

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

TASK FORCE MEETING

FEBRUARY 20, 1992

Project Construction Approval Process

- Corps of Engineers Disburses 75% of E&D Funds At Lead Agency Request and Upon Receipt of Project Implementation Schedule and Budget
- Lead Agency Prepares ~~Design and Construction Plan~~ Project Plans and Specifications and Final Cost Estimate, Advises P&E Subcommittee of any Cost Increase Beyond 25 Percent Limit or any Changes in Scope of Project
- Environmental Work Group Estimates Project Benefits in Case of Change in Scope
- Engineering Work Group Reviews Cost Estimates for Adequacy and Accuracy
- ~~Corps of Engineers~~ ^{Economic Work Group} Performs Economic Analysis to Ensure Consistency
- ^{Subcommittee} P&E ~~Checks real estate, NEPA compliance, LCA, cultural, etc~~ ^{^ & make appropriate rec. to Tech Comm.}
- If Project Remains Viable, Technical Committee Makes Construction Recommendation to Task Force
- Task Force Approves Project for Construction
- Corps of Engineers Disburses ~~75%~~ Construction Funds to Lead Agency

Diffley says lead agency needs to come back to T-F if needs to re-scope project

project costs/benefits make appropriate rec. to Tech Comm.

EPA has problem w/ going to P&E before cost-share agreement negotiated & before ~~go or no go~~ go - no go decision made by Task Force. May lead to wasteful spending. Most concerned ~~about~~ about larger projects.

Diffley Proposed Tab

Diffley: Alt. would be to have 2 separate tracks ~~for larger~~ larger w/ smaller projects. ^{to for consistency}

Large: May need to go w/ design manuals
Look at priority list - ~~Decide~~ Decide

Tab I

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

Technical Committee Recommendation:

Approve the procedure for development, coordination, and review of Local Cooperation Agreements, as displayed on the following pages.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

February 20, 1992

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**Task Force Review and Approval Process for Priority List and Restoration
Projects' Final Designs**

Priority Project List Approval Process

- Corps of Engineers Disburses Annual Planning Funds
- Lead Agency Prepares Project Proposal and Preliminary Cost Estimate and Submits This Information to Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee
- P&E Subcommittee Refers Proposals to Environmental and Engineering Work Groups for Evaluation
- Environmental Work Group Estimates Project Benefits
- Engineering Work Group Reviews Cost Estimates for Adequacy and Accuracy
- Economics Work Group Performs Economic Analysis to Ensure Consistency
- P&E Subcommittee Ranks Projects by Cost-Effectiveness and Recommends Draft Priority List to Technical Committee
- Technical Committee Reviews Draft Priority List and Modifies as Appropriate
- Technical Committee Transmits Draft List to Citizen Participation Group for Review and Comment
- Citizen Participation Group Recommends Modifications as Appropriate; Public Meetings Held to Obtain Comments on Draft List
- Technical Committee Considers Recommendations of Citizen Participation Group and Public Comments, Modifies List as Appropriate, and Transmits Draft List to Task Force
- Task Force Approves Draft List or Modifies as Appropriate, then Transmits Priority Project List to the Congress

Tab A

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

February 20, 1992

AGENDA

- I. Introductions**
 - A. Task Force Members or Alternates
 - B. Other Attendees
 - C. Opening Remarks by Task Force Members
- II. Adoption of Minutes from the October 31, 1991 Meeting**
- III. Status of Tasks from October 1991 Meeting Requiring Further Action**
 - A. Liaison by Corps Real Estate Division with Other Agencies Regarding Real Estate Policies and Procedures (Minutes reference paras. V.A. and V.B., page 2) - Mr. Brown
 - B. Report on Project Monitoring Protocol (Minutes reference para. V.C., page 2)- Dr. Stewart
 - C. Agency Coordination, Review and Development of Local Cooperation Agreements (Minutes reference para. V.D., page 2) - Mr. Schroeder
- IV. Task Force Review and Approval Process for Priority List and Restoration Projects' Final Designs**
 - A. Technical Committee Recommendations - Mr. Schroeder
 - B. Discussion/Action by Task Force
- V. National Environmental Policy Act Documentation Requirements for:**
 - A. 2nd Priority Project List - Mr. Schroeder
 - B. Restoration Plan - Mr. Schroeder
 - C. Discussion/Action by Task Force
- VI. Report on Status of Priority List Projects by Each Lead Agency - Mr. Rowe**
 - A. COE
 - B. USFWS
 - C. EPA
 - D. SCS
 - E. NMFS
 - F. LA

VII. Report on Planning & Construction Budgets and Execution Procedures

- A. Finance and Accounting Activities for Planning Funds - Ms. Weber
- B. Finance and Accounting Activities for Construction Funds - Ms. Weber
- C. Discussion/Action by Task Force

VIII. Scientific Community Involvement in Planning Process - Mr. Rowe

- A. Discussion/Action by Task Force

IX. Plan Formulation Planning Process for Developing "Restoration Plan"

- A. Pontchartrain Basin and Schedule for Other Basins - Mr. Rowe
- B. Planning & Evaluation Subcommittee's Request to EPA to Contract for Technical Resource Assistance for Plan Formulation Meetings - - Additional Funding Required for Fiscal Year 1992 - Mr. Thomas
- C. Discussion/Action by Task Force

X. Proposal by SCS for Concurrent Basin Plan Development by Separate Study Managers Assigned from the Five Federal Agencies

- A. Letter Proposal of 13 Feb 92 to Chairman, Task Force, from SCS Task Force Member - Mr. Austin
- B. Discussion/Action by Task Force

XI. Additional Agenda Items

XII. Date/Location of Next Task Force Meeting

XIII. Request for Written Questions from the Public

Tab B

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Task Force Member

Member's Representative

Governor, State of Louisiana

Mr. David Chambers
Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004
(504) 342-6493 ; FAX: (504) 342-3522

Administrator, EPA

Mr. Russell F. Rhoades
Division Director
Environmental Services Division
Region VI
Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Ave.
Dallas, Texas 75202
(214) 655-2210 ; FAX: (214) 655-7446

Secretary, Department of the Interior

Mr. S. Scott Sewell
Director
Minerals Management Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Mail Stop: 4230 M.I.B.
1849 C Street, NW, Office #4210
Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-3500 ; FAX: (202) 208-7248

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEMBERS (cont.)

