



3RD PRIORITY PROJECT LIST REPORT

PREPARED BY:

LOUISIANA COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION
TASK FORCE

November 1993

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration
Act

3rd Priority Project List Report

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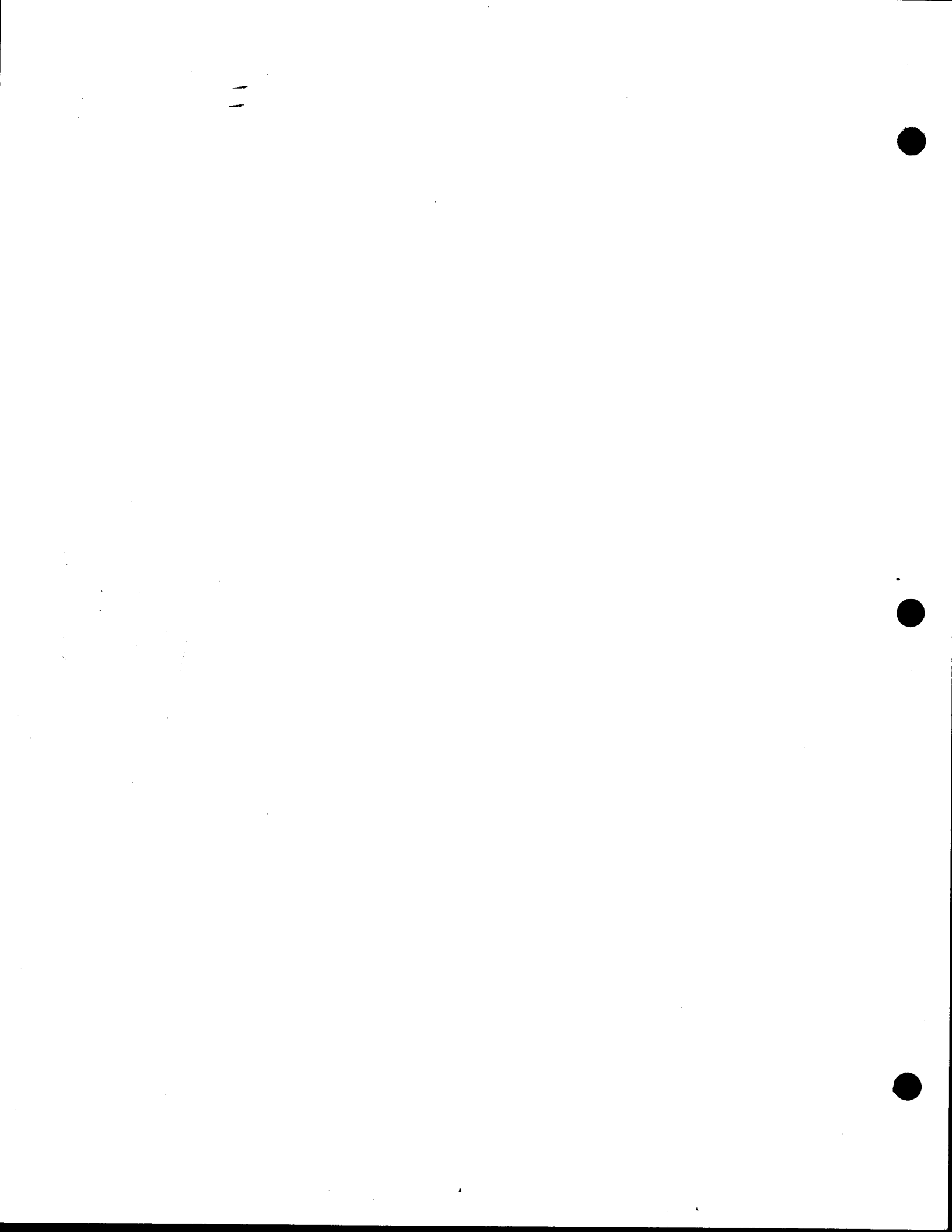
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INTRODUCTION

The State of Louisiana contains 40 percent of the Nation's coastal wetlands, but is experiencing 80 percent of the Nation's coastal wetland loss. The widespread and complex nature of the coastal wetland loss problem, coupled with the diversity of agencies involved and numerous alternatives proposed, has led many in Federal, state, and local government, as well as the general public, to the conclusion that a comprehensive approach is needed. The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (PL 101-646) was signed into law by President Bush on November 29, 1990, to address the need for a comprehensive approach to this significant environmental problem.

