



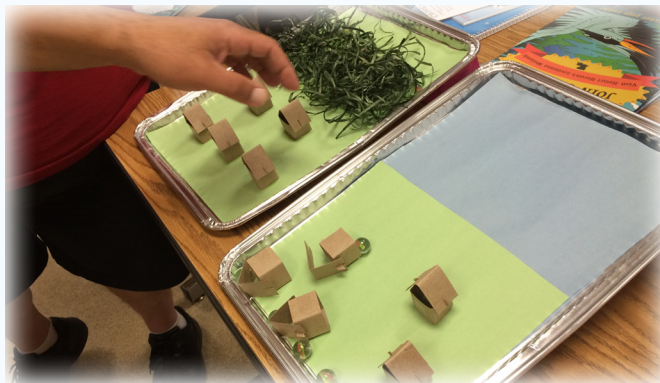
Land Marks

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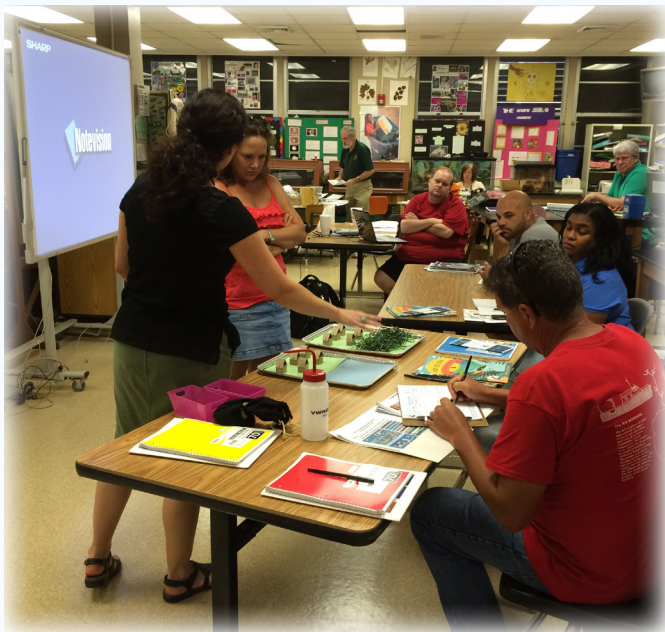
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WATER QUALITY WORKSHOPS

Lafayette, LA – The Smithsonian Institute hosted a Water Quality Workshop for Lafayette Parish teachers from July 20th – July 24th. This workshop was funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. CWPPRA staff was invited to participate by teaching elementary, middle, and high school lessons to Lafayette Parish teachers during this week-long interactive workshop. CWPPRA staff presented lessons at various locations in Lafayette parish, including the USGS Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, Lafayette Middle School, and the David Thibodaux STEM Academy. Hands-on activities for each grade level were demonstrated where teachers participated in the lessons themselves. An



overview of CWPPRA as well as specific projects and restoration techniques were introduced to the teachers. There were a total of 50 educators who took part in this workshop. The lessons and activities featured are from BTNEP's *Educator's Guide to the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary*, which can be downloaded from LaCoast.gov.



Teachers were shown how to create an activity that would show their students how homes can be affected by hurricanes and storms without wetlands as a source of protection.

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DATES TO REMEMBER...

Oct. 27	Ocean Commotion	Baton Rouge, LA
Nov. 3-4	Louisiana Smart Growth Summit	Baton Rouge, LA
Nov. 5	BTNEP Management Conference Meeting #73	Thibodaux, LA
Nov. 9-11	LSTA/LATM Teacher Conference	Baton Rouge, LA
Dec. 25	Technical Committee Meeting	Baton Rouge, LA

BVPA VISIONARY WATER SYMPOSIUM

Lafayette, LA –The Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association (BVPA) hosted its 2nd Annual Water Weekend entitled “Bayou Vermilion - Our Working River; Opportunities for Conservation, Management, and Development.” The theme of the symposium was focused around BVPA’s mission statement of “creating awareness of our



natural environment by providing education and outreach to the general community about ways to conserve, protect, and enjoy the Bayou Vermilion Watershed.” On September 11th, the CWPPRA staff participated in the Visionary Water Symposium at the Vermilionville Performance Center. In addition to having a multitude of related publications on display for attendants, the CWPPRA staff was able to listen to key note speaker, Dr. Robert Thomas of Loyola University. Other prestigious highlighted speakers included Kevin Norton, CWPPRA Task Force Member, NRCS; Dr. Amanda Vincent, LDEQ; Ron Boustany, NRCS; and Donald Sagera, Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District. William LaBar and Ben Bingham of CGI demonstrated a 3-dimensional map of the Bayou Vermilion Paddle Trail, along with a panel discussion on tourism opportunities from Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion Parishes. ■

