

Louisiana's Vision & Perspectives on Gulf Restoration Priorities

February 28, 2011



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Charles Allen- City of New Orleans
Garret Graves - CPRA

The Great Mississippi River Watershed



- Two-thirds of the continental United States
- Third largest drainage basin in the world
- 42% of the contiguous land mass of North America

National Perspective: Ports-Cargo

- Top tonnage port in the nation
- Five of the top 15 tonnage ports in the US
- Largest cargo port complex in the world
- Over 30 states depend upon Louisiana's ports for imports and exports.....





Note: Figure shows dock-to-dock annual shipment volumes (tonnages) by 4-digit Performance Monitoring System Commodity Class and annual shipment volumes (tonnages, dollar-valued trades) to and from U.S. seaports and foreign countries, broken down by 4-digit Harmonized Schedule Commodity Codes.

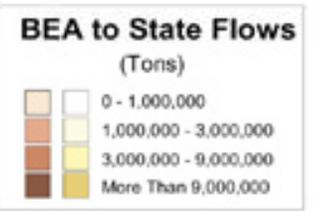
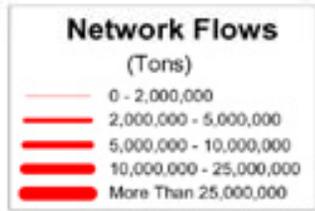




U.S. Department of Transportation
 Federal Highway Administration
 Office of Freight Management and Operations
 Freight Analysis Framework

Total Combined Truck Flows
 (1998)

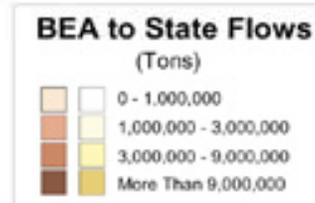
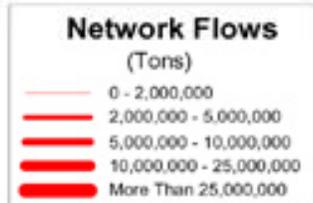
NEW YORK





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Total Combined Truck Flows
 (1998)
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

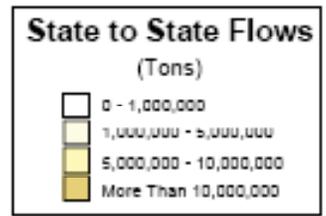
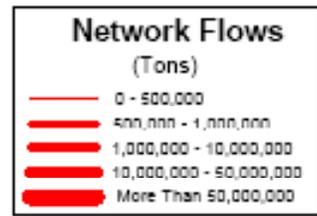




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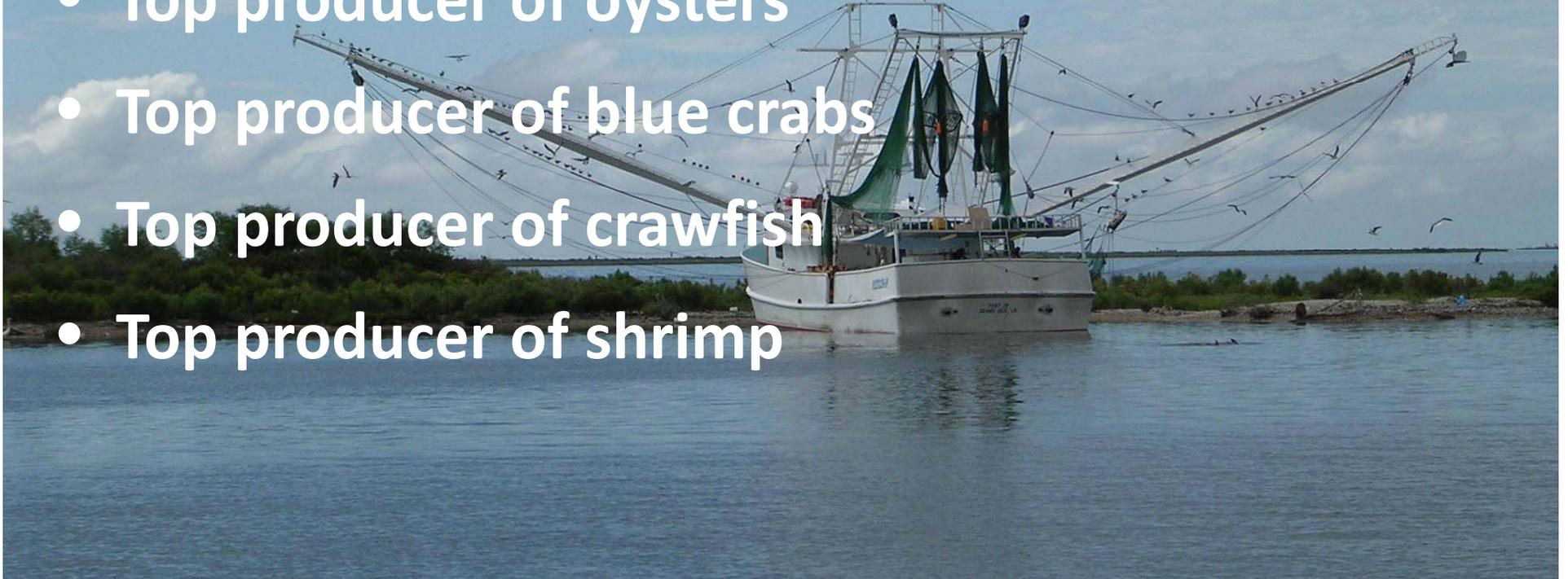
Total Combined Truck Flows
 (1998)

LOUISIANA



National Perspective: Seafood

- Top producer in fisheries in the Lower 48 States
 - By weight 24% of all commercial species caught in the lower 48 is caught in Louisiana waters
- Top producer of oysters
- Top producer of blue crabs
- Top producer of crawfish
- Top producer of shrimp



National Perspective: Energy

- Top producer of domestic oil
- Top domestic reserves of oil and gas
- Top producer of offshore oil
- Top producer of offshore gas
- Top producer of offshore revenues for US Treasury
- Significant offshore alternative energy potential



