

Southwest Coastal Louisiana Integrated Final Feasibility Report and EIS

Johnny Bradberry, Chair Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Civil Works Review Board April 21, 2016

committed to our coast

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Land Loss

- It is estimated that without action the Calcasieu/Sabine, Mermentau, and Vermilion/Teche basins will lose over 100,000 acres collectively over the next 50 years. (Couvillion, et al 2013)
- Erosion rates along the Louisiana coast are some of the highest in the nation; shoreline recession rates at Rockefeller Refuge are estimated to be as high as 52 feet per year on average. (Kindinger, et al 2013)
- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008 accounted for approximately 154 mi² of land loss in the Chenier Plain. (Barras 2009)

Hurricane Rita – September 24, 2005



Lake Charles Calcasieu Parish



Floodwaters engulf the shorefront as the closed bridge of Interstate 10 is seen in the background.

Hurricane Rita – September 24, 2005



Holly Beach Cameron Parish



President George W. Bush flies over what was once a beach community in Cameron, La., on Sept. 27, 2005 during an aerial tour of the Louisiana and Texas areas affected by Hurricane Rita.

Hurricane Ike - September 13, 2008



Widespread water damage is evident in Cameron, La., from Hurricane Ike's storm surge, which stretched far into the state although the storm made landfall in Texas.

Hurricane Ike - September 13, 2008



Elevated home in Forked Island, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana.

Forked Island Vermilion Parish



Importance of SW Louisiana

- Home to some of the largest petrochemical and manufacturing complexes in the country
- Supports commerce and trade
- Provides valuable habitat for and supports a diverse community of wildlife and marine life
- Home to a population of over 250,000 citizens





Southwest Coastal Plan Features

- Encompasses over 4,700 square miles and three parishes
- Will provide nonstructural flood risk reduction for almost 4,000 structures
- Allows for voluntary participation
- Restores and protects nearly 15,000 acres of wetlands
- Includes marsh creation, chenier reforestation and shoreline protection





Southwest Coastal Plan Challenges

- Funding Issues
- Policy Changes
- Significant Revisions
- Schedule Delays
- Increased Costs







CPRA



- Use the challenges as lessons learned moving forward in this and other projects
- SWC study is consistent with Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast and CPRA fully supports the plan.
- CPRA is already moving forward on the Calcasieu Salinity Control measure as recommended by the study;
- We are moving forward on other projects in the study area
- Local stakeholders support this important plan
- Residents of Louisiana hope for the continued commitment of both the state and federal resources to implement this plan.
- We would request a similar level of commitment and urgency from our federal partners to move the entire plan forward.

-Johnny Bradberry, Chair

Chenier Plain Authority



- Congratulates all on the open dialog, participation and cooperation in numerous meetings, and the investment in Southwest Louisiana by the numerous agencies on the Southwest Coastal Feasibility Study
- Appreciates the change to 100% voluntary program for the NED and inclusion of the Parish Master Plans
- Cooperative nature of these meetings is a model of how government is supposed to work. All should be commended for their efforts
- The Chenier Plain Authority encourages the USACE to move this study forward to a Final Draft and potential funding

- Nedra Davis, Executive Director

Calcasieu Parish



- Appreciates all of the hard work invested by the numerous agencies toward the Southwest Coastal Louisiana (SWC) project
- Worked tirelessly with the state and federal project delivery team to resolve eminent domain issues and voluntary participation.
- The cooperation between the parishes, CPRA, the Chenier Plain Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the USACE has set an example of how government should work.
- Calcasieu Parish encourages the USACE to move this study forward to a Final Draft and potential funding.

-Laurie Cormier, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury

Cameron Parish



- The efforts of the USACE, the CPRA, the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration & Protection Authority, and last but not least the coastal Parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, & Vermilion, led to clear and concise discussions regarding this report.
- This study can provide the mechanism for resiliency and growth for these three Parishes as originally intended. The Parish is proud of the role it played in this exercise.
- Maintains that the NED program should be a voluntary program. The Parish also appreciates the inclusion of facets of the Cameron Coastal Master Plan in the report.
- All should be commended for their efforts.

- Ryan Bourriaque, Cameron Parish Administrator

Vermilion Parish



- Applauds the efforts of CPRA, the Chenier Plain Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, and the USACE along with Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes
- Shows how Federal, State and Local governing bodies can come together and resolve issues.
- Moving the study forward to a Final Draft and potential funding
- The natural resources of Southwest Coastal Louisiana and its citizens are the true winners.

-Linda Duhon, Vermilion Parish Administrator