<u>Task Force Member</u>	<u>Member's Representative</u>
Secretary, Department of Agriculture	Mr. Horace J. Austin State Conservationist Soil Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 (318) 473-7751 ; FAX: (318) 473-7771
Secretary, Department of Commerce	Dr. Clement Lewsey Gulf Regional Manager Coastal Programs Division Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management U.S. Department of Commerce Room 721; Universal Bldg. 1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20235 (202) 606-4138 ; FAX: (202) 606-4329
Secretary of the Army (Chairman)	Col. Michael Diffley District Engineer U.S. Army Engineer District, N.O. P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267 (504) 862-2204 ; FAX: (504) 862-2492

Tab C

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND
RESTORATION ACT

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

TASK FORCE PROCEDURES

I. Task Force Meetings and Attendance

A. Scheduling/Location

The Task Force will hold regular meetings quarterly, or more often if necessary to carry out its responsibilities. When possible, regular meetings will be scheduled as to time and location prior to the adjournment of any preceding regular meeting.

Special meetings may be called upon request and with the concurrence of a majority of the Task Force members, in which case, the Chairperson will schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

Emergency meetings may be called upon request and with the unanimous concurrence of all members of the Task Force at the call of the Chairperson. When deemed necessary by the Chairperson, such meetings can be held via telephone conference call provided that a record of the meeting is made and that any actions taken are affirmed at the next regular or special meeting.

B. Delegation of Attendance

The appointed members of the Task Force may delegate authority to participate and actively vote on the Task Force to a substitute of their choice. Notice of such delegation shall be provided in writing to the Task Force Chairperson prior to the opening of the meeting.

C. Staff Participation

Each member of the Task Force may bring colleagues, staff or other assistants/advisors to the meetings. These individuals may participate fully in the meeting discussions but will not be allowed to vote.

D. Public Participation (see Public Involvement Program)

All Task Force meetings will be open to the public. Interested parties may submit written questions or comments that will be addressed at the next regular meeting.

II. Administrative Procedures

A. Quorum

A quorum of the Task Force shall be a simple majority of the appointed members of the Task Force, or their designated representatives.

B. Voting

Whenever possible, the Task Force shall resolve issues by consensus. Otherwise, issues will be decided by a simple majority vote, with each member of the Task Force having one vote. The Task Force Chairperson may vote on any issue, but must vote to break a tie. All votes shall be via voice and individual votes shall be recorded in the minutes, which shall be public documents.

C. Agenda Development/Approval

The agenda will be developed by the Chairperson's staff. Task Force members or Technical Committee Chairpersons may submit agenda items to the Chairperson in advance. The agenda will be distributed to each Task Force member (and others on an distribution list maintained by the Chairperson's staff) within two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. Additional agenda items may be added by any Task Force member at the beginning of a meeting.

D. Minutes

The Chairperson will arrange for minutes of all meetings to be taken and distributed within two weeks after a meeting is held to all Task Force members and others on the distribution list.

E. Distribution of Information/Products

All information and products developed by the Task Force members or their staffs will be distributed to all Task Force members normally within two weeks in advance of any proposed action in order to allow adequate time for review and comment, unless the information/product is developed at the meeting or an emergency situation occurs.

III. Miscellaneous

A. Liability Disclaimer

To the extent permitted by the law of the State of Louisiana and Federal regulations, neither the Task Force nor any of its members individually shall be liable for the negligent acts or omissions of an employee, agent or representative selected with reasonable care, nor for anything the Task Force may do or refrain from doing in good faith, including the following: errors in judgement, acts done or committed on advice of counsel, or mistakes of fact or law.

B. Conflict of Interest

No member of the Task Force (or designated representative) shall participate in any decision or vote which would constitute a conflict of interest under Federal or State law. Any potential conflicts of interest must clearly be stated by the member prior to any discussion on the agenda item.

Tab D

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

**TASK FORCE MEETING
OCTOBER 31, 1991**

MINUTES

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

MINUTES

I. INTRODUCTION

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

II. ATTENDEES

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

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

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

IV. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

The Task Force voted and passed the following motions:

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

V. TASKS REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

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

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

VI. STATUS OF FISCAL MATTERS

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

VII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

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

VIII. DATE/LOCATION OF THE NEXT TASK FORCE MEETING

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

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

IX. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Encl 1

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 1

AGENDA

Encl 1

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING

October 31, 1991

AGENDA

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

Encl 2

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 2
ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Encl 2



ATTENDANCE RECORD



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

PARTICIPANT REGISTER *

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Ric Ruebsamen	DOC / NMFS	504/389-0508
Clement Lewsey	DOC / OCRM	202/606 4158
CARL HAKENTOS	GULF INTRACOASTAL CANAL ASSOC.	504/523-8281
Gerry Bodin	US Fish & Wildlife Service	318/264-6630
Jan Rasgus	CECW-PC	202-272-1974
Wayne O'Bannon	CELMV-PD-F	601-634-5840
Arnold Robbins	CELMV-PD-F	601-634-5828
David Frugé	USDI / FWS	318-264-6630
Norm Thomas	USEPA	(614) 655 2260
Dave Chambers	Gov. Office	(504) 342-6493
Russ Rhodes	US EPA	214 655 2210
Harold Austin	SCS	318 473 7751
Alan Lamber	SCS	318 473-7753
Bill Sargent	LA DNR (CRD)	504 342-9420
Renny Landreneau	USDA-SCS	318-473-7756
Astary Poove	CELMN-PD-FC	504 862 2512
Jay Warren	" "	504 862-2543
DAUR CARMY	CELMN-PD-FC	(504) 862 2528
Allen Fuschinger	La. Assoc. of Cons. Districts	(504) 394-2463
Richard Bae	CELMN-PD-RE	504 862 1505
CHRIS ACCARDO	CELMN-LC	504 862-1592
Dominic Chew	MMS	504 736-2793
Rod Pittman	LMN-BC	X2846



