would be placed to create delta lobes between the confluence of the main and distributary channels. Approximately 150 acres of marsh would be created from the initial construction of the Castille Pass and distributary channels.

Scheduled maintenance activities are expected to create another 73 acres of marsh.

Progress to Date

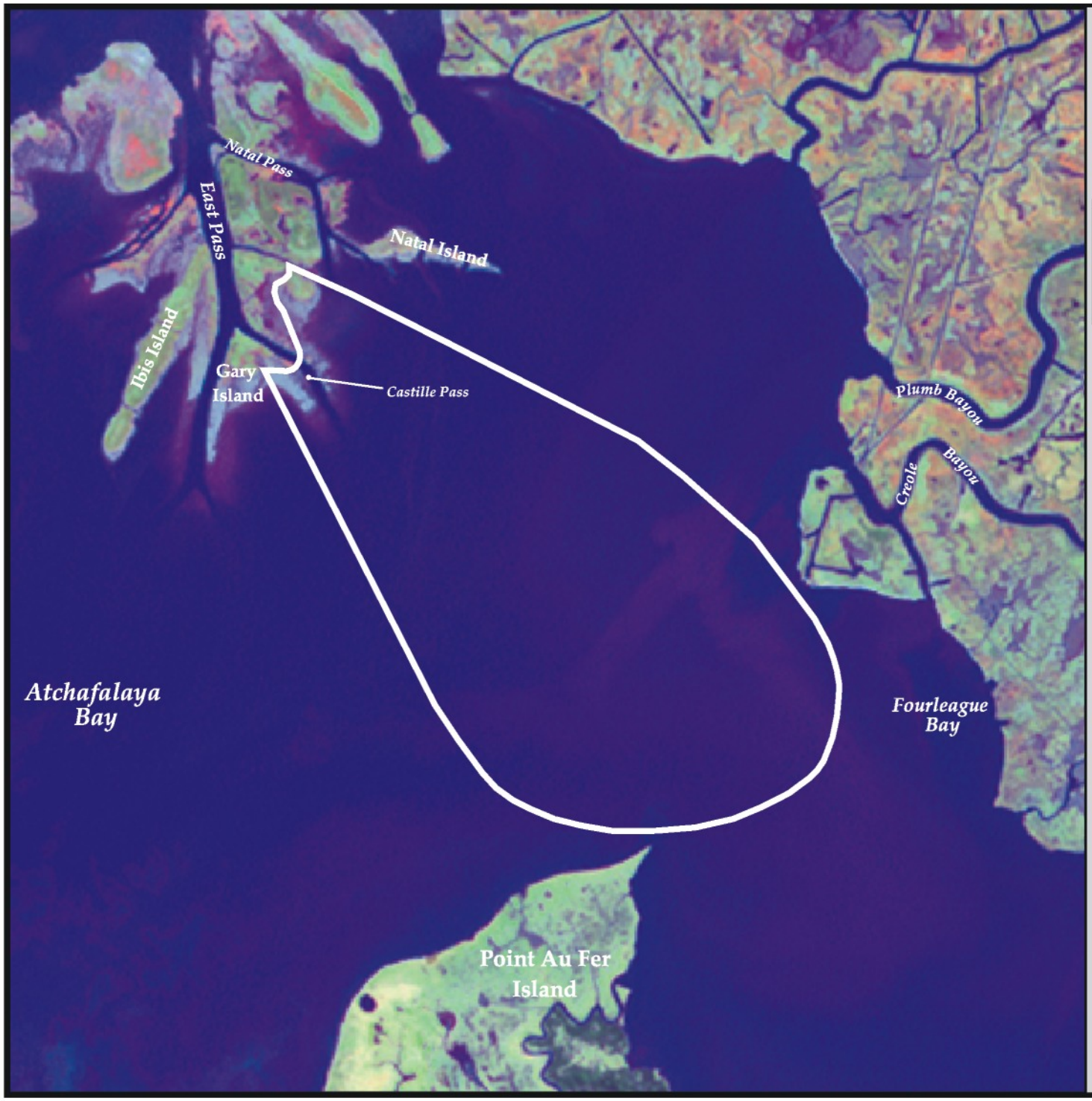
The cooperative agreement was awarded September 29, 2000. Hydrodynamic modeling and engineering and design are underway.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 9.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 389-0508

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308



Castille Pass Channel Sediment Delivery (AT-04)

Project Boundary

USGS
science for a changing world

N

0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

0.4 0 0.4 0.8 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
2002 Thematic Mapper Imagery

Map Date: October 16, 2003
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-040
Data accurate as of: April 18, 2003

Coastal Protection and
Restoration Authority of Louisiana

State of Louisiana

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

October 6, 2009

Mr. Thomas A. Holden Jr., P.E.
Chairman
CWPPRA Technical Committee
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

RE: Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project (CS-09)

Dear Mr. Holden:

The CWPPRA Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration Project (CS-09) was chosen from Priority Project List 2 and has been in the CWPPRA program for over 17 years. Phase II approval was granted in 1997. The project is federally sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with local sponsorship by the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR). As a result of the direction from the majority landowner to cancel the existing servitude, construction of the project can not proceed. Without servitudes in place, the OCPR and NRCS must de-authorize the Brown Lake Project. A motion was made and passed during the September 29, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting to begin the deauthorization process. Please consider this letter as a formal request for project deauthorization according to the process outlined in the CWPPRA Standard Operation Procedures Manual.

Thank you for your assistance in this effort. Please direct questions regarding this matter to the OCPR Project Manager, Robert Routon (225-342-9421).

Sincerely,

William K. Rhinehart
Administrator
Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration

WKR: kt

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(225) 342-7308 • Fax (225) 342-9417 • http://www.lacpra.org/
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c: Richard Hartman, NMFS, Baton Rouge, LA
Brad Crawford, EPA, Dallas, TX
Britt Paul, P.E., NRCS, Alexandria, LA
Darryl Clark, USFWS, Lafayette, LA
Tina Horn, Cameron Parish, Cameron Parish Police Jury
John Coppock, Calcasieu Parish, CZM
Robert Routon, OCPR Project Manager

February 2008
Cost figures as of: September 2

Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration (CS-09)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1993
Cost: $4.00 M
Project Area: 916 acres
Status Engineering and Design
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 37 acres
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration

Location

This project is located in Cameron and Calcasieu parishes, approximately 3 miles north of Hackberry, Louisiana.

Problems

Saltwater intrusion from the Calcasieu Ship Channel and increased tidal amplitudes have caused 90 % of the marsh in this system to be lost.

Restoration Strategy

This project will restore, to the extent possible, the altered hydrology of approximately 2,800 acres of wetlands in the area of Brown Lake. This project consists of the installation of two water control structures, two freshwater introduction structures, the rehabilitation or construction of approximately 30,000 linear feet of boundary levees, and 20,500 linear feet of terraces and associated vegetative plantings.

Progress to Date

This project is being coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredging program. Several pipeline-related issues have caused delays, but these issues have been resolved. The permits, the effects of Crab Gully, and the operations agreements have been addressed. Contract advertisement will take place after receiving Phase 2 funding approval from the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force.

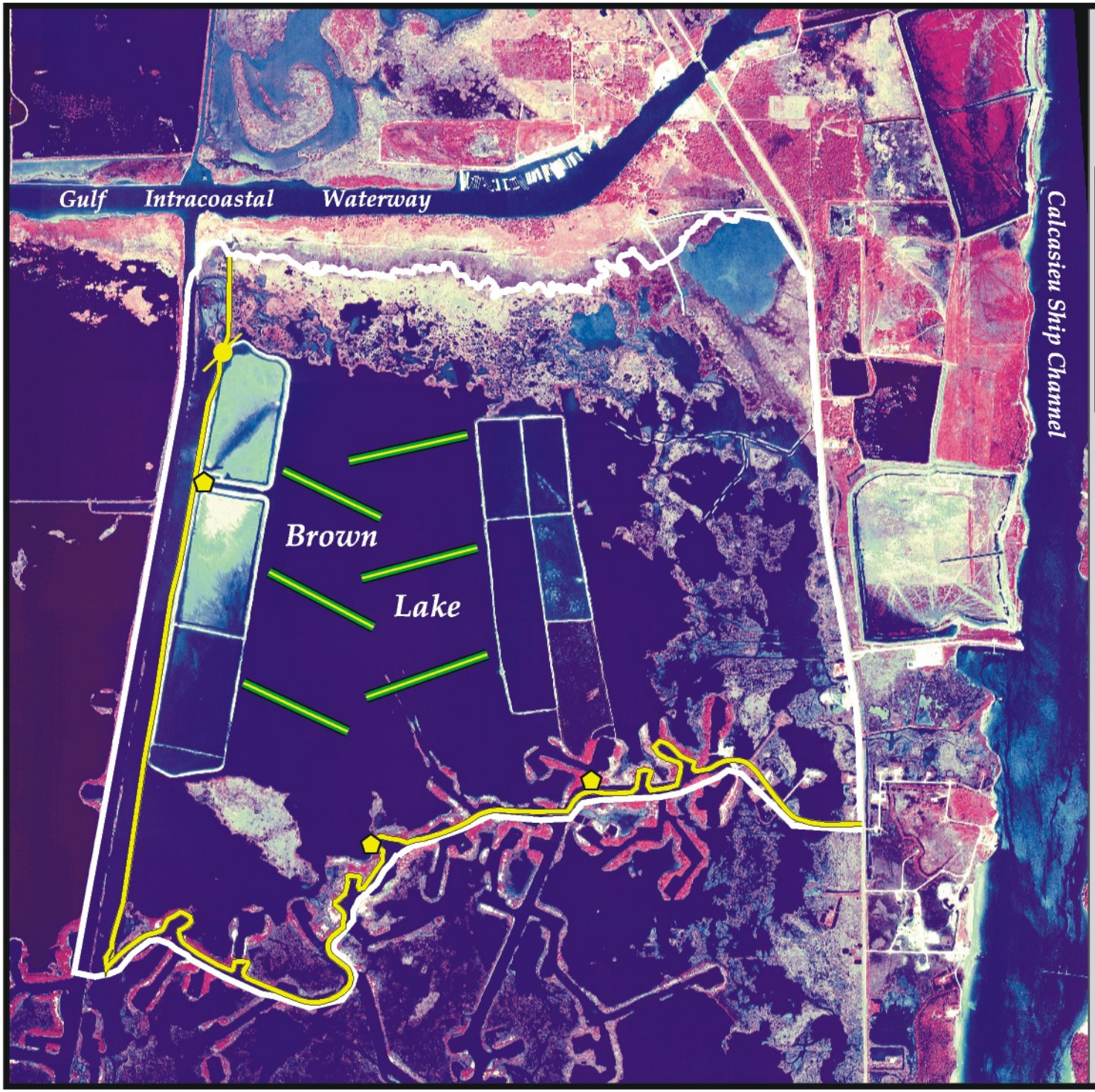
This project is on Priority Project List 2.

In order to prevent wind generated wave erosion from destroying the freshly added spoil, vegetation is planted to get a head start on providing cover for the fragile soil.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Alexandria, LA
(318) 473-7756

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308



Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration (CS-09)

- Water Control Structure *
- Weir *
- Containment Dike *
- Terrace *
- Project Boundary

* denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world

N

1000 0 1000 Feet

500 0 500 Meters

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
Color Infrared Aerial Photography 2002

Date: August 25, 2003
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-096
Data accurate as of: April 4, 2003

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST FOR OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) BUDGET INCREASE AND INCREMENTAL FUNDING TO TEMPORARILY REMOVE THE BAYOU SAUVAGE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION PHASE I (PO-16) AND PHASE II (PO-18) PUMP DISCHARGE PIPES IN PREPARATION FOR THE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND VICINITY HURRICANE PROTECTION LEVEE ENLARGEMENT

For Discussion/Decision:

The U S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and OCPR request Task Force approval for an O&M Budget increases totaling $100,000 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $100,000 for the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration Phase I (PO-16) and Phase II (PO-18) projects. The USACE is proceeding to elevate the hurricane protection levee forming the eastern boundaries of the PO-16 and PO-18 projects. As part of these hurricane protection levee activities, the USACE is requiring that the USFWS remove discharge pipes associated with the projects pumping stations, to elevate and widen the Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee. In turn, the USACE has agreed to relocate and refurbish the three pumping stations and install new discharge pipes through the elevated levee. The cost estimate for removing the discharge pipes is $100,000. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation for O&M budget increases totaling $100,000 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $100,000, for the following projects:

a. Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 1 (PO-16), PPL-1
Budget increase amount: $50,000
Incremental funding amount: $50,000

b. Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 2 (PO-18), PPL-2
Budget increase amount: $50,000
Incremental funding amount: $50,000

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve O&M budget increases totaling $100,000 and FY 12 incremental funding in the amount of $100,000, for the PO-16 and PO-18 projects.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HURRICANE PROTECTION OFFICE
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Hurricane Protection Office

SEP 9 2009

Mr Kenneth Litzenberger
Project Leader
Bayou Lacombe Centre'
U.S. Fish and Wildfire Service
Southeast Louisiana Refuges
61389 Highway 434 Lacombe
Louisiana 70445-2667

Dear Mr. Litzenberger:

This letter is to clarify the impacts of the hurricane protection levee enlargement for LPV 109 and LPV 111 on the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration Project Phase I (PO-16), CWPPRA project and Bayou Sauvage Phase II CWPPRA project (PO-18). Phase 1 consists of two 48 inch-diameter pumping stations and was constructed in 1996. Phase 2 consists of one pumping station and was constructed in 1997. Phase 1 discharge pipes fall within the current footprint of LPV 109 and Phase 2 discharge pipes fall within the current foot print of LPV 111. Phase 1 and Phase 2 discharge pipes that cross the current levee sections in LPV109 and LPV 111 are there by permit. The permit states:

- "That should changes in the location or section of the existing levee, floodwall or in the generally prevailing conditions in the vicinity be required in the future of the public interest. The applicant shall make changes in the project concerned or in the arrangement thereof as may be necessary to satisfactorily meet the situation and shall bear the cost thereof".

Upon evaluation of the previously issued permit and the requirements for additional real estate for the levee enlargement projects LPV 109 and LPV 111, it has been determined that the function of the existing USFWS facilities will be adversely impacted. The impacts to Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge projects PO-16 and PO-18 are as follows:

- The movement and refurbishing of pumping stations will be a project cost to LPV 111 and 109. These pumping stations are currently outside of the existing Right of Way but are inside the new foot print and requested new Right of Way.

- The installation and material cost of the new discharge pipes to support the pumping stations will be a project cost to LPV 109 and LPV 111. Civil Works funds may be used to pay for such work on other Federal facilities that is necessitated by a Civil Works project.

- The existing drainage structures are project features because they were part of the original levee construction. Project features by definition are cost to the projects. These are not the responsibility of USFWS.

The Discharge pipes that cross the existing foot print that are covered in the permit will be required to be removed by USFWS due to the conditions of the permit. The current estimate for this removal is $100,000.

If you have any questions or require any additional information on this matter, please contact me or Stephanie Hall, Sr. Project Manager for Orleans Parish at 504-862-2608.

Sincerely,

Richmond R. Kendrick
Deputy, Program Execution

Copies Furnished:

Melanie Goodman

Creel, Travis J MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2009 8:26 AM
To: Creel, Travis J MVN
Subject: FW: Bayou Sauvage Discharge Pipe Removal Technical Committee Agenda Item

Attachments: Bayou Sauvage Phase I PO-16 Map.pdf; Bayou Sauvage Phase II Fact sheet PO-18.pdf

Bayou Sauvage Phase I PO-16 Ma... Bayou Sauvage Phase II Fact sh...

-----Original Message-----
From: Darryl_Clark@fws.gov [mailto:Darryl_Clark@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2009 2:24 PM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Jim_Boggs@fws.gov; Kenneth_Litzenberger@fws.gov; Kirk.Rhinehart@la.gov; Barry.Richard@LA.gov; kelley.templet@la.gov; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov
Subject: Bayou Sauvage Discharge Pipe Removal Technical Committee Agenda Item

Melanie,

Please place the attached Bayou Sauvage request on the September 29th Technical Committee agenda. We are expecting a letter, and more details on the $100,000 cost estimate, from Stephanie Hall or Colonel Lee of the Corps concerning the items below. Attached are project fact sheets for the TC binder. I will submit the Corps request and agreement letter and a cost breakdown when I receive them for the binder.

Thanks,

Darryl

(See attached file: Bayou Sauvage Phase I PO-16 Map.pdf)(See attached file: Bayou Sauvage Phase II Fact sheet PO-18.pdf)

Technical Committee Agenda Item

Decision: Request for Funding to Remove CWPPRA Bayou Sauvage Phase I (PO-16) and Phase II (PO-18) Pump Discharge Pipes in Preparation for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee Enlargement. (Darryl Clark, Ken Litzenberger, USFWS; Kirk Rhinehart, OCPR).

The Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration Project Phase I (PO-16), consists of two 48 inch-diameter pumping stations and a weir in Bayou Thomas, and the Bayou Sauvage Phase II project (PO-18) consists of one pumping station located north of PO-16 both on the Bayou Sauvage NWR were constructed in 1996, and 1997 respectively. Both projects contain pump discharge pipes located in the Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Levee forming the eastern boundary of the management units. Since construction, the FWS has been operating the and maintaining the projects. In 2005, the Service repaired the pumping stations damaged by Hurricane Katrina, with Service post-hurricane funds.

As a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Congress mandated the Corps to strengthen hurricane protection levees in the New Orleans area to prevent a Category 5 hurricane from flooding the city. The Corps is proceeding to elevate the hurricane protection levee forming the eastern boundaries of the Bayou Sauvage CWPPRA projects. As part of these hurricane protection levee activities, the Corps requested the Fish and Wildlife Service to remove the project's three 48 inch-diameter discharge pipes associated with the Bayou Sauvage Phase I & II project pumping stations to elevate and widen the Pontchartrain and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee. In turn, the Corps has agreed to relocate and refurbish the two pumping stations and install new discharge pipes through the elevated levee. The cost estimate for discharge pipe removal is $100,000.

The Corps is citing a common clause placed in most Corps permits that states that the applicant shall remove any structures in the future if the Corps deems it necessary in the public interest.
The clause states, "That should changes in the location or section of the existing levee, floodwall, or in the generally prevailing conditions in the vicinity, be required in the future in the public interest, the applicant shall make changes in the project concerned, or in the arrangement thereof, as may be necessary to satisfactorily meet the situation and shall bear the cost thereof."

The FWS, in association with the State OCPR, requests Technical Committee and Task Force approval to transfer $100,000 to the Corps for this discharge pipe removal as relocation expenses to assist in the hurricane protection of New Orleans.

October 2002

Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 1 (PO-16)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1991
Cost: $1.63 M
Project Area: 3,800 acres
Status: Completed May 1996
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 1,550 acres
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration

Location

The project is located in Orleans Parish, approximately 10 miles north of Chalmette, Louisiana. It is bordered by Bayou Sauvage to the north and northwest and by the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to the south. Both U.S. Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 90 provide access to the refuge.

Problems

The construction of U.S. Highway 90, canals, railroad lines, and hurricane protection levees has left the historically brackish marsh hydrologically isolated.

Inadequate water inflow and poor drainage subjected the area to periods of prolonged flooding and occasional drying, causing a loss of wetland habitat.

Restoration Strategy

Two 48-inch pumps were installed in northern and southern units of the project area to drain surplus water caused by excess rainfall, promoting the growth of fresh marsh vegetation. A weir in Bayou Thomas will allow the units to be managed independently.