This report documents the implementation of Section 303(a) of the cited legislation.

STUDY AUTHORITY

Section 303(a) of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), displayed in Appendix A, directs the Secretary of the Army to convene the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force to:

... initiate a process to identify and prepare a list of coastal wetlands restoration projects in Louisiana to provide for the long-term conservation of such wetlands and dependent fish and wildlife populations in order of priority, based upon the cost-effectiveness of such projects in creating, restoring, protecting, or enhancing coastal wetlands, taking into account the quality of such coastal wetlands, with due allowance for small-scale projects necessary to demonstrate the use of new techniques or materials for coastal wetlands restoration.

STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of this study effort was to prepare the 3rd Priority Project List (PPL) and transmit the list to Congress by November 1993, as specified in Section 303(a)(3) of the CWPPRA. Section 303(b) of the act calls for preparation of a comprehensive Restoration Plan for coastal Louisiana; that effort is currently in progress, and will be reported on in November 1993, as required by the act.

PROJECT AREA

Plate 1 is a map which delineates the Louisiana coastal zone. The entire coastal area, which comprises all or part of 20 Louisiana parishes, is considered to be the

CWPPRA project area. To facilitate the study process, the coastal zone was divided into nine hydrologic basins, as shown on the map.

STUDY PROCESS

The Interagency Planning Groups.

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 (Appendix A). In addition, the State of Louisiana may not serve as a "lead" Task Force member for design and construction of wetlands projects of 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 Corps' New Orleans District to act in his place as chairman of the Task Force.

To assist it in putting the CWPPRA into action, the Task Force established the Technical Committee and the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee. Each of these bodies contains the same representation as the Task Force—one member from each of the five Federal agencies and one from the State. The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee is responsible for the actual planning of projects and preparation of this restoration plan, as well as the other details involved in the CWPPRA process (such as development of schedules, budgets, *etc.*); the subcommittee makes recommendations to the Technical Committee and lays the groundwork for all decisions which will ultimately be made by the Task Force. The Technical Committee reviews all materials prepared by the subcommittee, makes appropriate revisions, and provides recommendations to the Task Force. The Technical Committee operates at an intermediate level between the planning details considered by the subcommittee and the policy matters dealt with by the Task Force, and often formalizes procedures and assists in formulating policy for the Task Force.

The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee established several working groups to evaluate projects for Priority Project Lists and the restoration plan. The Environmental Work Group was charged with estimating the benefits (in terms of wetlands created, protected, enhanced, or restored) associated with various projects. The Engineering Work Group reviewed project cost estimates for consistency. The Economic Work Group performed the economic analysis which permitted comparison of projects on the basis of their cost effectiveness. The Monitoring Work Group established a standard procedure for monitoring of CWPPRA projects and developed a monitoring cost estimating procedure based on project type (Appendix F).

The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee also established an interdisciplinary basin team for each of the nine hydrologic basins in the coastal area. The nucleus of each team consisted of representatives of the five federal Task Force agencies and the State; these six members made the final decisions on team recommendations. However, team meetings frequently involved additional agency representatives, scientific advisors, and local interests. The basin teams serve as the first level of screening for proposed Priority Project List projects and helped shape the comprehensive restoration plans for the basins.

The Citizen Participation Group.

The Task Force also established a Citizen Participation Group to provide general input from the diverse interests across the coastal zone: local officials, landowners, farmers, sportsmen, commercial fisherman, oil and gas developers, navigation interests, and environmental organizations. The Citizen Participation Group 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 Technical Committee. The purpose of the Citizen Participation Group is to maintain consistent public review and input into the plans and projects being considered by the Task Force and to assist and participate in the public involvement program. The membership of the Citizen Participation Group is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Membership of the Citizen Participation Group

Gulf Coast Conservation Association	Concerned Shrimpers of America
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana	Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association
Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation	Louisiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.	Louisiana Landowners Association
Louisiana League of Women Voters	Louisiana Nature Conservancy
Louisiana Oyster Growers and Dealers Association	Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Inc.
Midcontinent Oil and Gas Association	New Orleans Steamship Association
Oil and Gas Task Force (Regional Economic Development Council)	Police Jury Association of Louisiana
Organization of Louisiana Fishermen	

Involvement of the Scientific Community.

