



Land Marks

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CWPPRA CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS IN COASTAL LOUISIANA

Grand Isle, LA – On October 14, 2015, the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a ceremony at Grand Isle State Park. The ceremony celebrated CWPPRA's continued commitment to coastal restoration and the important role it plays as Louisiana moves forward in constructing more and larger ecosystem restoration projects. The ceremony consisted of a keynote address from Colonel Richard L. Hansen, District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District and CWPPRA Task Force Chairman. Additional



speakers included Chip Kline, Chairman, CPRA; Rob Gorman, Board Member, CRCL; and David Camardelle, Mayor of Grand Isle. Those attending the ceremony included participants from the five federal managing agencies, the State, local landowners, citizens, and dignitaries. (*Continues on page 2*)



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - New Orleans District Commander and CWPPRA Task Force Chair Col. Richard Hansen addresses the audience at the CWPPRA Anniversary Ceremony.

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DATES TO REMEMBER...

Jan. 14	Task Force Meeting	New Orleans, LA
Jan. 26	Region IV Planning Team Meeting	Lafayette, LA
Jan. 27	Region III Planning Team Meeting	Gray, LA
Jan. 28	Region I & II Planning Team Meeting	Lacombe, LA
Feb. 19-20	LA Environmental Ed. Symposium	Baton Rouge, LA

(CWPPRA Celebrates 25 Years of Implementation Success in Coastal Louisiana continued from page 1) After the ceremony, attendees and members of the press were invited to participate in a field trip to CPRA's Caminada Headlands Beach and Dune Restoration Increment II project site, a project that has paved the way for the development of CWPPRA's BA-171 Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation project, currently in its engineering and design phase.



Other projects highlighted at the ceremony included the following:

- BA-35 Pass Chaland to Grand Bayou Pass Barrier Shoreline Restoration
- BA-37 Little Lake Shoreline Protection/Dedicated Dredging Near Round Lake
- BA-38 Barataria Barrier Island Complex Project: Pelican Island and Pass La Mer to Chaland Pass Restoration
- BA-42 Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation
- BA-48 Bayou Dupont Ridge Creation and Marsh Restoration
- BA-68 Grand Liard Marsh and Ridge Restoration

To view fact sheets on these project or other CWPPRA projects, please visit lacoast.gov/new/Projects/List.aspx ■

LSTA/LATM JOINT CONFERENCE

Baton Rouge, LA – The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (LATM) and the Louisiana Science Teachers Association (LSTA) held its 2015 Joint Conference on November 9-11 at the Baton Rouge River Center. The LATM/LSTA joint conference is an opportunity for educators of math and science to gain knowledge, tools, and strategies in order to enhance and expand the enlightenment of their students. Over the duration of the three-day conference, exhibitors showcased educational materials, in addition to more than 200 presentations and sessions. The CWPPRA public outreach staff shared educational materials and publications applicable to environmental science teachers and other seeking knowledge about Louisiana's coastline. ■



FEATURED PROJECT: CAMINADA HEADLANDS BACK BARRIER MARSH CREATION

The project area is defined as the area south of Louisiana Highway 1 between Belle Pass and Caminada Pass and includes the area in and around Bay Champagne and area to the east and west of Bayou Moreau along the coast. The Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation project is located along the Louisiana coastline in LaFourche Parish in CWPPRA Planning Region 2.

The Caminada Headland has experienced some of the highest shoreline retreat rates in Louisiana. Historically the shoreline has migrated landward at about 40 feet per year. Between 2006 and 2011, shoreline migration increased dramatically, exceeding 80 feet per year near Bay Champagne and 110 feet per year in the Bayou Moreau area. The increased losses occurred in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 as the breaches remained open for an extended length of time. The losses were exacerbated by Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008. Significant prolonged breaches greatly increase the net export of sediment from the headland.

In addition to the shoreline migration, the area is also experiencing high loss rates of interior marshes. As the beach and dune continue to migrate landward, overwashed sediment will be lost into newly formed open water and land

loss rates will be exacerbated. The continued deterioration of Caminada headland threatens thousands of acres of wetland habitat as well as critical infrastructure, including Port Fourchon, LA Highway 1, and the lower Lafourche levee system.

The goals of this project are to: 1) Create and/or nourish 430 acres of back barrier marsh, by pumping sediment from an offshore borrow site; 2) Create a platform upon which the beach and dune can migrate, reducing the likelihood of breaching, improving the longevity of the barrier shoreline, and protecting wetlands and infrastructure to the north and west. The proposed project is expected to slow the current trend of degradation in the headland.

This project would create 300 acres of back barrier intertidal marsh and nourish 130 acres of emergent marsh behind 3.5 miles of the Caminada beach using material dredged from the Gulf of



Project map for BA-171 Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation

Mexico. The marsh creation and nourishment cells are designed to minimize impacts on existing marsh and mangroves. Assuming some natural vegetative recruitment, vegetative plantings are planned at a 50% density, with half planned at project year one and half planned at project year 3. Containment dikes will be degraded or gapped by year three to allow access for estuarine organisms.

This project is on Priority Project List 23. It was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2014 and is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. ■



Dredge material from the Gulf of Mexico will be pumped into open-water areas which will create 300 acres of back barrier marsh and nourish 130 acres of emergent marsh behind 3.5 miles of the Caminada beach.

OCEAN COMMOTION

Baton Rouge, LA – The CWPPRA public outreach staff attended the LSU-LA Sea Grant event, Ocean Commotion, on October 27, 2015 at the LSU Pete Maravich Assembly Center in Baton Rouge. Ocean Commotion is an interactive educational experience in which approximately 2,200 local K-8 students, teachers, and chaperones are able to learn about the significance of the coastal region, as well as the ocean upon which Louisiana so heavily relies. This event creates a connection between students and the coast by providing “hands-on” activities that generate a sense of connectedness, interest, and curiosity in Louisiana’s coast. In order for future generations to effectively protect our oceans, coast, and wetlands, learning about the importance and benefits of each is essential to continued health and survival.

CWPPRA was among the 71 exhibitors present and was eager to provide a positive and impactful learning experience. To accurately portray the importance of aquatic and coastal regions, the CWPPRA staff utilized an ocean character, Sid the Restoration Squid, whose six unique legs represent a different restoration method. The six

restoration methods presented include barrier island restoration, marsh creation, shoreline protection, hydrologic restoration, freshwater and sediment diversions, and terracing. Each leg consisted of a distinct craft material that would correspond with a restoration method, in which students would assemble and personalize their own squid. Each student’s personal squid was accompanied by an explanation guide of CWPPRA’s efforts to restore, protect, and create Louisiana’s wetlands. ■



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

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