



Louisiana Coastal Area Science & Technology Office

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The coastal wetlands of Louisiana are among the Nation's most productive and important natural assets in terms of habitat, wildlife diversity, storm protection, port commerce, and oil and natural gas production. Unfortunately, Louisiana coastal wetlands account for 90 percent of the total coastal marsh loss occurring in the Nation. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 accelerated the loss of Louisiana wetlands with deleterious effects on the ecosystem. The State of Louisiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers established the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Ecosystem Restoration Program to reverse the degradation trend of the Louisiana coastal ecosystem. The LCA Program emphasizes the use of restoration strategies towards achieving and sustaining a coastal ecosystem that can support and protect the environment, economy, and culture of southern Louisiana.

The LCA Program recognizes the importance of integrating the best available science and technology into restoration strategies. Consequently, the goal of the LCA Science and Technology Office is to provide project managers and execution teams the best available science and technology support in order to plan, design, construct, and operate sound projects. The S& T Office will achieve this goal by:

- ◆ Providing to project managers the necessary science and technology to effectively address coastal ecosystem restoration needs;
- ◆ Providing analytical tools and recommendations to reduce uncertainties;
- ◆ Integrating the roles and resources of the scientific community and other coastal protection agencies and partners at the state, local and Federal level;
- ◆ Providing internal and external technical review and a systematic approach for coordination with other ongoing and planned related research activities.



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