While the agencies sitting on the Task Force possess considerable expertise regarding Louisiana's coastal wetlands problems, the Task Force recognized the need

to incorporate another invaluable resource: the state's scientific community. The Task Force therefore retained the services of a scientific advisor, who selected a team of scientists to work with the basin teams in the preparation of the Priority Project Lists. The Task Force is currently developing formal relations with both the academic scientific community and the Citizen Participation Group in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463).

Public Involvement.

Even with its widespread membership, the Citizen Participation Group cannot represent all of the diverse interests affected by Louisiana's coastal wetlands. The CWPPRA public involvement program provides an opportunity for all interested parties to express their concerns and opinions and to submit their ideas concerning the problems facing Louisiana's wetlands.

The first step in the program comprised two series of scoping meetings held by the Task Force in October and November 1991—one series for coastal zone parish officials and another series for the general public. The purpose of these scoping meetings was to identify wetland loss problems throughout the coastal zone and potential solutions to those problems. Literally hundreds of ideas were submitted to the Task Force through the scoping meetings. (Appendix E is a compendium of those proposals.) All of the ideas presented in those meetings have been evaluated during the planning process; many of them have been incorporated into the Restoration Plan. The schedule of scoping meetings is shown in Table 2 (for parish officials) and Table 3 (for the general public).

Table 2
Parish Scoping Meetings (for Parish Officials)

Date	Location	Parishes
October 8, 1991	Crowley, La.	Calcasieu Parish Cameron Parish Iberia Parish Vermilion Parish
October 16, 1991	New Orleans, La.	Jefferson Parish Orleans Parish Plaquemines Parish St. Bernard Parish St. Charles Parish
October 16, 1991	New Orleans, La.	Livingston Parish St. James Parish St. John the Baptist Parish St. Tammany Parish Tangipahoa Parish
October 17, 1991	Thibodaux, La.	Ascension Parish Assumption Parish Lafourche Parish St. Martin Parish St. Mary Parish Terrebonne Parish

Table 3
Public Scoping Meetings

Date	Location
October 21, 1991	Lake Charles, La.
October 22, 1991	Abbeville, La.
October 24, 1991	Houma, La.
October 28, 1991	Mandeville, La.
November 6, 1991	Belle Chasse, La.
November 7, 1991	New Orleans, La.

The October-November 1991 scoping meetings were the first stage in the process identifying coastal wetlands problems and developing basin-by-basin solutions. The process continued with a series of basin plan formulation meetings, held in February through May 1992 (Table 4). These meetings were attended by representatives of the Task Force agencies, members of the scientific community, representatives of the Citizen Participation Group, parish officials, private consultants, and members of the general public. These meetings were intense planning sessions, consisting of four three-day meetings with a two-day followup for each. Each set of meetings began with a description of the geology, hydrology, and biological resources of the basins followed by projections for the future. Finally, the coastal wetlands problems and their causes were discussed in detail, and strategies were developed for dealing with those problems on a basin-by-basin basis. These strategies were molded into conceptual plans that would serve as a guide in selecting and evaluating projects both for Priority Project Lists and for the Restoration Plan.

Table 4
Plan Formulation Meetings

Date	Location	Hydrologic Basins
February 4-6, 1992	Baton Rouge	Pontchartrain
February 12-13, 1992 (follow up)	New Orleans	
March 17-19, 1992	St. Francisville	Barataria, Breton Sound, Mississippi R. Delta
March 25-26, 1992 (follow up)	New Orleans	
April 7-9, 1992	Baton Rouge	Terrebonne, Atchafalaya, Teche/Vermilion
April 15-16, 1992 (follow up)	New Orleans	
April 28-30, 1992	Abbeville	Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine
May 6-7, 1992 (follow up)	New Orleans	

At a series of public meetings held in June 1992, the conceptual plans developed for the comprehensive Restoration Plan were presented to the public, along with the candidate projects for the 2nd Priority Project List. Public meetings were held as shown in Table 5.