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

Woodworth, LA – National Hunting and Fishing Day is a national event that takes place on the fourth Saturday in September every year. This day, created in 1972, celebrates the conservation contributions of our nation’s hunters and anglers. CWPPRA Outreach staff took part in an event at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Outdoor Education Center in Woodworth on September 26th. This free event



Outreach Coordinator, Kelia Bingham, teaches children and their families about wetland habitats.

invites members of the public to spend the day fishing, improving their shooting and archery skills, and enjoying live music and delicious barbecue. Various exhibitors set up tables with educational items and activities for children and families to enjoy. The CWPPRA table displayed many of its publications and included a game that teaches children about wetland habitats and the animals that reside there. Nearly 4,000 people participated in the Woodworth event, while other events also took place in Baton Rouge and Monroe. ■

FEATURED PROJECT: NO NAME BAYOU MARSH CREATION & NOURISHMENT

The project is located in Region 4, Calcasieu-Sabine Basin, in Cameron Parish. The project area is located in the Cameron-Creole Watershed Management Area which protects approximately 64,000 acres in the watershed. It includes a 16.5-mile levee along Calcasieu Lake and five large concrete water control structures to manage the unit and prevent the effects of saltwater intrusion by managing salinity, tidal exchange, water levels, and estuarine organism movement into and out of the watershed. The Calcasieu Ship Channel, immediately west of the project area, provides an avenue for the rapid movement of high-salinity water into the marshes around Calcasieu Lake. This movement increased salinity in the area, resulting in plant death and marsh loss. The weakened marshes located between the East Fork of the Calcasieu River and Calcasieu Lake has also been decimated by hurricanes. Marshes that once provided a buffer to

the southwest rim of Calcasieu Lake are now shallow, open-water areas.

The proposed project's primary feature is to create and/or nourish approximately 533 acres of saline marsh (502 acres created, 21 acres nourished and 10 acres of creeks/ponds) south of Calcasieu Lake. In order to achieve this, approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of sediment will be hydraulically pumped from the upland disposal areas of the Calcasieu River immediately adjacent to (across East Fork), and into



Project map for CS-78 No Name Bayou Marsh Creation & Nourishment

the shallow water marsh creation area to an elevation of 1.4 ft NAVD 88. It will clean out approximately 5,000 LF of the Cameron Creole Watershed Levee borrow channel to facilitate water movement into the newly created area. Containment dikes will be constructed around the marsh creation area to keep material on site during pumping. Once pumping has been completed, the containment dikes will be degraded to the current platform elevation and gaps will be excavated. Additionally, 251 acres of vegetative plantings will occur within the newly created areas. Approximately 10,000 linear feet of tidal creeks and two 2.5 acre ponds will be constructed to help facilitate hydrologic flow of water in and out of project area.

This project was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2015 and is funded by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. ■



Beneficial use of dredge material helps to sustain eroding marsh near the site of the No Name Bayou Marsh Creation and Nourishment project.

KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL STATE CONFERENCE

Lafayette, LA – As an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, the Keep Louisiana Beautiful organization focuses on community improvement through education, enforcement, awareness, and litter response. Founded in 2000, Keep Louisiana Beautiful currently has 39 affiliates statewide and approximately 23,000 volunteers. The Keep Louisiana Beautiful organization held its 2015 State Conference on October 1st -2nd at the Lafayette Science Museum in Lafayette, Louisiana. The conference offered the opportunity to learn litter-avoiding techniques, while also teaching beneficial methods of supportive care to Louisiana's communities. A CWPPRA table was set up to exhibit publication materials throughout the conference. Aside from learning recycling and volunteering tactics, the CWPPRA staff was able to listen to keynote speaker Marcus Eriksen, PhD. Dr. Eriksen is the research director and founder of 5 Gyres Institute with studies focused on the global distribution and ecological impacts of plastic marine pollution. Learn more about the 5 Gyres Institute at 5gyres.org. ■



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

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USGS/ NATIONAL WETLANDS RESEARCH CENTER
700 CAJUNDOME BOULEVARD LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70506
OFFICE PHONE: (337) 266-8623 OR (337) 266-8626

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