# In Support for PPL17 Coast-Wide Voting Meeting

Demo 6 AGRINAUT Project- Autonomous

Robert Mathews Neighbors TM, Publisher

# Neighbors

1324 Chippenham Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70808 Phone: (225) 767-8549 Fax: (225) 769-6026 bob@neighborsmag.com

January 22, 2007

Ms. Julie Leblanc, Chairman P&E Subcommittee P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160

Dear Ms. Leblanc,

As an active member of the Louisiana Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association for many years, and as a dedicated marsh fisherman for more than a half century who grew up in a home attached to a large seafood restaurant in eastern New Orleans, I want to cast my vote for the AGRINAUT. Daniel Becker of Spartina Farms has devised the only sensible, affordable method that I have seen thus far for saving the coast of Louisiana.

Filling Louisiana's marsh with clay based spoil as has been proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and others, will definitely not rebuild the essential marsh. Re-growing the marsh grass is the most natural way to reverse the course of continued loss of our state's wetlands. Now is the time to stop talking and start putting back what years of neglect and abuse of one of our nation's most important natural resources has caused

I would urge you and your committee to do all in your power to get as many AGRINAUT vessels in place as quickly as you possibly can. The future of Louisiana depends on your actions as this critical time. Please don't let our children and grandchildren down.

Many thanks to you and your committee for doing all that you can in this essential effort.

Sincerely

Robert Mathews

Publisher

#### In Support for PPL17 Coast-Wide Voting Meeting

#### R1- PO 2 Bayou la Loutre Ridge Restoration

John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

#### R1- PO 12 Conkey Cove Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection Project

John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

#### R2- BS 2 Caernaryon Outfall Management/Lake Lery Shoreline Restoration

John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

#### R2- BS 1 Bohemia Mississippi River Reintroduction Project

John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation



#### Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation – Coastal Sustainability Program

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, P.O. Box 6965 Metairie, LA 70009-6965 (See the Coastal Sustainability Program webpage at SaveOurLake.org for documentation) February 2007

#### **RE: PPL 17 Recommendations for project nominations**

TO: CWPPRA voting agencies and parish officials

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation requests that federal, state and parish officials strongly consider supporting four projects for nomination at the February 7, 2007 CWPPRA meeting. These projects comply with LPBF's Comprehensive Habitat Management Plan (CHMP) or the Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense Program (Figure 1). Both programs are endorsed by the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.

Many of the proposed projects for PPL 17 are both consistent with our CHMP or our Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense Program. Nearly all of the proposed projects are desirable. However, some of the proposals are on restoration features which have no prior restoration projects completed or planned, and so they are given higher priority to comply with the restrictive selection process.

#### **PPL 17 Nomination Recommendations:**

Region 1 - Pontchartrain Basin
Bayou la Loutre Ridge Restoration
Conkey Cove Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection Project

Region 2 – Breton Basin

Caernarvon Outfall Management/Lake Lery Shoreline Restoration Bohemia Wildlife Management Area Mississippi River Reintroduction Project

Region 2 – Mississippi Delta No Recommendation

John a. Segs

We respectfully suggest these projects warrant selection as nominee projects for PPL 17. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Regards,

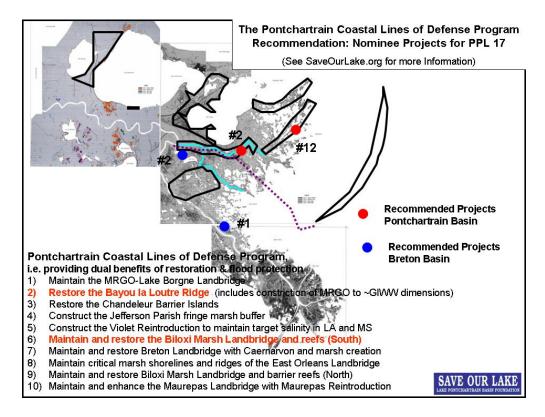
John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Office 225 294-4998 Cell 504 421-7348

1 1 1 0 1

johnlopez@pobox.com

#### **Recommended PPL 17 Nomination Projects**



**Figure 1**: The ten Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense – The dots are the CWPPRA project recommended for PPL 17 nomination selection.