Table 5
Public Meetings
(2nd Priority Project List)

Date	Location	Hydrologic Basins
June 16, 1992	Morgan City	Atchafalaya, Teche/Vermilion
June 18, 1992	Belle Chasse	Barataria, Breton Sound, Mississippi River Delta
June 23, 1992	Houma	Terrebonne
June 25, 1992	Lake Charles	Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine
June 30, 1992	New Orleans	Pontchartrain

Public involvement continued with the latest set of public meetings held in July and August 1993. These meetings were held in conjunction with the state of Louisiana's Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Authority. The purpose of the meetings was to present the Draft Restoration Plan, and the candidate projects for the 3rd Priority Project List, and to accept comments and recommendations. The meeting schedules are shown in Table 6.

Table 6
Public Meetings
(3rd Priority Project List and Draft Restoration Plan)

Date	Location	Hydrologic Basins
July 27, 1993	Larose	Barataria
July 28, 1993	Belle Chasse	Breton Sound, Mississippi River Delta
July 29, 1993	New Orleans	Pontchartrain
August 9, 1993	Houma	Terrebonne
August 10, 1993	Morgan City	Atchafalaya and Teche/Vermilion
August 11, 1993	New Orleans	Formal Public Hearing on the Draft Restoration Plan and EIS
August 12, 1993	Cameron	Calcasieu/Sabine and Mermentau

FORMULATION PROCESS FOR THE PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

INTRODUCTION

The planning effort associated with the CWPPRA is proceeding simultaneously along two tracks. Section 303(b) of the act calls for the development of a comprehensive restoration plan for Louisiana's coastal wetlands. This long term plan is being developed over a three-year period, with the report to be submitted to the Congress in November 1993. Section 303(a), on the other hand, deals with projects which can be implemented within a short period of time. This section requires that any project selected for a Priority Project List be substantially complete within five years of its appearance on a list. The intent of this section is to provide a rapid response to the loss of coastal wetlands. The first Priority Project List was to be submitted within one year of enactment of the CWPPRA, with subsequent lists to be prepared annually through 1995.

The one-year time limit associated with developing a Priority Project List necessitated a deviation from the usual plan formulation process. Rather than beginning with a clean slate, it was preferable to begin with projects which were already developed to some degree--if possible, projects on which some planning had already been done. The projects on the Priority Project List submitted in November 1991 fell into this category.

Preparation of the second (submitted in November 1992) and third list, which involved somewhat more lead time than did the first list, employed a more traditional approach. This section describes the process by which the third list was developed.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS

Projects considered for the third list were derived from several sources, the principal one being the scoping meetings held in October and November 1991. The hundreds of problems and proposals which came out of those meetings are listed in Appendix E. An identification number was assigned to each project to help keep track through the screening and evaluation process. Each project received a two-letter code to identify its basin; these codes are shown below.

PO	Pontchartrain	AT	Atchafalaya
BS	Breton Sound	TV	Teche/Vermilion
MR	Mississippi River Delta	ME	Mermentau
BA	Barataria	CS	Calcasieu/Sabine
TE	Terrebonne		

Projects which are part of the State's Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Plan use these two letters followed by a number. Projects which were derived from the scoping meetings are identified by a "P" ("public") preceding the two-letter code (e.g., PPO-52, PTV-18).

The plan formulation meetings held from February through May 1992 were an additional source of projects for consideration for the Priority Project List. Projects

which were proposed during and after these meetings are identified with an "X" (e.g., XTE-41).

SCREENING OF PROPOSED PROJECTS

The tremendous number of proposals submitted called for the development of an easily implemented screening process which would allow winnowing these hundreds of ideas down to a manageable number. These projects could then be evaluated in more detail. Basin captains, one for each of the hydrologic basins, were appointed from among the Task Force agencies to take the lead in screening projects. Each captain had a team with a representative from each agency. The basin teams were responsible for doing preliminary evaluations of all projects submitted and making a recommendation to the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee for candidate projects to be considered for the 3rd Priority Project List. The subcommittee then put together a list of 41 candidate projects to be evaluated for the third list. These candidates were presented in the public meetings which took place in July and August of 1993.

