## **CWPPRA**

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act



## **Task Force Members:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Post Office Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267 504/862-2201

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202 225/389-0735

U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910 301/713-2370

U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service 646 Cajundome Boulevard Suite 400 Lafayette, LA 70506 337/291-3100

U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service 3737 Government Street Alexandria, LA 71302 318/473-7762

State of Louisiana Governor's Office of Coastal Activities Post Office Box 94396 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9396 225/342-3968

LA Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Restoration and Management 225/342-7308

## FOR RELEASE: Friday, April 9, 2010

**Contact:** André Williams

Media Specialist

IAP World Services/USGS National Wetlands Research Center Office: 337-266-8542 / Cell: 337-296-5095 / Fax: 337-266-8616

E-mail: WilliamsA@usgs.gov

## Southeast Louisiana Celebrates 20 Years of Coastal Restoration Progress

The Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Task Force celebrated 20 years of restoring and protecting Southeast Louisiana's coastal wetlands. The ceremony was held Thursday, April 8, 2010 at Woodland Plantation in West Pointe a La Hache, and included participants from the five federal managing agencies, along with local landowners and state and local dignitaries.

The ceremony marked the 20 year anniversary of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), and highlighted 15 projects in the Southeast region. Attendants participating in the ceremony were able to tour the Bayou Dupont Mississippi River Sediment Delivery (BA-39) and the Barataria Basin Landbridge (BA-36 / BA-27) projects. Several coastal restoration advocates were also recognized for their dedication and commitment to the CWPPRA program over the past 20 years.

"CWPPRA has been the backbone of coastal restoration efforts in Louisiana for the last 20 years and will continue to play a very important role as we move forward in constructing more and larger ecosystem restoration projects with our federal partners into the future," said Steve Mathies, executive director of the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration. "The innovation and technology developed through the CWPPRA program and the lessons we have learned by putting these vital projects on the ground and observing how our coastal marshes, lakes, bays and barrier islands respond is making it possible for us to design even larger projects so we can build upon the foundation laid over the past two decades."

CWPPRA was enacted in 1990 under former U.S. Senators John Breaux and J. Bennett Johnston. Since its inception, the federal Act has approved 148 restoration projects, benefiting over 110,000 acres of land. CWPPRA represents a collaborative effort, and is managed by a Task Force comprised of the State of Louisiana Governor's Office of Coastal Activities, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service.

-30-

For more information on CWPPRA's restoration projects, or to download press photos, visit: www.LaCoast.gov