#### In Support for PPL17 Coast-Wide Voting Meeting

#### R1- PO 7 Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Robert A. Turner, P.E.

Executive Director of the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District

Col. Terry Ebbert

Director of Homeland Security and Public Safety

Marcia A. St. Martin

Executive Director of the Sewage and Water Board of New Orleans

C. Ray Nagin

Mayor of the City of New Orleans

Latoya W. Cantrell

President of the Broadmoor Improvement Association

\*\*RECEIVED AFTER COASTWIDE VOTING MEETING\*\*

Mike D. McDaniel, Ph.D.

Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality

\*\*RECEIVED AFTER COASTWIDE VOTING MEETING\*\*

Emery Myers

Resident of New Orleans

#### Lake Borgne Basin Levee District

6136 East St. Bernard Hwy.
POST OFFICE BOX 216
VIOLET, LA 70092
Email: lbbld@bellsouth.net
Phone: (504) 682-5941
Fax: (504) 682-5942

February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA/PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Executive Director for the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, I remain concerned over the continued loss of our wetlands and the resulting loss in hurricane protection for New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. Therefore, I support the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I am familiar with the importance of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Cypress restoration of this area would provide hurricane protection by impeding the surge due to friction, but also the cypress trees reduce the wave energies that proved to jeopardize the levees. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in the coastal Louisiana parishes. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration to be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Turner, Jr., P.E. Executive Director

RAT:sm

TICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY & PUBLIC SAFETY

# CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN MAYOR COL. TERRY J. EDBERT DIRECTOR

February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA/PPL 17

Cypres's Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Director of Homeland Security for the City of New Orleans, I remain concerned over the continued loss of our wetlands and the resulting loss in hurricane protection for New Orleans. Therefore, I support the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I am familiar with the importance of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Cypress restoration of this area would provide hurricane protection by impeding the surge due to friction, but also the cypress trees reduce the wave energies that proved to jeopardize the levees. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration to be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Very Respectfully,

Col. Terry Ebbert, Director

Homeland Security & Public Safety

City of New Orleans

1300 PEROEDO STREET | SUITE SELS | NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA | 70412 PHONE 504,658,6900 | FAX 504,658,4066





"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21st CENTURY"

# Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN, President
TOMMIE A. VASSEL, President Pro-Tem

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837 www.swbnole.org

February 1, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, I appreciate this opportunity to provide you with our project proposal. The joint project by the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government would restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I highly endorse the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

We look forward to working with you on this challenging project if selected. Please give all due consideration to our application.

Respectfully,

Marcia A. St. Martin
Executive Director



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21st CENTURY"

# Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN, President
TOMMIE A. VASSEL, President Pro-Tam

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837
www.ewbnois.org

February 1, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Mayor of New Orleans, I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely

Mayor

City of New Orleans



February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance. Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: CWPPRA / PPL 17

CYPRESS RESTORATION OF THE BAYOU BIENVENUE CENTRAL

WETLAND UNIT

Dear Mr. Constance:

As a neighborhood leader of New Orleans, I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely

LaToya W. Cantrell. President

Broadmoor Improvement Association

#### WILLIAMS ARCHITECTS

1 February, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

To: CWPPRA voting agencies and parishes

As a citizen of New Orleans and Neighborhood Planner for the Lower Ninth Ward (UNOP planning process), I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. Currently nutrient rich effluent from both parishes is discharged to the Mississippi River where it contributes to the hypoxia, or dead zone in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Rerouting the effluent will allow the nutrients to be used to replenish the wetlands, rather than increasing damage to the coastal environment. The wetland restoration project will integrate sustainability with mitigation measures. The wetlands located in the Central Wetland Unit are known to decrease storm surge by approximately 3-6 ft, which is vital for the sustainability of our community. The enhanced wetlands will protect Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes from future storm vulnerability, while the environmental improvement will protect the local economy and culture that is dependent on productive wetlands.

I believe that this project will be an asset to our community. I urge you to give the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit Project favorable consideration throughout the review process.