One of the Bayou Sauvage pump stations, facing east across the hurricane protection levee into Bayou Thomas.

Progress to Date

Project effectiveness was monitored by measuring water levels and vegetative growth in both units against those of a reference area over spring-summer and fall-winter periods.

Water levels in the north unit were within target range approximately 57% of the time. Water levels in the south unit, where mechanical problems with the pumps impeded management efforts, were within target range less than 10% of the time. Water levels were below the target range in both units mostly because of drought-induced low water conditions.

Habitat analysis from aerial photography taken 7 months after project construction shows that 297 acres were converted from open water to fresh marsh between 1993 and 1996. Emergent marsh vegetation increased between 1996 and 1997 based on monitoring surveys. Forested wetlands, including black willow habitat, increased by 35 acres. This increase is supported by increases in marsh vegetation measured from ground surveys. This project is on Priority Project List 1.

A Bayou Sauvage pump station in operation, facing west. It is removing water from the project area, depicted in the upper portion of the image.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308

Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 1 (PO-16)

Pump

Weir

Project Boundary

USGS science for a changing world

Louisiana

Project Location

N

0.5 0 0.5 Miles

0.5 0 0.5 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: July 1, 2002
Map ID: 2002-11-537
Data accurate as of: July 1, 2002

October 2002
Cost figures as of: August 2009

Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 2 (PO-18)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1992
Project Area: 5,475 acres
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 1,280 acres
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration
Cost: $1.64 M
Status Completed May 1997

Location

The project is located in Orleans Parish, approximately 10 miles north of Chalmette, Louisiana. It is situated between Lake Pontchartrain and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. The project encompasses approximately 5,475 acres of fresh marsh and open water.

Problems

The construction of U.S. Interstate 10, a railroad line, and hurricane protection levees left the historically brackish marsh hydrologically isolated. In addition to this isolation, poor drainage subjected the area to periods of prolonged flooding, resulting in land loss.

Restoration Strategy

Pumps were installed in the project area to lower water levels during the growing season so that vegetative growth would be promoted.

Progress to Date

Initial problems with the pumps were corrected, and the project was accepted at a final inspection conducted May 28, 1997. Project effectiveness was evaluated by monitoring water levels and vegetative growth in both the project and reference areas over spring-summer and fall-winter periods.

A vegetation survey in 1997 indicated dry conditions conducive to marsh plant growth. These conditions, however, were probably the result of drought rather than project efforts. Water levels were naturally low and pumps were only used once in the spring-summer period.

Target water levels were achieved approximately 32% of the time in the spring-summer period and 48% in the fall-winter. Water levels were below the target range much of the time because of the low water levels associated with the drought. This project is on Priority Project List 2.

Aerial view of the Bayou Sauvage project's northwestern area.

A Bayou Sauvage pump station, facing west into the management area.

For more project information, please contact:

Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100

Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308

Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration, Phase 2 (PO-18)

Pump

Project Boundary

USGS
science for a changing world

Louisiana

Project Location

N

0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

0.5 0 0.5 1 Kilometers

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: July 1, 2002
Map ID: 2002-11-541
Data accurate as of: July 1, 2002

URS JEG JV

LPV 109.02a

New Orleans East Levee, South Point to CSX Railroad

New Orleans East, Hurricane Protection Office

Contract No. W912P8-09-D-0014, TO #00004

Mechanical Engineering Design Report

August 2009

Pump Stations

General

As shown on Drawing No. 1 of Attachment A, there are two United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) pump stations located along levee reach LPV-109: Pump Station No. 1 (PS-1) at C/L Station 143+56 (HPO B/L Station 799+92) and PS-2 at C/L Station 401+00 (HPO B/L Station 1054+61). The pump stations are operated in conjunction with other stations and drainage structures located around the periphery of the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) to maintain the desired water level in the refuge during the various seasons of the year by pumping water from the protected side of the levee to the flood side. During the summer the target water surface elevation (WSE) is 0.0-ft and during the winter it is +1.5-ft. As Drawing No. 2 and 3 indicate, the Bayou Sauvage NWR has been delineated into distinct watersheds, or Conservation Treatment Units (CTUs); PS-1 services CTUs 3 and 4 (see Dwg. No. 2 Attachment A), while PS-2 serves CTU 5 (see Dwg. No. 3, Attachment A).

The pump stations are manually operated by USFWS personnel primarily to maintain water levels for habitat, but they also provide a measure of flood control as well. The manual operation of the pump stations is dependent on both the WSE in the refuge and the incipient weather conditions. During calm periods, after checking staff gauges that measure water levels in the refuge and performing visual inspections, the USFWS operators start the pump stations and run them until the desired water levels are obtained. If the weather forecast anticipates a major storm event headed toward the refuge, the operators will run the pump stations to lower the water level prior to the arrival of the storm.

Pump Station Descriptions

The pump stations were designed in 1992 by the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the US Department of Agriculture. They were constructed in 1996 under the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), Public Law 101-646 by USFWS under the US Department of the Interior and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources with the assistance of the NRCS. PS-1 is a duplex station, with two pumps and two discharge pipes, while PS-2 is a simplex station, with a single pump and discharge pipe. On April 28, 2009 Mr. Jack Bohannan of the USFWS escorted Messrs. Clay Loyless and Lakhbir Chauhan of URS on a site visit along levee reach LPV 109 for the purpose of examining the pump stations. Attachment B contains the site visit report and on-site photographs, along with aerial images.

The Pump Test Report performed by the pump manufacturer (Patterson Pump Company), the original construction drawings and the shop drawings of the as-built pump stations are also included in Attachment C. A comparison of the shop drawings to the original design drawings and the visual observations made on-site indicate that PS-1 was constructed as depicted, however, PS-2 was not. The PS-2 design drawings show an anti-vortex baffle consisting of a 96-in diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) "can" with a 54-in CMP intake pipe. The shop drawings for the PS-2 intake show a formed suction intake (FSI) instead of the "can" and intake pipe configuration. The CMP "can" was not observed during the site inspection of PS-2, and while the FSI was below water level, all surface features confirm its installation.

The existing steel discharge pipes for both stations leave the facility above-grade on pile-supported bents. They then penetrate the levee below the existing crown elevation and exit on

the flood-side toe above the level of the water surface. The terminus of each pipe is an up-turned 90° bend, commonly referred to as a "saxophone" discharge. Beneath the discharge is a rip-rap lined plunge pool that dissipates the energy of the discharging water, thus minimizing scour of the lake bottom on the flood side of the levee.

Impact of Levee Raise on Pump Stations

The basic work of the LPV 109.02a project is to construct a new levee section approximately 65-ft in-board of the existing levee. The new section will be both higher, and when the stability berm is included, substantially wider than the existing section. The project Scope of Work requires that the pump station discharge pipes cross over the proposed 2011 levee elevation at each of their respective locations. The raising of the levee crown and the placement of the discharge piping over the top of the levee section instead of through it increases the height to which the flow needs to be pumped. The widened levee section may require the relocation of the pump stations, thus increasing the frictional head loss through the discharge pipe and fittings due to the increase in pipe length. The new configuration thus substantially increases the total dynamic head (TDH) against which the pumps will have to operate. Therefore, to maintain the current volumetric pumping capacity of each station, the various system components will have to be upgraded.

The significant changes in the head, especially for the priming condition, require altering the basic design parameters for the pumping equipment. Such modifications may include: larger engines with higher horsepower ratings, more heavy-duty gear drives, mixed-flow impellers to produce the higher heads needed, enlargement of the pump volute to accommodate the new impellers, bigger fuel tanks for diesel storage, and perhaps enlargement of the station footprint to accommodate the larger components. The following sections discuss the options available to implement the required changes at each of the pump stations.

Pump Station Locations

As shown in plan set, PS-1 is located approximately 195-ft from the proposed levee centerline, which will place it just within the stability berm if the new levee is constructed at this location with a 1V on 4H back-slope. The additional fill of the stability berm, if placed as indicated in the Typical Section, could potentially create an additional down-drag on the pile support structure of the pump station. To avoid this issue and eliminate the need to relocate the station, the levee back-slope will be steepened to 1V on 3H by employing deep soil mixing (DSM), as shown in the plan set. This keeps the edge of the stability berm away from the piling and enables PS-1 to remain in-place, thus, avoiding the cost of building a new structure.

As shown in within the plan set, PS-2 has a very different set of issues in relation to its position. The station, as located falls well within the proposed stability berm area, and steepening the back-slope will not resolve the issue of down-drag on the piles. Also, if the stability berm were continued south of the station, it would cut-off the inlet channel to the pump intake. According to the Scope of Work, the drainage structure adjacent to the station must be installed over a deep soil mixing (DSM) zone. The pump station will be moved to the south side of the drainage culverts, enabling the intake area to remain in the water-way while also allowing the discharge piping to take advantage of the structural support provided by the DSM zone adjacent to the culverts.

Pump Station Design

PS-1: Existing Conditions

PS-1 consists of two identical systems, each configured as follows:

Operating Capacity	= 34,000 gpm	Target Low WSE	= ±0.00 ft NGVD
Operating Head	= 10 ft TDH	Minimum Low WSE	= -1.00 ft NGVD
Operating Min. Efficiency	= 75%	Maximum High WSE	= +4.00 ft NGVD
Priming Capacity	= 22,000 gpm	C/L of Pump Discharge	= +2.50 ft NGVD
Priming Head	= 21 ft TDH	FSI Invert elevation	= -8.00 ft NGVD
Maximum RPM	= 600	Existing Top of Levee	= +14.5 ft NGVD
Discharge Diameter	= 42 in	El. at Saxophone Outlet	= +5.75 ft NGVD

The pumps are both model 33 x 42 AFV vertical axial-flow single phase units manufactured by Patterson Pump Company. The existing right angle gear drives are De'Ran Model M 20 A rated for 321 HP at 580 RPM with a gear reduction ratio of 3:1. The existing diesel engines are 250 HP, 1800 RPM, Cummins Model LTA 10-P, which are rated for a minimum continuous horsepower of 120% of the required pump BHP at the priming condition.

PS-1: Revised Operating Conditions

The new pumps will be sized for the following modified head conditions:

Operating Capacity	= 34,000 gpm	Target Low WSE	= ±0.00 ft NGVD
Operating Head	= 13.6 ft TDH	Minimum Low WSE	= -1.00 ft NGVD
Operating Min. Efficiency	= 85%	Maximum High WSE	= +4.00 ft NGVD
Priming Capacity	= 22,500 gpm	C/L of Pump Discharge	= +2.75 ft NGVD
Priming Head	= 31.5 ft TDH	FSI Invert Elevation	= -8.00 ft NGVD
Maximum RPM	= 600	Proposed Top of Levee	= +20.0 ft NGVD
Discharge Diameter	= 42 in	El. at Saxophone Outlet	= +5.75 ft NGVD

PS-1: Upgrade Options

To evaluate the best course of action, several options were considered for upgrading PS-1. Preliminary pricing information was acquired from manufacturers (Sulzer, Fairbanks-Morse, and Patterson) of similar pumping systems. Estimates on the costs associated with the removal, shipment and reinstallation are based on information provided by the manufacturer of the existing equipment (Patterson Pump) and URS' experience with similar systems.

Based on a conversation with client contact Pon Dixon of the USFWS, the pumping equipment has been in service for close to nine years and no known reconditioning of the pumps has been performed. The pump assemblies are designed with basic materials (cast iron, steel, etc.) and are liable to excessive corrosion in the case of saltwater intrusion, which undoubtedly occurred when the stations were inundated by the storm surge of Hurricane Katrina. A definitive judgment regarding the current condition of the pumps cannot be made without a thorough examination. A superficial visual inspection performed on-site may not reveal any serious damage to the pump, therefore this option does not insure the needed reliability required from the system. Thus, a comprehensive inspection of the entire pump assembly, made in the shop after complete dismantling of all components, is required.

According to Mr. Dixon, the engines are relatively new; however, the new application requires more horsepower and unless extensive modifications are performed, the engines will not provide adequate power to overcome the increased priming heads. Similarly, the existing gear boxes are also not designed for the higher horsepower required for priming the new system. Therefore, three alternatives are available for the engine and gear box: 1) a supplemental system must be installed to remove some of the load, 2) the components must be completely over-hauled and upgraded, or 3) the components must be replaced with higher capacity units.

Based on the above findings, the following three options were considered for upgrading the PS-1 pumping system. Estimated costs for each option are shown in the attached table.

Option 1 - Installation of a vacuum assist system to overcome the additional head. The vacuum system would effectively lower the head of the new configuration to the current level, enabling the existing equipment to remain in service. This would be accompanied by shop repair of the pumps, engines, and gear boxes by their respective manufacturers. To accomplish this, all pump system components would have to be removed and shipped to the various repair facilities, then returned, re-installed, and performance tested.

Option 2 - Shop repair and upgrade of the existing pumps, engines and gear boxes by their respective manufacturers to overcome the additional head. The alterations to the pumps would include installing new impellers, volutes and shafts; modifying the pump discharge elbows; and replacing bearings, wear rings, and seals as needed. The engines would be completely over-hauled and upgraded to the higher break horsepower (BHP) required by the system. The gear boxes would be replaced with more robust units capable of transferring the higher horsepower output of the more powerful engines to the new pump assembly.

Option 3 – Installation of a completely new pumping system, including: the pump assemblies, engines, and gear boxes. The new pumps would be of the mixed-flow impeller design and the new engines and gear boxes would be sized to overcome the additional head imposed by the raised levee section.

All three options assume re-use of the existing pump station structure and the FSI. They also assume the availability of an overhead crane of adequate capacity for the equipment removal and reinstallation.

PS-1: Discussion & Recommendation

To acquire the assurance needed for the re-use of the existing equipment, it must be shop inspected and refurbished as in Options 1 and 2. Option 1 requires the installation of a vacuum assist unit, which adds to the capital cost and increases the complexity and expense of operations and maintenance of the pump station equipment. As shown in Attachment D, the estimated total cost of Option 1 is $1,274,200.

Option 2 upgrades the system components to handle the additional head as well as refurbishes the equipment**.** To overcome the lack of certainty regarding the condition of the existing equipment, the cost to ship the components to the shop for inspection and refurbishment must be incurred. The cost of removal, transport and reinstallation of the equipment is not easily predicted, but it has been estimated based on previous experience. The modifications to the equipment required are extensive enough so that very little of the old equipment is reused in Option 2. The total cost estimate for Option 2 is $1,259,250, which results in only a 1% savings over Option 1.

Option 3 is to install a completely new pumping system, which can be designed for the new operating conditions and its performance warranted by the manufacturer. The cost of Option 3 is $1,386,000, which is only 9% more than Option 1 and 10% more than Option 2. Thus, the cost advantage of re-using the existing equipment, after including the expense of refurbishment and either adding a vacuum assist unit or upgrading the various components is not that significant. The warranty of performance of a new system more than offsets the potential 10% cost savings. Therefore, to insure a prolonged station life, URS recommends Option 3 - replace the old pumping equipment with new components appropriate to the modified design conditions. The new system can be designed to operate more efficiently and will not require a separate vacuum system.

PS-2: Existing Conditions

PS-2 consists of a single system, configured as follows:

Operating Capacity	= 22,000 gpm	Target Low WSE	= ±0.0 ft NGVD
Operating Head	= 9.5 ft TDH	Minimum Low WSE	= -1.0 ft NGVD
Operating Min. Efficiency	= 78%	Maximum High WSE	= +4.00 ft NGVD
Priming Capacity	= 13,000 gpm	C/L of Pump Discharge	= +2.75 ft NGVD
Priming Head	= 20 ft TDH	FSI Invert elevation	= -6.80 ft NGVD
Maximum RPM	= 590	Existing Top of Levee	= +16.50 ft NGVD
Discharge Diameter	= 36 in	El. at Saxophone Outlet	= +5.50 ft NGVD

The pump is a model 30 x 36 AFV vertical axial-flow single phase unit manufactured by Patterson Pump Company. The existing right angle gear drives are De'Ran Model M16 AH rated for 170 HP at 580 RPM with a gear reduction ratio of 3:1. The existing diesel engine is a 200 HP, 2500 RPM, Cummins Model LTA 10-P, which is rated for a minimum continuous horsepower of 120% of the required pump BHP at the priming condition.

PS-2: Revised Operating Conditions

The new pumps will be sized for the following modified head conditions:

Operating Capacity	= 22,000 gpm	Target Low WSE	= ±0.0 ft NGVD
Operating Head	= 12.5 ft TDH	Minimum Low WSE	= -1.0 ft NGVD
Operating Min. Efficiency	= 80%	Maximum High WSE	= +4.00 ft NGVD
Priming Capacity	= 16,000 gpm	C/L of Pump Discharge	= +2.75 ft NGVD
Priming Head	= 27.7 ft TDH	FSI Invert Elevation	= -6.80 ft NGVD
Maximum RPM	= 600	Proposed Top of Levee	= +25.00 ft NGVD
Discharge Diameter	= 36 in	El. at Saxophone Outlet	= +5.50 ft NGVD

PS-2: Upgrade Options

As discussed above, PS-2 will be relocated to a more suitable location beyond the toe of the new levee section. The lengthening of the discharge pipe will increase the TDH in addition to that created by the raising of the levee section. Using a similar approach to that discussed above for PS-1, the same three options were developed for upgrading PS-2:

Option 1 - Installation of a vacuum assist system accompanied by shop repair of the pump, engine, and gear box by their respective manufacturers. All system components would be removed, shipped to the various repair facilities, then re-installed, and performance tested.

Option 2 - Shop repair and upgrade of the existing pump, engine and gear box by their respective manufacturers. The alterations would include installing a new impeller, volute and shaft plus replacing bearings, wear rings, and seals. The engine would be upgraded to the higher BHP required and the gear box would be replaced with higher rated unit.

Option 3 – Installation of a completely new system, including: the pump assembly, engine, and gear box. The new pump would be a mixed-flow impeller design and the new engine and gear box would be sized to meet the new design conditions.

All three options assume re-use of the existing pump station super-structure, including the roof, framing, handrails and grating, as well as the FSI assembly below the water surface. However, a new piled-founded substructure will have to constructed (refer to the Structural Design section for a discussion of its design of cost). They also assume the availability of an overhead crane of adequate capacity for the both the equipment and super-structure removal and reinstallation.

PS-2: Discussion & Recommendation

As with PS-1, to insure that the existing equipment is in good condition, Options 1 and 2 include substantial costs for shop inspections and refurbishment. The installation of a vacuum assist unit under Option 1 increases both the initial capital and the long-term O&M costs. As shown in Attachment D, the estimated total cost of Option 1 is $715,300.

Under Option 2, the system components would be upgraded to meet the increased head. Again, to insure the integrity of the existing equipment, the components would be transported to the shop for inspection and refurbishment. The removal, transport and reinstallation expense along with the fact that not much of the old equipment would be reused in Option 2 significantly reduces its cost competitiveness. The total cost estimate for Option 2 is $672,750, which results in only a 6% savings over Option 1.

Option 3 involves the installation of a completely new pumping system. Under this scenario, the components can be designed specifically for the proposed operating conditions and the manufacturer will warranty the performance of the system. The cost of Option 3 is $720,500, which is only 1% more than Option 1 and 7% more than Option 2. Thus, the cost advantage of re-using the existing equipment, with or without adding a vacuum assist unit, versus installing a new system is insignificant.