The Great Mississippi River Watershed

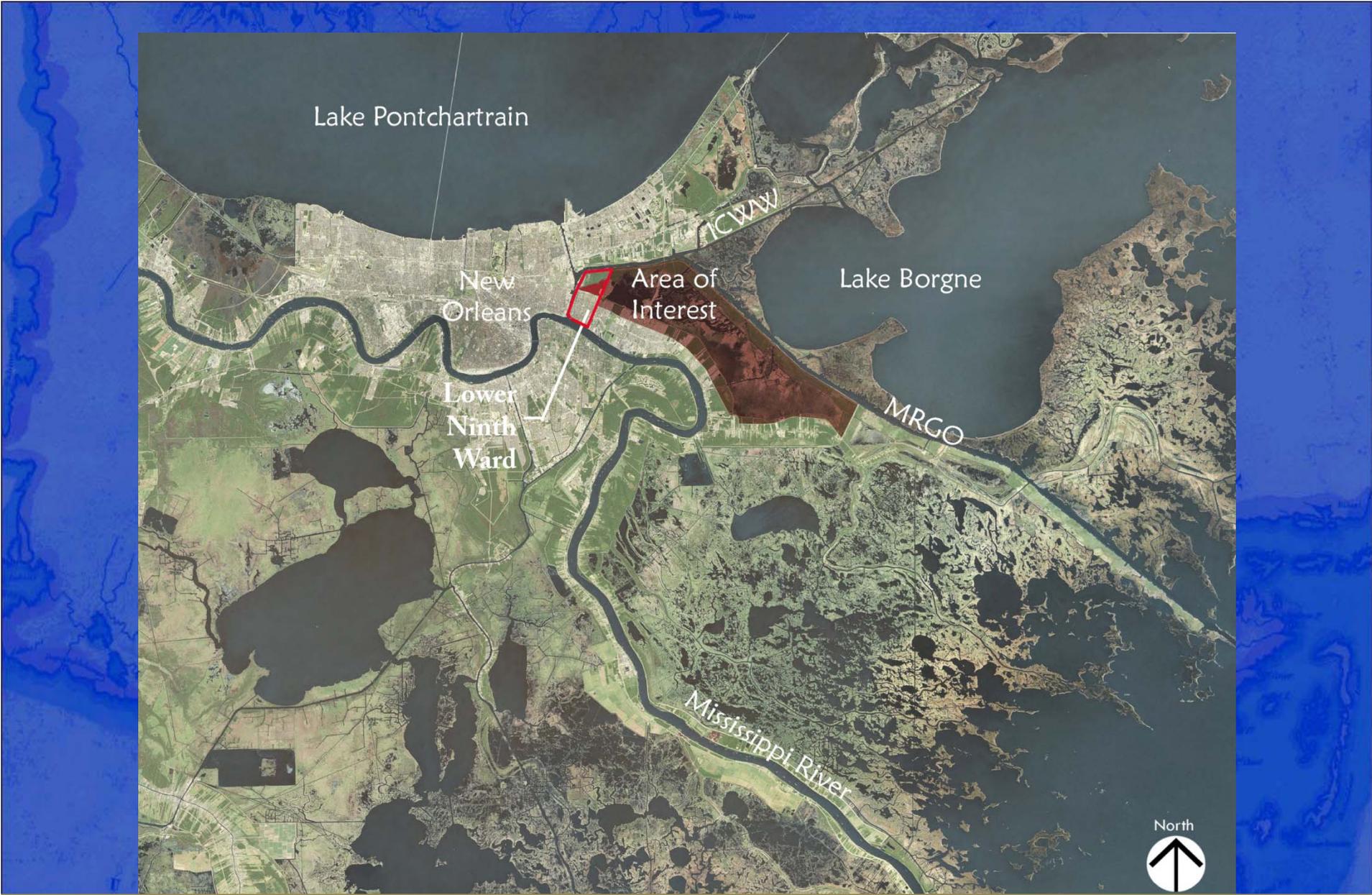


- Two-thirds of the continental United States
- Third largest drainage basin in the world
- 42% of the contiguous land mass of North America

Local Perspective

Charles Allen – City of New Orleans





New Orleans Metro Area

The Lower 9th Ward & Bayou Bienvenue Triangle



Bayou Bienvenue and the Urban Coast





Photo by Darryl Malek-Wiley

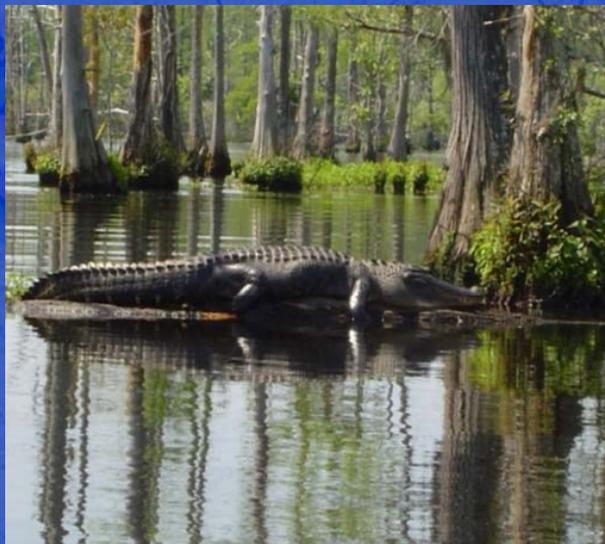
Population Shifts in Orleans, St. Bernard, Jefferson, Plaquemines Parishes

Parish	2000 Population	2010 Population
Orleans	484,674	343,829
St. Bernard	67,229	35,897
Plaquemines	26,757	23,042
Jefferson	455,466	432,552

