

LA Wetland Education Coalition

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1. NOAA Opens Coastal Portal

BY Ditya Sarkar

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A new Web portal run by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides information from thousands of real-time observing stations and forecast locations to coastal residents and others interested in weather and water-related conditions.

NOAA officials said nowCOAST is a one-stop shopping Web site because without it, users would have to scour their site and other sources for real-time observations and forecasts.

Article continues

<<http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0117/web-noaa-01-18-05.asp>>

2. Army Corps Agrees NY Wetland Deserves Federal Protection

‘A floating pingpong ball and the threat of a lawsuit convinced the Army Corps of Engineers that a small wetland qualifies for federal protection.’ This article provides a humorous backdrop for introducing how wetlands are classified and regulated. Read the article at

http://www.enn.com/today_PF.html?id=6977

3. Tsunami Resources

BBC How Earthquakes Happen

British Broadcasting Company website provides the slideshow "How Earthquakes Happen" with the latest news, eyewitness accounts, and background analysis on the Tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia. Visit <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/4126809.stm>

The Science of Tsunamis

Discovery Channel "The Science of Tsunamis" features interactive maps that plot the geographic events that led to the tsunami and familiarize students with the South Asian region. Visit the Discovery Channel News at <http://dsc.discovery.com/convergence/tsunami/news/news.html> and <http://dsc.discovery.com/convergence/tsunami/tsunami.html>.

Askasia Teaching Materials on Tsunamis

K-12 teacher's resource site from Asia Society provides background essays, lesson plans, learning activities, maps, annotated links, and more. Lesson plans cover the events leading up to and the hours following the earthquake off the shores of Sumatra and the use of history to learn ways to avert a similar crisis in the future. Visit <http://www.askasia.org>.

Tsunami Research at the USGS

United States Geological Survey (USGS) site provides information on how tsunamis are generated by earthquakes, studies from previous events, and animations and virtual reality tsunami models. Visit <http://temp.water.usgs.gov/tsunami/>.

4. Ocean Literacy

Sponsored by NASA's Oceanography Program, this site provides information on ocean themes and issues related to the coastal environment and global climate change. Features project and activity listings, and database of research and classroom resources. Visit <http://www.oceanliteracy.org>.

5. NOAA Invites Educators to Learn About the Flower Gardens Banks National Marine Sanctuary

If you are a teacher who is also a diver, NOAA is offering a workshop at the Flower Gardens in the Gulf of Mexico. Visit <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov> or <http://www.gulfmex.org/duoy.htm> where applications can be downloaded. The cost is \$250 for full workshop; \$75 for land-only participants. For additional information contact Kelly Drinnen, Education Specialist at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (409)766-3572 or <kelly.drinnen@noaa.gov>.

6. Poll Shows Louisiana Coastal Land Loss is a National Concern

"Americans care deeply about the effects of coastal land loss in Louisiana." This is the sentiment expressed in the results of a national poll conducted by Penn, Schoen and Berland Associates, Inc., a national polling firm based in Washington, DC.

"This poll demonstrates the deep concern that Americans throughout the country have for our disappearing wetlands," said Louisiana Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco.

"As we continue educating Congress and citizens about our vanishing coastline and the imminent threat this loss poses to our nation's security, environment and energy sources, it is imperative that we secure a continuous and adequate stream of funding to save our coast. With the support of citizens all around the country, I will continue to ask the Bush Administration to work with us to see that Louisiana and other coastal oil producing states get their fair share of Outer Continental Shelf Revenues to use to address our coastal restoration efforts," she continued.

The Governor announced the results today during a speech at Louisiana State University. For more information on the national poll, visit <http://www.americaswetland.com/article.cfm?id=186&cateid=2&pageid=3&cid=16>.

7. New PBS Series, ScienceNOW, to Highlight Increased Threat of Hurricane Devastation in New Orleans Caused by Coastal Land Loss

Did you miss the live broadcast on January 25? Great news! You can stream it online! Visit <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/sciencenow/>. In the premier episode of the PBS series "NOVA ScienceNow," correspondent Peter Standing explores the horrific impact a direct hit of a hurricane could have on New Orleans. Titled "New Orleans: The Wrath of a Killer Storm," the segment reveals how significant land loss in coastal Louisiana is increasing the potential devastation the city of more than two million could face from a major hurricane.

While providing habitat for millions of migratory birds and hundreds of endangered species, coastal Louisiana--an area known as America's WETLAND--also serves as a hurricane barrier to New Orleans and its more than two million residents. Stretching across the Louisiana coast, America's WETLAND is one of the largest and most productive expanses of coastal wetlands in North America.

NOVA ScienceNOW premiered Tuesday - January 25, 2004 at 8 p.m. (EST) on PBS. You can subscribe to a NOVA ScienceNOW email bulletin on the ScienceNOW website. This service is free. This programming represents another example of the growing national recognition and interest in saving America's WETLAND. For more information on America's WETLAND: Campaign to Save Coastal Louisiana, visit <http://www.americaswetland.com>.

8. International Migratory Bird Day 2005

IMBD celebrates the migrations of birds between their breeding grounds in the U.S. and Canada and their non-breeding grounds in Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean. As part of the program, a variety of education materials are available year-round to engage youth and adult in the exploration of birds. Learn more about the effort: <http://www.birdday.org/educators.htm>.



9. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserve:** A listserve serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
- **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserve. As a participant, you are welcome to send messages to educators subscribing to the LA Wetland Education Coalition listserve. We ask that participants focus their emails on educational opportunities and materials *directly related to wetland education*.
- **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserve:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email
unsubscribe LAWEC-L
- **To SUBSCRIBE to this listserv:** email LISTSERV@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU, with only the following line listed in the body of the email:
subscribe lawec-l YourFirstName YourLastName

For example:

subscribe lawec-l John Doe

NOTE: You should not put anything in the subject line and should remove any automatic signatures from the email, otherwise the signup process will not work. You will get a return message indicating that you have been subscribed to the listserve along with information on other listserve operations you can perform (such as unsubscribe, etc.). If you have trouble, email Dr. Pam Blanchard at <pamb@lsu.edu>.

Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!