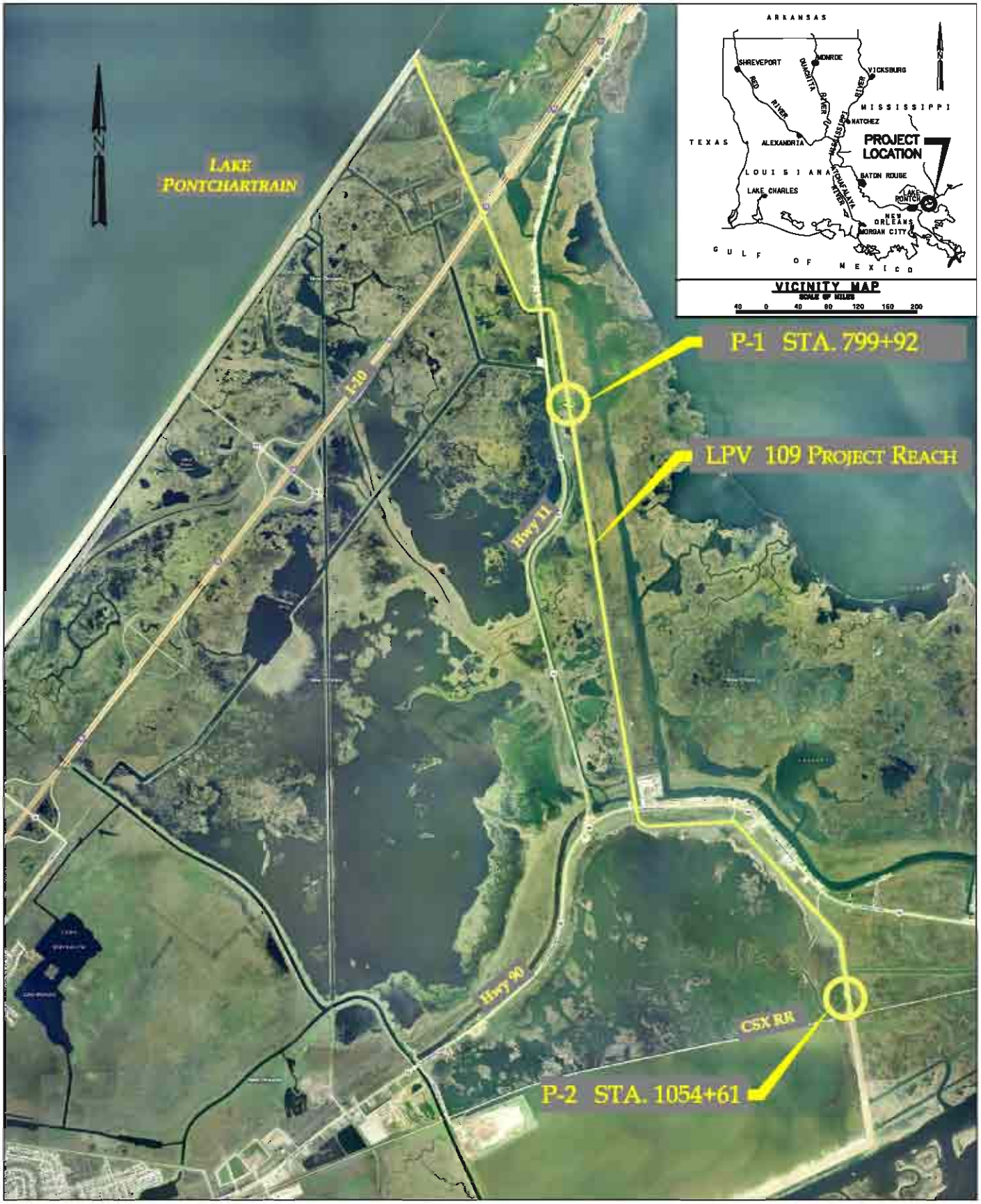
In Option 3, the pump equipment including auxiliaries can be designed and constructed for a minimum service life of 25 years, excluding normal wear parts. The station design would permit rapid and economical maintenance of all major components. The pump models and speeds proposed will ensure that the system requirements are met, while operation outside of the range of best efficiency is limited. Therefore, to insure a long service life, minimize O&M costs, and provide efficient operation, URS recommends Option 3 – install new pumping equipment specifically design for the modified operating conditions.

Pump Station Design Calculations

Attachment E provides spreadsheets that document the hydraulic design calculations performed for the proposed operating conditions of the two pump stations.

ATTACHMENT A

Location Map and CTU Delineations



URS 3500 N. Causeway Blvd. Suite 900
Metairie, Louisiana 70002
(504) 837-6326

SOUTHPOINT TO CSX RAILROAD REACH LPV 109
2011 PROJECT LOCATION & VICINITY MAP

DATE	SCALE	REQ. NO.	DWG. NO.	REV.
08/14/09	NTS	LPV 109	1	

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST TO CHANGE THE PROJECT SCOPE TO REMOVE A WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE AT THE LAKE CHAPEAU HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION AND MARSH CREATION PROJECT (TE-26)

For Discussion/Decision:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in project scope to the use existing O&M funds on the Lake Chapeau Hydrologic Restoration and Marsh Creation Project (TE-26) to remove a water control structure. On previous funding requests for the TE-26 project, the project sponsors proposed repairing structure #3, which had been breached. However, the breach has expanded to such an extent that the project sponsors deemed the planned repairs to be cost prohibitive. The project sponsors also request Task Force approval that any remaining funds approved for breach repair be rolled into the project's future O&M budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to use the existing obligated funds in the O&M budget to remove TE-26 project structure #3, and also leave the remaining O&M funds in the budget for future TE-26 O&M events.

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve the request to use the existing obligated funds in the O&M budget to remove TE-26 project structure #3, and also leave the remain O&M funds in the budget for future TE-26 O&M events.

TE-26 LAKE CHAPEAU SEDIMENT INPUT AND HYDROLIGIC RESTORATION PROJECT

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

Project Objectives

1. Convert approximately 260 ac (105 ha) of open water to marsh west of Lake Chapeau between the Locust Bayou and Alligator Bayou watersheds using sediments mined from Atchafalaya Bay.
2. Restore natural sediment and hydrologic pathways by plugging canals in the project area.

Specific Goals

The following goals will contribute to the evaluation of the above objectives:

1. Create approximately 260 ac (105 ha) of marsh west of Lake Chapeau.
2. Decrease the water level variability within the project area.

INITIAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction Unit I

- Hydraulic dredging of 721,931 cubic yards of material from the Atchafalaya Bay.
- Material was placed to an average thickness of two feet to create approximately 168 acres of marsh.
- A rock plug was constructed at the Atchafalaya Bay shoreline end of the dredge discharge pipeline corridor under a change order.
- 39,396 smooth cord grass plugs were planted over the newly created marsh under a separate contract.

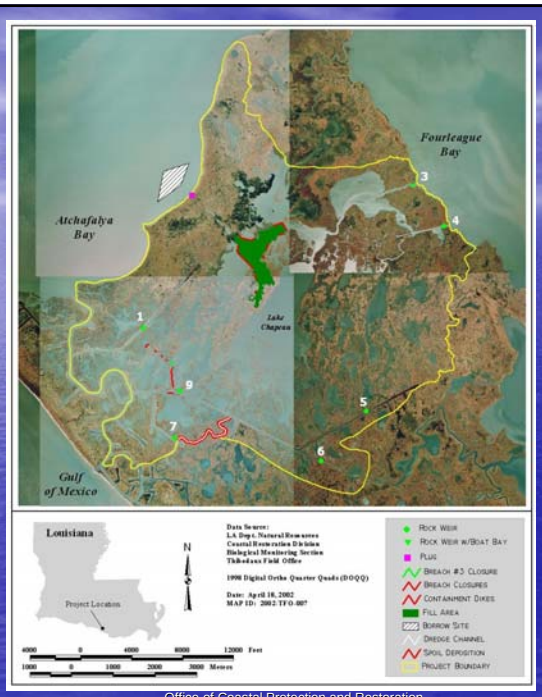
Construction Unit II

- The construction of seven rock weirs across existing oilfield canals.
- Breach repair work was done under a change order to address deterioration of the spoil banks in a canal located southwest of Lake Chapeau just west of weir 9.
- A change order was also done to include the installation of a supplemental warning buoy system at six plug locations.

Construction Unit III

- Dredging of 59,218 cubic yards of material from a 6,400 foot long silted section of Locust Bayou to its original navigable depth of -6.0 ft. NGVD.
- The dredged material was placed along the sides of the bayou in 1.5 foot high by 80 foot wide spoil banks with periodic gaps to allow drainage.

Total Construction Cost: $3,449,696.50



TE-26 LAKE CHAPEAU

Project Sponsors

- **Federal Sponsor:** National Marine Fisheries (NMFS)
- **Local Sponsor:** Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)

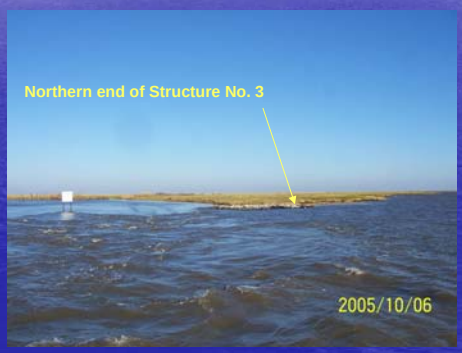
Historical Information

- Construction completed in May 1999
- **Maintenance Event No. 1:** Repair of spoil bank breaches by constructing a rock weir (breach site 3) and bucket dredged material (breach sites 4 through 8).
- **Maintenance Event No. 2:** Replacement of the existing warning buoys at six weirs with warning barricades constructed using pilings and steel pipe.
- **Maintenance Event No. 3**: Repair of a breach at Weir No. 3 by placing 250 class rip rap to extend the weir to the bank and the placement of concrete matting to prevent future erosion.

MAINTENANCE EVENT No. 3 (2005) – DETAILS

- Maintenance need resulting from a breach around the south tie-in of Weir No. 3.
- Work included the placement of 50 linear feet of 250 class limestone rip rap and the placement of 640 square feet of articulated concrete matting to prevent future erosion around the south tie-in.
- This work was performed in conjunction with a maintenance project for the Point Au Fer Project (TE-22) by Luhr Bros. Construction Company using Point Au Fer (TE-22) maintenance funds.
- The project was completed in September 2005.
- **TE-26 Maintenance Cost for Construction: $ 0**

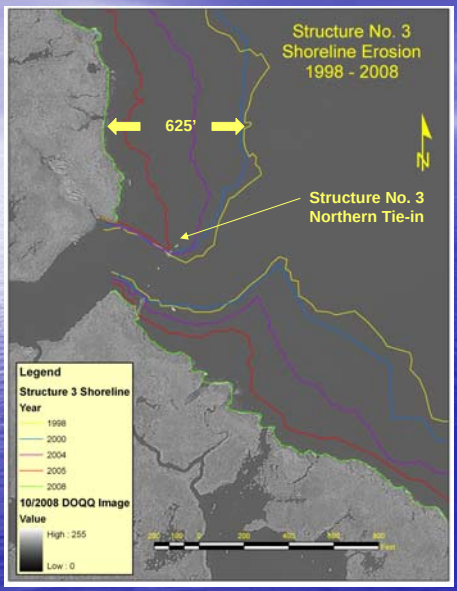
WEIR No. 3 NORTH TIE-IN PHOTOS (2005)



WEIR No. 3 NORTH TIE-IN PHOTO (2008) PRE-HURRICANES GUSTAV AND IKE

WEIR No. 3 NORTH TIE-IN PHOTO POST GUSTAV AND IKE (2008)

WEIR No. 3 NORTH TIE-IN SHORELINE EROSION RATES



Structure No. 3 was constructed 700 feet west of the bay along the centerline of the canal.

The mouth of the canal is now 200 feet west of the center of the structure.

The erosion rate of the shoreline in the immediate vicinity of Structure No. 3 for the last decade is approximately -62 feet per year.

This amount of shoreline erosion was far greater than what was anticipated.

WEIR No. 3 – Scope Change

- As a result of Hurricane Gustav and Ike, the breach on the north side of Structure No. 3 has increased from 60' wide in January 2008 to approximately 350' wide in September 2008.

- Three alternatives were evaluated:
  1. Constructing a 350' breach closure and 200' long shoreline revetment northward along the existing bank line. The overall estimated budget for this alternative is approximately $800,000.
  2. Demolishing the existing structure (Structure No.3) and relocating the weir further inland between Four League Bay and Crab Lake. The overall cost associated with this alternative is $1,298,000.
  3. Removing the structure entirely. The demolition of Structure No.3 shall include spreading the existing rock material along the bottom of the bay in a manner that will not interfere with marine navigation. The overall cost for this alternative is approximately $295,000.

WEIR No. 3 – Scope Change (Cont'd)

In evaluation these alternatives, the OCPR considered the initial cost of repairs and/or replacement of the structure, the implications of removing the structure and the affects on the island hydrology, and the anticipated future maintenance of the structure. A review of the conclusions in the 2007 Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring Report revealed that the project objectives and goals of restoring the historical hydrology of the island is inconclusive at this time and that land water analysis indicated continued land loss inside the project boundary (Lear E., T. Folse and B. Babin, 2007). Based on this analysis, the OCPR does not believe that removing Structure No.3 will significantly worsen the hydrologic conditions of the island. Regarding alternatives 1 and 2, the reconstruction of Structure No.3 at the current location or moving further inland towards Crab Lake will most likely require significant maintenance and possible expansion along the shoreline to protect the structure from breaching as the shoreline retreats. As the marsh on the south side of the structure continues to erode at an estimated 60ft/year, it will become more difficult and expensive to prevent breaching around the structure. Considering that project benefits are inconclusive and the cost of maintaining the structure for the remaining 20 year project life will be exorbitant, the OCPR is recommending that the third alternative of complete removal of the structure be implemented.

RECOMMENDED SCOPE MODIFICATION OF EVENT NO. 4 (2009) DEMOLITION OF BREACH NO. 3

Maintenance needs

- Demolition of existing rock weir structure and removal of articulated mats on the south side of the structure
- Spread existing rock material along the bottom of the canal to a depth not to interfere with marine navigation.

Estimated Project Budget

Construction Cost + 25% Contingencies:	$ 283,750
Engineering and Design:	$ 10,000
Construction Oversight:	$ 6,000
OCPR Construction Administration	$ 5,000
NMFS Construction Administration	$ 9,080
Total Project Budget	**$ 313,830**

TE-26 O&M BUDGET (AS OF MAY 2009)

Originally Approved O&M Budget	$ 429,720
2006 Funding Increase (Weir 3 Repair not Constructed)	$ 225,869
2008 Funding Increase (Weir 3 Repair not Constructed)	$ 326,764
Current O & M Budget	**$ 982,353**
Total Expenditures from Lana Spreadsheet	$ -418,973
Expenditures from DNR Accounting	$ -34,872
Estimated Unexpended O&M Obligations	**$ 528,508**

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST TO CHANGE THE PROJECT SCOPE FOR THE WEST BELLE PASS BARRIER HEADLAND PROJECT (TE-52), DUE TO A PROJECT COST INCREASE OF OVER 25%

For Discussion/Decision:

The NMFS and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in the project scope on the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52), due to an increase of over 25% from the original estimated project cost. The original fully funded cost estimate was $____. The fully funded revised budget is $_____ or __% over the original budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to change the project scope for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52).

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve the request to change the project scope for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

LSU- Louisiana Sea Grant Building, Room 124C

Baton Rouge, LA 70803

September 21, 2009

Re: West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Restoration Project (TE-52) Proceeding to 95% Design

Dear Members of the CWPPRA Technical Committee:

On behalf of the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR), please consider this letter notice of our intent to proceed to 95% design on the above referenced project. The 30% design conference was held July 15, 2009 and did not result in the discovery of any information that should preclude moving ahead with final engineering of the project. Answers to questions submitted either at the conference or during the two-week comment period following the conference is attached. Per the 2009 CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Section 6.e.2, "…the Federal Sponsor shall forward a letter (or e-mail) to the Technical Committee with a copy to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee along with the revised estimate, a description of project revisions from the previously authorized project, and a letter of concurrence from the Local Sponsor, informing them of the agreement to continue with the project." The State has concurred with this request verbally and a letter is in the process of being forwarded to the Technical Committee.

In addition to the above requirement, Section 6.e.3 of the SOP states that if a change in scope results in a 25% or greater variance from the original estimated project benefits or cost, that a report must be submitted to the Technical Committee explaining the reasons for the variance. After completing a robust engineering investigation and selecting a design alternative that best meets the project goals using a cost-based approach, the resulting construction cost is approximately 55% higher than that estimated during Phase 0. The project benefits are improved compared to that determined in Phase 0. The following table summarizes the cost and benefit information.

	Construction Cost (including 25% contingency)	**Constructed Acres** (beach, dune, marsh)	**Net Acres** (pending final review of Env WG)	**AAHU's** (pending final review of the Env WG)
Phase 0	$23,045,710	270	299 (includes secondary benefits to adjacent shorelines)	180
Phase 1	$35,871,491	320	280 (does not include secondary benefits)	190

There are several reasons why the costs have increased to this extent.

1) The project was conceived and originally evaluated in 2006. The survey information and hydrodynamic modeling was not as robust in the candidate phase as it has been during Phase 1. The development of restoration alternatives took into account long-term losses, subsidence, sea level rise, sediment transport, overwash, and a more recent history of hurricane impacts. The Delft3D modeling used a sophisticated approach to anticipate project performance under these scenarios. The resulting design alternatives augmented the dimensions and combination of beach, dune, and back marsh acres proposed in Phase 0 to optimize performance. Some dune acres were replaced with marsh acres, and in general the marsh platform was extended to create a wider headland. This yields more acres constructed but also an increase in fill volume. Approximately 660,000 cubic yards was added to the total project fill volume to account for both losses since the 2006 surveys as well as an increase in the total marsh acres created. This accounts for over $3M in the cost difference. Please find attached a project map and a planform of the preferred project alternative.

2) The borrow site conceptually identified during Phase 0 was a back-bay shoal that had been originally investigated by the University of New Orleans. Although at the candidate stage this was a viable option, upon further investigation by the project team it was decided that this was a sub-optimal borrow source for the project. This decision was based on potential access problems, concern over sand quality, and the general location within the bay in proximity to adjacent land features. The geotechnical investigation was extended to offshore areas of interest within state waters, and ultimately selected just east of Timbalier Island. This borrow location is approximately 10 miles from the project site but has high quality sand and known volumes that can accommodate this project. The selection of an offshore borrow site with boosters and a long pump distance increased the expected mobilization costs. The Phase 0 mob estimate, in retrospect, was too low given the knowledge of subsequent bids on island projects. This, coupled with the selected borrow site, increased the mob estimate from $1.5M to $4M.

3) The unit prices used during the Phase 0 estimate reflected a reasonable knowledge of market and fuel conditions at that point in time. The original estimate did not have the benefit of very recent actual bids that were incorporated into the revised Phase 1 estimate by the project team's contractor. The revised unit prices take into account actual bids in the area for comparable work, and consulting with a sub-contractor that is extremely experienced within the dredging industry. The Phase 0 cost estimate assumed a sand fill price of $7.50 per cubic yard; whereas, the Phase 1 cost estimate assumed a sand fill price of $10.70 per cubic yard. The dredging costs difference accounts for approximately $3.5M of the increased project cost.

4) The remainder of the cost difference is accounted for by increasing plantings immediately post construction, and the multiplier that occurs when you apply a 25% contingency on the total construction amount. The revised estimate presented in this letter assumes a 25% contingency; however, if a 15% contingency is used then the cost difference between Phase 0 and Phase 1 is reduced to 43%. By the end of Phase 1 the cost estimate should render a level of confidence that could justify reducing the contingency percent from 25; however, given the uncertainties of a fluctuating market and a dynamic coastal system, using a higher contingency rate may be prudent.

