

Map Description

Land loss during five time intervals between the 1930s and 2001 is shown with each color representing a specific time interval. Areas identified as loss were mapped by comparing a 1930s base map to aerial photography flown in 1956-58, 1974, 1983, 1990, and 2001. The original mapping was done at a scale of 1:62,500 (15-min.) during a 3 year period and is described in more detail by Britsch and Kemp (1990) and Dunbar, Britsch, and Kemp (1992a and 1992b). This map represents a composite 1930s base map showing the land loss from individual 15-min. maps reduced for printing purposes.

For purposes of this study, once an area was designated as loss, it remained loss regardless of any subsequent changes in later time intervals. Therefore, some areas that were lost in one time interval and later became land by accretion, filling, or drainage are still shown as loss for the period when the loss occurred. Land gain is not shown on this map. However, the amount of land gain within the coastal plain is negligible relative to the area of land loss as determined from previous mapping by May and Britsch (1987). For these reasons, this map does not fully reflect the actual land/water area in 2001. Map data were not field checked.

Map errors that may be present are a function of the quality of the 1930s base maps, photo quality, scale modifications, computer errors, the printing process, and of course, human error. An extensive editing process was undertaken prior to printing which eliminated most of these errors, but minor errors may still exist.

This map is intended to present a regional overview of the distribution and magnitude of land loss and the general time periods in which it occurred. The scale at which the data are presented precludes any detailed measurements from these maps. For detailed information regarding land loss rates of individual 15-min. quadrangles as well as regional trends through 1990, see the report and maps by Dunbar, Britsch, and Kemp (1992a and 1992b). Rates for 2001 quadrangles shown are unpublished.

References

Britsch, L. D., and Kemp, E. B. 1990. "Land Loss Rates: Mississippi River Deltaic Plain," Technical Report GL-90-2, Report 1 of a Series, USAE Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Dunbar, J. B., Britsch, L. D., and Kemp, E. B. 1992a. "Louisiana Coastal Plain Land Loss Maps," Maps 1 through 7, scale 1:125,000. Technical Report GL-90-2, USAE Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Dunbar, J. B., Britsch, L. D., and Kemp, E. B. 1992b. "Land Loss Rates, Louisiana Coastal Plain," Technical Report GL-90-2, Report 3 of a Series, USAE Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

May, J. R., and Britsch, L. D. 1987. "Geological Investigation of the Mississippi River Deltaic Plain: Land Loss and Land Accretion," Technical Report GL-87-13, USAE Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

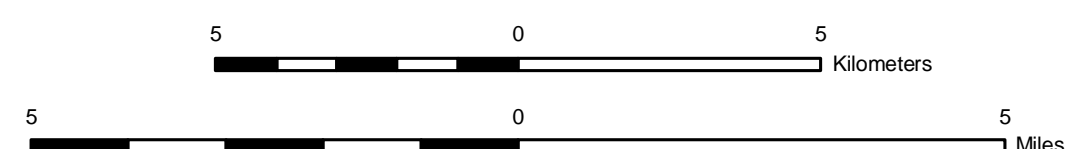
Acknowledgments

The authors wish to thank Ms. Sarah Jackson, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi, for her assistance in the editing and preparation of the map data shown.

Legend

- Time 1 (1932 - 1958)
- Time 2 (1958 - 1974)
- Time 3 (1974 - 1983)
- Time 4 (1983 - 1990)
- Time 5 (1990 - 2001)

Scale 1:125,000



**Land Loss in Coastal Louisiana
1932 to 2001
While Lake, Louisiana
Map 2 of 7, ERDC/GSL TR-05-13
By L. D. Britsch and J. B. Dunbar
September 2006**

Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS
US Army Engineer District, New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
Technical Report, ERDC/GSL TR-05-13, Land Loss Map 3 of 7
(see manning.erdc.usace.army.mil for digital copies and reports)