



Landmarks

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TERREBONNE PARISH COASTAL DAY

On June 27th residents of Terrebonne Parish and other concerned citizens gathered at the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center for the first Terrebonne Parish Coastal Day. This event included educational displays, restoration equipment, informative panels featuring elected officials and coastal experts, and plenty of discussion on levees, floodgates, non-structural risk reduction and restoration. Speakers such as Colonel Clancy of the Army Corp of Engineers and State Senator Norby Chabert described how Terrebonne Parish has been one of the most aggressive parishes in protecting communities and livelihoods by working diligently to get permits and



funding for projects in the area. Posters on the walls displayed projects from Amelia to South Lafourche showcasing the work being done to better protect Terrebonne Parish from situations such as hurricanes and flooding. Along with CWPPRA, other exhibitors in attendance included organizations such as the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Restore or Retreat, and the South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center. Special guest, Beignet the Nutria, accompanied the South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center as a visual reminder of the speed at which nutria eat vegetation and the destruction that this animal can cause to coastal wetlands. Over 700 people were (*continued on page 2*)

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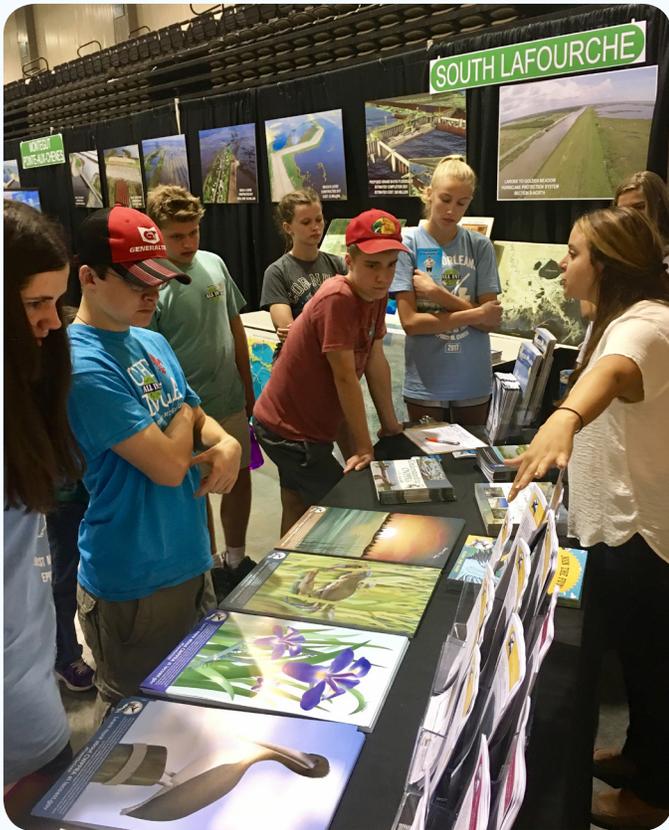
UPCOMING EVENTS

July 8	Cameron Shoreline Dune Restoration	Cameron, LA
July 9-14	WETSHOP	Grand Isle, LA
July 19	CPRA Board Meeting	Chalmette, LA
Aug. 3	BTNEP Management Conference Meeting	Thibodaux, LA
Aug. 15	Chenier Plain Authority Meeting	Cameron, LA
Aug. 16	CPRA Board Meeting	Morgan City, LA
Sept. 14	CWPPRA Technical Committee Meeting	Baton Rouge, LA
Sept. 19	Chenier Plain Authority Meeting	Abbeville, LA
Sept. 20	CPRA Board Meeting	Baton Rouge, LA

Find out more details about these events and other events at:
www.lacoast.gov/calendar

(continued from page 1) in attendance for this interactive showcase of coastal protection.

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act Public Outreach staff attended the event as exhibitors providing information and materials to educate the public on wetland and coastal restoration. Publications such as Partners in Restoration, Understanding CWPPRA, Coastal Wetlands Restoration Residents' Guide, CWPPRA Posters, and Henri Heron's Louisiana Wetlands were distributed in addition to editions of WaterMarks and fact sheets featuring projects within Terrebonne, Lafourche, and St. Mary Parishes. ■

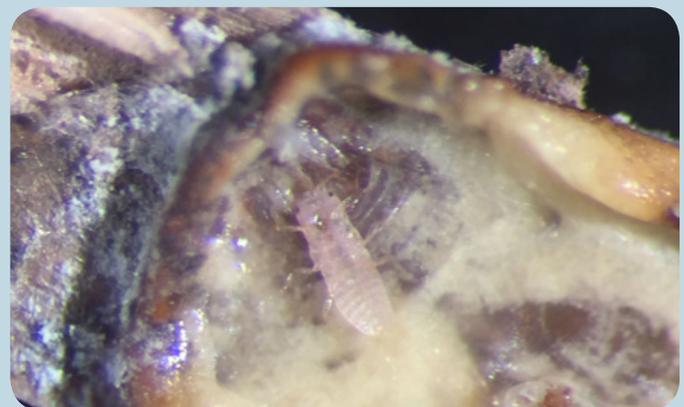
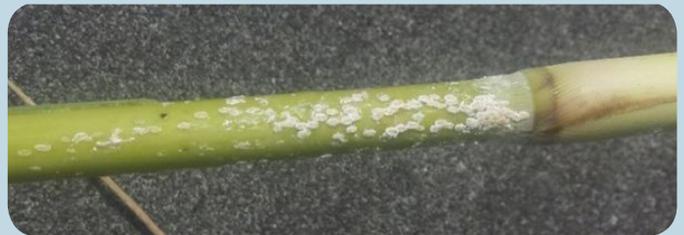