The final engineering cost estimate is in the process of being completed and is expected to be sent to the Engineering Work Group this week. Additionally, the original Wetland Value Assessment is being revised and will be submitted to the Environmental Work Group shortly. It is NMFS and OCPR's intent to host a 95% design review conference on November 3, 2009, unless the Technical Committee feels that the project should not proceed. The design items of the project remain unchanged from Phase 0. The cost increase was necessary given updated market and design information. The end result is a project that will perform better and have a greater likelihood of receiving successful bids.

The NMFS and OCPR respectfully request that the Technical Committee review and approve this request by email, given the short time remaining to execute Phase 2 requests. All other elements of reaching Phase 2 have been completed, and we are anxious to submit this project for construction funds as time is of the essence along this shoreline. Should you feel an audience is warranted, we respectfully request being added to next week's agenda so the matter can be voted on prior to closure of the 95% design conference window.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request to move to 95% design. I can be reached at (225) 578-7923, or Kenneth Bahlinger at (225) 342-7362 should you require additional information.

Best wishes,

Cheryl Brodnax

Cheryl Brodnax, Project Manager

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

Attachments: TE-52 Project Boundary

Planform of Preferred Alternative

Comments submitted at 30% design conference

Cc: Members of the CWPPRA Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee

Kenneth Bahlinger, Project Manager, OCPR

Cecelia Linder, Program Officer, NOAA NMFS

CPRA
Coastal Protection and
Restoration Authority of Louisiana

State of Louisiana

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

September 23, 2009

Cheryl Brodnax
NOAA Restoration Center
LSU Sea Grant Room 124 C
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-6100

Re: 30% Design Review Concurrence for West Belle Pass Barrier
Headland Restoration Project (TE-52)
Statement of Local Sponsor Concurrence

Dear Ms. Brodnax:

The 30% Design Review meeting for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Restoration (TE-52) project was held on July 15th, 2009. Based on our review of the technical information compiled to date, the preliminary land ownership investigation, and the preliminary designs, the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, as the local sponsor, concurs to proceed with the design of TE-52. In accordance with the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures, we request that you forward this letter of concurrence to the Technical Committee and the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee and proceed towards the 95% design level with the selected alternative and revised project cost estimate. We also request that our project manager, Kenneth Bahlinger, be copied on all correspondence concerning this project.

The revised TE-52 project cost estimate reflects a change in scope resulting in a 25% or greater variance from the original project cost estimate. Therefore, OCPR concurs with your report to the Technical Committee (dated September 21, 2009) stating the resultant increase in cost is due to a justifiable increase in benefits and several deficiencies in the Phase 0 cost estimate.

Please do not hesitate to call me if I may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Knotts, P.E.,
OCPR Chief, Engineering and Operations Division

cc: Cecelia Linder, NOAA Fisheries
Kenneth Bahlinger, OCPR Project Manager
Rudy Simoneaux, P.E., OCPR Project Engineer
TE-52 Project File

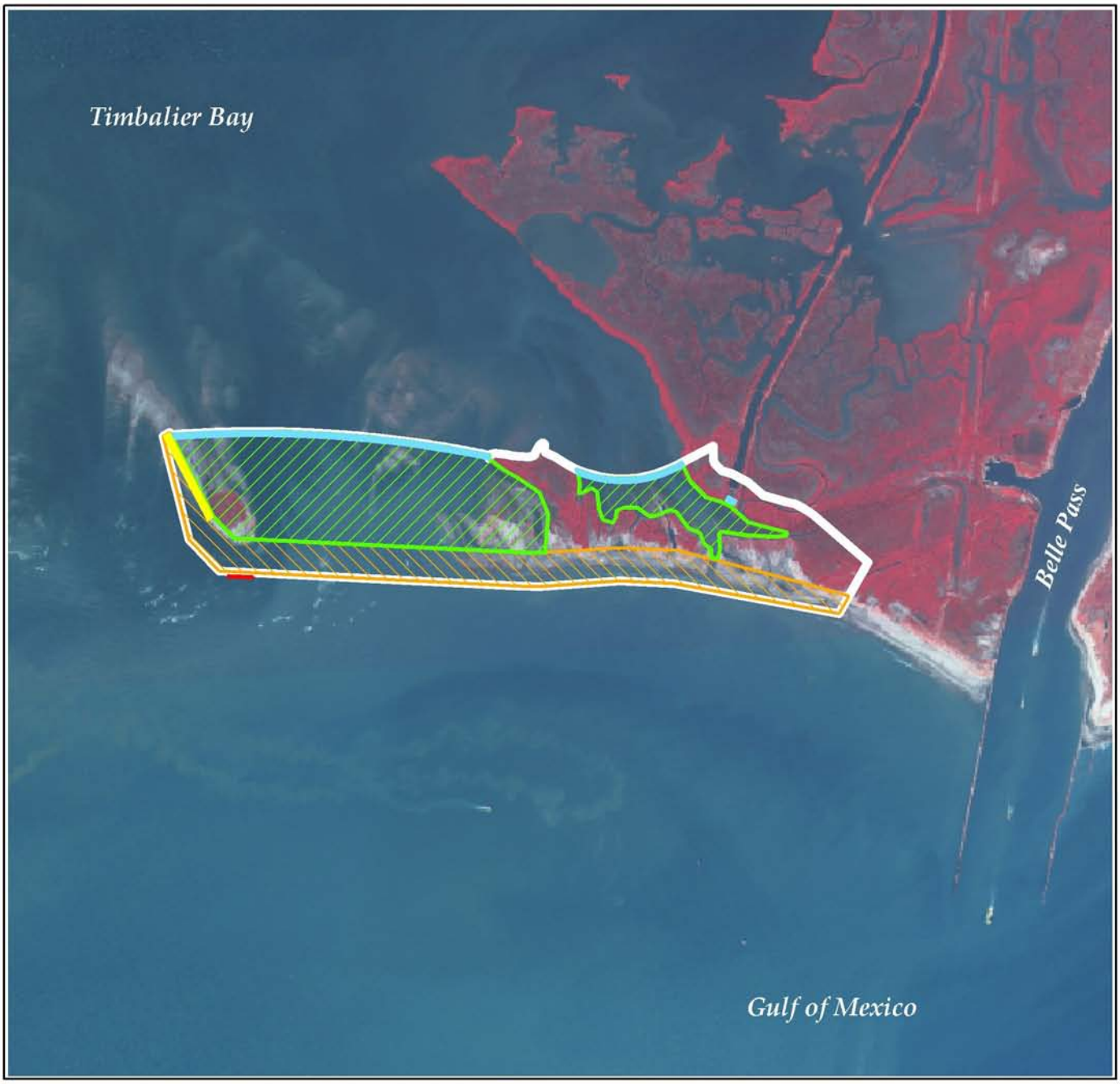
Comments Submitted at 30% Design Conference: TE-52

1) Have breakwaters been considered as a design feature for this project?

   A breakwater and terminal end structures were modeled and evaluated for this project. Although both were able to help retain sand within the project area, they were marginally cost-effective in terms of construction costs vs. cost savings from material retention. The Delft3D model showed that a single breakwater could help trap sand, but that its success was premised on the addition of beach nourishment; therefore, they could not be interchanged to meet the project's goals. As an additive feature to beach renourishment and marsh creation, breakwaters could improve performance. The decision to omit hard structures from this project was almost exclusively a matter of total project cost, as well as concern over placing hard structures along a migrating shoreline. The cost for one breakwater was estimated at a little over $1M. With a headland that is over 9,000 lf long, the cost to build a breakwater field would exceed $10M, not including maintenance costs.

2) Have you looked at the shadow of the terminal structure as to where the sand goes?

   According to the models, the sand trends northwest and goes into Raccoon Pass with little bypassing. Some material goes behind the islands into the bays. After reviewing the data the State's contractor (Coastal Planning and Engineering) does not expect any downstream impacts should a terminal end structure be used.



West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Restoration Project

Project Location

- Crested Dune *
- Containment *
- Breakwater *
- Marsh Creation *
- Dune/Beach Fill *
- Project Boundary *

* denotes proposed features

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 Kilometers

0.25 0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Scale 1:25,000

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2006-11-0485
Map Date: July 19, 2006

Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, LA

Image Source:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2009 11:48 AM
To: Wandell, Scott F MVN
Subject: FW: Request for Approval to go to 95% design - West Belle Pass Barrier Headland (TE-52)

Attachments: TC letter to proceed to 95% design (9.28.09).pdf

TC letter to proceed to 95% de..

Please print this email for the binders. The attachment is already included in the binder materials.

-----Original Message-----
From: Cheryl Brodnax [mailto:Cheryl.Brodnax@noaa.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2009 11:46 AM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Richard Hartman; Rachel Sweeney; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; Brad Crawford @ EPA; John Jurgensen @ NRCS; kelley.templet@la.gov; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Cecelia Linder; Kenneth Bahlinger; Kirk Rhinehart; Constance, Troy G MVN; Darryl_Clark@fws.gov; britt.paul@la.usda.gov; Rudy.Simoneaux@LA.GOV
Subject: Re: Request for Approval to go to 95% design - West Belle Pass Barrier Headland (TE-52)

Melanie-

Per your request please find attached a revised letter and summary table that includes the original and revised Phase 1 costs, estimated Phase 2 costs, and long-term O&M and project-specific monitoring budgets. As you have mentioned, the proposed costs have to be finalized by the Eng WG and inflated by the Eco WG. The proposed budget is being forwarded to the Eng WG today to begin this process. In order to compare like budgets, the Phase 0 budget only reflects the fully funded first costs and original O&M budget. As well, the benefits have marginally increased as a result of including the secondary benefits that were part of the original WVA and not reflected in this first letter. The final WVA will be submitted to the Env WG very shortly for their final review and concurrence.

Thank you for your willingness to hear this request. As I will be on mandatory business travel, the presentation will be made by OCPR.
Please let me know if you require additional information.

Best regards-
Cheryl

Goodman, Melanie L MVN wrote:
> Rick, for the subject request, please provide current and estimated
> fully funded project costs. We realize that an economic analysis
> hasn't been conducted, but a rough estimate for future O*M if any plus
> Phase I cost should be included so we can get an idea of the estimated
> total change in project cost effectiveness.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Melanie
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cheryl Brodnax [mailto:Cheryl.Brodnax@noaa.gov]
> Sent: Monday, September 21, 2009 1:16 PM
> To: Holden, Thomas A MVN; Constance, Troy G MVN; Darryl_Clark@fws.gov;

> Kirk Rhinehart; Richard Hartman; britt.paul@la.usda.gov;
> parrish.sharon@epa.gov
> Cc: Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; Brad Crawford @ EPA;
> John Jurgensen @ NRCS; kelley.templet@la.gov; Rachel Sweeney; Cecelia
> Linder; Kenneth Bahlinger
> Subject: Request for Approval to go to 95% design - West Belle Pass
> Barrier Headland (TE-52)
>
> Dear Technical Committee Members:
>
> Please find in the attached pdf, a letter requesting approval to
> proceed to 95% design for the West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Project (TE-52).
> Within this letter you will find reference to a cost increase that has
> exceeded the 25% tolerance. The letter discusses the issue and asks
> for your concurrence. With the period for requesting phase 2 funds
> quickly approaching, I respectfully request your attention to this
> matter, with consideration to providing concurrence via email. In the
> absence of this possibility, I request being added to the agenda for next week's
meeting.
> With your approval, it is NMFS and OCPR's intent to hold a 95% design
> conference on November 3, 2009. We are in the process of finalizing
> the engineering cost estimate and WVA with the respective work groups,
> and all other Phase 1 components have been completed. For your
> information, I have also attached the project boundary, preferred
> alternative plan form, and answers to questions submitted at the 30% design conference.
>
> Many thanks in advance for your time and consideration.
>
> Best regards,
>
> Cheryl Brodnax
> NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
>

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

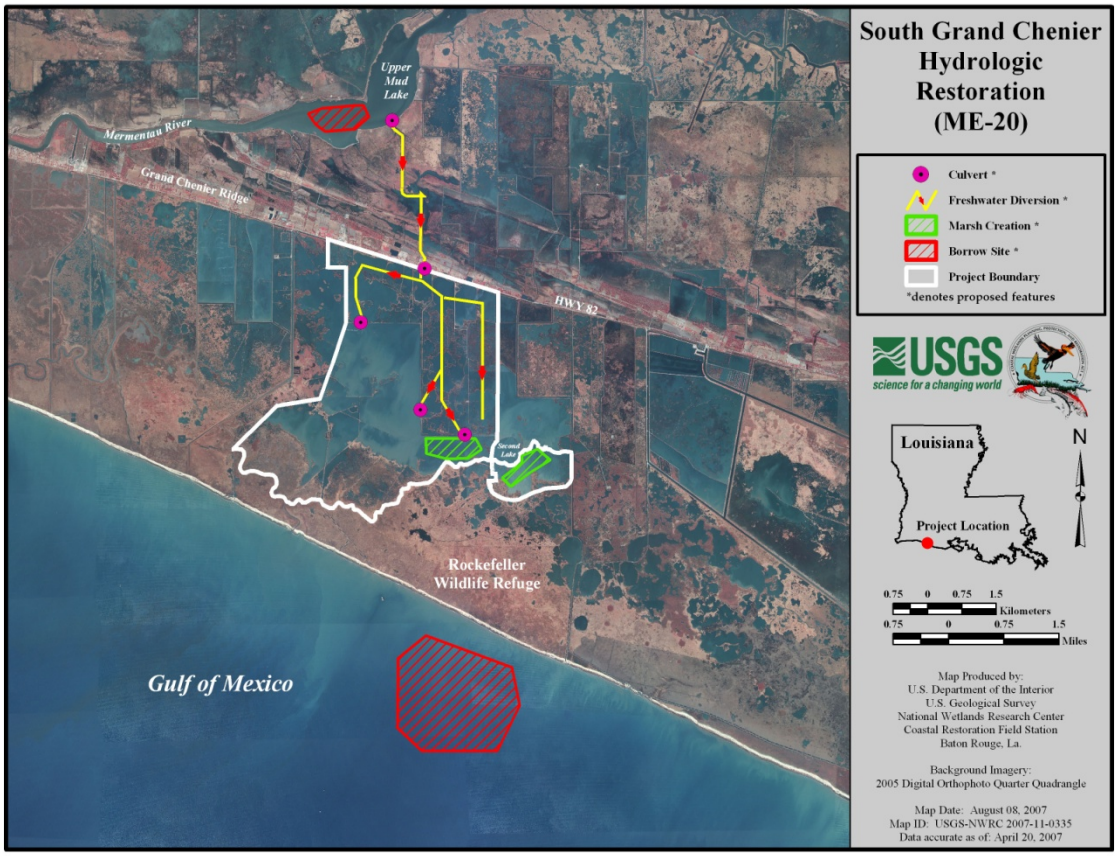
REQUEST TO CHANGE THE PROJECT SCOPE FOR THE SOUTH GRAND CHENIER HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION PROJECT (ME-20), DUE TO A PROJECT COST INCREASE OF OVER 25%

For Discussion/Decision:

The USFWS and OCPR request Task Force approval for a change in the project scope on the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20), due to an increase of over 25% from the original estimated project cost. The original fully funded cost estimate was $20,998,000. The fully funded revised budget is $27,936,726 or 33% over the original budget. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve the request to change the project scope for the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20).

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve the request to change the project scope for the South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration Project (ME-20).


South Grand Chenier Hydrologic Restoration (ME-20)
Culvert *
Freshwater Diversion *
Marsh Creation *
Borrow Site *
Project Boundary
*denotes proposed features
USGS
science for a changing world
Louisiana
Project Location
N
0.75 0 0.75 1.5
Kilometers
0.75 0 0.75 1.5
Miles
Map Produced by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, La.
Background Imagery:
2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle
Map Date: August 08, 2007
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2007-11-0335
Data accurate as of: April 20, 2007
Upper Mud Lake
Mermentau River
Grand Chenier Ridge
HWY 82
Second Lake
Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge
Gulf of Mexico

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

NRCS AND LOUISIANA OCPR REQUEST FOR TASK FORCE FAX VOTE TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF THE PPL 17- SEDIMENT CONTAINMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (LA-09)

For Report:

The Technical Committee voted by email to recommend Task Force approval of a construction request by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR). The Task Force approved the Technical Committee's recommendation to approve construction of the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302

(318) 473-7751
Fax: (318) 473-7626

September 14, 2009

Mr. Thomas Holden, Chairman
CWPPRA Technical Committee
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Holden:

RE: Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09)
Construction Approval Request

By this letter, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Restoration and Protection request Construction Approval of the Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09).

The information required by Section 6.i. of Revision 16.0 of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures is attached.

If you or any members of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, Technical Committee, or Task Force have any questions regarding this matter, please call Quin Kinler (225) 382-2047.

Sincerely,

William B. Paul
Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources

Attachment

cc (via email only):
Kirk Rhinehart, OCPR Technical Committee Member
Darryl Clark, USFWS Technical Committee Member
Rick Hartman, NMFS Technical Committee Member
Brad Crawford, EPA, Acting Technical Committee / P&E Subcommittee Member
Melanie Goodman, P&E Subcommittee Chair
Kelly Templet, OCPR P&E Subcommittee Member
Kevin Roy, USFWS P&E Subcommittee Member
Rachel Sweeney, NMFS P&E Subcommittee Member
John Jurgensen, NRCS P&E Subcommittee Member
Garrett Graves, CPRA Chairman
Quin Kinler, Project Manager, NRCS
Brad Miller, Project Manager, OCPR
John Boatman, District Conservationist, NRCS
Mike Trusclair, District Conservationist, NRCA
Brad Sticker, Design Engineer, NRCS
Charles Slocum, Design Engineer, NRCS
Randolph Joseph, Jr., ASTC/FO, NRCS

Information Required for Construction Request

Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09)

September 14, 2009

Description of the Project

The Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09) was approved by the CWPPRA Task Force on February 13, 2008 on the 17th Year Priority Project List (PPL 17) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) was authorized as the official sponsoring federal agency in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) to engineer, design and build a demonstration of the Net Gains, LLC product as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as a passive sediment trapping system.

The Net Gains, LLC product is considered a new and innovative technology that can be used in conditions and circumstances that limit the use of traditional containment. The CWPPRA Engineering and Environmental work groups performed an extensive evaluation of the product and cited several key factors that make the product. The product may be used in areas where soils are of too poor quality to construct containment dikes, in areas considered too sensitive to allow access by heavy equipment to construct containment dikes, and/or in areas where obstructions such as oil and gas pipelines prevent construction of earthen containment. The Eng/Env WGs also determined that because the product does not require heavy equipment to install, it may be more cost effective than traditional containment dikes. The demonstration project will evaluate all of these potential benefits.

The Net Gains, LLC system is a newly patented technology (US 6,827,525 B2 – Dec. 7, 2004) that has yet to be suitably tested in coastal restoration. Because of the high cost of dredging, which often runs in millions of dollars, the use of untested technology is not feasible on a large scale because of the risk of failure and the cost involved. Therefore, a designated demonstration project was funded to specifically test the product and properly evaluate its use in coastal Louisiana.

NRCS currently is planning to test the product in two different configurations on two separate marsh creation projects that will employ the use of hydraulic dredging. A third test site may be included depending on availability of remaining funds and the opportunity to match the demonstration with a third dredge project.