Basin Teams.

To give some form to the screening process, the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee developed two tools: a Preliminary Evaluation Sheet (PES) and a Screening Information Sheet (SIS).

The PES constituted the first level of screening, and was designed to evaluate a proposal's fitness for the CWPPRA and a Priority Project List. If the purpose of the project was not long term protection, restoration, enhancement, or creation of coastal wetlands, or the project did not meet the objectives set for its particular basin as outlined in the Draft Restoration Plan, the project was dropped from consideration. The PES also screened out projects which could not be constructed within the five year time frame prescribed by the CWPPRA for priority list projects. In addition, because of the time constraints involved with developing the Restoration Plan and the 3rd list, projects that were not in the preliminary draft of the Restoration Plan as of February 17, 1993 or was not sufficiently developed to perform a Wetland Value Assessment by July, 1993, were not considered for the 3rd list. Any project which was judged capable of meeting the timing criterion was evaluated according to whether it: possessed local support; was a critical project in the overall restoration plan; did not cost over \$10,000,000; provided a significant opportunity to preserve, improve, or build coastal wetlands; and had regional impacts or was a small demonstration project. Projects which met the criteria were elevated to the next level of screening.

The SIS was used as the next step in the screening process. Each Task Force agency made a rough estimate of the cost of the projects for which it was responsible. An estimate was also made of the acres to be created, protected, or enhanced by a project. The cost per acre was used to compare projects, serving as the main criterion each basin team used to select approximately four projects in each basin for further evaluation.

This section contains a summary of the screening process in each basin.

Summary of the Ponchartrain Basin Team Meeting.

The Ponchartrain basin team met on April 21, 1993, to select projects to be submitted as candidates for the 3rd Priority Project List. Members of the team were: Sue Hawes (US Army Corps of Engineers, USACE), basin captain; Bill Savant (Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, LDNR); George Townsley (Soil Conservation Service, SCS); Jane Ledwin (US Fish and Wildlife Service, USFWS); Peggy Jones (National Marine Fisheries Service, NMFS); Jeanene Peckham (Environmental Protection Agency, EPA); Richard Boe (USACE); and Dr. Gary Schaffer, academic consultant. In addition, individuals representing the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), St. Bernard Parish government, the New Orleans City Planning Commission, St. John the Baptist Parish government, Burk-Kleinpeter Consulting Engineers, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, and the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana were present and participated in project discussions.

Preliminary Evaluation Sheets were completed for 39 projects. Criteria from the Preliminary Evaluation Sheets used to eliminate projects from further consideration included: The project must be in the preliminary draft Restoration Plan as of February 17, 1993, or had special dispensation from the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee; the project cost was less than \$10,000,000; sufficient information was available on the project so that a WVA could be performed by July 1993; the project provide a significant opportunity or was a demonstration project; and the project was included in the state's restoration plan or had the support of local government. Using these criteria, the basin team eliminated 25 projects from further consideration as candidates for the 3rd PPL.

Screening Information Sheets were prepared for the remaining 14 project projects. Each agency ranked the projects from most favorable to least and a weighted technique was used to choose the top four projects.

- XPO-69 Bayou Sauvage NWR, Bayou Chevee Shore Protection
- PO-9a Violet Outfall Management
- PO-15 Alligator Point Hydrologic Restoration
- XPO-71 MRGO Disposal Area Marsh Protection

NMFS proposed two additional projects, Lake Athanasio Spit Marsh Creation (XPO-83) and St. Malo Hydrologic Restoration (XPO-84); however, they were not in the preliminary draft Restoration Plan by February 17, 1993, and were not considered during the initial selection. Subsequent to the meeting NMFS, the landowner, EPA, and members of the academic community requested a reconsideration of these two projects. After receiving guidance from the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee that allowed the team to reconsider these projects, the team determined that the Lake Athanasio Spit Marsh Creation project (XPO-83) was worthy of submission as a candidate for the 3rd PPL.

