



State of Louisiana

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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APPROVED: Louisiana coastal restoration spending plan for FY 2019 unanimously adopted with bi-partisan support in State House and Senate

Baton Rouge, LA – Today the Louisiana Legislature unanimously adopted the proposed spending plan for the coming fiscal year submitted by the state Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), approving the expenditure of \$566 million in anticipated revenues outlined in the CPRA's [FY19 Annual Plan](#). The state's fiscal year runs from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019.

The plan also forecasts revenues and expenditures that could be coming in future fiscal years, with \$914 million anticipated in FY 2020 and \$826 million in FY 2021, though the CPRA must submit a formal request to the legislature for expenditures going into each individual fiscal year.

Michael Ellis, CPRA Executive Director explained a “ramping up” of the state’s coastal implementation program saying, “We’ve been readying Louisiana’s Coastal Program for this magnitude of expenditures, and having full endorsement of the state legislature is a tremendous validation of our program.”

Ellis identified that FY19 project-associated expenditures for engineering and design will pave the way for \$4.9 billion in anticipated total project investment. Construction expenditures would benefit more than 8,800 acres of wetland and improve 97.5 miles of levees. Also included in FY19 annual plan is the cost of operations and maintenance for 136 projects, and monitoring of an additional 105 projects.

“It says a lot about Louisiana that we can set aside any political differences to pull together on an issue as critical as this, which is to protect and restore our coast,” said Johnny Bradberry, Governor’s Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities and CPRA Board Chairman.

CPRA is required to submit an annual plan (SR1 and HR1) to the legislature to detail its funding priorities for the next fiscal year and provide a three-year outlook on revenues and expenditures. The plan is heard in Senate and House Transportation and Natural Resources committees before it advances to both floors of the legislature for a final vote.

CPRA is projecting expenditures of \$566 million in FY2019, with two projects in planning, 42 projects in design and 21 projects that will begin or continue construction. Project-associated expenses of \$485.4

million in FY19 account for 86 percent of expenditures, of which 51 percent or \$289 million will go toward construction of projects.

The FY20 projection for total expenditures is \$914 million, of which 90 percent is project-associated expenditures, and FY21 projection for total expenditures is \$826 million, with 89 percent identified as project-associated expenditures.

CPRA produces the Annual Plan in compliance with Act 523 of the 2009 Regular Session, amended by Act 604. The annual plan is a request for spending authorization for the upcoming fiscal year; and a three-year outlook of projected revenues, expenditures, and project schedules necessary for the implementation of Louisiana's Comprehensive Coastal Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast.

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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.