ATTENDANCE RECORD



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

PARTICIPANT REGISTER *

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
MARTIN WATKE	U.S. SEN JOHN BREAUX	504-589-2531
JESSICA FOX	COE - Planning Econ	504 862-1922
NICK CONSTAN	COE - PD	" 862-1906
Maumus Clavette	LA-CCCA	524-5416 (504)
Joe Dicharry	COE - Project Management	504-862-1929
MARY KINSEY	COE RE-L	504 862 1951
MIKE ROLLAND	COE REL	504 862 1987
T.J. BROWN	COE RE-L	504 862 1867
John L. Weber	COE PD-R	504 862 2516
Rick Hartman	NMFS / DOC	504 388-0528
W. EUGENE TICKNER	USAED NEW ORLEANS - C/ENGR DIV	504-862-2240
MARTIN CANCIENNE	LA Farm Bur	504-922-6200
Michael Mielke	Coalition to Restore Coastal LA	504-764-8394
STEVE HICKMAN	NAT. PARK SERVICE	504-589-3882
Svobas	COE	504-283-7374
Ronnie Duncan	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	504 589 3802
R.H. Schreder	COE	504-862-2288
LEN BARR	GOV'S OFFICE	504-342-6493

1158

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

Encl 3

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 3

MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 24, 1991 TASK FORCE MEETING

Encl 3

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
September 24, 1991

MINUTES

I. INTRODUCTION

Colonel Michael Diffley, representing the Secretary of the Army, convened the fourth meeting of the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force at 9:00 a.m., September 24, 1991, in the District Assembly Room of the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Agenda is attached as Enclosure 1. The Task Force was created by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) which was signed into law (PL 101-646, Title III) by President Bush on November 29, 1990.

II. ATTENDEES

The Attendance Records for the Task Force meeting are attached as Enclosure 2. Listed below are the six Task Force members, all of whom were in attendance.

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the third Task Force meeting, held on August 12, 1991, (Enclosure 3) were unanimously approved by the Task Force members. [1/125] *

IV. TASK FORCE DECISIONS

The Task Force voted and passed the following motions:

- A. The Chairman of the Citizen Participation Group will be reimbursed for travel costs associated with attendance at meetings of the Task Force, Technical Committee, and Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, as well as other meetings approved by the Technical Committee. Invitational Travel Orders, issued by the Technical Committee Chairman, will be used to accomplish this reimbursement. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/180]

- B. Adopt the Charter for the Citizen Participation Group (Enclosure 4). The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/200]

- C. The funding of the preparation of NEPA documents will not be subject to the cost-sharing provisions of Section 303(f). The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [1/330]

- D. Approve the Fiscal Year 1992 Budget (Enclosure 5). The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [2/50]

- E. Approve the addition of Categories C & D to the Priority Project List (Enclosure 6). The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [3/100]

- F. Each lead Task Force member will design and develop the estates to be acquired in lands needed for the implementation of coastal wetlands restoration projects for which they are responsible. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [3/585]

Comment: These estates will be subject to the review and approval of the Secretary of the Army regarding the sufficiency of the estate provisions and/or the compliance of the estates with the "long-term conservation" requirements of Section 303(e).

G. Remand the Environmental Evaluation (Enclosure 7) to the Technical Committee for their action to ensure that the Environmental Evaluation will contain: 1.) a description of the "Wetland Value Assessment" and the economic evaluation conducted on each of the candidate projects; and 2.) a matrix that displays the beneficial and adverse impacts of the candidate projects. The Technical Committee will also determine if a contractor would be an appropriate means of preparing the Environmental Evaluation. The Task Force members unanimously approved this motion. [4/430]

V. TASKS REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Mr. Chambers agreed to investigate the potential for the State of Louisiana to enter into Cooperative Agreements with local agencies and private entities who are interested in funding coastal wetlands restoration projects under the CWPPRA. [1/230]

VI. STATUS OF FISCAL MATTERS

- A. Mr. Pittman, Chief of the New Orleans District Program Management Office, stated that the Task Force will receive a lump sum allotment of Fiscal Year 1992 funds through a warrant issued to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by the Secretary of the Treasury. The New Orleans District expects to receive the funds within the first three weeks of October, 1991. Upon receipt of the funds, the New Orleans District will execute reimbursable instruments (DD Form 448, Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request) with each Task Force member. Receipt of these funds is not contingent upon passage of an appropriations bill in Fiscal Year 1992. [2/70]
- B. Mr. Huntsman, the New Orleans District Comptroller, stated that Fiscal Year 1992 funds will be distributed to the other Task Force members, including the State of Louisiana, on a reimbursable basis. The New Orleans District will charge all Fiscal Year 1992 CWPPRA expenditures to "deferred accounts" prior to the receipt of Fiscal Year 1992 CWPPRA funds. The other Task Force members should use similar procedures within their agencies for CWPPRA expenditures incurred prior to the execution of reimbursable funding instruments between themselves and the New Orleans District. [2/130]

C Col. Diffley described his vision of the short- and long-term goals and objectives of the Task Force with respect to the Priority Project List and the Restoration Plan. He stated his intention to prepare a "Vision Statement" for the consideration of the Task Force at the October 31, 1991, meeting. [2/250]

VII. STATUS OF THE PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

Mr. Rowe, Chairman of the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee, stated that the Environmental Work Group will complete the "Wetland Value Assessments" for each of the candidate projects by September 30, 1991, and that the draft Priority Project List report will be sent to the Task Force members for review on October 11, 1991. [2/635]

VIII. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

No additional agenda items were proposed by the Task Force members. [4/445]

IX. DATE/LOCATION OF THE NEXT TASK FORCE MEETING

The next Task Force meeting was scheduled for October 31, 1991 in the Assembly Room of the New Orleans District, beginning at 9:00 a.m. [4/450]

X. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No written questions or comments were received from the public. [4/465]

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Task Force meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. [4/470]

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

Encl 4

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 4

TASK FORCE VISION STATEMENT

Encl 4

10/31/91

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Encl 5

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

**TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991**

ENCLOSURE 5

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP "POLICY STATEMENT"

Encl 5

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP

"POLICY STATEMENT"

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

Encl 6

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 6
PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

Encl 6

Table 1

Ranking of Projects by Cost (\$) per AAHU

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

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

CO--U.S. Dept. of Commerce
 AG--U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
 IN--U.S. Dept. of the Interior

LA--State of Louisiana
 AR--U.S. Dept. of the Army
 EPA--Environmental Protection Agency

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

** Average Annual Habitat Units

*** Wetland Types:

F/I--Fresh/Intermediate Marsh
 B--Brackish Marsh
 S--Saline Marsh

Encl 7

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
October 31, 1991

ENCLOSURE 7
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP COMMENTS
ON THE
PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

Encl 7

11/8/91

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING

October 24, 1991

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

Comment 1:

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

Response 1:

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

Comment 2:

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

Response 2:

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

Comment 3:

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

Response 3:

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

Comment 4:

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

Response 4:

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

Comment 5:

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

Response 5:

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

Comment 6:

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

Response 6:

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

Comment 7:

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

Response 7:

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

Comment 8:

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

Response 8:

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

Comment 9:

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

Response 9:

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

Comment 10:

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

Response 10:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Comment 11:

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

Response 11:

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

Comment 12:

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

Response 12:

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

Tab E

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

REAL ESTATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A representative of the New Orleans District's Real Estate Division will discuss real estate policies and procedures involved in implementation of CWPPRA projects.