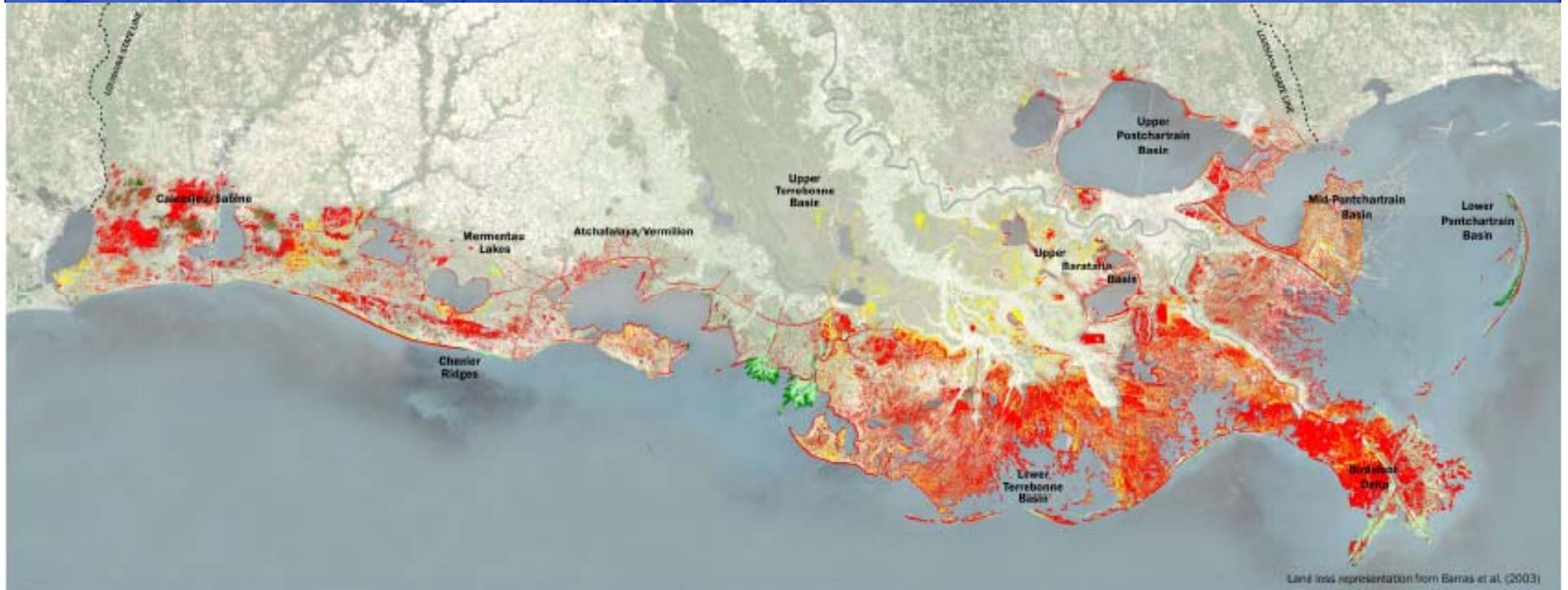


Coastal Past and Future

-Garret Graves



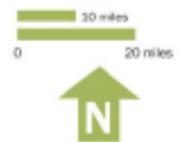
Coastal Louisiana is Facing a Crisis



Coastal Land Change 1932-2050

- Land Loss 1932 - 2000
- Potential Land Loss 2000 - 2050
- Land Gain 1932 - 2000
- Predicted Land Gain 2000 - 2050

Approximate Scale

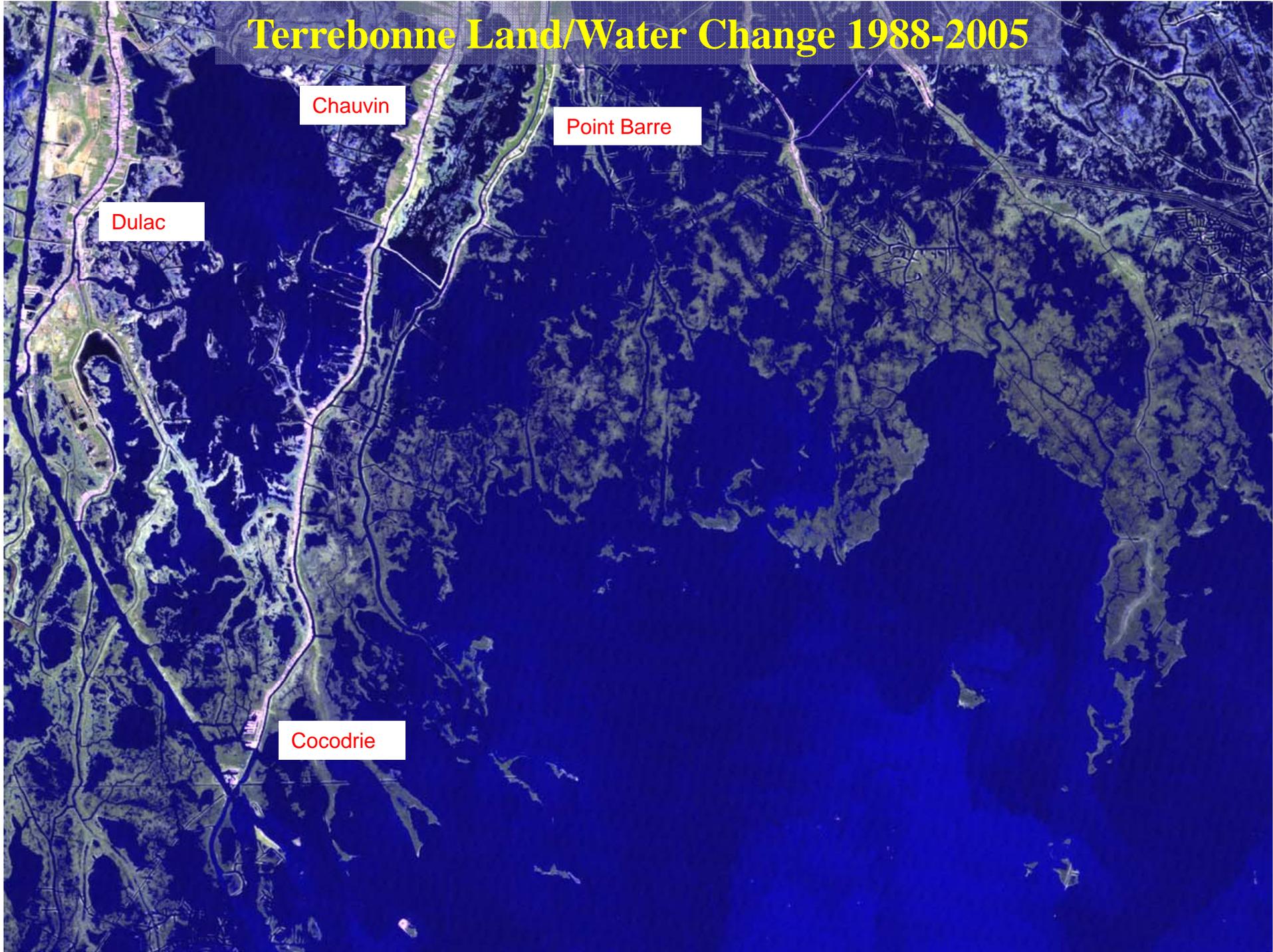


Based on Coastal Louisiana has lost an average of 34 square miles of land, primarily marsh, per year for the last 50 years. From 1932 to 2000 coastal Louisiana has lost 1,900 square miles of land, roughly an area the size of the state of Delaware. If nothing is done to stop this land loss, Louisiana is expected to lose another 700 square miles of land, or about equal to the size of the great Washington D.C. Baltimore area, in the next 50 years. Further, Louisiana accounted for an estimated 90 percent of the coastal marsh loss in the lower 48 states during the 1990s.

