



With the passage of Act 8 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2005 (Act 8), the Louisiana Legislature mandated the integration of hurricane protection activities (e.g., levee construction) and coastal restoration activities (e.g., river diversions or marsh creation). Act 8 also created the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and tasked it with oversight of these activities. The Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR) was designated as the implementation arm of the CPRA. To avoid confusion, the 2012 Louisiana Legislature changed the name of the state agency from OCPR to CPRA.

The CPRA is required by Act 523 of the 2009 Regular Legislative Session, to produce an Annual Plan that inventories projects, presents implementation schedules for these projects, and identifies funding schedules and budgets. This Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Annual Plan provides an update on the state's efforts to protect and restore its coast and describes the short-term and long-term results that citizens can expect to see as the state progresses toward a sustainable coast.

Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Plan: Integrated Ecosystem Restoration  
and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana  
Submitted to the  
Senate Natural Resources Committee  
House Natural Resources and Environment Committee  
Senate Transportation, Highways and Public Works Committee  
House Transportation, Highways and Public Works Committee by  
The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana  
In accordance with R.S. 49:214.5.3 and R.S. 49:214.6.1

# Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Members

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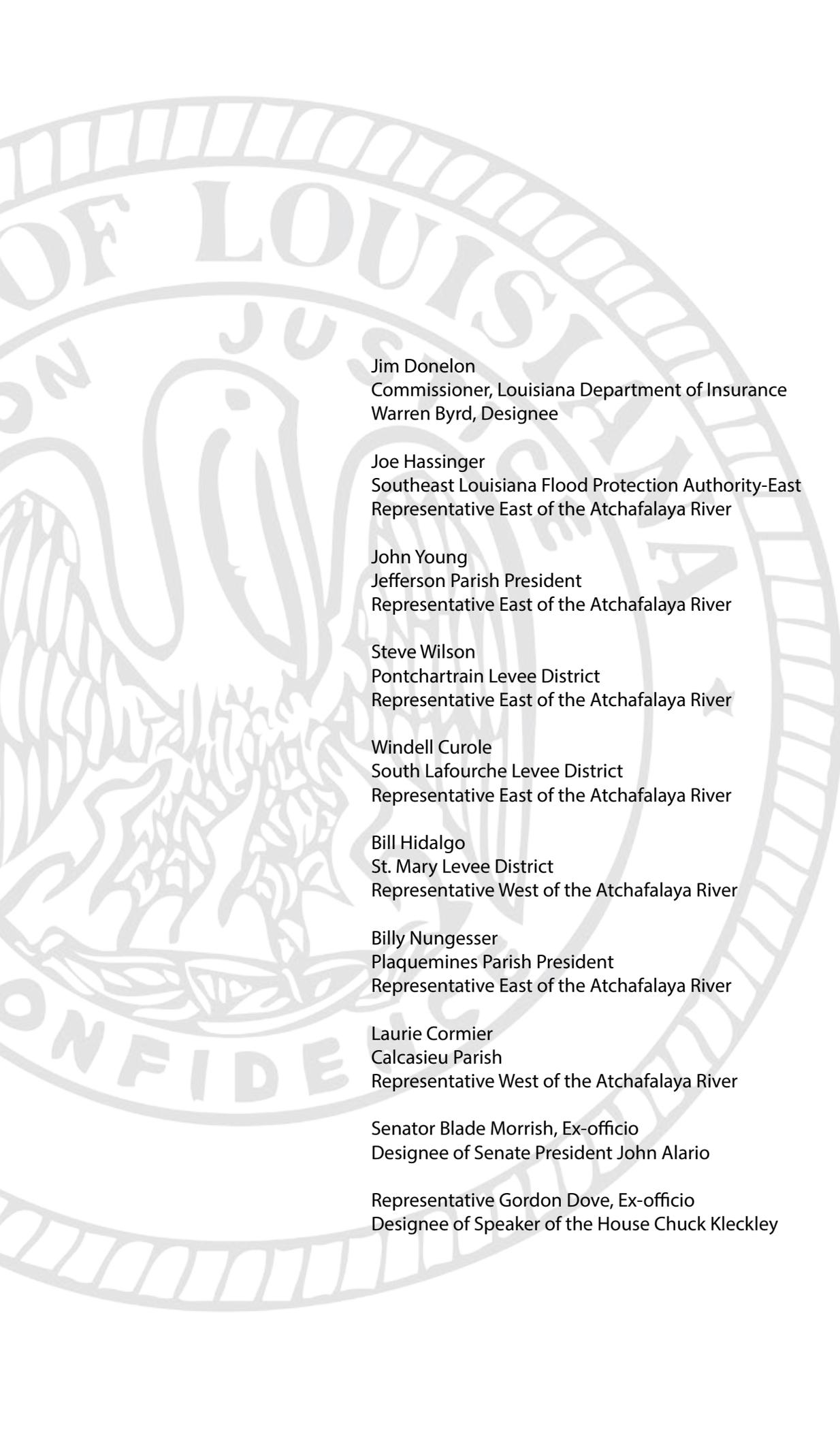
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The background of the page features a large, light gray watermark of the Seal of the State of Louisiana. The seal is circular and contains the text "SEAL OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA" around the perimeter. In the center, there is a figure of a pelican feeding its young in a nest. Below the nest, the motto "EUREKA" is written. The words "ON FIDE" are visible at the bottom of the seal.

