

**POTPOURRI**  
**Office of the Governor**  
**Oil Spill Coordinator's Office**

Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program  
Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

**Action:** Notice of Availability of a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

**Agencies:** Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality; Louisiana Department of Natural Resources; Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, Office of the Governor; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and U.S. Department of the Interior.

**Summary:** Notice is hereby given that a document entitled "The Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement" is final and available to the public as of January 5, 2007. This document has been prepared by the agencies listed above (natural resource trustees) and is both a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Final PEIS) and a description of the Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program (RRP Program). The Louisiana RRP Program is established in accordance with La. Rev. Stat. 30:2480.1 and is jointly administered and used by the trustees to assist in carrying out their Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) responsibilities for discharges or substantial threats of discharges of oil under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) (33 United States Code [U.S.C.] 2701 *et seq.*) and the Louisiana Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act of 1991 (OSPRA) (La. Rev. Stat. 30:2451 *et seq.*). The Final PEIS was developed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [C.F.R.] 1500). An Administrative Record for the RRP Program is available at: [http://www.losco.state.la.us/admin/RRP/RRPprogram\\_view.asp](http://www.losco.state.la.us/admin/RRP/RRPprogram_view.asp)

Interested members of the public are invited to request a copy of the January 2007 Final PEIS from Charles K. Armbruster at the address given below.

**For Further Information:** Contact Karolien Debusschere at (225) 219-5800 or by email at Karolien.Debusschere@la.gov, or Tony Penn at (301) 713-2990 ext. 197 or by email at Tony.Penn@noaa.gov. To view the January 2007 Final PEIS via the internet, please visit <http://www.losco.state.la.us> and look under News Flash for Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Louisiana RRP Program.

**Address:** Requests for copies of the Final PEIS should be sent to:

Attn: Charles K. Armbruster  
Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office  
150 Third Street, Suite 405  
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

**Supplementary Information:** Federal and Louisiana natural resource trustees have developed a statewide RRP Program to assist the natural resource trustees in carrying out their NRDA responsibilities for discharges or substantial threats of discharges of oil. The RRP Program is described in the Final PEIS and further defined in individual Regional

Restoration Plans (RRPs) that will be prepared for each of nine regions in the State of Louisiana (state). The goals of this statewide Program are to: 1) expedite and reduce the cost of the NRDA process; 2) provide for consistency and predictability by describing in detail the NRDA process, thereby increasing understanding of the process by the public and industry; and 3) increase restoration of lost trust resources and services. Attainment of these goals will serve to make the NRDA process as a whole more efficient in Louisiana.

OPA and OSPRA are the principal federal and state statutes, respectively, authorizing federal and state agencies and tribal officials to act as natural resource trustees for the recovery of damages for injuries to trust resources and services resulting from incidents in Louisiana. The RRP Program is established to address incidents under OPA and OSPRA. The RRP Program does not address injuries from releases of hazardous substances under the Comprehensive, Environmental Response Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*), injuries to park system resources pursued by the National Park Service under the Park System Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 19[jj] *et seq.*), or physical injuries to resources under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*) should a sanctuary be designated in the state.

The development of the RRP Program has been a coordinated effort between state and federal natural resource agencies, local governments, and the public. Updates on the RRP Program, including the RRP, will be available at [http://www.losco.state.la.us/ps\\_rrpprogram.htm](http://www.losco.state.la.us/ps_rrpprogram.htm) and in the Administrative Record.

The public was given an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft PEIS during the public comment period, which extended from May 9, 2003 through July 9, 2003. Public review of the Draft PEIS is consistent with all state and federal laws and regulations that apply to the NRDA process, including Section 1006 of OPA, 33 U.S.C. § 2706; the regulations for NRDA under OPA, 15 C.F.R. Part 990; NEPA, 42 U.S.C. § 4321, *et seq.*; the regulations implementing NEPA, 40 C.F.R. §1500, *et seq.*; Section 2480 of OSPRA, La. Rev. Stat. 30:2480 *et seq.*; and the regulations for NRDA under OSPRA, La. Admin. Code 43: Part XXIX, Chapter 1. The natural resource trustees have addressed the comments received from the public and have finalized the document for implementation of the RRP Program.

Roland Guidry  
Oil Spill Coordinator

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Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program  
Final Regional Restoration Plan for Region 2

**Action:** Notice of Availability of a Final Regional Restoration Plan for Region 2.

**Agencies:** Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality; Louisiana Department of Natural Resources;