Source: Barras et al., 2003

restoring and protecting Louisiana's coast

Terrebonne Land/Water Change 1988-2005



Dulac

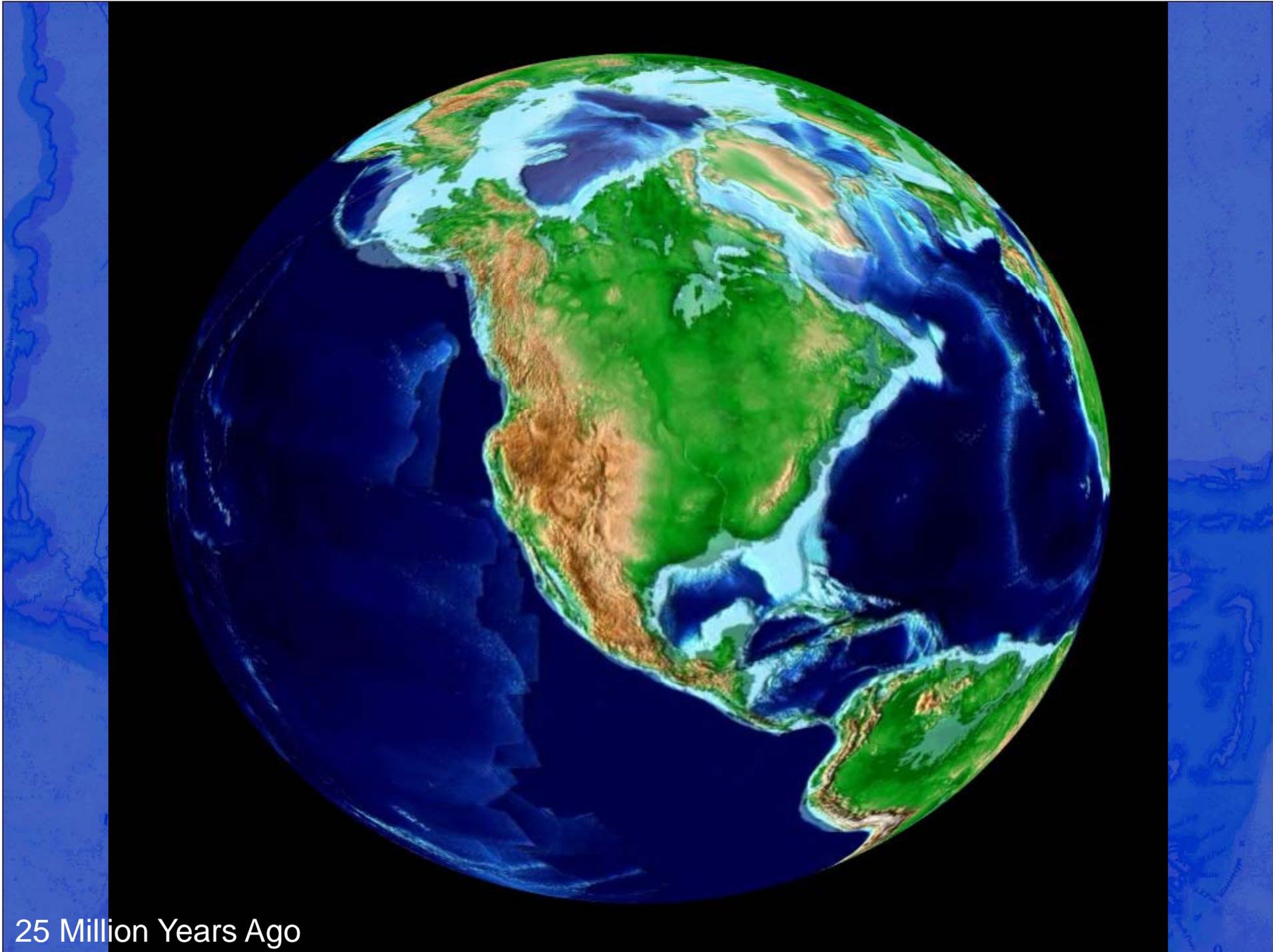
Chauvin

Point Barre

Cocodrie



60 Million Years Ago

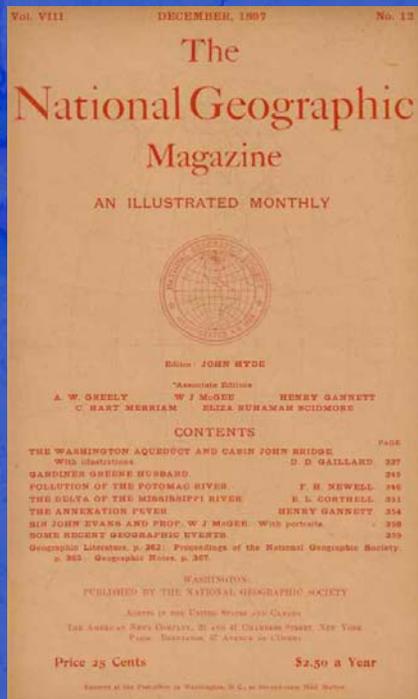
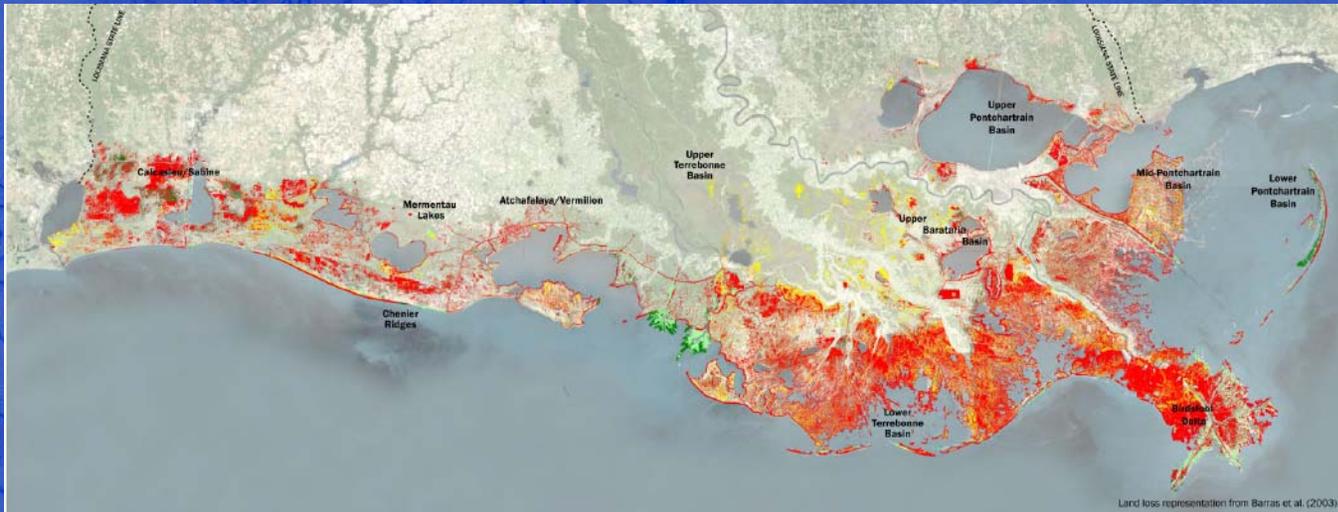


25 Million Years Ago



Today

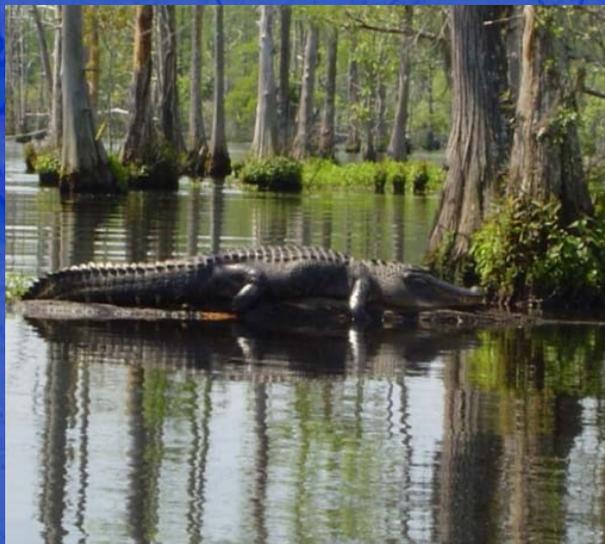
Unforeseen Coastal Crisis?



When discussing the Mississippi River Commission 1894 report of survey on the delta to account for the sinking land it was noted:

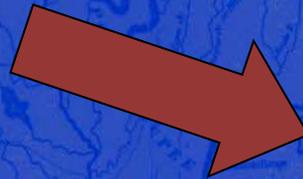
“The conditions are very different now from those existing prior to the existence of levees. There are at present no annual accretions of sedimentary matters from the periodical overflows of the river. These accretions formerly were a little more than equal to the annual subsidence of the lands...”

Structured for Success

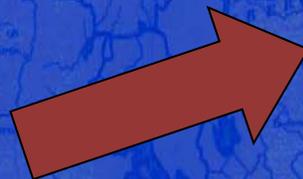


1. Restructuring State Offices – for Coastal Sustainability

Flood Protection



Coastal Wetland Restoration

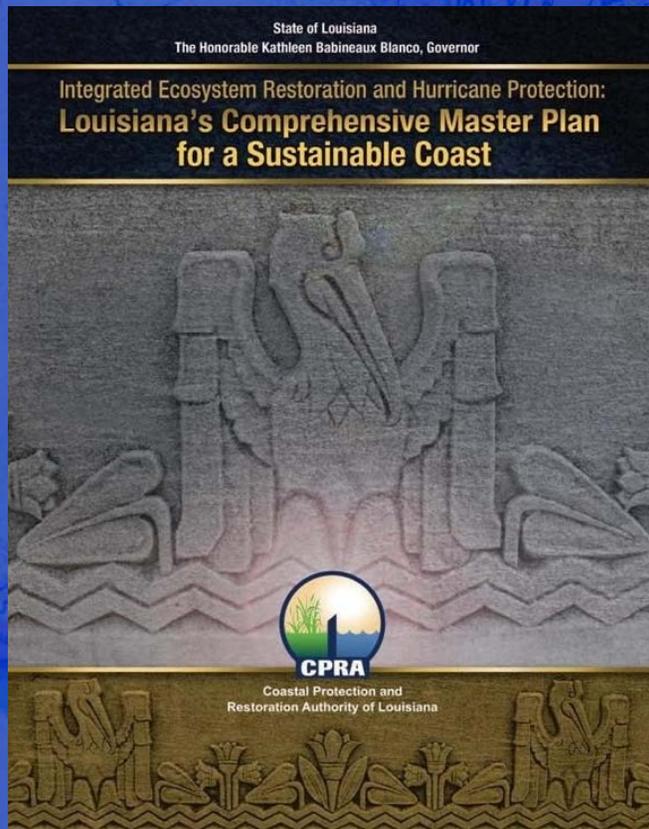


2. Developing and Utilizing the Best Available Science & Engineering

The collage features several key documents and reports:

- The Economic Benefits of Fisheries, Wildlife and Boating Resources in the State of Louisiana** (June 2, 2005)
- ECONOMIC PROFILE OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER REGION** (January 2004)
- Conservation, Protection and Utilization of Louisiana's Coastal Wetland Forests** (April 30, 2005)
- GEOMORPHOLOGY** (Journal cover)
- TEAM LOUISIANA** (Report by U.S. von Herzen, Ph.D., et al.)
- The Failure of the New Orleans Levee System during Hurricane Katrina**
- Coast 2050: Toward a Sustainable Coastal Louisiana** (Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force)
- Performance Evaluation of the New Orleans and Southeast Louisiana Hurricane Protection System** (Final Report of the Interagency Hurricane Evaluation Task Force)
- ESTUARIES** (Journal cover)
- Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA), Louisiana Ecosystem Restoration Study** (November 2004)
- Shoreline management plan guidance Volume 1: Aims and requirements** (March 2006)
- A New Framework for Planning the Future of Coastal Louisiana the Hurricanes of 2005** (January 26, 2006)
- Report of the Offshore Oil and Gas in Southern Louisiana** (Papers on the Evolving Offshore Industry)
- Oil on the Edge: Offshore Development, Conflict, Gridlock** (Robert Gramling)
- ENVISIONING the future of the GULF COAST** (June 1, 2006)
- Final Report and Findings from Technical Group** (June 1, 2006)
- Report on the Performance of the Flood Protection Systems after Katrina on August 29, 2005** (July 26, 2006)

3. Advancing Planning Tools



2012 Master Plan Update

Protect : communities
culture
ecosystem
economy

Prioritization Tool



Key Steps:

1. Define a coastal vision
2. Estimate individual project effects on the coast
3. Compare individual projects
4. Construct feasible project portfolios
5. Select robust project portfolios
6. Consider trade-offs among robust portfolios
7. Define implementation strategy
8. Examine expected outcomes