Table 7
 Summary of Screening Information Sheets
 Pontchartrain Basin Projects

No.	Project Name	Acres Created	Acres Protected	Increased		Total		Total Cost (\$)	Cost per Benefited Acre (\$/acre)
				Aquatic Veg (Acres)	Acres Enhanced	Acres Benefited	Acres		
XPO-47	Amite River Diversion Canal Bank Modification		340	109	148	597	533,000	900	
XPO-50a	Lake Maurepas Shore Protection, Blayhut Canal	23	139	290	180	609	1,728,000	2,800	
XPO-51	Manchac WMA Hydrologic Restoration		454	198	510	1,162	1,021,000	900	
PO-13	Tangipahoa/Pontchartrain Shore Protection	41	101	464	21	586	4,850,000	8,300	
PO-14	Green Point/Goose Point	36	213	380	397	990	3,252,000	3,300	
PP-07	La Branche Shore Protection, East	17	507	236	323	1,066	1,309,000	1,200	
PO-12	La Branche Wetland Management, West		20	32	192	244	299,000	1,200	
PO-7	North Shore Wetland		22	473	718	1,213	488,000	400	
PO-15	Alligator Point Marsh Restoration		219	528	742	1,489	1,951,000	1,300	
XPO-69	B. Sauvage NWR, B. Chevee Shore Protection	23	572	448	324	1,344	1,765,000	1,300	
PO-11	Cutoff Bayou Hydrologic Restoration		103	220	180	503	722,000	1,400	
PPO-4	Eden Isles East Marsh Restoration	1,092	0	334	68	402	8,856,000	22,000	
XPO-71	MRGO Disposal Area Marsh Protection		1,500			1,500	1,746,000	1,200	
PO-9a	Violet Outfall Management		185	354	523	1,062	1,960,000	1,800	
XPO-83 *	Lake Athanasio Spit Marsh Creation *		2	16	104	122	521,000	4,300	

* Added after initial recommendation

Summary of the Breton Sound Basin Team Meeting.

The Breton Sound Basin Team met on April 19, 1993, to begin the initial screening of projects for the 3rd Project Priority List. Members of the team were: Donna Keller Bivona (USACE), basin captain; Carrol Clark (LDNR); George Townsley (SCS); Gerry Bodin (USFWS); Peggy Jones (NMFS); Jeanene Peckham (EPA); and Mike Saucier (USACE). In addition, John Boatman of the SCS Belle Chasse office and Allen Bolotte of the SCS New Orleans office took part in the meeting.

A brief overview of the Preliminary Evaluation Sheets (PES) for the list of projects proposed in this basin was given by the basin captain. The complete list of proposed projects in this basin consisted of 20 projects: six sediment or freshwater diversion projects, 11 hydrologic restoration projects, and three marsh protection or creation projects.

As a result of the preliminary evaluation of the projects (see Screening of Proposed Projects, Basin Teams) and the discussion of the team, 10 of the 20 projects were deferred from consideration as potential 3rd list candidates. These projects (PBS-1, PBS-2, PBS-4, PBS-5, PBS-7, PBS-8, PBS-9, PBS-10, PBS-14, and PBS-15) will require further analysis and may be considered on a subsequent priority list and will be included in the Restoration Plan.

Four additional projects were not considered further. Projects PBS-3 and PBS-12 targeted the same area as BS-6a/b (Pump Outfall Management North of Lake Lery), and therefore were not evaluated. Project PBS-11, Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion Operation Modification, was determined to be beyond the scope of the CWPPRA and best pursued under USACE authority. Finally, project BS-3a, Caernarvon Diversion Outfall Management South of Big Mar, was already selected by the Task Force for funding on the 2nd Project Priority List.

The Basin Team then reviewed the Screening Information Sheets for the five remaining projects (excluding PBS-13, Oyster Reef Demonstration) being considered as potential candidates for the 3rd list. Since only five projects remained after the initial review, the information provided on the Screening Information Sheets was instrumental in ranking the potential projects by the basin team members.

A vote by each member of the six agencies was taken to rank these projects. A weighted technique was used to select the top candidates. Each agency was allowed to vote for four projects, with their first choice being given four points, their second choice three points, *etc.* The order of preference by the basin team was: Grand Bay Crevasse (PBS-6); Bayou Lamoque Outfall Management (BS-5); White's Ditch Outfall Management (BS-4a); and Pump Outfall Management North of Lake Lery (BS-3b/6a). The the Oyster Reef Demonstration Project (PBS-13) was submitted as a demonstration project.

