

# Land Area Change in Coastal Louisiana After the 2005 Hurricanes: A Historical Perspective (from 1956)

- 1956 Land
- 1956 Water
- Fastlands: Agricultural, developed, and upland areas surrounded by levees that are generally considered non-wetlands (LOSR, 2002) and that are excluded from calculations of net land area change.
- LCA Area Not Included in the 1956 Data Coverage
- 1956 to 2004 Land Loss\*: Based on direct comparison of 1956 and 2004 land-water data.
- 1956 to 2004 Land Gain\*: Based on direct comparison of 1956 and 2004 land-water data.
- 2004 to 2005 New Water Areas (Decreased Land Areas)\*\*: Includes flooded marsh, sheared marsh, eroded marsh, and scoured marsh.
- 2004 to 2005 New Land Areas\*\*\*: Includes wrack, compressed marsh, and aquatic vegetation that is possibly misclassified. These areas are included in calculations of net land area change.
- 2005 Flooded Burned Marsh Areas: Based on imagery review of areas classified as burned marsh within a month to a few weeks before Hurricane Rita's landfall.
- 2005 Flooded Agricultural and Developed Areas: Based on imagery review of new water areas occurring within the "other land" class of Chabreck and Linscombe's marsh community types (unpub. data, 2001).

\*Data were filtered to depict larger areas of loss and gain greater than 3.5 acres (1.4 ha) in size and to remove noise and increase the confidence of the depicted trends.  
 \*\*Data were filtered to depict areas of loss and gain greater than 27 acres (1.1 ha) in size to remove noise and to increase confidence in the depicted trends.

— Basin Boundary: These boundaries include the shared area between the hydrologic basins defined by CWPRA (1993) and the boundary of the LCA study (Barras and others, 2003).  
 — Hurricane Track