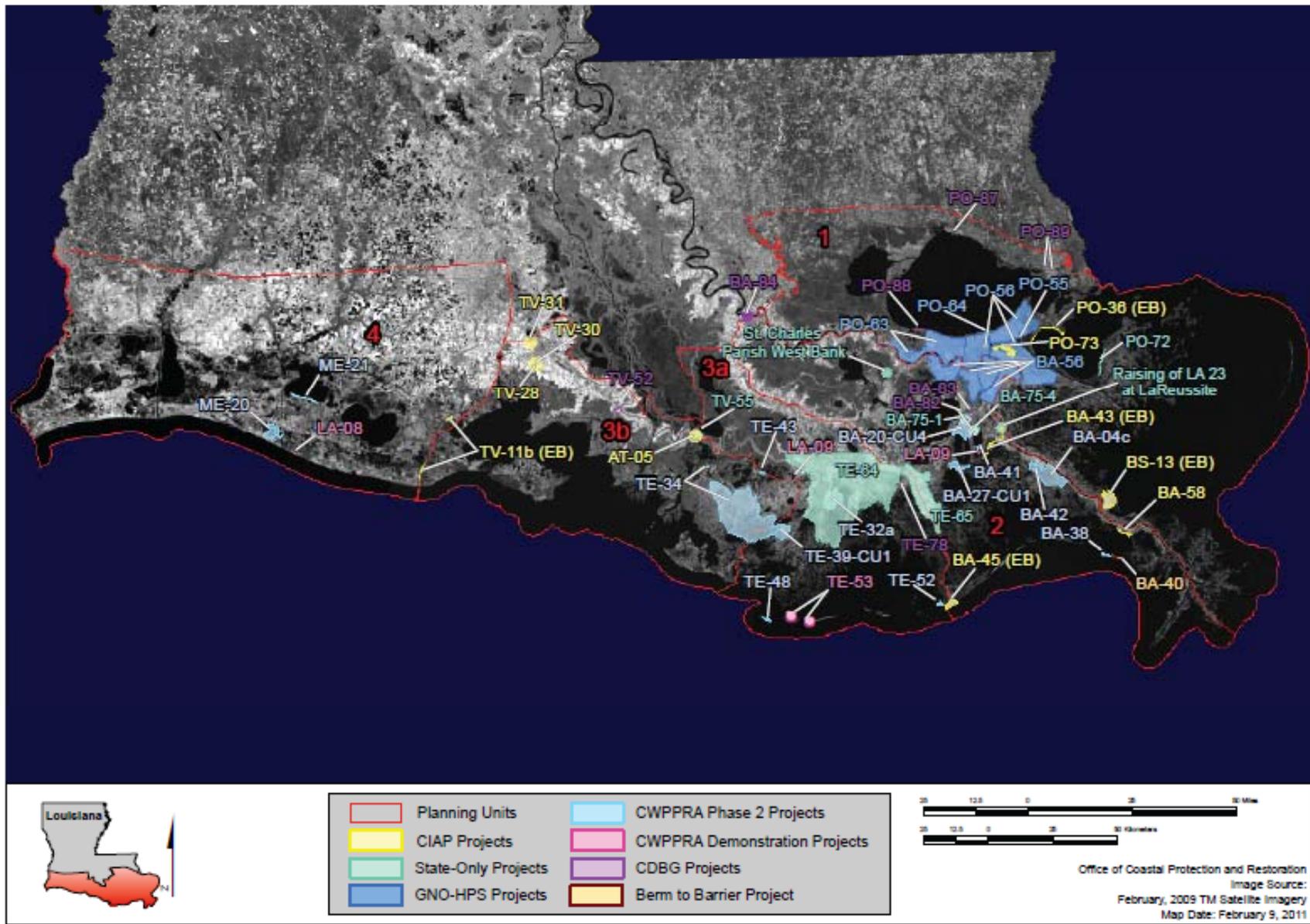
2012 Master Plan Outputs



- Maps showing ranges of Master Plan outcomes
 - Levels of flood protection
 - Levels of ecosystem services
 - Extent and character of landscape
- An adaptive management plan to guide implementation
 - Maps of near-term projects
 - Maps of potential future project
 - Schedule
 - Costs
 - Expected sources of funding

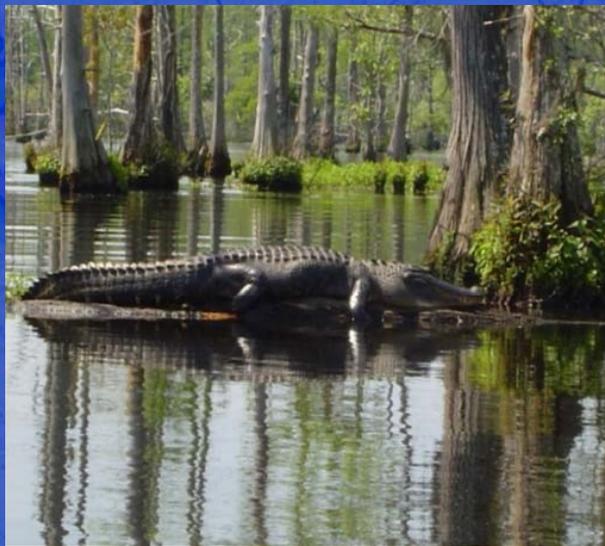


Projects under Construction in FY12

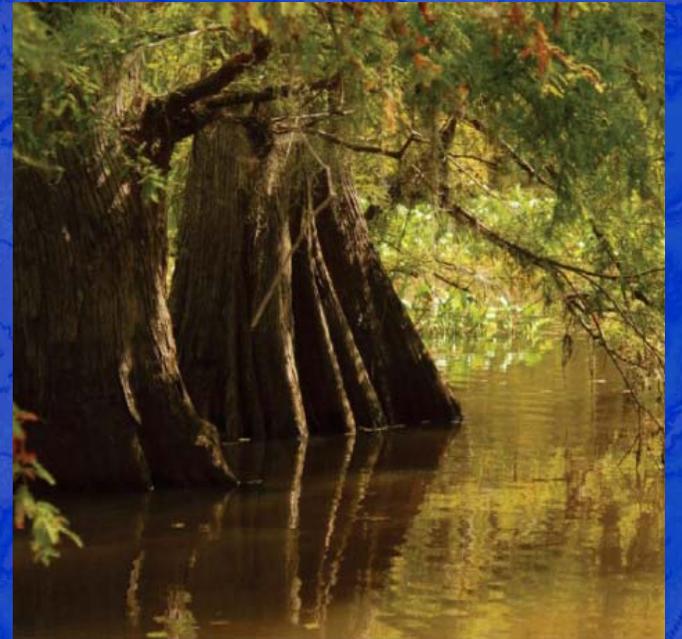


50 projects anticipated to be projects in construction in FY 2012

Suggested Areas of Focus



1. Maximize and Clarify Funding



Clarify Revenue Stream

2006 Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act

Phase 1: FY 2007 – 2016

Sharing of revenues only from:

“181 East” leases

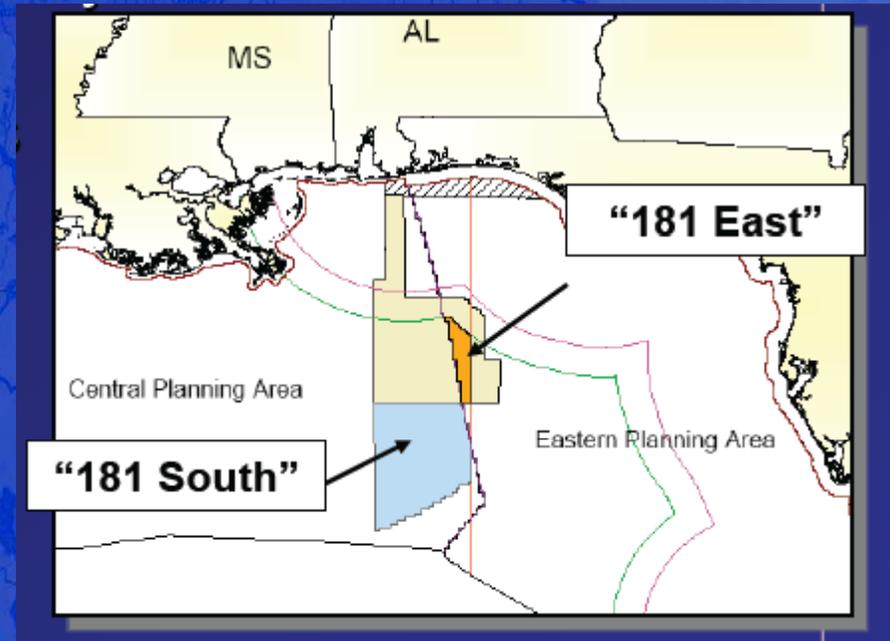
“181 South” leases

*FY 2011 - \$222,725

Phase 2: FY 2017 and after

Sharing of revenues from all
Gulf leases issued after
December 20, 2006

- Potential to deliver significant revenue for Coastal Activities
- Requires additional rule making
- Governor letter sent September 2009



Clarify Revenue Stream

Oil Spill

- Clean Water Act

(\$5-22 billion – oil discharged)

- Gross negligence
- Natural gas?
- Dispersants?