ROSEAU CANE SCALE CAUSING DESTRUCTION

Roseau Cane Scale (*Nipponaclerda biwakoensis*) on the southeastern Louisiana coast

Location: Plaquemines and Jefferson Parishes

Problem: Starting in fall 2016, visitors to marsh at the mouth of the Mississippi River noticed large swaths of brown, dead Roseau cane which later converted to open water. Researchers have identified a non-native insect, the Roseau cane scale or mealy bug (*Nipponaclerda biwakoensis*), feeding on sap from cane stems and eventually killing plants. Originally from East Asia, Roseau cane scale has now been found throughout southern Plaquemines Parish and in Lafitte and Grand Isle in Jefferson Parish, and has impacted over 100,000 wetland acres according to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Since Roseau cane grows across the Louisiana coast, the scale's distribution in the state could expand.



Photos from Louisiana State University AgCenter

Why this is important: Roseau cane is a hardy plant that can survive flooding, a wide range of salinities, and other difficult growing conditions that limit the presence of other marsh plants. Rapid growth rates combined with rhizome production make Roseau cane an important contributor to marsh health in Louisiana—the roots and dense stalks trap waterborne sediment and protect established land from erosion. The loss of so many acres of Roseau cane makes the remaining

marsh land more vulnerable to wave and storm energy, meaning that we could lose coastal land more and more rapidly.

Strategies: Researchers have identified a non-native parasitoid wasp which attacks the scale, however, they don't yet know if it is effective at controlling scale populations. To limit scale damage in East Asia, infested plants are burned or submerged, but both options would be difficult along the Louisiana coast since water is prevalent but depths are generally not controlled by people. Researchers at LSU are investigating the possibility of using insecticides but these can be challenging to contain in aquatic environments. People visiting areas with Roseau cane scale can do their part to prevent its spread by washing down boats after trips in southern Plaquemines Parish and avoiding contact with and transport of Roseau cane. ■

FEATURED PROJECT: BAYOU LA LOUTRE RIDGE AND MARSH RESTORATION

PO-178 Bayou La Loutre Ridge and Marsh Restoration is located in Region 1, Lake Pontchartrain Basin and Breton Basin, St. Bernard Parish.

Historic and current ridge habitat loss occurs in the form of subsidence and shoreline erosion along Bayou La Loutre. The shoreline erosion is caused by increased boat traffic diverted due to the closure of the MRGO channel. Ridge habitat consists of Live Oak Hackberry Maritime forest which is utilized by trans-gulf migratory bird species as a first and last stop when crossing the Gulf of Mexico. This critical habitat is rated as S1-Most Critically Imperiled (State Natural Heritage Program) and S2 priority by the state of Louisiana. Interior marsh loss



View of marsh area and remains of trees that once stood on adjacent historic ridges that have significantly subsided.

along Lena Lagoon is caused by subsidence, sediment deprivation, increased wave fetch and construction of access and navigational canals. The integrity of the Lena Lagoon shoreline has been breached, and loss of this wetland buffer will expose the La Loutre ridge to highly erosional winter storm events.

The goal of the project is to create an approximately 31.7 acre ridge feature with material from bucket dredging Bayou La Loutre. Additionally dredged material from Lake Borgne will create 163 acres of marsh and nourish approximately 258 acres of marsh along Lena Lagoon (421 acres total).



Project map for PO-178.

The proposed project will create approximately 5.46 miles (28,855 ft) of ridge along Bayou La Loutre and 24.4 acres of Live Oak/Hackberry Maritime forest habitat. The ridge habitat will be built centerline along the bank of the bayou. The structure will have a +4 elevation with a 5:1 slope on the bayou side and 3:1 slope on the marsh side. Additionally the newly created ridge will include herbaceous and woody plantings with smooth cord plantings along the toe. The Lena Lagoon site will create and nourish approximately 421 acres of marsh using sediment dredged from Lake Borgne. Lena Lagoon will have a semi-confined south and east flank and a fully confined north flank. Containment will be degraded as necessary to re-establish hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands.

This project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 26. It was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2017 and is funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. ■

COASTAL DAY AT THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

On Tuesday, May 2, 2017, the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act's Public Outreach staff participated in the annual Coastal Day at the Louisiana Legislature. This event, organized by the Coast Builders Coalition, aims to educate legislators about the tremendous effort being made to protect and restore Louisiana's coast. Coastal Day is a key moment to communicate with and educate representatives and legislators from across the state about the value of protection and restoration of Louisiana's coast.

The CWPPRA outreach team shared a number of publications at Coastal Day containing information regarding what CWPPRA is, the effectiveness of its projects, and the future of coastal Louisiana. In addition to distributing information and answering



questions regarding CWPPRA's completed, active, and future projects, the outreach staff attended a meeting in which Governor John Bel Edwards spoke highly of restoration efforts in Louisiana and the importance of the 2017 Coastal Master Plan. He also recognized the value of wetlands to both the state and the country, declaring his enthusiasm to move forward with the opportunity to resolve the coastal crisis and become more adept at water management. In addition to the governor, speakers including Representative Jerome Zeringue, Senator Dan Morrish, Johnny Bradberry with CPRA, and Scott Kirkpatrick with Coast Builders Coalition discussed issues affecting Louisiana's coast. Steve Cochran with Restore the Mississippi River Delta and the Environmental Defense Fund discussed a recent poll in which a resounding 97 percent of voters agreed that Louisiana's coastal wetlands are important to them. ■



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

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