1) South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project (BA-41) - The first configuration will be a curvilinear containment stretched to connect two approximately parallel earthen containment dikes. This application would test the product's ability to contain material flow across an opening to confine the material within a designated area. This test is planned to take place within the CWPPRA South Shore of

the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project (BA-41) in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana (**Figures 1, 2, 3**). NRCS has received approval from the landowners to nest the demonstration project within the earthen containment of the BA-41 project. Note that the demonstration project, if successful, will prevent dredge material from flowing to approximately 5 acres of the designated earthen containment area for the BA-41 project and therefore potentially reduce the marsh creation acres by as much as 5 acres.

2) Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project – Terrebonne Parish, LA – Mandalay NWR - The second configuration will be circular dredge containment cell planned to take place within the Hanson Marsh HR Project in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana – Mandalay NWR (**Figures 4, 5**). The construction of the Hanson Canal project is being funded by the North American Waterfowl Conservation Act (NAWCA) and the CWPPRA-funded demonstration component would test the product's ability to contain dredge material in a small cell approximately 2 acres in size.

Both of the LA-09 applications are add-ons to larger parent projects already scheduled for construction and dredge mobilization. The full projects have also completed all geotechnical analyses, land ownership investigations, cultural resource assessments, and any necessary environmental permits as detailed in the design reports for the parent projects. The addition of the LA-09 components to each parent project is currently undergoing consultation with the Corp of Engineers for necessary permit modifications.

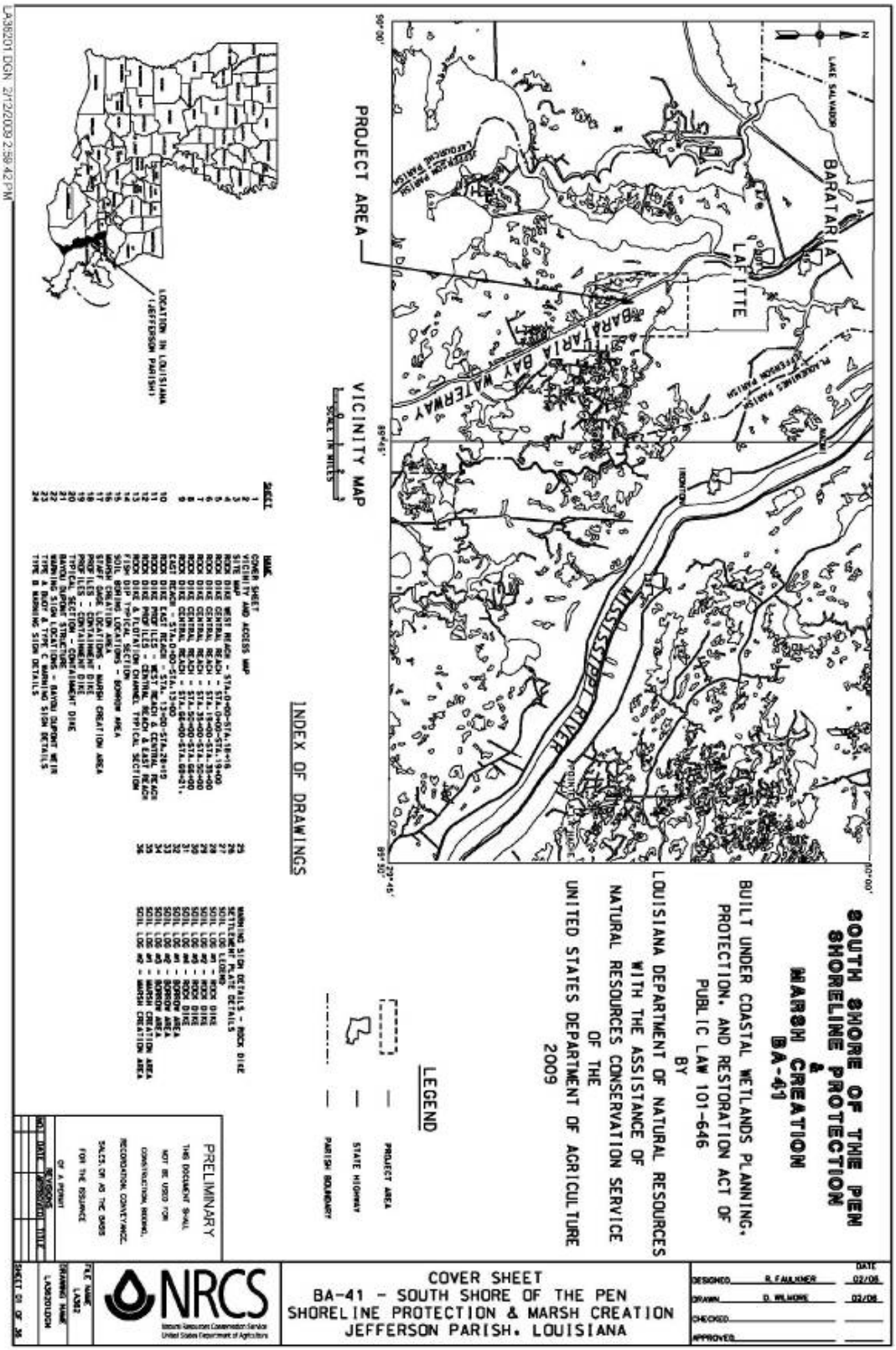
The CWPPRA-funded LA-09 demonstration project will pay for the containment material, as well as its installation and removal (if necessary) in both projects. Because the LA-09 containment material will be placed within the confines of the BA-41 containment dikes, there is no additional cost for dredge material. Therefore, at the BA-41 site, the LA-09 cost will be limited only to the production/installation/removal of the Net Gains, LLC material. BA-41 construction is estimated to begin in February 2010.

At the Hanson Marsh HR Project site, LA-09 cost will include the cost of additional dredge material as well as the cost of the containment material production/installation/removal because the project will involve construction of an independent marsh creation cell outside of the original project containment. The Hanson Marsh HR Project absorb most of the mobilization costs and will engage a small (10-12") dredge. The project will be facilitated through modification of an existing contract. Construction is estimated to begin in November 2009.

3) Passive Sediment Trap - A third application of the Net Gains, LLC product will be tested (time and place yet to be determined) using the product as a passive sediment trap to increase efficiency of sediment retention for marsh creation. This application will simply require the placement of the material in an area where river-borne sediment-laden water is moving through an area to trap sediment and promote accretion. This application will determine if this technology effectively improves sediment trapping and accretion in areas where adequate sediment supplies are available yet mostly transient. The project will determine accretion and elevation change due to the application of the material. Site selection and construction time table is unknown at this time.

The passive sediment trapping demonstration is planned to be tested either in the direct outfall of a Mississippi River diversion or in the area of influence of the Atchafalaya River where total suspended solids concentrations are sufficient to potentially build land.

Figure 1 – Plan view map South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project (BA-41).



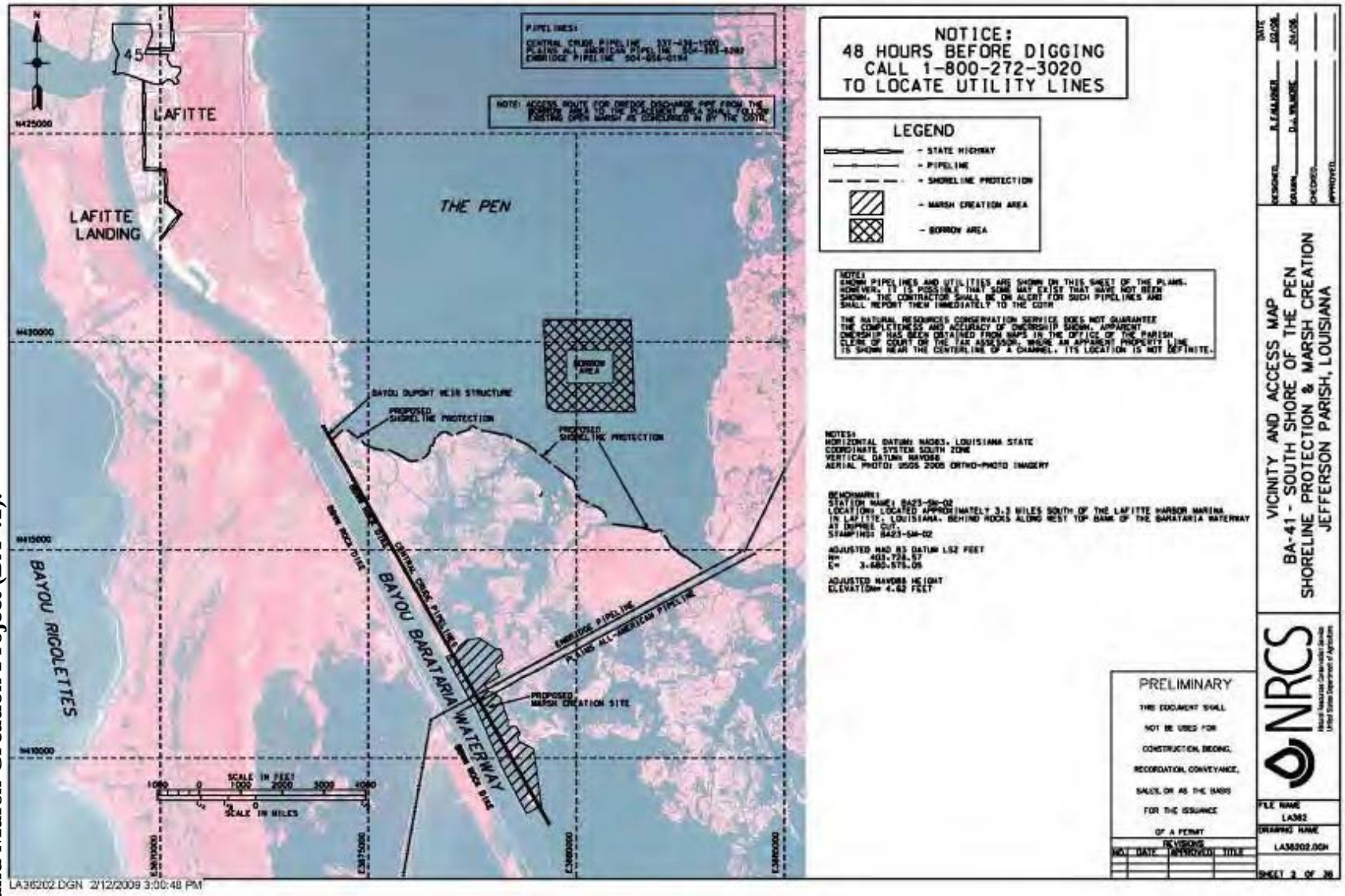


Figure 2. Vicinity and access map for South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project (BA-41).

Figure 3. South Shore of the Pen Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation (BA-41) with curvilinear containment (shown as a semi-circle dashed line on south end of the marsh creation cell).

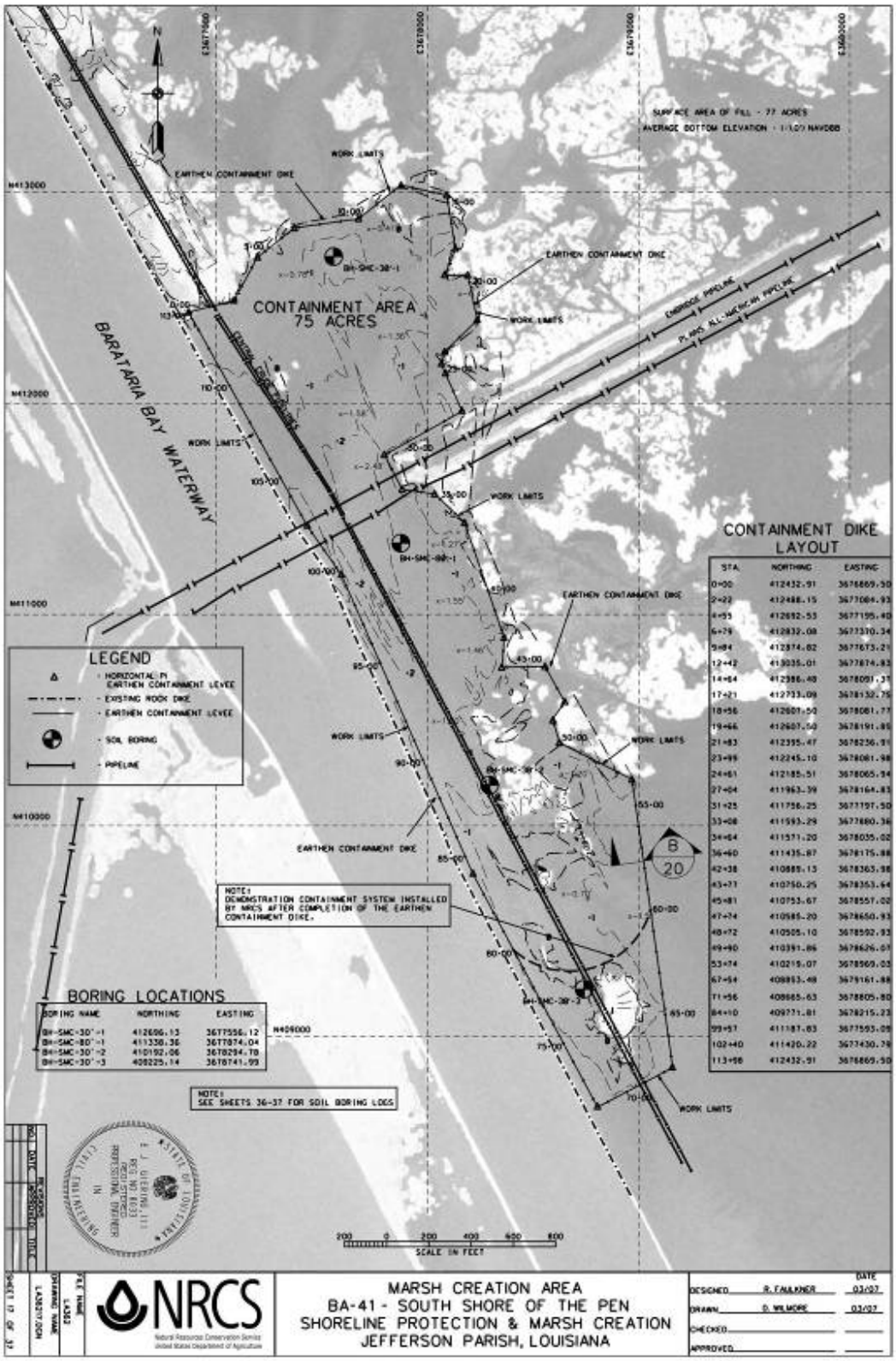


Figure 4. Plan view map of Hanson Marsh HR Project (Mandalay NWR).

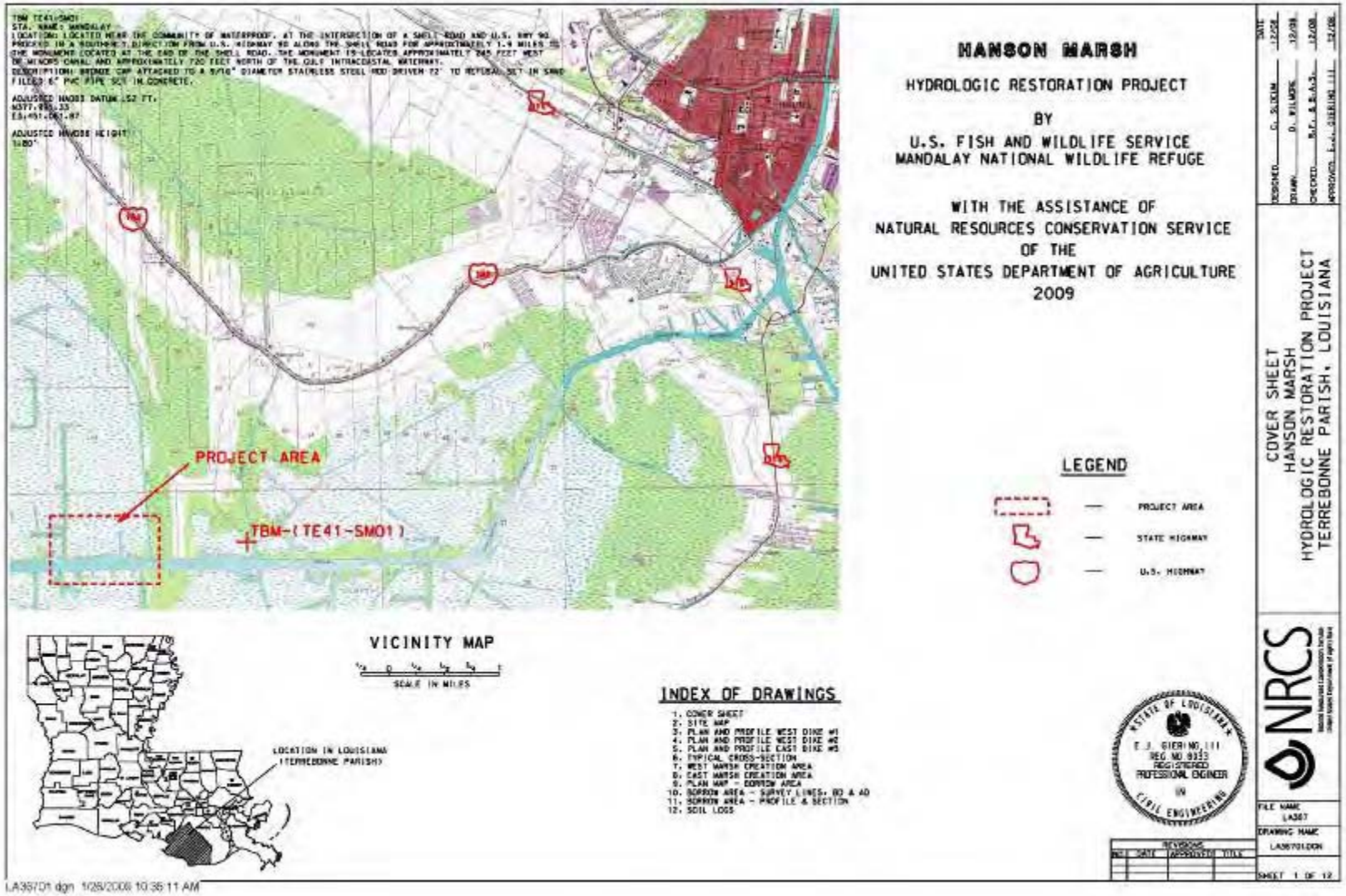


Figure 5. Site view map of Hanson Marsh HR Project borrow and marsh creation areas including the LA-09 Sediment Containment March Creation project cell.

Creel, Travis J MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 12:44 PM
To: Creel, Travis J MVN
Subject: FW: CWPPRA Sediment Containment Demonstration Project Request for Construction Approval

-----Original Message-----
From: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA [mailto:john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 10:55 AM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Creel, Travis J MVN; Browning, Gay B MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA; Broussard, Loland - Lafayette, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; Gunter, Jackie P MVN; Burdine, Carol S MVN; Hawkins, Gary L MVN; Constance, Troy G MVN; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA
Subject: RE: CWPPRA Sediment Containment Demonstration Project Request for Construction Approval

Melanie,

Please see below for our responses to your comments:

1. I don't have a record that a design review was held. Please provide information to demonstrate that a design review report was prepared and design review conference was held (see CWPPRA SOP Appendix E, Section VI). NRCS conducted a Preliminary Design Review via email to all appropriate participants. A preliminary Design Report was sent to P&E, Engineering and Environmental Work group members for review. Responses to this review were received and all comments addressed in a Final Design Report. The Final Design Report was submitted via email to Melanie Goodman, USACE, on September 10, 2009. (see attached copy)

2. Acquire a Section 303(e) Certification, or waiver thereof, from the Corps of Engineers (CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(2)). One site for the LA-09 project is within the CWPPRA BA-41 project site, and the BA-41 Section 303(e) Certification was granted by the Corps Real Estate Division on November 27, 2007. A second site for the LA-09 project is within the Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge. A request for Section 303(e) Certification will be submitted to the Corps of Engineers in September, once NRCS receives the draft Special Use Permit from Mandalay NWR. Because a previous CWPPRA project (LA-05) is also located on Mandalay NWR for which 303(e) Certification was completed, and because a similar landrights instrument will be used for LA-09, there are no anticipated problems with the 303(e) Certification.