- Natural Resources

- Emergency Restoration
- Early Restoration?
- NRD Bank (mitigation)



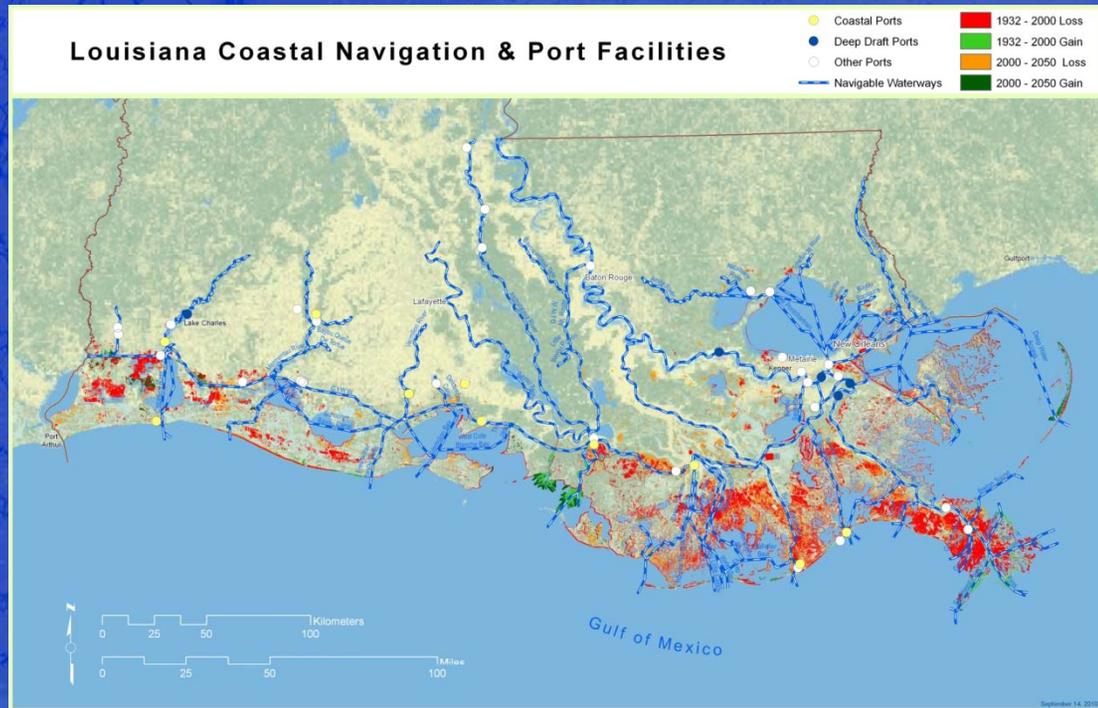
2. Free The Restoration Program from Others' Liabilities

"First, do no harm...."



Maintenance of Federal Nav. Channels

- 10 major Federal Navigation Channels
- Maintenance of these channels and their banks is 100% Federal

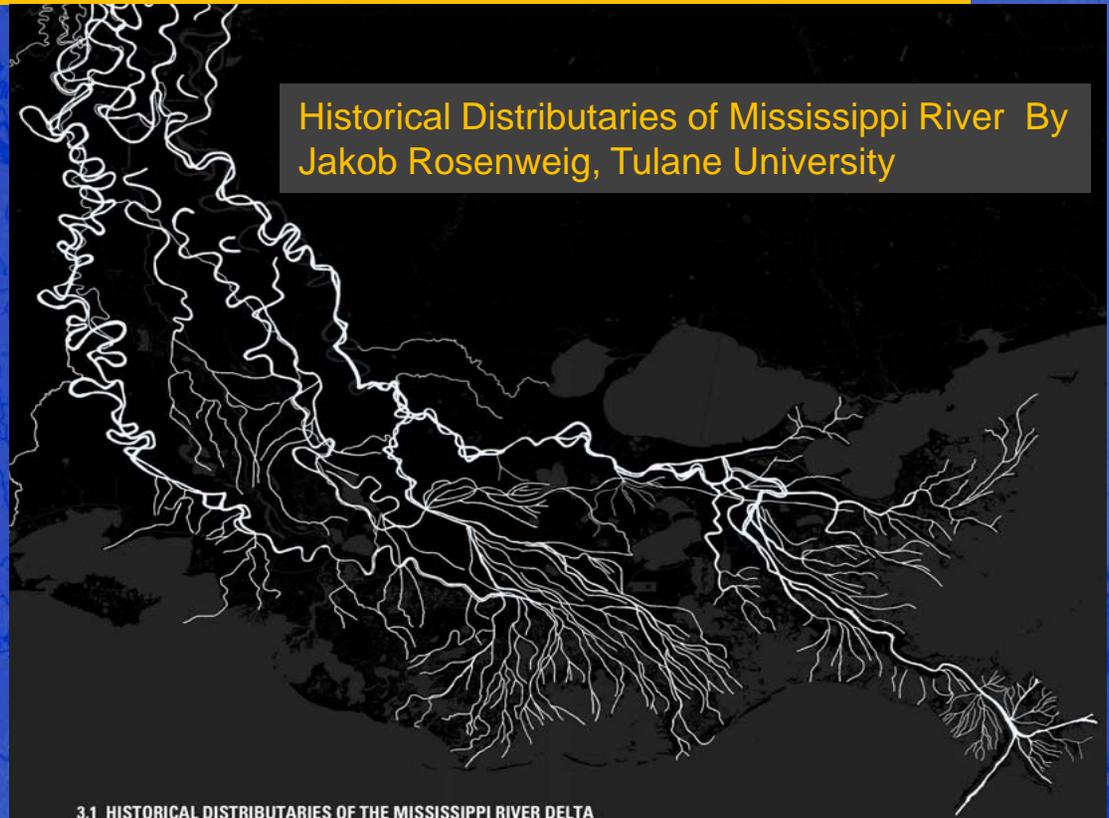


- Our Restoration Program is being saddled with these responsibilities:
 - CWPPRA - >\$45 million
 - MRGO - \$3 billion

Navigation channel bank maintenance obligations must be accounted for annually

Fulfill Environmental Requirements

- Historically distributaries deposited sediment across the delta.
- The establishment of a consistent navigation channel now prevents sediment deposition.
- The four active environmental documents currently associated with maintaining the lower Mississippi River did not anticipate the land loss associated with the permitted actions.



