

**Presentation to Senator Breaux
 Comments for Col. Thomas Julich
 February 28, 2002**

<u>Slide</u>		<u>Additional Comments</u>
1. Presentation for Senator Breaux Breaux Act & LCA Restoration		We see this meeting as an opportunity to provide you with information, the status and direction we headed in with the Breaux Act and Louisiana's coastal area restoration efforts. We'd appreciate your support and would like you to be actively involved in two areas—authorization and funding. We also look to you to help us possibly modify or extend the Breaux Act.
2. Can the loss of Louisiana's coastal wetlands be stopped? Yes		
3. Topics History & Status Breaux Act Benefits Breaux Act & LCA LCA Mgmt Strategy Issues		
4. History & Status		

<p>5. History of Coastal Restoration</p>		<p>1989: Act 6 provided state funding and certain authorities. State Wetlands Authority placed emphasis in Governor's office on coastal wetlands. It provided a basis for non-federal cooperation, set up trust fund and provided a foundation for acting on the Breaux Act.</p> <p>1990: Breaux Act: The parent of the 2050 Plan and recon report for LCA.</p> <p>2000: LCA Barataria Basin Feasibility studies initiated. Primary area of interest but have since switched from focus on each basin to a comprehensive one.</p>
<p>6. Comparison of Everglades to LCA</p>		<p>We've looked at Everglades since it was authorized and we're similar; however cost is double and we don't have population base. Consequently, a large tax base available in Florida is not present in Louisiana. Significant increase in cost; more of a federal interest. But Louisiana's problem will have a greater impact on the nation because of the rate of wetland loss, a problem Florida does not experience.</p>
<p>7. Pie Chart: Efforts to Stop Coastal Wetland Loss</p>		<p>We've done great things with existing authorities but only 28% of the problem has been addressed. We're looking at LCA to address the remaining 72% predicted loss.</p>

<p>8. Louisiana Coastal Area Potential Solutions</p> <p>Types of Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *River diversions *Marsh creation *Barrier restoration & shoreline protection *Hydrologic restoration 		<p>We're looking at various types of projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *River diversions – fresh water, nutrients, sediments *Marsh creation – direction creation of wetlands through a variety of means: dredged material, plantings *Barrier restoration & shoreline protection – loss of bays, ridges, islands: important to preservation of coastal landscape *Hydrologic restoration – managing water levels
<p>9. Map: LCA Study Area Proposed Actions</p>		<p>Under the 2050 Plan, we are looking at a variety of projects across the state's coastal landscape. We're looking at costs and some appropriate modifications as a basis for an overall authorization.</p>
<p>10. LCA Implementation Schedule</p> <p>LCA Coastwide Comprehensive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Barataria Basin Marsh Creation *Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline *Miss. River Delta Management *Atchafalaya Reef 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Barataria Basin Marsh Creation – Studies need are underway and continue into FY 02. We're prepared to sign a agreement with DNR to initiate comprehensive study. On the Barataria Bay Feasibility Report, the state would like a \$20-\$40 M project and have authorization in WRDA02. Conditional authorization subject to 2002 Chief's Report. *Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline – Barrier study continuing and should be completed in 03 depending on funding of \$3 to \$4 Billion. *Miss R. Delta Mgmt. – State wants us to initiate study looking at various diversions in lower river...recommending ##### of tons of sediment diverted. <p>Atchafalaya Reef – will start later this year on Point Cheverille in Vermilion Bay.</p>
<p>11. Breaux Act Benefits & LCA</p>		

12. Breaux Act Benefits		
12A. Breaux Act Accomplishments *121 active projects on 11 priority project lists *49 projects completed *12 projects under construction *Projects restore, create, or protect 104,770 acres of coastal wetlands and enhance 36,000 acres of swamp *Federal and non-federal funding: \$497 million		
13. Use of Breaux Act		
14. Breaux Act & LCA		Breux Act created at Washington level but operates at field level; whereas LCA will have Washington level task force due to magnitude of problem. Breux Act funding of \$50 to \$60 million from specific authorities; whereas LCA will have multiple sources, i.e., SOURCES

<p>15. Linkages Breux Act & LCA *Sharing Resources *Agencies *Coastal Restoration Team</p>		<p>Breux Act and LCA studies are complimentary, coordinated and collaborative. Overall coastal restoration team includes all involved agencies.</p>
<p>16. Management Strategy</p>		
<p>17. Coastal Restoration Collocation Team – NOD & Agencies</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First time NOD has engaged in collocated team. 2. Collocated teams are in place. 3. Significant agency support focus on agency effort is directed at LCA; however Corps Breux Act team has collocated as well. 4. Team expected to grow as we move from study to design to construction.
<p>18. Graphic: Interaction of Interest Groups</p>		<p>Similar to Everglades. Federal advisory force to be formed. Diagram depicts how entities involved in coastal restoration will interact. Breux Act reports directly to Congress and will continue to do so but will provide information to new federal advisory task force. MRC plays a great emphasis on coastal area and will provide input. Governor is looking into a state advisory group that will also provide information to the federal advisory group; with some members possibly presiding on both groups.</p> <p>A vertical team to include the coastal restoration team will work with Mississippi Valley Division and the Secretary of the Army to ensure consistency in policies and resolutions of problematic technical issues.</p>

19. Issues		
20. Issues Louisiana Coastal Restoration Area		<p>Issues listed are of concern as we move forward on coastal restoration. Strong commitment...get other areas of country involved and concerned...part of authorization strategy. Funding the comprehensive study and other studies would require \$5 million per year – particularly FY03 as basis for authorization of major studies.</p> <p>Funding long-term LCA construction +\$500 million per year – large appropriation of \$500 million to \$1 billion each year over a long period. Long-term authority for Breaux Act coupled with LCA should be continued into the future to compliment LCA.</p>
21. Commitment		
22. Linkage		We need to develop support from nation...need to impart to nation the importance of coastal Louisiana.
23. Potential Federal Legislation		
24. LCA Programmatic Authorization		<p>7 agencies...</p> <p>An extension of Breaux Act plus a variety of state interests and representatives.</p>
25. Federal funding strategy \$\$\$		<p>Funds presently in FY02 are well under the amount needed. We have to go to Appropriations Committee for transfer—within COE, next 30 to 60 days.</p> <p>To move effort forward and continue with future activities planned would require \$5 million in FY03.</p>

26. Long-term Construction Funding		
27. Breaux Act Coupled with LCA		
28. General Flower's Permission Slip		
29. COE/State logos		