4. Provide a statement that a draft Environmental Assessment has been completed (CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(6)(a)). The demonstration project is nested within two larger projects one of which is a CWPPRA project, BA-41 (S.Shore of the Pen MC/SP), and one of which is a NAWCA project (Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project) which is a project being facilitated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. NRCS has determined that the NEPA compliance for each of the larger host projects sufficiently covers the LA-09 project. BA-41 has an Environmental Assessment that was completed in April 2008. The 404 permit approval process for the Hanson project includes a NEPA compliance review.

5. Please clarify if NRCS has made a determination that there is no reason to believe that HTRW is a concern for the project and therefore an assessment is not required (reference CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(6)(a))? If such a determination has not been made, then please clarify why "NRCS procedures do not call for an HTRW assessment on this project" and why these NRCS procedures would apply to CWPPRA Projects. We can only speculate that there may be specific laws that authorize NRCS to cooperate with private landowners that ordinarily exempt NRCS from CERCLA for typical NRCS projects outside of the CWPPRA Program. We would like to verify how these laws may be interpreted to be applied to and exempt CWPPRA Projects. NRCS determined that a Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste analysis (HTRW) was not required on either of the projects that this demonstration project

is nested within. It is our interpretation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), or Superfund, that the act requires any site identified as a hazardous waste site to be cleaned up in accordance with requirements specified within the act. There have been no sites identified within either project area, or in the proposed borrow area. It is the common practice of our agency to refer to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 to protect human health and environment from potential hazards of waste disposal and ensure waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner. In compliance with this act we use field determinations by a project team consisting of coastal specialists in engineering, biology, and natural resources management to identify any potential concerns with regards to environmental impacts, impacts to wildlife and fisheries, etc. As part of this site investigation we also determined whether there is reason to believe that a potential for exposure to hazardous materials occurs within the project area or borrow site. If the judgment of the project team is that the potential for a hazardous element is not present then the need for an HTRW is determined to be unnecessary, therefore that analysis is not done. In addition if any federal or state partner, regulatory agency, or the public raises a concern, then the area is investigated again. We have, on previous projects, decided to do an HTRW simply on the basis of a voiced public concern over a potential channel enlargement and the potential for any hazardous materials because of the close proximity to a major urban area. That analysis proved to be negative.

It is our interpretation that there must a reason to believe there is a potential for hazardous materials to be present before we are required to do an HTRW. We have also discussed this during our NEPA process with EPA, and have never received any comments to suggest that our interpretation is flawed. This has never been an issue in the 20 years of building CWPPRA Projects, therefore we do not believe it is an issue now. For future projects we can clarify the statement to remove “NRCS procedures do not call for an HTRW assessment”, and replace with language such as “field investigations by NRCS personnel and project team have determined that an HTRW assessment is not required for this project.”

Please let us know if you would like to discuss in further detail.

John Jurgensen, P.E.
Civil Engineer
Water Resources Office
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Louisiana
* Office: (318) 473-7694
* Fax: (318) 473-7747
* Email: john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN [mailto:Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2009 11:48 AM
To: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA
Cc: Creel, Travis J MVN; Browning, Gay B MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA; Broussard, Loland - Lafayette, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; Gunter, Jackie P MVN; Burdine, Carol S MVN; Hawkins, Gary L MVN; Constance, Troy G MVN
Subject: CWPPRA Sediment Containment Demonstration Project Request for Construction Approval

John, the CWPPRA SOP for Demonstration projects requires that Non-Cash Flow Procedures are followed. I suggest that the following things be completed before project construction approval is requested for the subject project in order to comply with the SOP:

1. I don't have a record that a design review was held. Please provide information to

demonstrate that a design review report was prepared and design review conference was held (see CWPPRA SOP Appendix E, Section VI).

2. Acquire a Section 303(e) Certification, or waiver thereof, from the Corps of Engineers (CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(2)).

4. Provide a statement that a draft Environmental Assessment has been completed (CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(6)(a)).

5. Please clarify if NRCS has made a determination that there is no reason to believe that HTRW is a concern for the project and therefore an assessment is not required (reference CWPPRA SOP Section 6i.(6)(a))? If such a determination has not been made, then please clarify why "NRCS procedures do not call for an HTRW assessment on this project" and why these NRCS procedures would apply to CWPPRA Projects. We can only speculate that there may be specific laws that authorize NRCS to cooperate with private landowners that ordinarily exempt NRCS from CERCLA for typical NRCS projects outside of the CWPPRA Program. We would like to verify how these laws may be interpreted to be applied to and exempt CWPPRA Projects.

Thanks,

Melanie Goodman
CWPPRA Program Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Restoration Branch

Office: 504-862-1940
FAX: 504-862-1892

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:34 AM
To: 'Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA'; 'Darryl Clark (Darryl_Clark@fws.gov)'; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard. hartman@noaa. gov (richard.hartman@noaa.gov)'; 'Brad Crawford (Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov)'; 'Kirk Rhinehart'
Cc: 'Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA'; 'Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA'; 'Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA'; (Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov); (Chris.Allen@LA.GOV); Bren Haas (Bren.Haase@LA.GOV); Browning, Gay B MVN; Creel, Travis J MVN; Cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org); Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov; renee.sanders@la.gov; Wandell, Scott F MVN
Subject: RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee, please advise if there is any objection to conducting Task Force FAX vote for the below. We will expedite request upon confirmation that there is no objection.

Thanks,

Melanie

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA [mailto:britt.paul@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:29 AM
To: 'Darryl Clark (Darryl_Clark@fws.gov)'; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard. hartman@noaa. gov (richard.hartman@noaa.gov)'; 'Brad Crawford (Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov)'
Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Subject: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee,

The motion below was passed at the September Technical Committee meeting. NRCS is requesting that this motion be sent for a fax vote to the Task Force due to the timeline of implementation for this project. As noted in your binder we are attempting to insert this demo into two projects, BA-41 South Shore of the Pen, and Hanson Canal. The Hanson Canal project is currently under construction. We are requesting a fax vote for construction approval in order to not delay the dredging cycle of construction activities of the Hanson Canal project.

Motion: The Technical Committee moved to recommend the project to the Task Force for construction approval

Agenda,

1. Decision/Vote: Submittal of Final Design Report and Request for Construction Approval for the PPL 17 Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09) (Britt Paul, NRCS) 1:45 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. The U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) request Task Force approval for construction on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09). LA-09 was approved on the PPL 17 to implement a demonstration project using the Net Gains, LLC product as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as a passive sediment trapping system. The Task Force will

consider the Technical Committee’s recommendation for construction approval on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09).

If you need further information please let us know.

Britt

****

W. Britt Paul, P.E.
Assistant State Conservationist WR/RD
USDA-NRCS
318-473-7756
britt.paul@la.usda.gov

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2009 2:24 PM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Bren.Haase@LA.GOV; Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA; Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov; Chris.Allen@LA.GOV; Cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us; Darryl_Clark@fws.gov; Browning, Gay B MVN; Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org); Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; Kirk Rhinehart; KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov; renee.sanders@la.gov; richard.hartman@noaa.gov; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Wandell, Scott F MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Creel, Travis J MVN
Subject: RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

EPA has no objection...

<>< ><> <>< ><> <>< ><>
Brad Crawford, P.E.
US EPA (6WQ-EC)
1445 Ross Ave.
Dallas, TX 75202
214.665.7255
214.665.6689 fax
<>< ><> <>< ><> <>< ><>

RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Goodman, Melanie L MVN to: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA, Darryl_Clark, Holden, Thomas A MVN, KIRKR, richard.hartman, Brad Crawford, Kirk Rhinehart
10/06/2009 09:34 AM

Cc: "Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA", "Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA", "Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA", Cecelia.Linder, Chris.Allen, Bren.Haase, "Browning, Gay B MVN", "Creel, Travis J MVN", Cynthia.duet, "Goodman, Melanie L MVN", "Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org)", "Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV", Kevin_Roy, rachel.sweeney, renee.sanders, "Wandell, Scott F MVN"

Technical Committee, please advise if there is any objection to conducting Task Force FAX vote for the below. We will expedite request upon confirmation that there is no objection.

Thanks,

Melanie

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA [mailto:britt.paul@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:29 AM
To: 'Darryl Clark (Darryl_Clark@fws.gov)'; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard. hartman@noaa. gov (richard.hartman@noaa.gov)'; 'Brad Crawford (Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov)'

Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Subject: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee,

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NRCS is requesting that this motion be sent for a fax vote to the Task Force due to the timeline of implementation for this project. As noted in your binder we are attempting to insert this demo into two projects, BA-41 South Shore of the Pen, and Hanson Canal. The Hanson Canal project is currently under construction. We are requesting a fax vote for construction approval in order to not delay the dredging cycle of construction activities of the Hanson Canal project.

Motion: The Technical Committee moved to recommend the project to the Task Force for construction approval

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If you need further information please let us know.

Britt

****
W. Britt Paul, P.E.
Assistant State Conservationist WR/RD
USDA-NRCS
318-473-7756
britt.paul@la.usda.gov

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Kirk Rhinehart [Kirk.Rhinehart@LA.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:59 AM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA; Darryl_Clark@fws.gov; Holden, Thomas A MVN; richard.hartman@noaa.gov; Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov
Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov; Chris Allen; Bren Haase; Browning, Gay B MVN; Creel, Travis J MVN; Cynthia Duet; Jerome Zeringue; Kelley Templet; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov; Renee Sanders; Wandell, Scott F MVN; Kelley Templet
Subject: RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

No objection from the State.

-----Original Message-----
From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:33 AM
To: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA <britt.paul@la.usda.gov>; Darryl_Clark@fws.gov <Darryl_Clark@fws.gov>; Holden, Thomas A MVN <Thomas.A.Holden@usace.army.mil>; Kirk Rhinehart <Kirk.Rhinehart@LA.GOV>; richard.hartman@noaa.gov <richard.hartman@noaa.gov>; Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov <Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov>; Kirk Rhinehart <Kirk.Rhinehart@LA.GOV>
Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA <john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov>; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA <quin.kinler@la.usda.gov>; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA <ron.boustany@la.usda.gov>; Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov <Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov>; Chris Allen <Chris.Allen@LA.GOV>; Bren Haase <Bren.Haase@LA.GOV>; Browning, Gay B MVN <Gay.B.Browning@usace.army.mil>; Creel, Travis J MVN <Travis.J.Creel@usace.army.mil>; Cynthia Duet <Cynthia.Duet@GOV.STATE.LA.US>; Goodman, Melanie L MVN <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>; Jerome Zeringue <Jerome.Zeringue@LA.GOV>; Kelley Templet <Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV>; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov <Kevin_Roy@fws.gov>; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov <rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov>; Renee Sanders <Renee.Sanders@LA.GOV>; Wandell, Scott F MVN <Scott.F.Wandell@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee, please advise if there is any objection to conducting Task Force FAX vote for the below. We will expedite request upon confirmation that there is no objection.

Thanks,

Melanie

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA [mailto:britt.paul@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:29 AM
To: 'Darryl Clark (Darryl_Clark@fws.gov)'; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard. hartman@noaa. gov (richard.hartman@noaa.gov)'; 'Brad Crawford (Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov)'
Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Subject: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee,

The motion below was passed at the September Technical Committee meeting.
NRCS is requesting that this motion be sent for a fax vote to the Task Force due to the

timeline of implementation for this project. As noted in your binder we are attempting to insert this demo into two projects, BA-41 South Shore of the Pen, and Hanson Canal. The Hanson Canal project is currently under construction. We are requesting a fax vote for construction approval in order to not delay the dredging cycle of construction activities of the Hanson Canal project.

Motion: The Technical Committee moved to recommend the project to the Task Force for construction approval

Agenda,

1. Decision/Vote: Submittal of Final Design Report and Request for Construction Approval for the PPL 17 Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09) (Britt Paul, NRCS) 1:45 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. The U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) request Task Force approval for construction on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09). LA-09 was approved on the PPL 17 to implement a demonstration project using the Net Gains, LLC product as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as a passive sediment trapping system. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation for construction approval on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09).

If you need further information please let us know.

Britt

****

W. Britt Paul, P.E.
Assistant State Conservationist WR/RD
USDA-NRCS
318-473-7756
britt.paul@la.usda.gov

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Darryl_Clark@fws.gov
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 10:50 AM
To: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Cc: Bren.Haase@LA.GOV; Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA; Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov; Chris.Allen@LA.GOV; Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov; Cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us; Browning, Gay B MVN; Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org); Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV; Kevin_Roy@fws.gov; KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us; Kirk Rhinehart; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov; renee.sanders@la.gov; richard.hartman@noaa.gov; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Wandell, Scott F MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; Creel, Travis J MVN; Jim_Boggs@fws.gov
Subject: RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Attachments: pic20142.gif; graycol.gif; ecblank.gif

pic20142.gif (1 KB) graycol.gif (169 B) ecblank.gif (109 B)

Melanie,

We have no objection to NRCS moving toward a Task Force fax vote.

Darryl

Inactive hide details for "Goodman, Melanie L MVN" <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>"Goodman, Melanie L MVN" <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>

"Goodman, Melanie L MVN" <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>

10/06/2009 09:34 AM

To

"Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA" <britt.paul@la.usda.gov>, <Darryl_Clark@fws.gov>, "Holden, Thomas A MVN" <Thomas.A.Holden@usace.army.mil>, <KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us>, <richard.hartman@noaa.gov>, <Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov>, "Kirk Rhinehart" <Kirk.Rhinehart@LA.GOV>

cc

"Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA" <john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov>, "Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA" <quin.kinler@la.usda.gov>, "Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA" <ron.boustany@la.usda.gov>, <Cecelia.Linder@noaa.gov>, <Chris.Allen@LA.GOV>, <Bren.Haase@LA.GOV>, "Browning, Gay B MVN" <Gay.B.Browning@usace.army.mil>, "Creel, Travis J MVN" <Travis.J.Creel@usace.army.mil>, <Cynthia.duet@gov.state.la.us>, "Goodman, Melanie L MVN" <Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil>, "Jerome Zeringue (jzee@tlcd.org)" <jzee@la.gov>, "Kelley.Templet@LA.GOV" <kelley.templet@la.gov>, <Kevin_Roy@fws.gov>, <rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov>, <renee.sanders@la.gov>, "Wandell, Scott F MVN" <Scott.F.Wandell@usace.army.mil>

Subject

RE: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee, please advise if there is any objection to conducting Task Force FAX vote for the below. We will expedite request upon confirmation that there is no objection.

Thanks,

Melanie

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul, Britt - Alexandria, LA [mailto:britt.paul@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2009 9:29 AM
To: 'Darryl Clark (Darryl_Clark@fws.gov)'; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'KIRKR@dnr.state.la.us'; 'richard. hartman@noaa. gov (richard.hartman@noaa.gov)'; 'Brad Crawford (Crawford.Brad@epamail.epa.gov)'
Cc: Jurgensen, John - Alexandria, LA; Kinler, Quin - Baton Rouge, LA; Boustany, Ron - Lafayette, LA; Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Subject: LA-09 Sediment Containment Demo Request for Task Force Fax Vote

Technical Committee,

The motion below was passed at the September Technical Committee meeting.
NRCS is requesting that this motion be sent for a fax vote to the Task Force due to the timeline of implementation for this project. As noted in your binder we are attempting to insert this demo into two projects, BA-41 South Shore of the Pen, and Hanson Canal. The Hanson Canal project is currently under construction. We are requesting a fax vote for construction approval in order to not delay the dredging cycle of construction activities of the Hanson Canal project.

Motion: The Technical Committee moved to recommend the project to the Task Force for construction approval

Agenda,

1. Decision/Vote: Submittal of Final Design Report and Request for Construction Approval for the PPL 17 Sediment Containment Demonstration Project (LA-09) (Britt Paul, NRCS) 1:45 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. The U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) request Task Force approval for construction on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09). LA-09 was approved on the PPL 17 to implement a demonstration project using the Net Gains, LLC product as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as an alternative means to contain dredge sediment and as a passive sediment trapping system. The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation for construction approval on the Sediment Containment Demonstration project (LA-09).

If you need further information please let us know.

Britt

****
W. Britt Paul, P.E.

Assistant State Conservationist WR/RD
USDA-NRCS
318-473-7756
britt.paul@la.usda.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CEMVN-PM-OR

1 6 OCT 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force

SUBJECT: Request for Task Force Fax Vote to approve construction of the PPL 17-Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09)

1. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) request Task Force Fax Vote approval to begin construction of the Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09). NRCS is requesting fax vote approval due to the timeline for implementing this project. NRCS is attempting to insert the demo into two projects: 1) the CWPPRA South Shore of the Pen Project (BA-41), and 2) the North American Waterfowl Conservation Act (NAWCA) Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project. The NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project is currently under construction. The Technical Committee recommends Task Force Fax Vote approval to begin construction of the CWPPRA Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) as requested by NRCS and OCPR in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

2. On behalf of NRCS and OCPR, I am requesting a Task Force fax vote regarding the request to begin construction. Please consider the following motion:

The CWPPRA Task Force approves the Technical Committee's recommendation for construction approval for the PPL 17- Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

3. We have included a copy of correspondence from NRCS and OCPR requesting construction approval (Encl 1). Please use the enclosed Facsimile Transmittal form to submit your vote (Encl 2). Please fax your completed form to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (504) 862-1892, or email a scanned copy to Melanie.L.Goodman@mvn02.usace.army.mil by Thursday, 15 October 2009.

4. If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Ms. Melanie L. Goodman, CWPPRA Program Manager, at (504) 862-1940.