Tab F

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

PROJECT MONITORING PROTOCOL

Mr. Stewart, Co-chairman of the Monitoring Work Group, will present a report on the status of the group's development of a project monitoring protocol.

Tab G

DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

Recommendations of Technical Committee

In its meeting on February 19, 1992, the Technical Committee agreed to the following:

- Approval by State Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force of Priority List Projects Considered Equivalent to Letter of Intent to Cost Share a Project; Therefore, Engineering and Design of a Project May Begin with Federal Funds Prior to Completion of an LCA.
- The Lead Task Force agency for each project will negotiate an LCA and real estate easements with the State.
- In accordance with the CWPPRA, the Corps of Engineers must approve all easement agreements.
- The Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee will form an LCA Work Group, to be chaired by Mr. Dom Elguezabal of the New Orleans District's Project Management office, charged with developing the general "boilerplate" language ~~to be incorporated into~~ all LCA's.
- The LCA Work Group will investigate methods of standardizing the valuation of in-kind services. The Lead Task Force agency for each project will negotiate with the State the appropriateness of such services.
- The Corps of Engineers will accept the State's share of the cost of each project and disburse these funds, along with the Federal share, to the appropriate Lead Task Force members.
- The Lead Task Force members will disburse all project funds for completion of construction.

State Co-Chair (Bill Hood)

to be used as a basis for developing

Tab H

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS FOR PRIORITY LIST
AND RESTORATION PROJECTS' FINAL DESIGNS

Technical Committee Recommendation:

Approve the process to be utilized by the Task Force in reviewing and approving the Priority List and Restoration Projects' final designs, as displayed on the following pages.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Schroeder, Chairman of the Technical Committee, will report on the committee's recommendations concerning NEPA documentation requirements as they apply to the 2nd Priority Project List and the Restoration Plan.

Schroeder:
Talk Comm
will work on
revised schedule
CB will review
Schedule
Need Final
Restoration

Most Projects : EA's & FONSI's
~~NEPA~~ NEPA Compliance to be done concurrently
Use EPA contractor to help document
Basin-level planning (alt. consid)

NEPA Compliance
Programmatic EIS
↳ EA's & FONSI's
Comment w/ Plan Formulation

Mielke : Drop Basin, bring in
CPG, location, etc to spread word
get people into meetings

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

DATE AND LOCATION OF THE NEXT TASK FORCE MEETING

Recommendation for Task Force Approval:

DATE: during weeks of May 18-29 (following the final plan
formulation meeting)

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: District Assembly Room
New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Foot of Prytania Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Tab S

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

REQUEST FOR WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

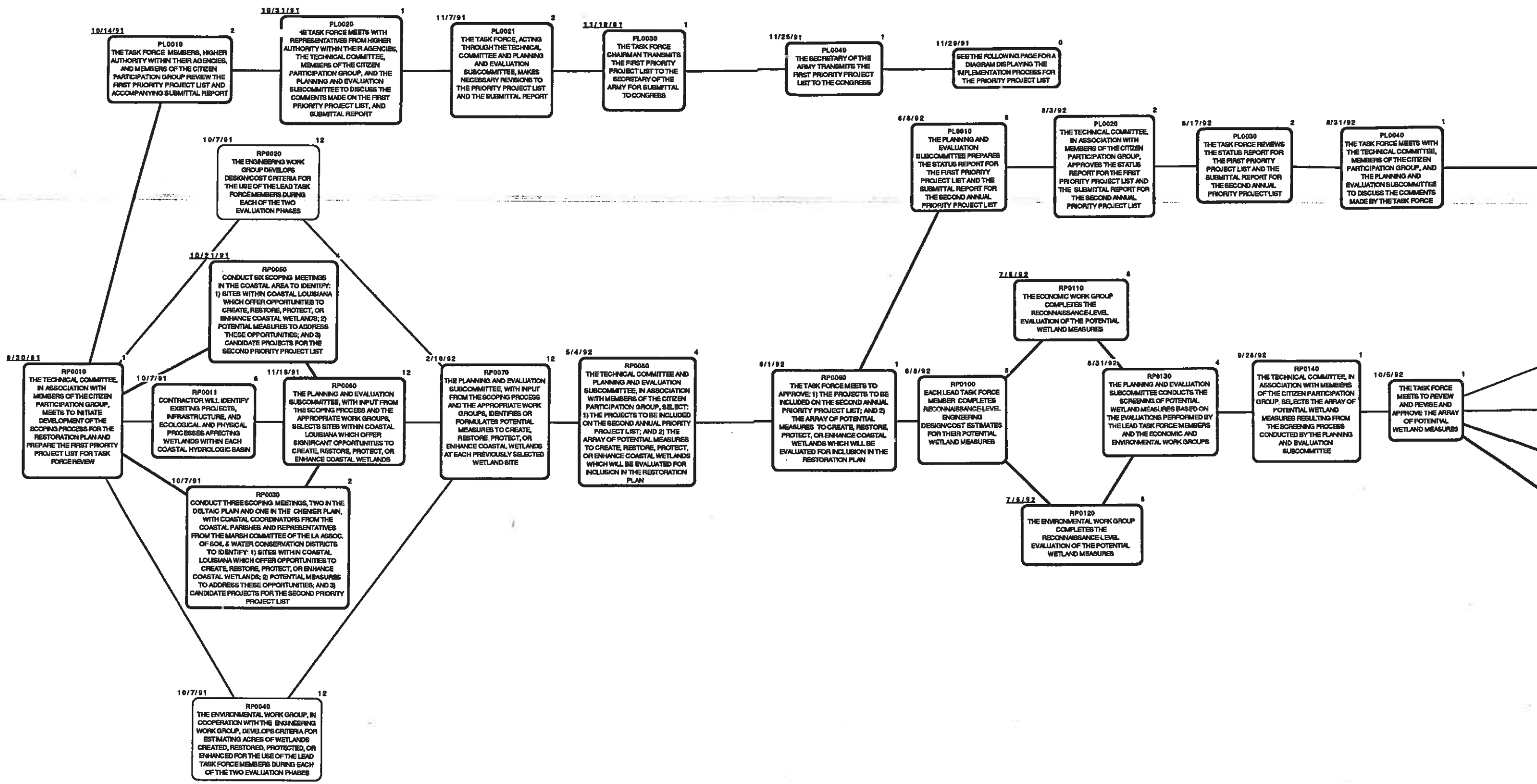
All Task Force meetings are open to the public. Interested parties may submit a completed "Question Submittal Card" to the Task Force Chairman at this time. Questions and comments will be addressed at the next regularly scheduled Task Force meeting.