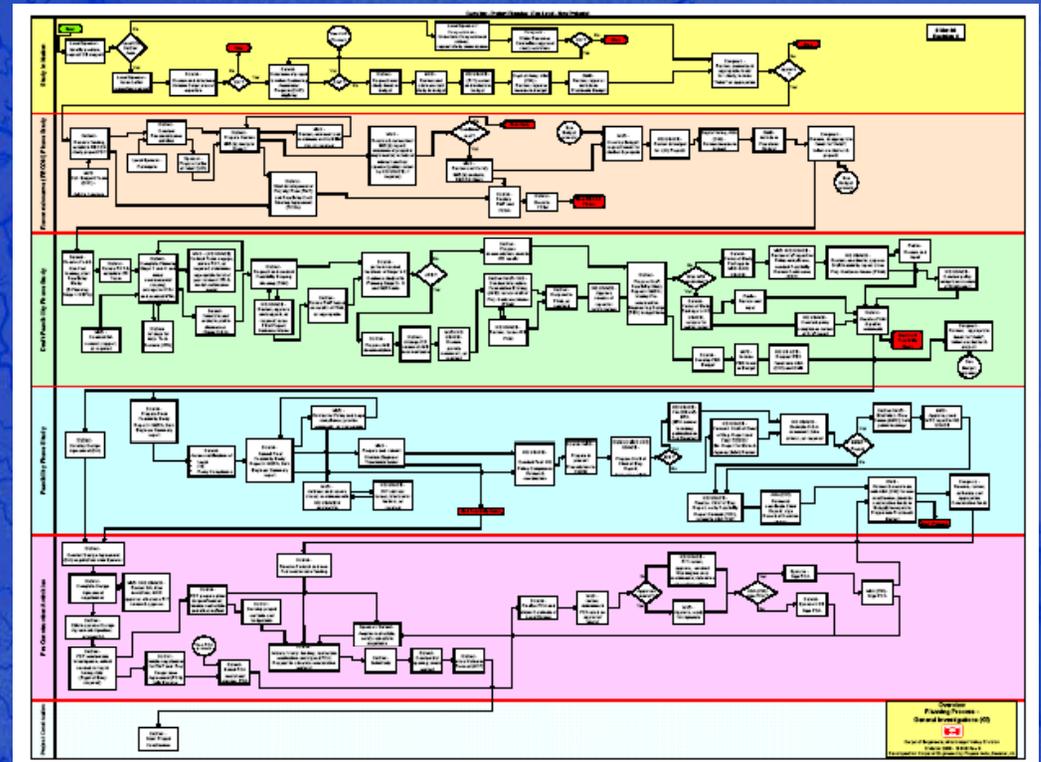
One Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that accounts for cumulative impacts should be prepared.

3. Clear Implementation Hurdles



Streamline Implementation Process

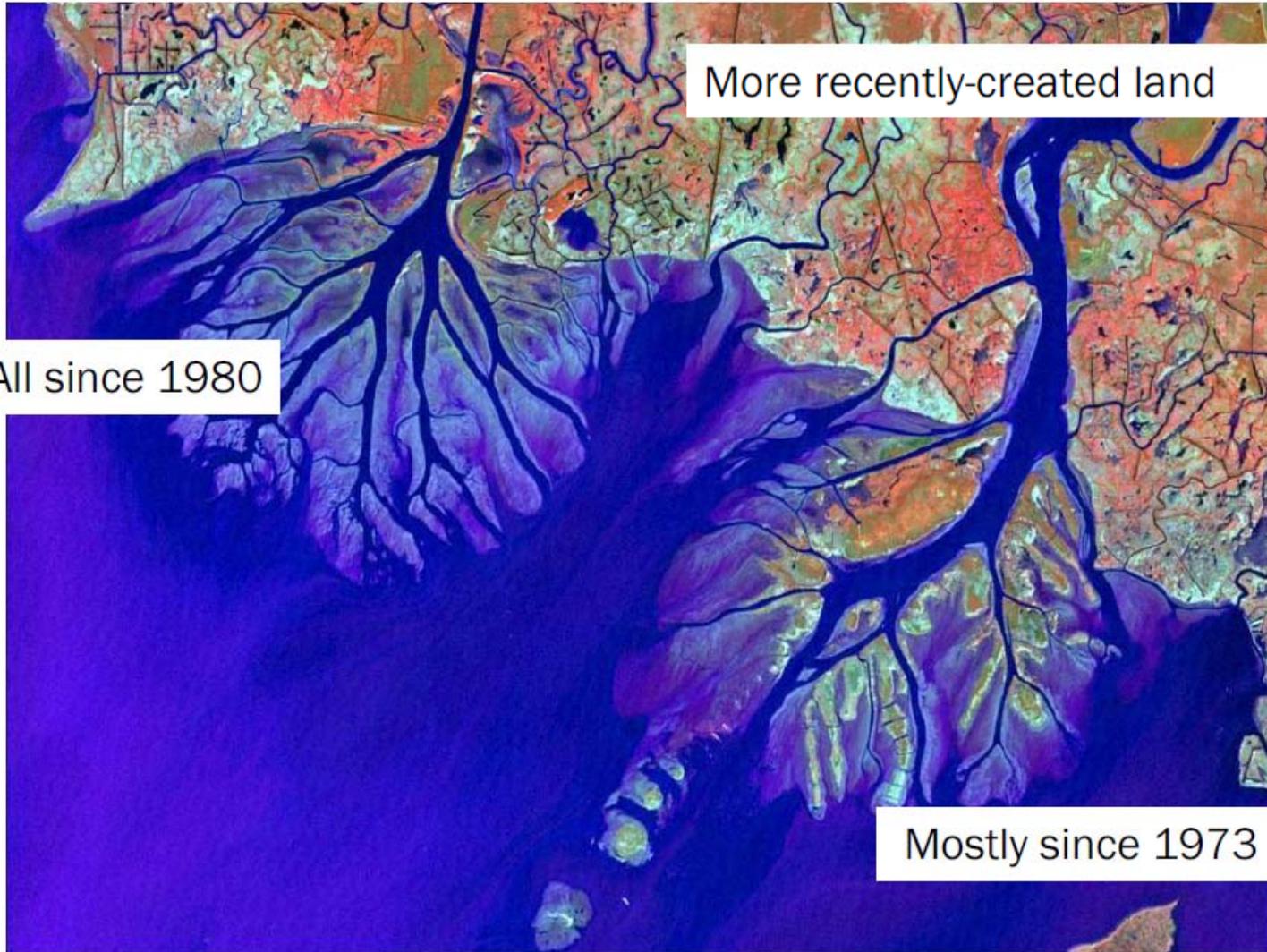
- Large-scale protection and restoration projects are currently implemented through the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). A 40 year process.



Suggestions:

- Out-year funding projections
- Grant NEPA alternative arrangements
- Utilize alternative project delivery processes (CWPPRA)

Harnessing the River: Wax Lake and Atchafalaya



More recently-created land

All since 1980

Mostly since 1973

National Implications

Hurricane Katrina

- Most expensive disaster in history -- \$150 billion (so far)
- River system shut down for five days
- National energy systems/production shutdown – \$0.75-\$1.40/gallon gasoline spike
- Increased reliance upon foreign imports (seafood/energy)
- Nationwide economic/debt repercussions

Thank You