Alvin B. Lee

ALVIN B. LEE
Colonel, EN
Commanding

2 Encls
1. NRCS/OCPR Fax Vote
request and supporting information

CEMVN-PM-OR
SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve change in project scope for the PPL 17- Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09)

2. Fax Vote Form

CF via email (w/encl):
Mr. Garret Graves, LA Office of the Governor
Mr. William Honker, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Jim Boggs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr. Kevin Norton, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service
Mr. Chris Doley, National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration
Mr. Kirk Rhinehart, LA Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Brad Crawford, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Darryl Clark, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mr. Britt Paul, U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service
Mr. Rick Hartman, National Marine and Fisheries Service

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Wandell, Scott F MVN
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2009 6:17 PM
To: 'bill honker'; 'britt.paul@la.usda.gov'; Browning, Gay B MVN; 'Cece Linder'; 'Chris Allen'; 'Chris Doley'; Constance, Troy G MVN; 'darryl_clark@fws.gov'; 'Dr. John Foret'; 'enger.kinchen@la.gov'; 'garret graves'; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; 'gsteyer@usgs.gov'; Gunter, Jackie P MVN; Habbaz, Sandra P MVN; 'Harrel Hay'; Hawes, Suzanne R MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'Jane Watson'; 'Jerome P. Zeringue (jzee@la.gov)'; 'jim boggs'; 'kevin norton'; 'Kevin Roy'; 'Kirk Rhinehart'; Lachin, Donna A MVN; Lee, Alvin B COL MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; 'rick hartman'; 'Scott Wilson'; 'Sue Davis'; Wandell, Scott F MVN; Wittkamp, Carol MVN; 'Amelia_vincent@ursCorp.com'; Hicks, Billy J MVN; 'Brad Crawford (crawford.brad@epa.gov)'; 'Bren Haase'; 'Chuck Killebrew'; 'comvss@lsu.edu'; Creel, Travis J MVN; 'Heather Finley'; Hennington, Susan M MVN; 'Jack Arnold'; Petitbon, John B MVN; 'john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov'; 'Kelley Templet'; Lachney, Fay V MVN; Miller, Gregory B MVN; 'rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov'; 'Renee Sanders'; 'David M Marks'; 'Diane Smith'; 'jenneke visser'; 'Landers.Timothy@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Manuel Ruiz'
Subject: CWPPRA FAX VOTE: PPL17-Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09)--> DUE Tuesday, 20 October 2009

Attachments: CWPPRA_TFmeeting_28Oct09_MEMO (LA-09)_signed_copy.pdf; Sediment Containment Demo Construction Approval Letter.pdf; LA-09 Construction Approval Request Information 9_11_09.pdf; ENCL 2 (LA-09).xls

CWPPRA_TFmeetin ..._28Oct09_MEMO ... | Sediment ...tainment Demo Cor... | LA-09 Construction Approval Re... | ENCL 2 (LA-09).xls (26 KB)

Task Force Members,

Please see the attached memorandum from the Chairman of the Task Force requesting a fax vote for approval of the Technical Committee’s recommendation of construction approval for the PPL 17- Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09).

We have included a copy of correspondence and supporting information from NRCS and OCPR requesting construction approval to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities(Encl 1), and a Facsimile Transmittal form to submit your vote (Encl 2).

Please fax your completed form to the US Army Corps of Engineers at (504) 862-1892 or email a scanned copy to Scott Wandell (Scott.F.Wandell@usace.army.mil) and (Melanie.L.Goodman@usace.army.mil) by COB Tuesday, October 20, 2009.

Thanks

Scott Wandell
CWPPRA
USACE New Orleans
504.862.1878

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL HEADER SHEET

Agency	NAME/OFFICE SYMBOL	OFFICE TELEPHONE NO.	OFFICE FAX NO.
FROM			
EPA Region 6	William K. Honker	214-665-3187	214-665-7373
TO			
USACE	Melanie L. Goodman CWPPRA Program Manager	(504) 862-1940	(504) 862-1892

Classification	Precedence	No. Pages *Including Header*	Date/time	Releaser's Signature
		1	10/16/2009	Melanie Goodman

REMARKS:

The Motion:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) are requesting a Task Force Vote to begin construction of the Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

Please check one of the following:

[XXX] I approve the motion as stated above.

[ ] I do NOT approve the motion as stated above.

Signed,

Task Force Member Name

10/19/09
Date

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL HEADER SHEET

Agency	NAME/OFFICE SYMBOL	OFFICE TELEPHONE NO.	OFFICE FAX NO.
FROM			
Agency Name	Task Force Member Name		
USFWS/DOI	Jim Boggs USFWS	(337) 291-3115	(337) 291-3139
TO			
USACE	Melanie L. Goodman CWPPRA Program Manager	(504) 862-1940	(504) 862-1892

Classification	Precedence	No. Pages *Including Header*	Date/time	Releaser's Signature
		1	10/16/2009	Melanie Goodman

REMARKS:

The Motion:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) are requesting a Task Force Vote to begin construction of the Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

Please check one of the following:

[XXX] I approve the motion as stated above.

[ ] I do NOT approve the motion as stated above.

Signed,

Task Force Member Name

10/19/09
Date

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL HEADER SHEET

Agency	NAME/OFFICE SYMBOL	OFFICE TELEPHONE NO.	OFFICE FAX NO.
FROM USDA-NRCS	Kevin Norton	318-473-7751	318-473-7626
TO USACE	Melanie L. Goodman CWPPRA Program Manager	(504) 862-1940	(504) 862-1892

Classification	Precedence	No. Pages *Including Header*	Date/time	Releaser's Signature
		1	10/16/2009	Melanie Goodman

REMARKS:

The Motion:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) are requesting a Task Force Vote to begin construction of the Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

Please check one of the following:

[X] I approve the motion as stated above.

[ ] I do NOT approve the motion as stated above.

Signed,

Kevin D. Norton, STC

10/19/2009
Date

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL HEADER SHEET

Agency	NAME/OFFICE SYMBOL	OFFICE TELEPHONE NO.	OFFICE FAX NO.
FROM NOAA Fisheries	Christopher Doley	(301) 713-0174	(301) 713-0184
TO USACE	Melanie L. Goodman CWPPRA Program Manager	(504) 862-1940	(504) 862-1892

Classification	Precedence	No. Pages *Including Header*	Date/time	Releaser's Signature
		1	10/19/2009	Melanie Goodman

REMARKS:

The Motion:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) are requesting a Task Force Vote to begin construction of the Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09) in order to avoid delaying NAWCA Hanson Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project construction activities.

Please check one of the following:

[X] I approve the motion as stated above.

[ ] I do NOT approve the motion as stated above.

Signed

Christopher Doley

10-19-2009

10/19/2009

Wandell, Scott F MVN

From: Goodman, Melanie L MVN
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 2:02 PM
To: Wandell, Scott F MVN; 'bill honker'; 'britt.paul@la.usda.gov'; Browning, Gay B MVN; 'Cece Linder'; 'Chris Allen'; 'Chris Doley'; Constance, Troy G MVN; 'darryl_clark@fws.gov'; 'Dr. John Foret'; 'enger.kinchen@la.gov'; 'garret graves'; 'gsteyer@usgs.gov'; Gunter, Jackie P MVN; Habbaz, Sandra P MVN; 'Harrel Hay'; Hawes, Suzanne R MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'Jane Watson'; 'Jerome P. Zeringue (jzee@la.gov)'; 'jim boggs'; 'kevin norton'; 'Kevin Roy'; 'Kirk Rhinehart'; Lachin, Donna A MVN; Lee, Alvin B COL MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; 'rick hartman'; 'Scott Wilson'; 'Sue Davis'; Wittkamp, Carol MVN; 'Amelia_vincent@ursCorp.com'; Hicks, Billy J MVN; 'Brad Crawford (crawford.brad@epa.gov)'; 'Bren Haase'; 'Chuck Killebrew'; 'comvss@lsu.edu'; Creel, Travis J MVN; 'Heather Finley'; Hennington, Susan M MVN; 'Jack Arnold'; Petitbon, John B MVN; 'john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov'; 'Kelley Templet'; Lachney, Fay V MVN; Miller, Gregory B MVN; 'rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov'; 'Renee Sanders'; 'David M Marks'; 'Diane Smith'; 'jenneke visser'; 'Landers.Timothy@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Manuel Ruiz'
Subject: RE: CWPPRA FAX VOTE: PPL17-Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09)--> DUE Tuesday, 20 October 2009

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Task Force, we have received concurrence from the voting Task Force agencies to approve construction of the subject demonstration project. As such, we will be updating the Task Force meeting agenda to change the subject from a decision to a report and will add the request for FAX vote information and voting results to the binders at the meeting next week.

Thanks,

Melanie Goodman
CWPPRA Program Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Restoration Branch

Office: 504-862-1940
FAX: 504-862-1892

http://www.lacoast.gov/cwppra/
http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/cwppra_mission.htm

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From: Wandell, Scott F MVN
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2009 6:17 PM
To: 'bill honker'; 'britt.paul@la.usda.gov'; Browning, Gay B MVN; 'Cece Linder'; 'Chris Allen'; 'Chris Doley'; Constance, Troy G MVN; 'darryl_clark@fws.gov'; 'Dr. John Foret'; 'enger.kinchen@la.gov'; 'garret graves'; Goodman, Melanie L MVN; 'gsteyer@usgs.gov'; Gunter, Jackie P MVN; Habbaz, Sandra P MVN; 'Harrel Hay'; Hawes, Suzanne R MVN; Holden, Thomas A MVN; 'Jane Watson'; 'Jerome P. Zeringue (jzee@la.gov)'; 'jim boggs'; 'kevin norton'; 'Kevin Roy'; 'Kirk Rhinehart'; Lachin, Donna A MVN; Lee, Alvin B COL MVN; Podany, Thomas J MVN; 'rick hartman'; 'Scott Wilson'; 'Sue Davis'; Wandell, Scott F MVN; Wittkamp, Carol MVN; 'Amelia_vincent@ursCorp.com'; Hicks, Billy J MVN; 'Brad Crawford (crawford.brad@epa.gov)'; 'Bren Haase'; 'Chuck Killebrew'; 'comvss@lsu.edu'; Creel, Travis J MVN; 'Heather Finley'; Hennington, Susan M MVN; 'Jack Arnold'; Petitbon, John B MVN; 'john.jurgensen@la.usda.gov'; 'Kelley Templet'; Lachney, Fay V MVN; Miller, Gregory B MVN; 'rachel.sweeney@noaa.gov'; 'Renee Sanders'; 'David M Marks'; 'Diane Smith'; 'jenneke visser'; 'Landers.Timothy@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Manuel Ruiz'

Subject: CWPPRA FAX VOTE: PPL17-Sediment Containment System for Marsh Creation Demonstration Project (LA-09)--> DUE Tuesday, 20 October 2009

Task Force Members,

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Thanks

Scott Wandell
CWPPRA
USACE New Orleans
504.862.1878

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REVISION OF CWPPRA STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE REQUIREMENT FOR 30 % AND 95% DESIGN REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

For Discussion/Decision:

The Task Force will consider the Technical Committee's recommendation to modify the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as follows:

- Require project sponsors to respond to written comments within 45 days following 30% Design Review Conferences. Comments and responses shall be provided to the Technical Committee along with notification to proceed to 95% design. Section 8(1) of the CWPPRA SOP only requires that responses to the 30% Design be included in the Final Design Report. It is recommended that the following be added to the second paragraph of SOP Section 6(e)(2) (30% Design Review): "Agencies shall have 15 days after the 30% Design Review meeting to submit comments. Project sponsors shall provide a written response to 30% Design Review comments within 30 days following the end of the commenting period. These responses shall be included in the sponsoring agency's concurrence letter sent to the Technical Committee after the design review meeting."

Technical Committee Recommendation:

The Technical Committee recommends that the Task Force approve the recommendation to modify Section 6(e)(2) (30% Design Review) of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), as follows:

"Agencies shall have 15 days after the 30% Design Review meeting to submit comments. Project sponsors shall provide a written response to 30% Design Review comments within 30 days following the end of the commenting period. These responses shall be included in the sponsoring agency's concurrence letter sent to the Technical Committee after the design review meeting."

within 3 months following Phase 1 approval and shall be reviewed by the P&E Subcommittee.

(2) 30% Design Review: In order to resolve problems, anticipate cost growth, and identify the best project alternative to meet intended project goals, at the earliest possible point, a 30% Design Review shall be performed upon completion of a Preliminary Design Report. The Preliminary Design Report shall include: 1) Recommended project features, 2) Engineering and Design surveys, 3) Engineering and Design Geotechnical Investigation (borings, testing results, and analysis), 4) Draft Modeling Report (if applicable), 5) Analysis of alternatives to reduce long-term maintenance costs while maintaining project features to function as originally intended (i.e., sponsors should investigate the potential cost savings from investing more in initial construction (over-designing/over-building) in an effort to reduce future maintenance requirements, 6) Draft Ecological Review for cash flow-managed projects (if one or both project sponsors determine one is necessary for more complex projects, projects with little precedent for success, or other projects if necessary) (See APPENDIX B), 7) Land Ownership Investigation, 8) Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment, 9) Revised project construction, OMRR&R, monitoring, and administrative cost estimates based on the current selected preliminary design, 10) Description of changes from Phase 0 approval, and 11) Map prepared by the Local Sponsor and provided to the Federal Sponsor indicating any oyster leases potentially impacted by the proposed project and a data sheet listing: lease number, lease acreage, lessee name, and other pertinent data.

The Federal Sponsor shall hold a "30% Design Review Conference" with the Local Sponsor to obtain their concurrence to continue with design. However, if the Local Sponsor has responsibility for the design of the project, then both Local and Federal Sponsors shall hold a "30% Design Review Conference" to obtain concurrence to continue with design. The other Agencies shall be notified by the Federal Sponsor at least four weeks prior to the conference of the date, time and place and invited to attend. Any supporting data shall be forwarded to the other Agencies for their review, with receipt two weeks prior to the conference. Invitations and supporting data shall be sent to agency representatives of the Technical Committee, Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, Project Manager of the Local Sponsor and the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities. Agencies shall have 15 days after the 30% Design Review Conference to submit written comments. Project sponsors shall provide a written response to 30% Design Review comments within 30 days following the end of the commenting period.

The design review will verify the viability of the project and whether or not the Federal and Local Sponsors agree to continue with the project. This review must indicate the project is viable before there are expenditures of additional Phase 1 funds.

After the conference, the Federal Sponsor shall forward a letter (or e-mail) to the Technical Committee with a copy to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee along with the revised estimate, a description of project revisions from the previously authorized project,

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agency comments and responses, and a letter of concurrence from the Local Sponsor, informing them of the agreement to continue with the project. The Technical Committee may make a recommendation on whether or not to continue with the project.

For cash flow-managed projects, if the estimate indicates that the Phase 1 cost will exceed the original approved amount, the Federal Sponsor may, with local sponsor concurrence, request approval from the Technical Committee with subsequent approval by the Task Force for additional funds to continue at a quarterly meeting. For non-cash flow-managed projects, if the revised estimate indicates that the total project cost will exceed 125% of the original PPL estimate, the Federal Sponsor shall request approval from the Technical Committee with subsequent approval by the Task Force, at any Task Force meeting, to continue with the project.

In some cases, the Task Force may require an additional formal review, involving all the Agencies, of the project design at an intermediate level to ensure that optimum benefits to wetlands and associated fish and wildlife resources are achieved. In those cases the Federal Sponsor shall be responsible for coordinating the review with the other Agencies and the Local Sponsor.

(3) Changes in Project Scope: If a project undergoes a major change in scope or a change in scope resulting in a variance of 25 percent from the original approved design, in either: (1) the total project cost, (2) the number of acres benefited, or (3) the ratio of the total project cost to the number of acres benefited, the Federal or Local Sponsor will submit a report to the Technical Committee explaining the reason(s) for the scope change, the impact on cost and benefits, and a statement from the Local Sponsor endorsing the change. The Technical Committee will review the report and recommend to the Task Force approval or rejection of the change. Changes in project scope resulting in an increase in total project cost are discussed in paragraph 5.d.

f. PRE-CONSTRUCTION MONITORING

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For monitoring plan development and by the preliminary 30% design review, the Federal Sponsor shall provide at a minimum project-specific goals and strategies that the Local Sponsor will use to prepare a monitoring plan and a budget. The monitoring plan and budget must be submitted to the Technical Committee for review and subsequent approval by the Task Force.

g. REAL ESTATE

(1) General

(a) Each Federal or Local Sponsor shall follow the real estate procedures in use by that agency.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

STATUS OF THE PPL 1 - WEST BAY SEDIMENT DIVERSION PROJECT

For Report:

Ms. Cherie Price with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will provide a status on the West Bay Work Plan and dredging in the Pilottown Anchorage Area.

ERDC West Bay Sediment Diversion Workplan
Dated 24 April, 2009

Monthly Progress Report Prepared by ERDC:
September 11th, 2009

Start Date: May 25th, 2009
6 month milestone: November 24th, 2009

CONTENTS

Monthly Progress Report 1-3

Peer Review Meeting, Sept 2nd, 2009 4-12

MONTHY PROGRESS REPORT

TASK 1 Data collection & Analysis
Actions taken:

1. Data collection Trip 1, March 9-12, 22-23 April, 5-6 May, 2009: Multi-beam and hydrodynamic (ADCP) surveys, bed samples and suspended sediment samples.
2. Data collection Trip 2, 27-31 May, 2009: Hydrodynamic surveys, suspended sediment samples and additional bed material samples from below Cubit's Gap to Southwest Pass Jetties.
3. Data collection Trip 3, June 15-18, 2009: Hydrodynamic surveys and suspended sediment samples.
4. Data collection Trip 4, July 21-23, 2009: Hydrodynamic surveys, suspended sediment samples, and bed load samples.
5. Analysis complete on survey data from Trips 1-4; suspended sediment samples; analysis complete for Trips 1-4; and bed samples complete for Trips 1-3.
6. Ancillary multi-beam survey conducted during first week of August, analysis completed
7. Web-cast power-point presentation of data collection effort for Barb and others.
8. Data mining of current velocities, Discharge, and sediment flux calculations.
9. Submitted contracts for Mead Allison and Alexander Kolker.
10. Preparations made for Peer Review Meeting.
11. Draft data summary report (Trips 1-4) 75% complete.

Next steps:
1. Fifth data collection trip planned for the week of September 21st, 2009. Trip to co-inside with data collection of Allison and Kolker.
2. Continue with data analysis and data summary report preparation.

TASK 2 Large-Scale/Longer-Term Geomorphic Analysis - Lower Study Limit at East Jetty on Southwest Pass
Actions taken:

1. All hydrographic surveys have been acquired and brought into GIS system. XYZ data converted to TINs, contoured and quality control performed. TINs converted to grids for volumetric analysis.
2. Vertical datum decision reached. All survey data elevations have been converted to NAVD88 using relationships developed from survey data for BM 876 0849 A Tidal at Venice, LA supplied by MVN. Survey contained references for NAVD88, NGVD29 and MLG for the bench mark. Conversion used is NAVD88=NGVD29-1.12 feet and NAVD88=MLG-1.9 feet. Additional vertical datum information has been requested from Rich Campanella of Tulane University at the suggestion of Mead Allison.

3. Reaches to be used for volumetric analysis have been developed. Reaches for the portion of the river above PAA generally encompass the portion of the channel up to approximately the -20 foot contour. Reaches in the vicinity of the PAA encompass the anchorage area and the access area/channel in separate polygons.
4. Computation process for volumetric analysis has been tested and verified. The process uses the cut/fill option for the GIS system.
5. All gage and discharge data has been brought into a single database. Analysis has been initiated.
6. XY location data for dredge material gradation data has been determined and will be put into GIS database. Bed material data from Mead Allison surveys will be obtained and put in database.

Next steps:

1. Volumetric analysis will be completed for all surveys based on defined reaches.
2 Cross section analysis will be initiated. Cross sections will be defined at the endpoints and midpoints of the reaches.
3 Channel pattern analysis will be initiated. Contour patterns of the -45 feet channel will be developed for each survey and analyzed.
4 Gage and discharge data analysis will be completed. Sediment data analysis for Tarbert Landing data will be initiated.
5 Dredge data gradations will be incorporated into GIS and analysis initiated. Assessment of dredge reports from MVN will be initiated.

TASK 3 1D Sedimentation Modeling
Actions taken:

1. Acquired updated MVK HEC-6T model and draft report. Initiated review of report to insure we have a full understanding of model input, assumptions, and calibration.
2. Initiated addition of cross sections within the Belle Chasse to Head of Passes reach to better define channel geometry. Effort includes adding 39 cross sections to increase the cross section density.
3. Have tentatively developed the January 1999 through December 2008 as the typical hydrograph.

