



**Coastal Communities
Recovery Program**

**Robin Keegan, Deputy Director
March 26, 2009**



Protecting Our Coastal Louisiana

COASTAL LOUISIANA

is home to 1.2 million people

provides nearly 30 percent of the energy consumed in the United States

provides nearly 30 percent of the nation's seafood



Impact of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike

DAMAGE

Hurricanes Gustav and Ike caused significant damage to the communities and degraded miles of coastal and wetlands that provided these communities with essential hurricane protection.

PRIORITIES

Protection and restoration projects are **the most critical step** to securing the future of the nation's energy and seafood and the well-being of coastal communities.

RESOURCES

The Governor and the Louisiana Recovery Authority have set aside

\$15 million – First Allocation

\$13 million – Second Allocation



Disaster Recovery Programs

Sustainable Coastal Communities Programs

Non-structural recovery and protection measures that may include the following:

- wet and dry storm-proofing of structures
- development and strengthening of zoning
- development and strengthening of building codes
- residential and commercial elevations
- carbon sequestration

Public Facilities and Improvements

Restoration, hardening, improvement of critical infrastructure such as the following:

- water facilities and resources
- drainage and sewerage facilities
- pump stations
- water control structures
- levees that protect targeted communities or critical infrastructure

Wetlands Restoration

- restoration of wetland, wetland forests, or marsh
- collect and make beneficial use of effluent and dredged material or
- construct wetland terraces
- all areas served must become designated as “public wetlands parks” in perpetuity



Management and Implementation

Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)

manages the programs and is the single entity authorized for the state to focus development and implementation comprehensive coastal protection and restoration.

OCPR will directly contract and implement the work.

They will create advisory partnerships from parish, municipal, and levee board leadership on projects.

OCD-DRU Monitors OCPR for strict compliance with DCDBG regulations, but OCPR will have staff assigned to application preparation development, monitoring report preparation, Davis-Bacon wage reporting, and environmental review.



Project Selection

OCPR chooses projects based on:

eligibility under the Disaster CDBG program

critical need

cost benefit analysis of reasonable alternatives

****Projects must meet the Coastal Protection and Restoration Master Plan and be published for public comment according to OCD-DRU Citizen Participation Policy**



Parish Opt-Ins Encouraged

PROCESS TO OPT-IN

Local governments can place any reserve amount in the original CEA or amend the CEA to reallocate any amount of their Disaster CDBG to the OCPR-administered Coastal Communities Recovery Program. The allocation will be set aside for the local priorities. If priority projects are deemed ineligible for Disaster CDBG, OCPR will work with the local governments to develop projects that do meet eligibility requirements.

BENEFITS

OCPR will provide the administrative and capacity needs for:

- application preparation development
- monitoring report preparation
- weekly Davis-Bacon wage reporting
- environmental review
- Coordinating with local and federal agencies

Parishes will receive more “project” for their allocation due to lower administrative costs and in-house program monitoring.



Parish-Managed Coastal Projects

BENEFITS

Parishes, municipalities, and levee boards can directly manage and implement their coastal protection and restoration projects.

CHALLENGES

Coastal Restoration projects are a **NEW FRONTIER** for HUD and the state OCD-DRU. There will be a steep learning curve to fund these projects with Disaster CDBG.

Local governments who choose to run their own coastal restoration programs will have to duplicate the capacity and understanding of how to implement projects that is already being built in OCPR.



For More Information

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