Tab R

LEGEND

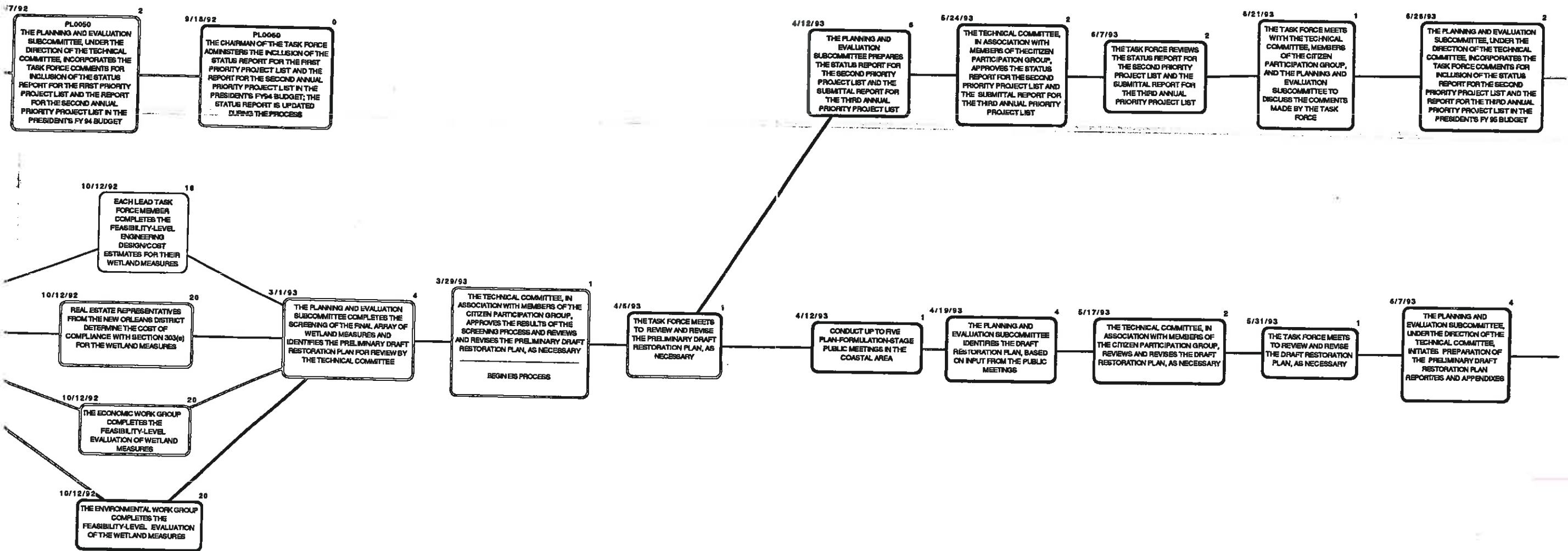
(DATE THE TASK BEGINS)

(DURATION OF THE TASK IN WEEKS)



LOUISIANA COASTAL WETLANDS RESTORATION PLAN

Revised: February 11, 1992



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

REPORTS ON STATUS OF PRIORITY LIST PROJECTS

A representative of each lead agency will give a report on the status of that agency's Priority List projects. A summary report is displayed on the following pages.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act

Summary of Proposed FY 92 Construction Expenditures

Lead Agency / Project	FY 92 Engineering and Design Costs	Total FY 92 Budgeted Expenditures
US Department of Agriculture - Soil Conservation Service		
BA-2 GIWW to Clovelly Hydrologic Restoration	\$363,000	\$966,000
Vegetative Plantings Demonstration Project	52,000	503,000
US Army / State of Louisiana		
Vermilion River Cutoff Shoreline Erosion Control	83,000	83,000
Department of the Interior / State of Louisiana		
Turtle Cove Shoreline Erosion Control	23,000	27,000
Department of Commerce-National Marine Fisheries Service	76,000	131,000
Lower Bayou LaCache Hydrologic Restoration		
Department of the Interior-US Fish and Wildlife Service	276,000	276,000
Sabine Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Erosion Control	44,000	44,000
Cameron Cerole Watershed Hydrologic Restoration	18,000	18,000
Bayou Sauvage Wildlife Refuge Hydrologic Restoration	97,000	97,000
Cameron Prairie Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Erosion Control		
US Environmental Protection Agency		
Eastern Isles Denieres Barrier Island Restoration	223,000	263,000
US Army		
La Branche Wetlands Marsh Building	60,000	360,000
West Bay Sediment Diversion	75,000	115,000
Totals	1,390,000	2,883,000

state will purchase independent of state
denied by state
will purchase
possible cost
some FY
will conduct NEPA by May in NY cost June 1993

Frenchon (not given)
like my (manure)
plow
(NMF) more other
to dirt
NY

Tab Q

Tab K

1

2

3

4

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Each Task Force member has the opportunity at this point to propose additional items or issues for the consideration of the Task Force.