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This public document was published at a total cost of \$7,020.

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The document was published by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana. This material was printed in accordance with standards of printing for State agencies established in R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. This plan was created by an interdisciplinary team from the CPRA led by Kyle Graham, Robert Routon, Joe Wyble, Jenny Kurz, Chuck Perrodin, Andrea Galinski, Chris Boudreaux, and Rocky Wager (USGS).

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, 2015. Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Plan: Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana. Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana. Baton Rouge, LA.



# State of Louisiana



February 2, 2015

Dear Friends,

When it comes to the CPRA's implementation of our Master Plan to protect, preserve and restore Louisiana's coast, Albert Einstein may have said it best: "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them."

Our annual plan reflects advancements in modeling and ground-breaking achievements in order to confront the risk to our coastal communities and land loss that has plagued our coast. We are proud of the efforts of those who are working hard to preserve and protect our valuable resources and those who provide them to our nation. We stand on those achievements and look ahead to an exciting year of accelerating progress and results.

We are therefore pleased to present our *Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Plan, Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana*, the yearly report on our progress in implementing the State Master Plan and a look forward to what is planned for coming fiscal years.

With confidence bolstered by the experience and success of our past efforts, we are embarking on projects that are larger in scale and scope, creating more acres of land and marsh than ever before, and doing more to preserve and protect our people, property, environment, culture and history, and to restore what we have lost in the forms of natural barriers and marshes.

The firm foundation upon which CPRA operates owes much to its immediate past chairman, Garret Graves. We thank him for his years of energetic service and vow to continue the high level of integrity and adherence to scientific principles that he always insisted be at the heart of our endeavors.

We thank all of our partners, who are helping to develop our innovative approach to solving our problems to ensure the sustainability of our coast for generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerome Zeringue", is written over a large, stylized blue scribble.

Jerome Zeringue  
Chair, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

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## Purpose of the Annual Plan

This plan is the annual report card used to track the progress of projects outlined in *Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast*. Additional information and projections are included to foster a better understanding of what is being done and why and how it is being done.

## Origin of the Annual Plan

In 2007, in response to Act 8's directive, the State released *Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection: Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast* (2007 Coastal Master Plan). The 2007 Coastal Master Plan established four planning objectives as benchmarks for implementing coastal protection and restoration projects and identified large-scale measures needed to achieve a sustainable coast. The 2007 Coastal Master Plan was passed unanimously in the Louisiana Legislature and its primacy was subsequently reaffirmed by Gov. Bobby Jindal in Executive Order BJ2008-7, which directed all state agencies to administer their activities, to the maximum extent possible, in accordance with the 2007 Coastal Master Plan's recommendations.

To accommodate the dynamic nature of coastal processes, Act 8 specifies that the Coastal Master Plan is a living document that will be updated approximately every five years. These updates incorporate new data and planning tools as they become available. To comply with the mandate set forth in Act 8, the first update of the Coastal Master Plan was submitted to the Louisiana Legislature in March 2012. It was unanimously adopted. The next update will be due in 2017.

Act 523 of the 2009 Regular Legislative Session directed the CPRA to produce an Annual Plan each year that inventories integrated coastal protection projects, presents implementation schedules for these projects, and identifies funding schedules and budgets.\*

## Evolution of the Annual Plan

Historically, the state's Annual Plans for coastal projects provided: 1) an inventory of projects for which the state planned to expend money and resources for a given fiscal year, and 2) recommendations for allocating Coastal Protection and Restoration Funds to those projects. The FY 2010 Annual Plan was the first plan to address the new integrated planning and prioritization directives specified in Act 8. The FY 2016 Annual Plan fulfills the legislative mandate of Act 8 by presenting the CPRA's three-year program for funding and implementing projects during FY 2016–FY 2018.

Additionally, the FY 2016 Annual Plan builds on the process first begun in the FY 2010 plan and provides an expanded discussion of the CPRA's progress in protecting and restoring the coast. Section 2 provides a summary of some of the progress and accomplishments achieved through FY2015; Section 3 outlines an implementation plan for FY 2016; Section 4 gives fiscal projections for FY 2016 to 2018; and the Appendices provide detailed information on CPRA projects, programs and initiatives.

\*La R.S. 49:214.29(4) defines "integrated coastal protection" as "plans, projects, policies, and programs intended to provide hurricane protection or coastal conservation or restoration, and shall include but not be limited to coastal restoration; coastal protection; infrastructure; storm damage reduction; flood control; water resources development; erosion control measures; marsh management; diversions; saltwater intrusion prevention; wetlands and central wetlands conservation, enhancement, and restoration; barrier island and shoreline stabilization and preservation; coastal passes stabilization and restoration; mitigation; storm surge reduction; or beneficial use projects."