Table 8
Summary of Screening Information Sheets
Breton Sound Basin Projects

No.	Project Name	Net Acres		Net Acres Enhanced	Total Benefited Acres	Total Cost (\$)	Cost per Benefited Acre (\$/acre)
		Created	Protected				
BS-1	Bohemia Diversion Restoration and Outfall Mgmt		124	534	658	1,642,000	2,495
BS-4A/B	White's Ditch Outfall Management		378	562	940	5,639,000	5,999
BS-5	Bayou Lamoque Diversion Outfall Management		350	205	555	317,000	571
BS-6A/B	Pump Outfall Management N. of Lake Lery		169	577	746	2,241,000	3,004
PBS-6	Grand Bay Crevasse	364		437	801	1,563,000	1,951
PBS-13	Oyster Reef Demonstration		3	1	4	348,000	87,000

Summary of the Mississippi River Delta Basin Team Meeting.

The Mississippi River Delta Basin Team met on April 21, 1993, to select the projects to be submitted as candidates for the 3rd Priority Project List. Members of the basin team in attendance were: Tim Axtman (USACE), basin captain; Jeanene Peckham (EPA); Peggy Jones (NMFS); John Radford (LDNR) and Phil Bowman (LDWFS); George Townsley and John Boatman (SCS); and Kim Mitchell and James Harris (USFWS). The following projects were brought forth for the team's consideration: (MR-2) Pass a Loutre Sediment Fencing, (FMR-4) Tiger Pass Dredged Material Disposal, (PMR-8) Pass A Loutre Sediment Mining, (XMR-9) Pass A Loutre Crevasse, and (XMR-10) Channel Armor Gap Crevasse.

Three of these projects--MR-2, FMR-4 and PMR-8--had been considered as candidates for previous Priority Project Lists. Both FMR-4 (PPL1) and PMR-8 (PPL2) had achieved deferred status on an approved priority list.

John Radford informed the other members of the team that, with the aid of oil company mitigation funds, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) had undertaken the placement of sediment fences on the Pass a Loutre Wildlife Management Area. He noted that at that time approximately 50 percent of the sediment fence structures proposed in the MR-2 project had been completed under the LDWF's effort. As a result, it was recommended that the MR-2 project be dropped from consideration under the CWPPRA. The basin team concurred with this recommendation and encouraged the possibility of locating an alternate site for future consideration.

The primary items for discussion at this meeting were the XMR-9 and XMR-10 projects. These two crevasse proposals were developed as a result of the comprehensive restoration plan. At the time of this meeting the screening information on these two projects was completed with the exception of the preliminary cost estimates. The basin team assembled a very rough cost for the XMR-9 project based on data from the Screening Information Sheet for that project and those of previously submitted projects. The purpose of this effort was to make a comparison of the cost per acre between the mining and crevasse projects in this same area. This initial estimate indicated a substantially lower cost per acre for the crevasse project. In addition it was determined that the construction of the crevasse channel would involve the excavation of approximately 50 percent of the volume of material specified in the sediment mining project. Beneficial placement of this material would provide a significant gain in wetlands which had not been claimed in the initial XMR-9 proposal.

As a result of these comparisons, the basin decided team that the concepts for both PMR-8 and XMR-9 should be combined under the title Pass a Loutre Crevasse with project number PMR-8/9a. The separate project PMR-8, Pass a Loutre Sediment Mining, would not be considered for inclusion on the 3rd PPL. A location of an alternate site would be pursued for future consideration of this project under its deferred status.

As a last item of business, the submission of FMR-4 for consideration for the 3rd list was discussed. Owing to the past performance of the project on a cost per acre basis and the fact that it had already achieved a deferred status on the 1st PPL, the basin team agreed that this project would not be re-submitted at this time.

As a result of this meeting the team's recommendations for candidates for the 3rd PPL were: (PMR-8/9) Pass A Loutre Crevasse, and (XMR-10) Channel Armor Gap Crevasse.