



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Contact: Monica Allen
301-713-2370
Monica.allen@noaa.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 18, 2008

NOAA Announces Up to \$47 Million for Hurricane Damage to Fisheries in Louisiana and Texas

NOAA's Fisheries Service today announced the state of Louisiana will be eligible for up to \$40 million and Texas will be eligible for up to \$7 million in disaster aid to restore and rebuild the states' fish habitats and fishing industries devastated by hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

"These two hurricanes hit communities that had not yet recovered from the disastrous Katrina and Rita hurricanes in 2005," said Jim Balsiger, acting NOAA assistant administrator for NOAA's Fisheries Service. "We are pleased that the states have shown a strong interest in using this aid to restore damaged oyster reefs, remove storm debris that hinders the shrimp industry, and to rebuild processing houses, docks, ice houses, and other parts of the fishing infrastructure destroyed by the hurricanes."

The states will now submit plans to NOAA's Fisheries Service outlining how the funds will be used.

NOAA understands and predicts changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and conserves and manages our coastal and marine resources. Visit <http://www.noaa.gov>.

On the Web:
NOAA's Fisheries Service: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov>