



State of Louisiana
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CPRA ANNOUNCES \$19.5M GRANT FOR ITS ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
UNDER THE RESTORE ACT**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana – The Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) has received a \$19.5 million grant from the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (RESTORE Council) for design and implementation of the final phase of the System Wide Assessment and Monitoring Program (SWAMP) under CPRA’s Adaptive Management program. This is the first Spill Impact Component project grant to be awarded by the RESTORE Council under the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act).

“This is a significant milestone for our Adaptive Management program and will result in comprehensive long-term monitoring across coastal Louisiana”, said CPRA Chairman Johnny Bradberry. “These funds will be put to immediate use to complete the final increment of the SWAMP program from Bayou Lafourche to the Louisiana-Texas border”, said Chairman Bradberry.

CPRA has developed SWAMP as a long-term monitoring program to ensure a comprehensive network of coastal data collection activities are in place to support the development, implementation, and adaptive management of the coastal protection and restoration program within coastal Louisiana, in addition to monitoring the recovery of coastal resources from the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill. The Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) and Barrier Island Comprehensive Monitoring (BICM) programs have been incorporated into SWAMP, while other aspects of system dynamics, including



sedimentological, geological, geophysical, water quality, vegetative biomass, waves, currents, weather, and climate data, some of which have not traditionally been a part of CPRA's monitoring strategy, have been designed into SWAMP to fill critical data gaps.

Monitoring plans have been developed for Barataria Basin and Pontchartrain Region (includes Breton Sound, Pontchartrain and Mississippi River Delta Basins) for both the natural and human systems and RESTORE funds will now be used to complete the development of the SWAMP program design for the remainder of Louisiana's coast from Bayou Lafourche to the Louisiana-Texas border. "Completion of our SWAMP program will ultimately provide a more comprehensive, systematic long-term monitoring program that will help us better understand overall ecosystem conditions and system dynamics across our coast which will serve to strengthen and streamline our coastal program", said Michael Ellis, Executive Director of the CPRA.

The RESTORE Act allocates 80 percent of all Clean Water Act penalties paid by those responsible for the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Gulf oil spill disaster to Gulf Coast restoration activities. The RESTORE Act contains five different funding components, one of which directs 30 percent of the funds deposited into the Trust Fund to each of the five Gulf Coast States based on a formula established by regulation for expenditure for ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast region (the "Spill Impact Component"). In order for a Gulf Coast State to receive funding under the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act, the States must first submit a plan to the RESTORE Council for the expenditure of Trust Fund monies through that funding component. The State of Louisiana was the first state to have a Spill Impact Component plan accepted by the RESTORE Council, a plan which will be guided by the state's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast, and is the first state to receive a project grant under the Spill Impact Component.

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Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is the single state entity with authority to develop, articulate, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal restoration and protection Master Plan of unified vision to reduce hurricane 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.