

# LA Wetland Education Coalition

## Wetland News, #37, May 1, 2006

<http://www.lacoast.gov/education/lawec/>



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### 1. MAY is American Wetlands Month

May is American Wetlands Month; this year's theme is *It Pays to Save Wetlands*. The EPA partners with other federal, state, and local agencies and private organizations in celebration. Events are scheduled across the country to educate, involve and engage Americans who want to better understand the value of one of Earth's most important ecosystems. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/> [From NOAA **INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS** Newsletter, MAY 2006]

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### 2. May 13 is International Migratory Bird Day

International Migratory Bird Day, May 13, 2006, celebrates the incredible journeys of migratory birds between breeding grounds in North America and their wintering grounds in Mexico, Central, and South America. Check the Web site for a variety of programs, activities, and resources. Visit <http://www.birdday.org/> [From NAAEE-News, April 26, '06]

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### 3. Designing a Communication Campaign: The 4-P Workshop (new book)

This World Conservation Union publication is the first in a series called "Lessons from the Field: Conservation Awareness" and provides a practical guide for conservation practitioners. The 112-page book focuses on the creative process for strategic planning -- a critical component to design effective conservation awareness initiatives. Visit <http://www.conservation.org/xp/CIWEB/programs/awareness> [From NAAEE-News, April 26, 2006]

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### 4. PLT'S New PreK-8 Guide

Educators who have attended a Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop in the past can now order PLT's new PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide directly from PLT. The guide's newest features include reading connections, technology connections, differentiated instruction, and assessment strategies. Visit [http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21\\_21\\_10.html](http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_21_10.html) [From NOAA **INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS** Newsletter, MAY '06]

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### 5. Write On! Wetlands Challenge – Call for Student Artists

Help Environmental Concern celebrate American Wetlands Month this May by creating a children's book about wetlands. The challenge consists of two parts, writing and illustrating. Part one, the writing competition, is now complete. The call for artists invites elementary aged students to illustrate the story's words. The deadline is May 31, 2006. Visit [http://www.wetland.org/EC%20main/edu\\_writeon06.htm](http://www.wetland.org/EC%20main/edu_writeon06.htm) [From NOAA **INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS** Newsletter, MAY '06]

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### 6. Environmental Impacts of Hurricane Katrina

NOAA offers this website with links to some of the projects they are currently working on throughout the region as they assess the marine environmental impacts of Katrina. Projects include assessments of the marine mammal and turtle health, harmful algal blooms monitoring, socioeconomic impact assessment, and more. There is also an interactive GIS mapping link. Visit [http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/hurricane\\_katrina/](http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/hurricane_katrina/) [From NOAA **INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS** Newsletter, MAY 2006]

## 7. Gulfbase

GulfBase is a database of resources about the Gulf of Mexico. The goal of this website is to regroup, synthesize, and make freely available Gulf of Mexico research information. GulfBase can help researchers, policy makers, and the general public work together to insure long-term sustainable use and conservation of the Gulf of Mexico. The website hosts a comprehensive listing of upcoming events, background information about regional ecosystems, a history of exploration, and more. Visit <http://www.gulfbase.org/> [From NOAA *INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS Newsletter, MAY 2006*]

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## 8. Red List of Threatened Species

The latest update of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, the authoritative source of information on the status of plants and animals, will be released on May 4, 2006. This publication is one of the key tools used to determine the status of the Earth's biodiversity. A major new element since the last update in 2004 is the inclusion of many freshwater and marine species, notably sharks and rays, for the first time. A comprehensive information package will also be available. Visit <http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/redlists/techdocs.htm>. [From NOAA *INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS Newsletter, MAY 2006*]

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## 9. The Scoop on Soil

The National Geospatial Development Center presents educational pages featuring "The Soil Game," hands-on educational materials, posters, lesson plans, and links to other soil-related resources. *The Scoop on Soil* is an interactive game for elementary grades; the website includes a

related 4<sup>th</sup> grade lesson plan. Visit <http://www.ngdc.wvu.edu/~hferguson/educationNGDC/> [From NOAA *INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS Newsletter, MAY 2006*]

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## 10. May 11 is Endangered Species Day

Sponsor an Endangered Species Day event, field trip, or educational program in your city. The goal of Endangered Species Day is "to educate people about the importance of protecting our rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species." Visit [http://www.stopextinction.org/site/c.epIQKXOBJSg/b.1539473/k.4A37/Endangered\\_Species\\_Day.htm?aid=1585270](http://www.stopextinction.org/site/c.epIQKXOBJSg/b.1539473/k.4A37/Endangered_Species_Day.htm?aid=1585270) Get involved!

[From NAAEE-News, April 26, 2006]

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## 11. The Gulf of Mexico Alliance

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance is a partnership between the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas, intent on significantly increasing regional collaboration to enhance the ecological and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico. The Alliance has identified five issues that are regionally significant and can be effectively addressed through increased collaboration at the local, state and federal levels. These priorities represent an initial focus for action through the Alliance:

- Water quality for healthy beaches and shellfish beds;
- Wetland and coastal conservation and restoration;
- Environmental education;
- Identification and characterization of Gulf habitats; and
- Reductions in nutrient inputs to coastal ecosystems.

Visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gulf/default.htm> [From NOAA *INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS Newsletter, MAY 2006*]

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## 12. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserve:** A listserve serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
- **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserve. As a participant, you are welcome to send messages to educators subscribing to the LA Wetland Education Coalition listserve. We ask that participants focus their emails on educational opportunities and materials *directly related to wetland education*.
- **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserve:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email  
unsubscribe LAWEC-L
- **To SUBSCRIBE to this listserv:** email LISTSERV@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU, with only the following line listed in the body of the email:  
subscribe lawec-l YourFirstName YourLastName  
For example: subscribe lawec-l John Doe  
NOTE: You should not put anything in the subject line and should remove any automatic signatures from the email, otherwise the sign-up process will not work. You will get a return message indicating that you have been subscribed to the listserve along with information on other listserve operations you can perform (such as unsubscribe, etc.). If you have trouble, email Dr. Pam Blanchard at <pamb@lsu.edu>.

**Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!**