



State of Louisiana
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

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Contact: Chuck Perrodin, Public Information
Director
(o) 225-342-7615

Louisiana Trustees Seek Comment on Draft Recreational Use Restoration Plan & Barataria Basin Strategic Restoration Plans

BATON ROUGE, LA — January 25, 2018 — The Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (LA TIG) invited public comment on two draft *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill restoration plans intended to provide and enhance recreational opportunities and to restore wetlands, coastal, and nearshore habitats in the Barataria Basin. [Click for Presentation Slides.](#)

The first of the two draft restoration plans is the [Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #2: Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities](#) (Draft Recreational Use RP), which presents a restoration plan to compensate for lost recreational use as a result of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Included are \$22 million in proposed projects emphasizing the creation and enhancement of recreational fishing infrastructure, access to recreational fishing, and educational and outreach projects to promote use and stewardship of natural resources. The four proposed projects are: that the federal regulatory agencies are going to be working with us to implement this project on an expedited timeline. We couldn't be happier," said Chairman Bradberry.

- Elmer's Island Access - \$6 million
- Statewide Artificial Reefs - \$6 million
- Lake Charles Science Center and Educational Complex - \$7 million
- Pointe aux Chenes Island Road Fishing Piers - \$3 million

The public comment period for the Draft Recreational Use RP, originally scheduled to end on January 19, 2018, has been extended to February 2, 2018.

The second draft restoration plan is the [Draft Strategic Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #3: Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats in the Barataria Basin, Louisiana](#) (Draft Barataria Basin SRP). The Louisiana TIG is proposing two decisions in this draft plan:

1. A preferred alternative that relies on a suite of restoration techniques, including large-scale sediment diversions, marsh creation, and ridge restoration.
2. Advancing specific projects forward for further evaluation and planning. These include the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion and two increments of marsh creation within “Large Scale Marsh Creation: Component E” in the northern Barataria Basin.

The Louisiana TIG also confirmed its 2017 decision to move the Spanish Pass Increment of the Barataria Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation project forward for further evaluation and planning. These selected projects will be considered in future Phase II restoration plans.

“Both of these draft restoration plans are consistent with the *Deepwater Horizon* Natural Resource Trustees’ Programmatic Restoration Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement,” CPRA attorney Alyson Graunard told the public at the meeting in New Orleans.

The public comment period for the Draft Barataria Basin SRP opened on December 20, 2017 and will close on February 5, 2018.

For public members who were unable to attend the meeting, please visit the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority Board’s [Facebook page](#) to view the streamed public meeting.

Please visit the [Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group's webpage](#) for information on the January 24 meeting and for updates related to the draft restoration plans.

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Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is the single state entity with authority to develop, articulate, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal Master Plan of unified vision, to reduce tropical storm surge flood impact, to restore our bountiful natural resources, to build land to protect our nation’s critical energy infrastructure, and to secure Louisiana’s coast now and for future generations.