Next Steps:

1. Modify sediment concentrations in diversion outflow based on current field data collection results.
2. Verify model calibration with channel geometry and diversion outflow sediment concentration changes.
3. Run both Toffaleti and Madden-Laursen transport functions.
4. Incorporate West Bay Diversion into the model

Task 4: Multi Dimensional Modeling

Actions Taken:

1. Bathymetry has been finalized for both the CH3D and AdH meshes
2. High flow boundary conditions have been developed for the CH3D and AdH models
3. Preliminary hydrodynamic and sediment simulations have been completed for the CH3D model
4. Preliminary hydrodynamic simulations are underway for the AdH model.

Next Steps:

1. Complete verifications of AdH and CH3D models
2. Begin analysis of model results

PEER REVIEW MEETING, SEPT 2nd, 2009

TASK 1 Data collection & Analysis

1. Discharge and sediment flux data have been collected on the CWPPRA diversion opposite West Bay.

2. Evaluation of the sediment flux data using the technique described by Mead Allison (moving boat method) is under way.

3. Channel condition surveys corresponding to the dates of the sediment flux measurements will be reviewed.

4. The sediment flux determinations involved two days of data collection. Day 1, collection of 4 redundant discharge measurements at each transect along the length of the study reach. Day 2, collection of one discharge measurement at each transect at the same time suspended sediment data were collected. During the fifth data collection trip sediment flux data will be obtained in sets; discharge and suspended sediment data will be collection upstream, at the diversion and downstream of a diversion before moving to the next diversion. A diversion set will be collected at the same time each day in order to get the same stage of tide.

TASK 2 Large-Scale/Longer-Term Geomorphic Analysis - Lower Study Limit at East Jetty on Southwest Pass

1. At the suggestion of Mead Allison, Dr. Rich Campanella of Tulane University was contacted regarding additional vertical datum information for the LA coastal region. An email response was received from Dr. Campanella on September 10th, 2009 which stated that his work dealt mainly with conversion of historic datums such as the Cairo and Memphis datums to moderns datums. He indicated that the scale of his work was too coarse and would not be applicable to work being performed as part of this study. He did provide additional contact information for people he felt would be more knowledgable concerning vertical datums in the coastal area. Contact with these sources will be made to see if any helpful information can be obtained.

2. Report by Allison and Nittrouer (2004) obtained.

Allison and Nittrouer, 2004, Assessing quantity and quality of sand available in the Lower Mississippi River Channel for coastal marsh and barrier island restoration in Louisiana, Finial technical report for subcontract C-162523 Govenor's applied coastal research and development program, Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Tulane University.

Bed material data from the report will be obtained and put in database.

TASK 3 1D Sedimentation Modeling

1. Supply description of HEC-6T model, capabilities and limitations. Discuss how the model will handle the tides and salt wedge. Discuss the sensitivity analysis that can be completed in the 6-month effort.

Model Purpose, Capabilities, and Limitations

For the West Bay Diversion evaluation, a HEC-6T model as developed by the USACE Vicksburg District (MVK) is being used. The HEC-6T Sedimentation in Stream Networks software package is an enhanced version of HEC-6, Scour and Deposition in Rivers and Reservoirs. HEC-6T was developed by Mr. William A. (Tony) Thomas with Mobile Boundary Hydraulics. HEC-6 is public domain software maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hydrologic Engineering Center in Davis, California.

The HEC-6T user's manual is provided as a supplement to the HEC-6 user's manual. The HEC-6 user's manual provides the model purpose, philosophy, application, capabilities, theoretical assumptions, and limitations. This manual describes HEC-6 as "a one-dimensional movable boundary open channel flow numerical model designed to simulate and predict changes in river profiles resulting from scour and/or deposition over moderate time periods, typically years". HEC-6 is designed to simulate long-term trends of scour and/or deposition. Specifically, the HEC-6 sediment transport model calculates water surface and sediment bed surface profiles by computing the interaction between sediment material in the streambed and the flowing water-sediment mixture. HEC-6 is a steady state model that partitions a continuous flow record into a series of steady flows. The HEC-6 user's manual describes the computational process as follows: "For each flow a water surface profile is calculated thereby providing energy slope, velocity, depth, etc. at each cross section. Potential sediment transport rates are then computed at each cross section. These rates, combined with the duration of the flow, permit a volumetric accounting of sediment within each reach. The amount of scour or deposition at each section is then computed and the cross section adjusted accordingly. The computations then proceed to the next flow in the sequence and the cycle is repeated beginning with the updated geometry." Model output includes computed total sediment discharge passing each cross section and the volume of deposits or scour accumulated at each cross section from the beginning of the simulation.

Model input requirements include channel geometry, upstream discharge hydrograph, upstream boundary condition - incoming sediment loads, bed gradations, distributary / diversion outflow and sediment concentration, downstream boundary conditions – water surface elevations, and user specified sediment transport function. A two phase calibration is required. The first phase includes the calibration of computed water surface profiles to observed profiles. This is accomplished by running the model in the fixed-bed mode for a range of steady-state discharges. Manning's roughness coefficients are adjusted so that calculated water surface profiles match measured stages at available gage locations. The USACE Vicksburg District (MVK) model was calibrated to observed stages at nine gage locations, ranging from Red River Landing at RM 302.4 to Venice at River Mile 10.7. The second phase includes sediment calibration. This can be accomplished by simulating observed erosion and deposition and by simulating measured

sediment transport. Also, if dredging records are available, calibration to dredging quantities is an option. For the MVK effort, the model was calibrated to observed deposition downstream of the Old River Control Complex and to observed erosion at Smithland Crossing. The model was also calibrated to measure sediment transport at the Tarbert Landing (RM 306.3) and Belle Chasse (RM 76.0) gages. Calibration also included the simulation of reported dredging volumes in Southwest Pass and Above Head of Passes.

For the West Bay Diversion evaluation, the use of the HEC-6T models provides both advantages and disadvantages. The primary disadvantages include the fact that the model uses average hydraulic and sediment parameters since it is simulating 3-dimensional processes in 1- dimension. HEC-6T includes no provision for specifying a lateral distribution of sediment load across a cross section. Deposition and scour is modeled by moving each cross section point within the movable bed an equal amount (the area that is shifted vertically during each time step due to sediment movement). The advantages include the fact HEC-6T allows for long term simulations (we propose 50 year simulations) where multi dimensional models are limited to much shorter simulations (typically single events to months to possibly 1 year). HEC-6T also has the ability to simulate dredging activities. The dredging option is triggered when a depth of deposition is exceeded or can be triggered on a periodic basis. HEC-6T allows for the diversion of both water and sediment and calculates that impact on downstream sediment transport.

Tidal Considerations

Another factor that impacts sediment transport in coastal regions is tides. For our HEC-6T model, the downstream boundary condition is water surface elevation at Pilots Station. The MVK model includes an average monthly stage. We plan to use the 8:00 AM daily stage for our downstream boundary condition. This daily stage over the period of record will range throughout the daily tidal cycle. NOAA reports that the average difference between high and low tides at Pilots Station is approximately 1.2 feet. The average difference is much higher at other locations around the United States. Considering the relatively small difference at Pilots Station, using the 8:00 AM daily stage is considered reasonable to accurately simulate long term sediment transport. This is verified by the good calibration provided by the HEC-6T model for the October 1990 through September 2002 average monthly stage simulation conducted by MVK.

Saline Wedge

Salinity is an issue that impacts sediment transport. While HEC-6T does not provide for the direct impact of salinity, this impact can be approximated by varying the silt and clay shear threshold deposition coefficients. For the MVK model, the deposition coefficients for both silt and clay were increased downstream of Venice and the coefficient for clay was further increased in Southwest Pass to account for the effects of salinity on sediment deposition. The model allows for varying the threshold coefficients by reach but does not allow for varying the coefficients with discharge or stage. The salinity thought the Pilottown Anchorage Area (PAA) varies greatly with discharge. During low flow, the

salinity is much higher than during high flow periods. The variance is deemed reasonable since the deposition coefficients were determined during model calibration by comparing computed dredge volumes to those reported in Southwest Pass and between Head of Passes and Venice. Therefore, the model adequately accounts for the long term impact of salinity on sediment transport through the reach.

Sensitivity – 6 month workplan

In the 1-D model, sensitivity analysis includes varying specified input parameters to determine what impact changes in those parameters have on model results. Sensitivity analyses conducted in previous Mississippi River 1-D modeling has focused on the sediment concentration in the outflows at diversions / distributaries. For our effort, we propose to utilize two separate sediment transport functions since sediment transport rates and scour / deposition locations and volumes can vary with different functions. We will utilize both the Toffaleti and the Laursen (Madden) functions and compare the results. Both functions were developed for large rivers. The Toffaleti function has been used successfully in previous Mississippi River studies and other large, sand bed streams. The Laursen (Madden) function treats silt as bed load which may be important in the downstream most reaches of the Lower Mississippi River.

Task 4: Multi Dimensional Modeling

1. Supply description of 2/3D models, capabilities and limitations. Discuss how the models will handle the tides and salt wedge. Discuss the sensitivity analysis that can be completed in the 6-month effort.

Model Purpose, Capabilities, and Limitations

Several studies have been conducted concerning sediment processes at West Bay using the CH3D sediment transport model. These studies have yielded valuable information concerning the impacts of the implementation of the West Bay diversion. However, model specific limitations and constraints, associated primarily with grid resolution and boundary condition specifications, have contributed to the limited usefulness of these modeling results.

The ADH sediment transport model (Berger and Stockstill, 1999) is equipped with several features that can serve to mitigate the limitations inherent in the previous efforts. These include the following:

- The model is a fully unstructured model, which allows very dense model resolution to be focused only in areas of interest. This means that the model mesh can be highly resolved in the study area, to capture local vortices and other flow features at the diversion site, and also extended well beyond the study area to cover a very large spatial domain. This spatial extent is important because model

boundaries that are too close in proximity to the study area can essentially prescribe the results, if extreme caution is not taken in the selection and implementation of these boundaries. In other words, model results in the study area would mimic the values being used to drive the boundary of the model if that boundary is too close to the study area.

- The sediment model is based on the CH3D sediment model, except that it is equipped with some improvements to more accurately simulate sediment processes. These include the ability to simulate the hardening of the bed against erosion more effectively, and the ability to include forcing due to bed slope in the direction and magnitude of bedload transport. This latter feature could be of significance with respect to determining how much (if any) bedload transport passes through the diversion.
- The model can simulate fine sediment (grain sizes < 0.062mm) as well as coarse sediment (>0.062mm). This will enable the model to simulate sediment loads passing though the diversion, as well as the fate and transport of fine sediment within West Bay.

Each of these features fills a gap in the previous CH3D efforts, and hence each is desirable for the current effort. However, the ADH model is currently available only in a 2D depth-averaged modeling framework. Although 3D capability is currently being developed, it is not available at this time.

In general, the flow and sediment transport characteristics at a diversion exhibit decidedly 3-dimensional behavior. However, the further question of whether, and to what degree, the behavior at a specific diversion is characterized by the 3-dimeinsional nature of the flow is a question that cannot be answered from first principles. Rather, the question can be addressed via 2 different modes of analysis.

- Careful field data collection and analysis, to determine the nature of the observed flow and sediment transport patterns in 3 dimensions.
- Comparative model studies, simulating the system with both 2D and 3D models simultaneously, to determine the relative impacts of the 3-dimensional processes.

With this in mind, it is proposed that we conduct simulations using both CH3D and ADH, in order to take advantage of the combined capabilities of each model.

- The ADH model can be used to provide more accurate boundary conditions to the CH3D model (since the ADH boundary will extend far beyond the study area)

- Comparison of the results from both models will provide quantitative and qualitative insights into the need for 3D modeling at West Bay diversion, by demonstrating what a 2D model can and cannot provide.

- Both models can provide insight into the dominant processes governing sediment deposition in the anchorage area, and can be used in conjunction to provide the best possible answers.

The 6-month effort will be focused exclusively on shoaling in the anchorage area, and hence will be primarily focused on coarse-grained sediment transport processes. The further 12-month effort will also address the fine-grained sediment processes associated with sediment diversion, distribution, and retention within West Bay.

The modeling effort will include simulations of several different boundary conditions, each run both with and without the West Bay diversion included in the domain.

Tidal Considerations /Sensitivity – 6 month workplan

A tidal sensitivity simulation will be performed to assess the importance of tides in the system. However, it is believed that in a median to high flow river condition that the effects of the tidal signal are small with respect to the mean flow and are therefore the effect of the tidal signal is unlikely to be a dominant process in the anchorage area shoaling.

Saline Wedge

For the 6 month effort, the focus will be on the high and median flow conditions, since these are conditions where most of the sand transport is expected to occur. Therefore, the presence of the saline wedge at low flow will not be considered in the 6 month effort.

For the 12 month effort, the concern will be the diversion of fine sediment into the receiving area. Galler and Allison (2007) have demonstrated the seasonal trapping efficiency of the saline wedge with respect to fine sediments. The model will have to account for this trapping, and how it will impact the supply of fine sediment through the diversion. The original proposal did not include modeling the salinity wedge directly, since the focus was not on the river but on the receiving area. However, consideration will have to be given as to how the trapping phenomena can be accounted for, with respect to its effect of diversion sediment supply.

2. Discuss plans for consideration of bedload.

The bedload data from Nittrouer et al (2008) has been received and is being evaluated. These data represent direct measurements of bedload data. Therefore, if they are deemed appropriate for our study they will represent the best direct measure of bedload transport rates in the study area.

Apart from these data, we propose to use the data to be collected by ERDC personnel to estimate the bedload contribution in the study area.

During high flows there are sections of the river where the sediment moves almost entirely in suspension. The reach just upstream of West Bay is one of these reaches.

This is evidenced from the lack of sand found in the grab samples, and the lack of bedforms detected in the multibeam surveys.

Therefore, the suspended load collected during this time represents a measure of total load at this section. This measurement can be used to compare the total load from the models with the total load from the field data.

At lower flows, or at other locations on the river during higher flows, the transport mode is mixed or bedload dominant. Ascertaining the amount of sediment moving as bedload at these locations is difficult without direct measurement. However, an attempt can be made by developing a sediment budget for the study area.

We have suspended sediment mass balance data from several ERDC surveys. We also have dredging and time-series bathymetric data. If we combine all of these data, we can create a sediment budget, with the residual term (the net sediment) equal to the net bedload flux.

In summary, we intend to use the direct measured data principally, if it is deemed suitable for our study. Secondarily, we intend to develop local sediment budgets, with the net bedload flux estimated as the residual of the suspended load and bed aggradations/degradation budget.

Nittrouer, Allison and Campanella, 2008, Bedform transport rates for the lowermost Mississippi River, Journal of Geophysical Research, Vol. 113, F03004.

WORKPLAN Uncertainty: West Bay Diversion

Previous numerical model studies of the West Bay diversion or other nearby diversions generally fit into two categories:

- long-term one-dimensional (1D) simulations of diversion impacts on the bed profile of the main channel of the Mississippi River, and

- detailed three-dimensional (3D) simulations of flow and sediment transport processes in the immediate vicinity of the diversion.

In 1D simulations, the modeler must specify the diversion of flow and sediment from the main channel, usually as a function of the main channel flow and sediment concentration. While some measured data is available to quantify the flow diversion, the sediment load diversion has generally been based on engineering judgment. A typical assumption is that the diverted suspended sediment concentration (or total load expressed as concentration) is equal to the sediment concentration in the main channel. A more sophisticated approximation may consider the relative depth in the diversion and the main channel and estimates of the vertical variation in sediment concentration. Researchers

have identified this assumption as the major source of uncertainty in 1D model simulations. This approach is adequate to address neither lateral variations in sediment concentration (which may be significant for bed material load in the main channel) nor potential differences in the relative magnitudes of suspended load and bed load diversions. For our current effort, we have initiated as part of the data collection program, the collection of suspended sediment samples in both the Mississippi River channel immediately upstream of the primary diversions / distributaries and in the diversions / distributaries themselves. The diversions include Baptiste Collette Bayou, Grand Pass, West Bay Diversion, and Cubits Gap. This will allow the determination of the sediment concentration ratios for the diversions over a range of flow conditions based on actual measurements rather than on assumptions or approximations. The primary benefits of 1D simulations are that bed material and bed profile responses in the main channel can be economically simulated over long periods of time (decades) and the 1D simulations provide critical upstream boundary conditions (incoming sediment loads) for the multi dimensional models.

In the 3D simulations, flow and sediment diversions are computed from process descriptions using relatively detailed descriptions of channel and diversion geometry and spatial distribution of bed material. Validation of process descriptions, specification of initial conditions, e.g., bed material distribution and properties, and adjustment of model coefficients are data intensive efforts. The limited availability of the data required to verify that models are accurately estimating sediment diversions is one of the primary sources of uncertainty in three-dimensional simulations. In the absence of these data, the research community believes the sediment diversion estimates from three-dimensional models are the best estimates currently available.

The sediment transport module in the 2D shallow water version of ADH implements pseudo-3D transport and has been used to simulate 3D transport in riverine systems. In a river, the vertical variation in velocity and suspended sediment profiles can be reasonably approximated with theoretical profiles associated with fully-developed flow conditions. This assumption is not necessarily valid for a diversion, however, where both horizontal and vertical deviations from these theoretical profile descriptions are likely. Consequently, two-dimensional models generally have not been used to estimate the sediment transport within river diversions.

For this modeling effort, both the 2D model (ADH) and the 3D model (Ch3D) are being used to simulate the effects of the diversion on shoaling in the Anchorage area. This redundancy is deliberate. It serves as a sensitivity test on the models themselves, to determine how and to what degree the modeling assumptions and limitations associated with each model will impact the shoaling predictions associated with the models. This strategy is in keeping with the overall strategy of the West Bay workplan effort: to utilize all of the tools at our disposal, which also includes the geomorphic assessment and 1D modeling, such that the limitations of any one tool do not inhibit the success of the overall effort.

As part of the current effort to evaluate the impact of the West Bay diversion on shoaling in the Mississippi River, field data is being collected for the express purposes of developing a dataset that can be used to validate 3D model estimates of sediment diversion and tighten the bounds on the ratio of diverted sediment load to main channel load. If 3D model validation is successful, the 3D model can be used to further refine estimates of this ratio for use in long-term 1D model simulations. While available time and funding will constrain the field data investigation to analysis of current conditions, we expect this effort to significantly improve confidence in model results.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 28, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENT: DATE OF UPCOMING CWPPRA PROGRAM MEETING

The PPL 19 Public Meetings will be held November 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vermilion Parish Police Jury Courthouse Building, Courtroom #1, 2nd Floor, 100 North State St., Abbeville, Louisiana and November 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans, Louisiana in the District Assembly Room (DARM).

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

OCTOBER 28, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENT: SCHEDULED DATES OF FUTURE PROGRAM MEETINGS

Announcement:

		2009	
November 17, 2009	7:00 p.m.	PPL 19 Public Meeting	Abbeville
November 18, 2009	7:00 p.m.	PPL 19 Public Meeting	New Orleans
December 2, 2009	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
		2010	
January 20, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
January 26, 2010	1:00 p.m.	Region IV Planning Team Meeting	Rockefeller Refuge
January 27, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Region III Planning Team Meeting	Houma
January 28, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Region II Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
January 28, 2010	1:00 p.m.	Region I Planning Team Meeting	New Orleans
February 17, 2010	10:00 a.m.	RPT Voting Meeting	Baton Rouge
April 14, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	New Orleans
June 2, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	Lafayette
September 22, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge
October 27, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Task Force	New Orleans
November 16, 2010	7:00 p.m.	PPL 20 Public Meeting	Abbeville
November 17, 2010	7:00 p.m.	PPL 20 Public Meeting	New Orleans
December 1, 2010	9:30 a.m.	Technical Committee	Baton Rouge

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

January 21, 2009

DECISION: ADJOURN MEETING