

LOUISIANA

Beach Nourishment on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the U.S.—2002, 2003

This project helps state and local governments along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S. make informed decisions about the nourishment of beaches by consolidating the best scientific and technical information and tools for evaluating and understanding beach nourishment into one source. This resource is a user-friendly Web site that includes relevant information and tools from the fields of coastal geology, engineering, economics, law and policy, and the biological sciences.

Brown Marsh Monitoring—2002, 2003

The Center is overseeing the funding for the study and monitoring of brown marsh along the Louisiana coast. Louisiana recently suffered three years of severe drought, which was likely a major cause of a widespread dieback of marsh vegetation along the coast, principally in the salt marshes. Satellite imagery (LANDSAT) has identified the areas of impact and is being used for tracking recovery or additional marsh losses.

Coastal Louisiana Land Cover and Change Data—2000

www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/lca/louis.html

This project mapped terrestrial land cover in coastal watershed environments and identified changes in these areas that occurred between 1990 and 1996. The project relied on satellite multispectral imagery as the primary information source. These data were used to distinguish major land cover classes, and previous images were studied to locate areas that changed over time. For this project, the data were acquired according to the Center's Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) methods.

Coastal Management Fellowship—1997 to 1999

www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/1997Fellows.html

A Coastal Management Fellow worked with Louisiana's Coastal Management Division to improve and expand its current geographic information system (GIS). The goal was to identify and track coastal use permit applications and coastal habitat mitigation activities. Other parts of the project were the development of procedures to alert permit analysts to possible impacts to existing mitigation areas and an evaluation of prior habitat mitigation areas.

Coastal Management Fellowship—2002 to 2004

www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows/02_fellows.html

A Coastal Management Fellow is working with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources on a project entitled "Mitigation at the Local Level – Technical Assistance to Local Government for Mitigation Program Development." The goal of this project is to develop a program that will allow for the training of local parish personnel in the state's methodology for determining impacts from permitted activities. The fellow is developing a reporting process and database for mitigation data, as well as a mitigation manual, and is providing training sessions and technical assistance to local agencies.

Coastal Ocean Habitat Project—1999, 2000

www.csc.noaa.gov/products/gulfmex/startup.htm

The Coastal Ocean Habitat Project generated Center data products that utilized satellite observations of U.S. coastal waters. A retrospective satellite product for the northern Gulf of Mexico was produced during 2000.

CZMA Bibliographies

www.csc.noaa.gov/CZIC/

The Center's library has cataloged NOAA's Coastal Zone Information Center collection, produced by state coastal management programs under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). This collection contains documents that span a number of coastal topics and includes brochures, management plans, and legislative information. A bibliography of this information for the State of Louisiana will be available beginning in 2003.

Harmful Algal Bloom Project—1999 to 2003

www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/

This project is developing information systems to help coastal resource managers control shellfish harvesting closures and issue public health alerts. A harmful algal bloom e-mail bulletin and a near real-time information system on the Internet are available to managers.

Shoreline Data Rescue—1997 to 2001

www.csc.noaa.gov/products/shorelines/

GIS-compatible shoreline data sets that include high-resolution contemporary and historic shorelines are available from the Center's Web site. The source of the historic shoreline data is NOAA t-sheet charts dating from the 1800s. This information is most frequently used to measure shoreline change.

Topo/Bathy Mapping Demonstration Project—2002, 2003

This project uses the Grand Isle and Fourchon area in Louisiana as its subject to produce a demonstration digital topographic/bathymetric map. The Center has talked extensively with the U.S. Geological Survey about the integration of topographic and bathymetric data, and the development of digital mapping, digital data sets, and datum transformation tools has made such an effort possible.

Wetland Enhancement and Wastewater Treatment—1996 to 1998

Two major environmental problems currently affecting the Louisiana coastal zone are wetland loss and surface water pollution. Applying secondarily treated wastewater to wetlands may help address these problems. This project showcased treatment projects that use wetlands to filter wastewater effluents, and defined criteria for selecting acceptable waste and identifying suitable wetlands. Industries were given information about the economic factors that lead to cost-effective methods of waste treatment while protecting and enhancing valuable wetlands. This project was conducted by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and Louisiana State University with a grant from the Center.