

**COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY BOARD STATE OF LOUISIANA
July 15, 2026**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-07-01

**A Resolution of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Supporting Love Our Waterways and the Removal of Litter and Marine Debris
from Louisiana’s Waterways and Coastal Areas**

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) was established as the single state entity charged with developing, implementing, and enforcing a comprehensive Coastal Master Plan to achieve a safe, sustainable, and resilient coast for the people of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, CPRA's mission is to protect and restore Louisiana's coastal resources, communities, working coast, and natural habitats through integrated coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and stewardship initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is home to more than 14,400 miles of rivers, bayous, lakes, streams, canals, wetlands, and coastal shorelines that define the state's unique culture, environment, economy, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of Louisiana’s coast is privately owned and those landowners have been a critical partner to the state’s coastal restoration efforts; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's waterways and coastal ecosystems provide critical habitat for fish and wildlife, support commercial and recreational fisheries, facilitate maritime commerce and navigation, protect communities from storm impacts, and contribute billions of dollars annually to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's waterways and coastal resources support one in every five jobs in the state

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through maritime commerce, commercial and recreational fisheries, ports, tourism, outdoor recreation, energy production, and other water-dependent industries; and

WHEREAS, litter and marine debris threaten the health and resilience of Louisiana's waterways, wetlands, marshes, and coastlines by degrading water quality, harming fish and wildlife, obstructing natural water flow, increasing flooding risks, diminishing habitat quality, and negatively impacting tourism and recreation; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that coastlines across the United States contain approximately 16,800 pieces of litter per mile, with marshes and coastal habitats among the most heavily impacted areas and approximately ninety percent of debris consisting of small litter fragments that are difficult to remove and especially harmful to wildlife and aquatic ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's extensive coastal marshes and wetlands serve as natural storm buffers, nursery grounds for fisheries, and critical components of the state's Coastal Master Plan, making the prevention and removal of litter and marine debris an important component of responsible coastal stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana lies at the mouth of the Mississippi River watershed, the fourth largest watershed in the world, and receives litter and debris transported from upstream states, making local cleanup efforts and public education essential to protecting Louisiana's coast and waterways; and

WHEREAS, achieving a sustainable coast requires collaboration among state agencies, local governments, businesses, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, community groups, and citizens working together to protect Louisiana's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Keep Louisiana Beautiful has established **Love Our Waterways**, a statewide initiative dedicated to mobilizing volunteers to remove litter and marine debris from Louisiana's waterways and coastlines, educate communities about pollution prevention, and inspire long-term environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the annual **Love Our Waterways** initiative engages thousands of volunteers in removing litter and debris from rivers, lakes, bayous, wetlands, and coastal areas while promoting public awareness, environmental education, and community engagement that support the long-term goals of coastal conservation and restoration;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority recognizes the importance of litter prevention and debris removal as complementary actions that help protect and sustain Louisiana's coastal and water resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority expresses its support for the goals of the Love Our Waterways initiative and encourages participation by local governments, community organizations, businesses, schools, and citizens in efforts to remove litter and marine debris from Louisiana's waterways and coastal areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority encourages continued public education and stewardship efforts that promote cleaner waterways, healthier wetlands, stronger coastal ecosystems, and a more resilient Louisiana coast for future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Keep Louisiana Beautiful in recognition of its leadership in advancing statewide efforts to protect Louisiana's waterways and coastlines through volunteer action and environmental stewardship.

This Resolution was declared adopted this 15th day of July, 2026.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board at its meeting of July 15, 2026, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at which a quorum was present.



GORDON E. DOVE, CHAIR
COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION
AUTHORITY BOARD OF LOUISIANA

This ____ day of _____, 2026 at _____, Louisiana.