Respectfully,

John C. Williams



## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO GOVERNOR

MIKE D. McDANIEL, Ph.D. SECRETARY

February 1, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

To: CWPPRA voting agencies and parishes

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is submitting this letter of support for the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. Currently, nutrient rich effluent in the form of treated domestic wastewater from both parishes is discharged to the Mississippi River where it contributes to the hypoxia, or dead zone in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Rerouting the effluent will allow the nutrients to be beneficially used to nourish and enhance wetland vegetation in the Bayou Bienvenue area. The wetlands located in the Central Wetland Unit have suffered significant decline over the past several decades, undergoing conversion from Cypress Swamp and fresh/intermediate marsh to brackish/saline marsh and open water. The controlled and strategic addition of treated domestic wastewater will aid the restoration of the degraded wetland area by providing a needed source of nutrients and fresh water.

The Bayou Bienvenue wetland restoration project will integrate wetland enhancement and restoration with hurricane protection measures as wetlands are known to decrease storm surge, which can help prevent flooding and also shield flood protection levees from storm surge energies. The enhanced wetlands will help protect citizens of Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes from future storm vulnerability, while the environmental improvement will assist the local economy and culture that is dependent on productive wetlands and the fisheries they support.

The beneficial use of nutrient rich effluent to nourish and enhance wetlands in Louisiana has a long studied history and is the subject of 9 authorizations issued by the DEQ over the past 15 years. Currently, twenty-one other entities have either submitted permit applications to nourish area wetlands with treated domestic wastewater, entered into feasibility studies to determine the viability of such, or are considering the concept.

The department recognizes that this project will be an asset to southeast Louisiana and the aquatic resources of the northern Gulf of Mexico. We urge you to give the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit Project favorable consideration throughout the review process.

Respectfully,

Mike D. McDaniel, Ph. D.

Mita D. M. Soml

Secretary

/cp

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267

New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

To: CWPPRA voting agencies and parishes

As a citizen of New Orleans and a resident of \_\_\_\_\_New Orleans\_\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. Currently nutrient rich effluent from both parishes is discharged to the Mississippi River where it contributes to the hypoxia, or dead zone in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Rerouting the effluent will allow the nutrients to be used to replenish the wetlands, rather than increasing damage to the coastal environment. The wetland restoration project will integrate sustainability with mitigation measures. The wetlands located in the Central Wetland Unit are known to decrease storm surge by approximately 3-6 ft, which is vital for the sustainability of our community. The enhanced wetlands will protect Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes from future storm vulnerability, while the environmental improvement will protect the local economy and culture that is dependent on productive wetlands.

I believe that this project will be an asset to our community. I urge you to give the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit Project favorable consideration throughout the review process.

Respectfully,

Emery Myers 403 Eleonore Street

New Orleans, LA 70115

512.659.4627

### In Support for PPL17 Coast-Wide Voting Meeting

#### R2- BA 9 Chenier Caminada Marsh Creation Project

C. Cathy Norman Secretary Treasurer/ Land Manager of the Edward Wisner Donation

#### Gallagher, Anne E MVN-Contractor

From: LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2007 4:28 PM **To:** Gallagher, Anne E MVN-Contractor

**Subject:** FW: Priority Project List 17 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Please add to Public Support document and request re-post.

----Original Message----

From: WISNERDONATION@aol.com [mailto:WISNERDONATION@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2007 4:26 PM

To: LeBlanc, Julie Z MVN

Subject: Priority Project List 17

Julie;

The Chenier Marsh Creation Project in Lafourche Parish which was nominated by NOAA is located in Lower Lafourche Parish on property of which the majority is owned by the Edward Wisner Donation, a land trust. I am the Secretary Treasurer/ Land Manager of the Edward Wisner Donation and have discussed this project with the oversite committee. While no formal land documents have been finalized, the Committee is interested in working out the land rights issues and is very supportive of this project. Additionally, Wisner participated and paid for a substantial portion of a NOAA Community based project in this area in 2003 that was highly successful and created and vegetated nearly 50 acres of marsh.

Please consider this a public letter of support for this project.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

#### C. Cathy Norman

Secretary Treasurer/Landman 1300 Perdido, Room 2W86 New Orleans, La 70112 (504) 658-4060 Fax (504) 658 4065 wisnerdonation@aol.com Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE