Breaux Act

(Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act)





Colonel Peter J. Rowan District Commander, New Orleans District U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

OUTLINE



- 1. CWPPRA Overview
- 2. CWPPRA Organizational Structure
- 3. CWPPRA Process
- 4. CWPPRA Project Summary
- 5. Integration of CWPPRA and LCA

1. CWPPRA Overview



Authorization - Legislation



Breaux Act (November 1990)

- Original Breaux Act provided authority through FY 1999
- In October 1999, PL 106-74 extended authority through FY 2000
- Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Amendment (PL 106-408) provides authority through 2009
- Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (8 Dec 04), extended Act through 2019 and removed \$70M/year cap
- Estimated Fed/non-Fed funding over life of program is \$2.0B
- Federal funding averages \$50-60M/year
- Corps serves as "banker" to other CWPPRA agencies

Authorization - Mandates



Breaux Act (Nov 1990)

- Secretary of the Army to convene a Task Force to prepare plan for restoring and preventing loss of coastal wetlands
- Comprehensive Restoration Plan (1993)
- Annual Priority Project Lists (PPL)
- State Conservation Plan (approved Nov 97)
- Cost sharing:
 - PPL1-4 (75% Fed/25% non-Fed for expenditures thru Nov 97)
 - PPL 5-6 (90% Federal/10% non-Federal)
 - PPL 7 onward (85% Federal/15% non-Federal)

Status of Breaux Act



- Yearly funding provided from excise tax on fishing equipment and fuel taxes on motorboats and small engines
- Funding held in Department of Interior's Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund
- Five Federal agencies sponsor projects under the program
- Focus on project delivery
- Planning limited to \$5M/year
- Bottom-up project development

Ties to Coast 2050/LCA



Wake up Call in 1997:

- First 7 yrs of projects preserved 66,000 acres by 2050
- Diversions projected to preserve 49,000 acres by 2050
- Louisiana projected to lose 515,000 acres by 2050
- CWPPRA is projected to address less than 25% of loss

Resulted in development of Coast 2050 Plan in Dec 1998:

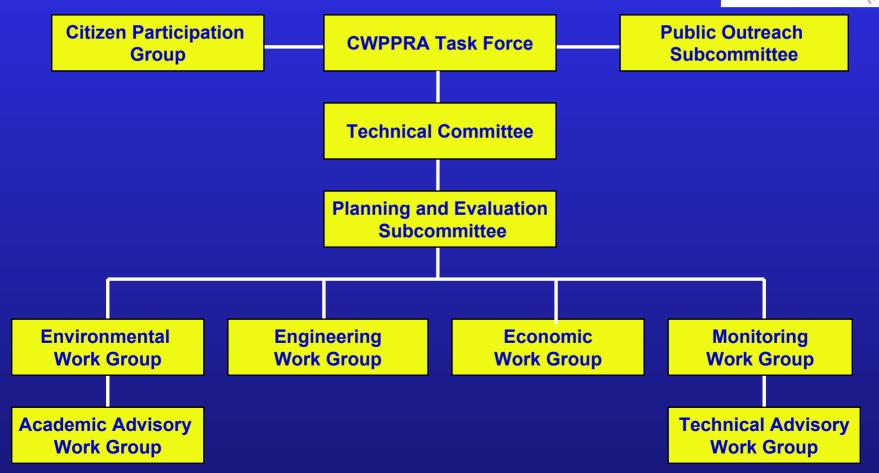
- Breaux Act agencies involved in development
- Regional approach to strategic planning
- Involved public through 65 workshops
- Provided a vision of what we wanted to coast to be in 2050

2. CWPPRA Organizational Structure



LA Coastal Wetlands Conservation and **Restoration Task Force USACE:** Colonel Peter J. Rowan **District Commander** Natural Resources **Conservation Service** NRCS: Don Gohmert State Conservationalist SERVICE NATIONAL OCEN NMFS: Rollie Schmitten NOAA **Director, Habitat Conservation Center USFWS: Sam Hamilton** ARTMENT OF **Regional Director, Southeast Region USEPA:** Miguel Flores ENVIRONN **Director, Water Quality Protection Division** State of LA: Sidney Coffee **Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities**

BREAUX ACT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



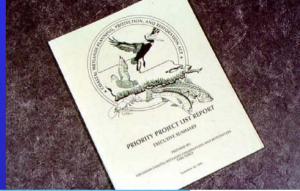
3. CWPPRA Process





"Breaux Act" Process

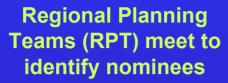
- Planning/Outreach (Phase 0) PPL process
- Feasibility/P&S (Phase I)
- Construction (Phase II) Monitoring O & M

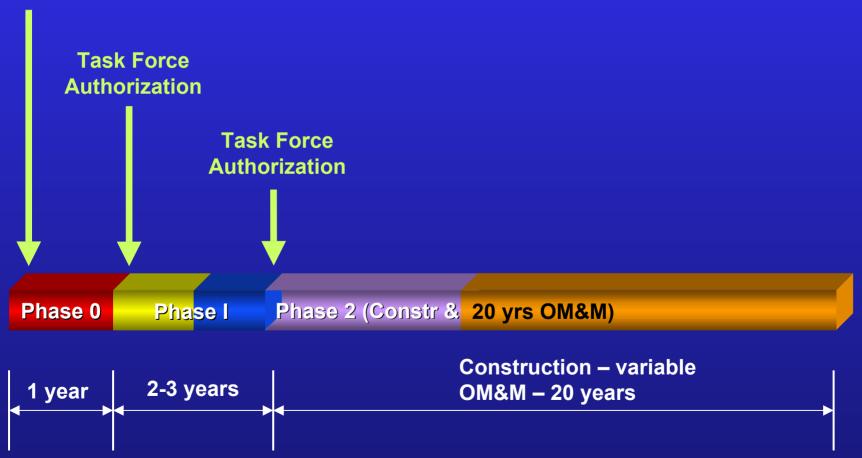






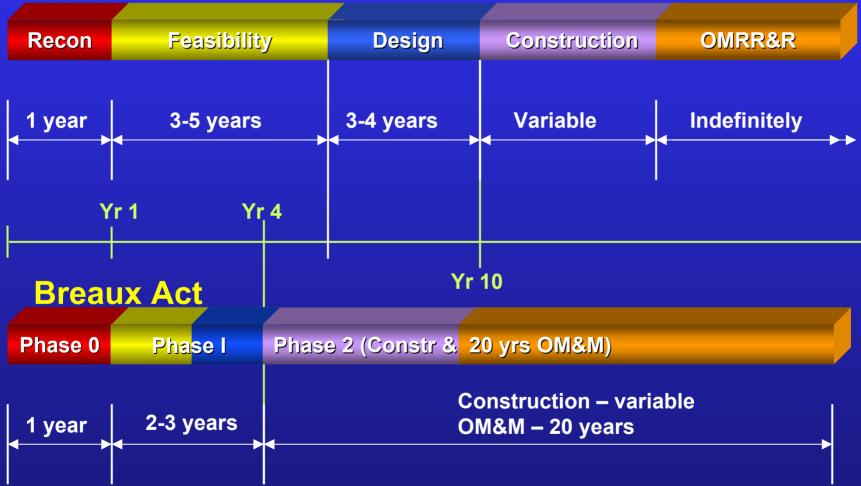
Typical Breaux Act Project Schedule





Schedule Timeline Comparison





Process Comparisons

	<u>WRDA</u>	Breaux Act
Study/Construction Authorization	Congressional	Task Force
Review level/approval	National	Louisiana
Time to Start Construction	7-10 years	4 years
Program Authority	no time limit	Ends in 2019
Project Justification	Detailed	Less detailed
Lead Federal Agency	Corps	Varies
# Cost Share Agreements Required	3	1 or 2

Funding Comparisons

<u>WRDA</u>

Breaux Act

Annual Funding	Congressional Appropriation	Trust Fund
Fiscal Constraints	Subject to re-programming	Dedicated funds
Funding Limit	Project-specific	\$2.0B thru FY2019
Operation & Maintenance	Local responsibility	Funded over 20- yr life

Cost Share Comparisons (Federal%/Non-Fed%)

PHASE	<u>WRDA</u>	<u>Breaux Act</u>
Reconnaissance	100% / 0%	100% / 0%
Feasibility	50% / 50%	85% / 15%
Design Construction	75% / 25% 65% / 35%	85% / 15% 85% / 15%
O&M	0% / 100%	85% / 15%
O&M Time Limit	Indefinite	20 years

4. CWPPRA Project Summary

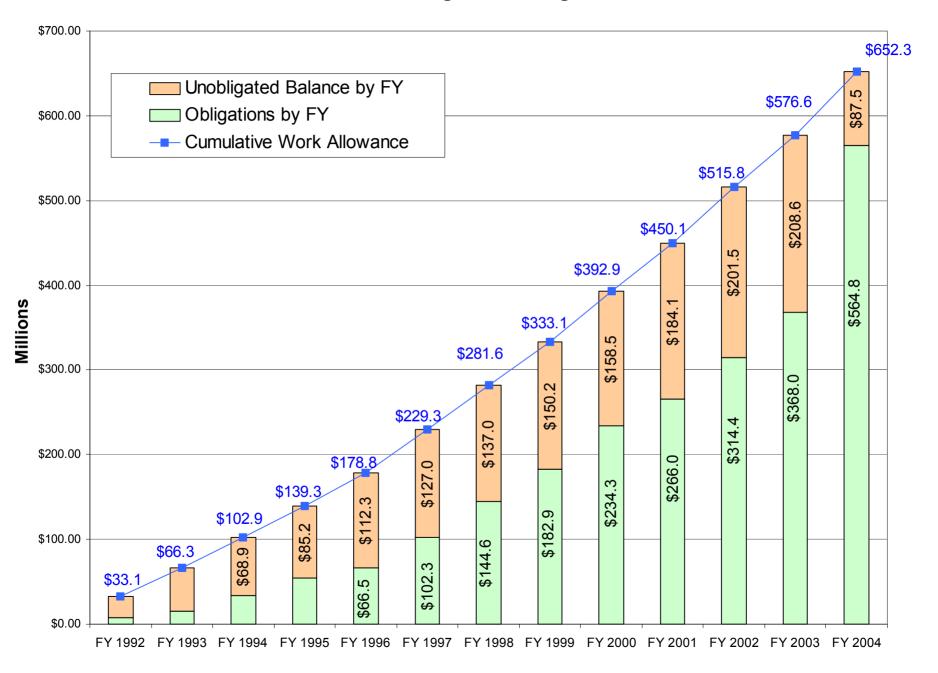


Status of Breaux Act

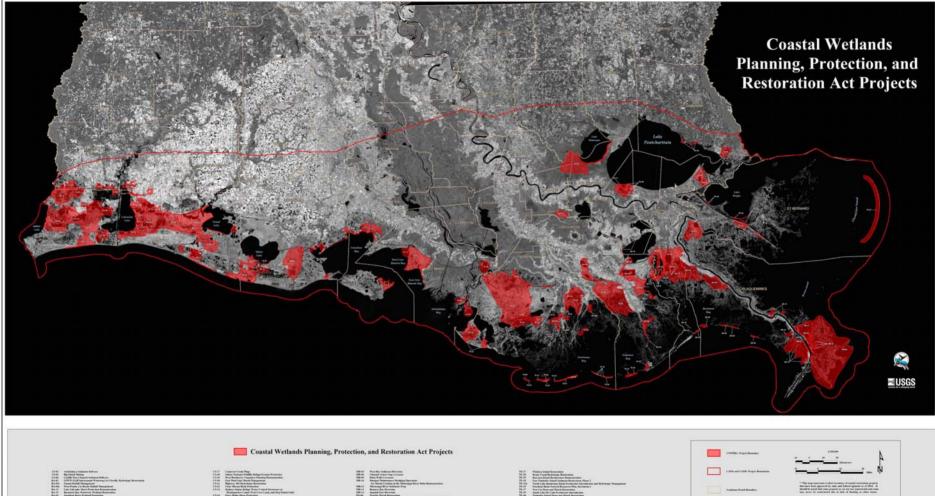


- 129 active projects on 13 Priority Project Lists (PPLs):
 ✓64 projects completed
 - ✓11 projects under construction
 - \checkmark 13 scheduled for construction in FY05
 - ✓41 scheduled for construction in FY06 and later
- Projects restore, create, or protect 116,751 acres of coastal wetlands (PPL 1-13)
- Total cost of all projects PPLs 1-13 and planning is \$1.7B

CWPPRA Program - Obligations



Project Boundaries for Breaux Act Projects PPL 1-13





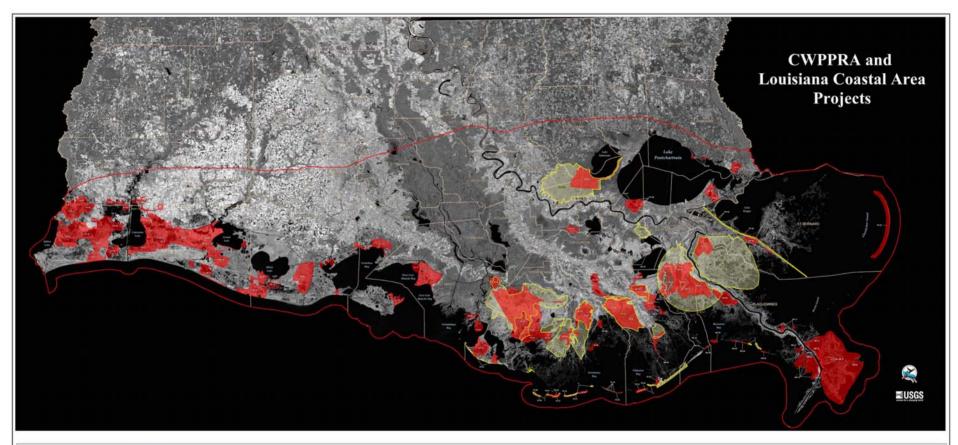


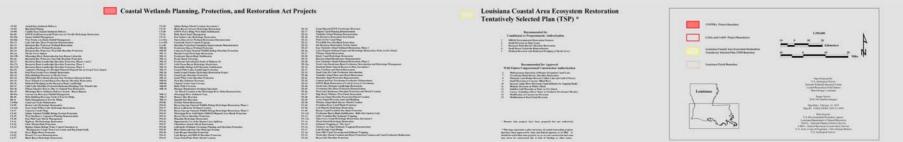






Project Boundaries for Breaux Act and LCA

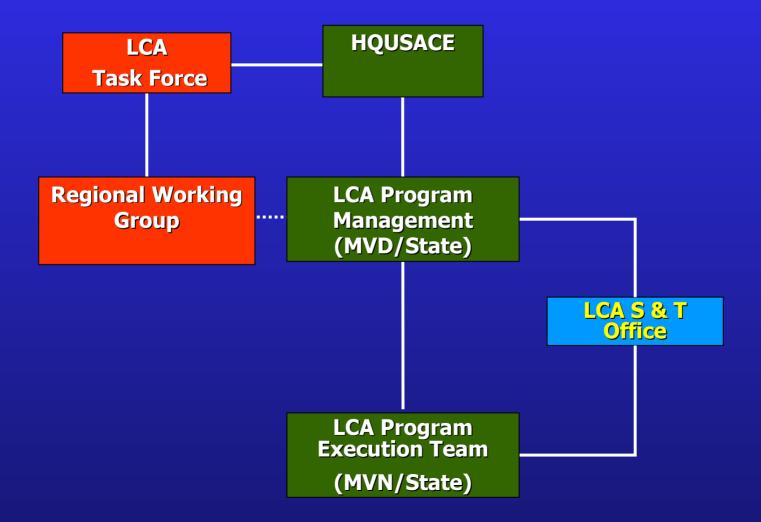




5. Integration of CWPPRA and LCA



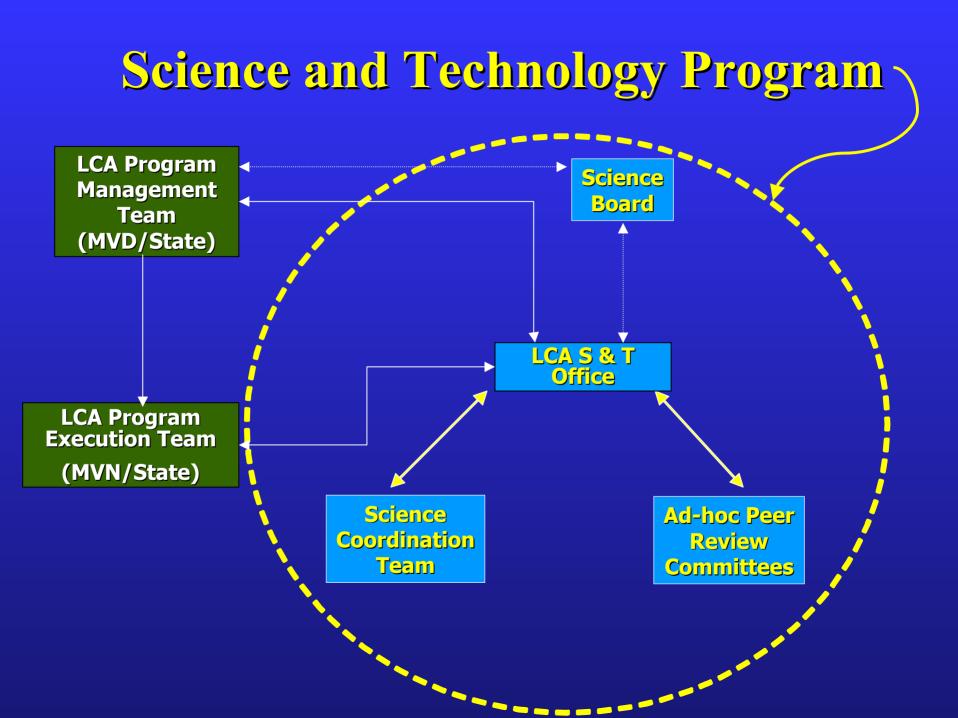




Integration LCA & CWPPRA

Regional Working Group members are also members of the CWPPRA Task Force

 Project Execution Team is comprised of the CWPPRA Task Force agencies co-located at the New Orleans District
 Science Coordination Team includes representation of CWPPRA Task Force agencies



CWPPRA Into LCA

CWPPRA Projects in LCA Near Term Plan:

- Myrtle Grove Diversion
- MRGO Shoreline Protection
- Small Diversion into Hope Canal
- Bayou Lafourche Freshwater Diversion
- White's Ditch

Other Activities:

- Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS)
- Co-located Team
- Involvement of local government, NGOs, general public
- Public Participation (NewsFlash, mailing lists, Parish contacts)
- GIS and data management platform
- Internet site (www.lacoast.gov)

QUESTIONS?



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