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING ACTIVITIES
FOR PLANNING FUNDS

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

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING,
PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

REPORT ON PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION BUDGETS
AND EXECUTION PROCEDURES

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

A. Finance and Accounting Activities for Planning Funds -

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

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

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

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

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

4. Billing Procedures:

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

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

B Finance and Accounting Activities for Construction Funds -

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

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

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1989-233-622

1. NAME (Type or print)	2. PAY GRADE	3. DATE
4. OFFICIAL ADDRESS		
5. SIGNATURE		
6. TYPE OF DOCUMENT OR PURPOSE FOR WHICH AUTHORIZED		
THE ABOVE IS THE SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL		
7. NAME OF COMMANDING OFFICER (Type or print)	8. PAY GRADE	
9. SIGNATURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER		

DD Form 577, MAY 88

Previous edition may
be used until exhausted

SIGNATURE CARD

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1989-233-622

1. NAME (Type or print)	2. PAY GRADE	3. DATE
4. OFFICIAL ADDRESS		
5. SIGNATURE		
6. TYPE OF DOCUMENT OR PURPOSE FOR WHICH AUTHORIZED		
THE ABOVE IS THE SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL		
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9. SIGNATURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER		

DD Form 577, MAY 88

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7. NAME OF COMMANDING OFFICER (Type or print)	8. PAY GRADE	
9. SIGNATURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER		

DD Form 577, MAY 88

Previous edition may
be used until exhausted

SIGNATURE CARD

REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OR REIMBURSEMENT

Approved by Office of Management and Budget, No. 20-00123 PAGE OF PAGES

1. TYPE OF PAYMENT REQUESTED: ADVANCE REIMBURSEMENT

2. BASIS OF REQUEST: CASH GRANT

3. TYPE OF PAYMENT REQUESTED: FULL PARTIAL ACCRUAL

(See instructions on back)

4. FEDERAL SPENDING AGENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT TO WHICH THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED

5. FEDERAL GRANT OR OTHER IDENTIFYING NUMBER ASSIGNED BY FEDERAL AGENCY

6. PARTIAL PAYMENT REQUEST NUMBER FOR THIS REQUEST

7. EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

8. REQUEST ASSURANCE NUMBER OR IDENTIFYING NUMBER

9. PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REQUEST

FROM (month, day, year) TO (month, day, year)

10. REQUESTOR ORGANIZATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and ZIP Code: _____

11. NAME (If name differs from 10, list name in detail below)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and ZIP Code: _____

12. COMPUTATION OF AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENTS/ADVANCES REQUESTED

PROGRAMS/FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES ->	(a)	(b)	(c)	TOTAL
a. Total program outlays to date (As of date)	\$	\$	\$	\$
b. Less: Cumulative program income				
c. Net program outlays (Line a minus line b)				
d. Estimated net cash outlays for advance period				
e. Total (Sum of lines c & d)				
f. Non-Federal share of amount on line e				
g. Federal share of amount on line e				
h. Federal payments previously requested				
i. Federal share now requested (Line g minus line h)				
j. Advances required by month when requested by Federal grantor agency for use in making pre-scheduled advances	1st month			
	2nd month			
	3rd month			

13. ALTERNATE COMPUTATION FOR ADVANCES ONLY

a. Estimated Federal cash outlays that will be made during period covered by the advance	\$
b. Less: Estimated balance of Federal cash on hand as of beginning of advance period	
c. Amount requested (Line a minus line b)	\$

14. CERTIFICATION

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the data above are correct and that all outlays were made in accordance with the grant conditions or other agreement and that payment is due and has not been previously requested.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL _____

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME AND TITLE _____

DATE REQUEST SUBMITTED _____

TELEPHONE (AREA CODE, NUMBER, EXTENSION) _____

This covers for activity use

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
(Short Form)

(Refer instructions on the back)

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

Tab L

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING ACTIVITIES
FOR CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

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

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN
THE PLANNING PROCESS

Mr. Rowe will give a report on measures to assure the involvement of the scientific community in the planning process.

Tab N

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

**PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN
AND SCHEDULE FOR OTHER BASINS**

Mr. Rowe will give a report on the Pontchartrain Basin plan formulation meeting and the schedule for the other basin meetings.

**SCHEDULED PLAN FORMULATION MEETINGS: COASTAL
WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT
(TITLE III, PL 101-646)**

Hydrologic Basins	Primary Meeting Dates	Location	Follow-up Meeting Dates
I - Pontchartrain	February 4 - 6	Burden Center*	February 12 - 13
II - Breton Sound III - Mississippi River IV - Barataria	March 17 - 19	Pleasant Hall**	March 25 - 26
V - Terrebonne VI - Atchafalaya VII - Teche/Vermilion	April 7 - 9	Burden Center	April 15 - 16
VIII - Mermentau IX - Calcasieu/Sabine	April 28 - 1 May	Pleasant Hall	May 6 - 7

* I-10 at Essen Lane, Baton Rouge

** LSU Baton Rouge Campus

• The first day of each Primary Meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. Subsequent meeting days will begin at 8:00 a.m.

• All Follow-up Meetings will be at the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans, District Assembly Room. The first day of each follow-up meeting session will begin at 10:00 a.m., with subsequent days beginning at 8:00 a.m.

PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN PROJECTS

PROJECT TYPE		PLANNING & EVALUATION PROPOSALS	COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS	UNDER CONSIDERATION	PROPOSED
DIVERSION	SEDIMENT PUMPED SEDIMENT	ROMEVILLE DIV HOT SPOTS ONLY LARGE AREAS			
	HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION	AMITE R. DIVERSION BANK MOD GRAMEFCY SWAMP HOPE, 110 & COLONIAL CANALS RESERVE SWAMP		PO5	PP016 PP017 PP019 AMITE R. WEIR FLOW RESTORATION HWY 51 CULVERTS
SUCCESSION	SALINITY	FRESHWATER INFLOW N OF PASS MANCHAC NE PASS MANCHAC BLAYHUT CANAL			
	EROSION	SHORELINE EROSION MANCHAC WMA MGT. 1-55 CANAL PARTIAL CLOSURE		PO13	
	HYDRAULICS	MOUTH OF BLIND RIVER			
DIVERSION	WATER		PO4 BONNET CARRE		
LAND BRIDGES		BAYOU SAUVAGE WMA LONG TERM MGT.	PO28 PO26 FPO10 FPO16	PO11 PO15	PP036 PP09 PP040 GWW BANK STAB. ST. CATHERINE MGT. MANCHAC WMA MGT.
	FRINGING MARSH		FPO17 PO3	PO6 PO7 PO12 PO14	PP030 PP029 PP027 & 29 PP09, 10 & 11 PP021 & 22 PP012 & 15 PP013 & 28 PP031 PP04, 18, & 32 FRITCHE MARSH REST. PORT LOUIS CANALS BAYOU LACOMBE, GOSSE PT. REST. LABRANCHE MARSH CREATION OUTFALL TREATMENT MARSH CREATION TCHFUNCTIONAR. BANK STAB. BAYOU CHINCHUBA MARSH PROTECTION S. SHORE BANK PROT. EDEN ISLES RESTORATION

PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN PROJECTS

PROJECT TYPE		PLANNING & EVALUATION PROPOSALS	COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS	UNDER CONSIDERATION	PROPOSED
DIVERSION		VIOLET SHIPON REHAB VIOLET FRESHWATER DIV. MRGO CLOSURE, VIOLET SHIPLOCK	PO1 PO8	VIOLET SIPHON PUMP OUTFALL MGT.	PP01 CENTRAL WETLAND RESTORATION
MRGO		SEABROOK BARRIER			PP08 PP05 PP06,20 839 BANK STABILIZATION CLOSURE GATE OR LOCK
HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION		CENTRAL WETLANDS RESTORATION BILOXI WMA			
DREDGED MATERIAL					PP03B MARSH CREATION
LOWER BASIN					

Meeting agenda
Pontchartrain Basin, 4-6 February 1992

1. Introduction to meeting: participants; objectives; ground rules.
2. Overview of basin: base maps; basin boundary; information sources; slide presentation.
3. Physical framework: geologic history; geologic materials and structures; landscape processes and landforms; mineral & organic soils; subsidence.
4. Hydrology: fresh water; sediment; nutrients; tides; salinity; waves & currents; flooding regime; open water depths; pollution.
5. Biology: wetlands types and extent; aquatic vegetation; productivity; critical habitats for estuarine species; habitats for other key species (commercial, recreation, endangered); areas of significant wetland loss, transition or stress.
6. Human: land use; flood control structures; navigation structures and spoil disposal; oil and gas development; other openings and barriers; water intakes and discharges; fisheries/oyster resources; recreational resources; refuges, parks; WMAs; existing projects.
7. Wetlands assessment, primarily from a scientific perspective: essential functions and key areas; critical problems and their possible causes; consequences of no action.
8. Opportunities/constraints related to policies and programs already in place; human and financial resources which may be available.
9. Consideration of overall strategy: prioritize problems based on policy considerations; possibility/wisdom of moving toward sustainability through larger-scale, longer-term projects; role of existing policies and programs; role of CWPPRA projects; and ...?
10. Project types: diversion; creation; protection; control; demonstration; non-CWPPRA.
11. Projects previously identified for Pontchartrain Basin: CWPPRA deferred; other agency-identified; scoping process; other.
12. Project discussion subgroups: cypress swamp; land bridges; near-lake marshes; St. Bernard marshes; other.
13. Consideration of specific strategy: use of policies, programs and human resources; best mix of projects; role of CWPPRA; interbasin relationships.
14. Methods for project development and prioritization.
15. Critique of this meeting (what worked and what didn't); meeting summary and follow up; form, content and logistics for next general meeting.

OVERLAYS PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN

- 0 **Base Map**
levees, pumps, 5' contour, basin boundary
- 1 **Geology**
major faults
depth to Pleistocene, relic beach trends
- 2 **Geomorphology**
peat thickness (0-10, 10-20, >20 ft)
distributary routes, natural levee deposits, crevasse deposits
areas of spoil deposition
- 3 **Hydrology**
average tidal range, average water levels
drainage routes, sources of fresh water, sediment, nutrients
mean monthly discharge
avenues of salt influx
- 4 **Isohalines**
spring/fall 2/5/15 ppt
- 5 **Wetland Habitats**
cypress swamp, fresh marsh, brackish marsh, saline marsh
state parks, wildlife management areas, national wildlife refuges
- 6 **Wildlife Resources**
threatened and endangered species (state/federal),
colonial bird nesting sites, bald eagle nesting sites, brown pelican nesting sites,
waterfowl concentrations
old trees, unique vegetation communities
parks, scenic streams
rangia shell concentrations
- 7 **Fisheries Resources 1**
seaward extent shrimp nursery area, nursery area major species
- 8 **Fisheries Resources 2**
private oyster leases
grass beds '65, '85
- 9 **Oil Fields**
field extent, oil and gas canals, access routes
- 10 **Navigation Channels**
major navigation routes
- 11 **Habitat Change**
loss '56-'78, loss '78-'84
broken marsh, stressed swamp
relative subsidence (cm/yr), shoreline erosion (0-5, 5-10, 10-15, >15 ft/yr
pre/post MRGO salinity
- 12 **Subsystems**
- 13 **Projects**
Federal/State Projects (FPO), State Projects (PO), proposed projects (PPO)

PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN PROJECTS

DIVERSION

Completed

Violet Siphon - Diversion of Mississippi River water up to 500 cfs StBd

In Progress

none

Under Consideration

PO-1 Violet Siphon - Enlargement/Outfall Management StBd

PO-4 Bonnet Carre Diversion - Miss. R. diversion, 30,000 cfs max F/S StCs

Proposed

none

CREATION

Completed

none

In Progress

FPO-17 Bayou La Branche wetland creation - dedicated dredging StCs

Under Consideration

none

Proposed

PPO-9	Marsh creation north of I-10 in addition to PO-17	L	StCs
PPO-10	Marsh creation north of I-10 similar to PO-17	L	StCs
PPO-11	Marsh creation north of I-10 using dredged material	L	StCs
PPO-21	Create marshes and barrier islands for treatment of runoff	L	Orls
PPO-22	Create marshes for treatment of runoff	L	Jefn
PPO-23	Project Swallow - build wetlands for swallow population	P	Jefn
PPO-34	Wetlands at Bonnabel Canal for water treatment	L	Jefn
PPO-35	Wetlands at Duncan Canal for water treatment	L	Jefn
PPO-38	Create marsh and barriers adjacent to MRGO	L	StBd

PROTECTION/STABILIZATION

Completed

PO-2a Bayou Chevee - Sediment trapping/vegetation/shore protection OrIs

In Progress

PO-2b Alligator Point - Sediment/vegetation/shore protection OrIs

FPO-10 Turtle Cove Shore Protection StJn

Under Consideration

PO-3 La Branche Wetland - shoreline stabilization StCs

PO-13 Tangipahoa/Pontchartrain Shore Protection - stabilize shore Tang

Proposed

PPO-2/37 Shoreline protection along Lake Borgne O StBd

PPO-7/14 Stabilize La Branche shore of L. Pontchartrain (PO-3) L StCs

PPO-8/38 Stabilize banks MRGO L StBd

PPO-12/15 Shore stabilization at mouth Tchefuncta River L StTm

PPO-13/28 Shore protection at Bayou Chinchuba - fresh marsh StTm

PPO-31 Shore protection and sediment - S shore L. Pontchartrain L OrIs

PPO-36 Shoreline stabilization GIWW L OrIs

CONTROL/MANAGEMENT

Completed

In Progress

PO-3 La Branche Wetland - completion management plan StCs

PO-8 Central Wetlands Pump Outfall - management of runoff StBd

FPO-16 Bayou Sauvage Refuge Restoration OrIs

Under Consideration

PO-5 Southeast Lake Maurepas Wetland - reduce ponding of water StJn

PO-6 Fritchie Marsh - creation + water management StTm

PO-7 North Shore Wetland - creation + water management StTm

PO-11 Cutoff Bayou Marsh Management - small control structures OrIs

PO-12 West LaBranche Wetland Management - small control strcts. StCs

PO-14 Green Pt./Goose Pt. Marsh Restoration - creation + water mgt. StTm

PO-15 Alligator Point Marsh Restoration - creation + water mgt. OrIs

Proposed

PPO-1 Restore Central Wetland marsh L StBd

PPO-3 Wetland management of Lake St Catherine area P OrIs

PPO-4/18/26/32 Restore Eden Isles reclamation to wetlands O StTm

PPO-5 Close MRGO and relocate cargo facility P StBd

PPO-6/20/39	Install gate or lock in MRGO	P	StBd
PPO-16	Maintain weir at Amite River Diversion Canal	P	AscN
PPO-17	Develop plan for restoration of flow in Maurepas wetlands	P	StJn
PPO-19	Culverts under Hwy 51 (PO-5)	P	StJn
PPO-20	Dead end canals at Port Louis		
PPO-27	Restore wetlands - B. La Combe to Cane Bayou (PO-14)	L	StTm
PPO-29	Restore wetlands in Goose Point area (PO-14)	L	StTm
PPO-30	Restore wetlands in Fritchie Marsh area (PO-6)	L	StTm

GENERIC

Proposed

PPO-24	Conserve marshes around Lake Pontchartrain - purchase	P	
PPO-25	Re-establish grass beds in lake Pontchartrain	P	
PPO-33	Relocate population and breach Mississippi R. levees	O	

PO=State Projects in Plan

FPO=Federal/State Projects (Lisdt 1 Breaux Bill)

PPO=New proposals

L = Local Government O = Organization P = Private

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act

Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee

**Briefing on Corps of Engineers Projects and Studies in the Lake
Pontchartrain Basin**

February 12, 1992

Briefing Topic

1. Amite River and Tributaries Study
2. Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet--Channel Maintenance
3. Gulf Intracoastal Waterway--Channel Maintenance
4. Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet--Bank Erosion Study
5. Bonnet Carré--Flood Control Project
6. Jefferson-Orleans Flood Control/WQ Mgmt Study

Lunch Break

7. Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Project
8. Saltwater Barrier at Seabrook (Inactive)
9. Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet--Shiplock Studies
10. Bonnet Carré--Freshwater Diversion Project (PED)
11. Mississippi River Freshwater/Sediment Budgets

Presenter

Chuck Shadie
Bob Gunn
Bob Gunn
Jay Warren
Wayne Bourn
Carolyn Earl

Dan Judlin
Vann Stutts
Joe Dicharry
Dom Elguezabal
Nancy Powell

Tab O

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE AND ADDITIONAL FUNDING
FOR PLAN FORMULATION MEETINGS

Mr. Thomas will give a report on the Planning and Evaluation Subcommittee's request for contractor assistance for the plan formulation meetings and on the additional funding required if such assistance is to be provided.

212
27

175

\$175,000 Meetings
\$37,000 ~~1st Meeting~~ Gosselin's

212,000 Total

Tab P

COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION, AND RESTORATION ACT

TASK FORCE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 1992

PROPOSAL BY SCS FOR BASIN PLAN DEVELOPMENT BY STUDY MANAGERS
ASSIGNED FROM THE FEDERAL AGENCIES

Mr. Austin will report on the proposal from the SCS Task Force member under which concurrent basin plan development would be undertaken by separate study managers assigned by the five Federal agencies. Mr Austin's letter to the Task Force Chairman regarding this proposal follows.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana
71302

February 13, 1992

Colonel Michael Diffley
District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District
New Orleans
Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Colonel Diffley:

It certainly appears that the basin meeting process utilizing technical resource consultants is resulting in good evaluations. The next step is to ensure that the process moves the project forward and the Restoration Plan is completed within the established time frame.

This certainly is not an easy task. The evaluation of each separate basin and consolidation in a total plan will require the development of milestones, strict scheduling, and total Task Force agency involvement.

To share the load and in an effort to ensure concurrent basin plan development, I would like to propose a plan of action for Task Force consideration.

This action would cause very little structure change to the current process. Under this process, each basin would have a study manager assigned from one of the five federal agencies. This study manager would provide the leadership to ensure that:

1. Work schedules and outlines are developed and milestones established.
2. Meetings scheduled with appropriate agency participation.
3. Utilization of technical consultants is maximized.
4. Milestones are met and basin report submitted to chairman of Planning and Evaluation committee.
5. Citizens' Participation Group is involved.



Colonel Michael Diffley
Page 2
February 13, 1992

6. The study manager will present to the Task Force important phases of plan development as scheduled by the chairman of the Technical Committee.

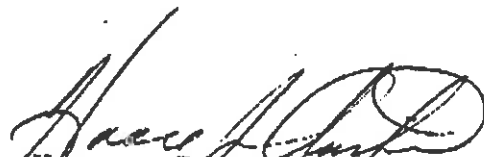
Basin plans would be developed concurrently over the next 10-12 months, with the final Restoration Plan completed by November 1993. Each respective agency study manager would coordinate all meetings through the chairman of the Planning and Evaluation Committee. The Planning and Evaluation Committee will develop a standard format for the basin report outline and meeting format to be used by each study manager.

The chairman of the Technical Committee would be responsible for the consolidation of basin plans into the Restoration Plan.

I am confident that the process could maximize agency effort in the restoration planning process, ensure milestones are set and reached, and meet required schedules.

Your consideration of this concept is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Horace J. Austin
State Conservationist