Louisiana Water Resources Commission

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Office of Conservation

Agency Report

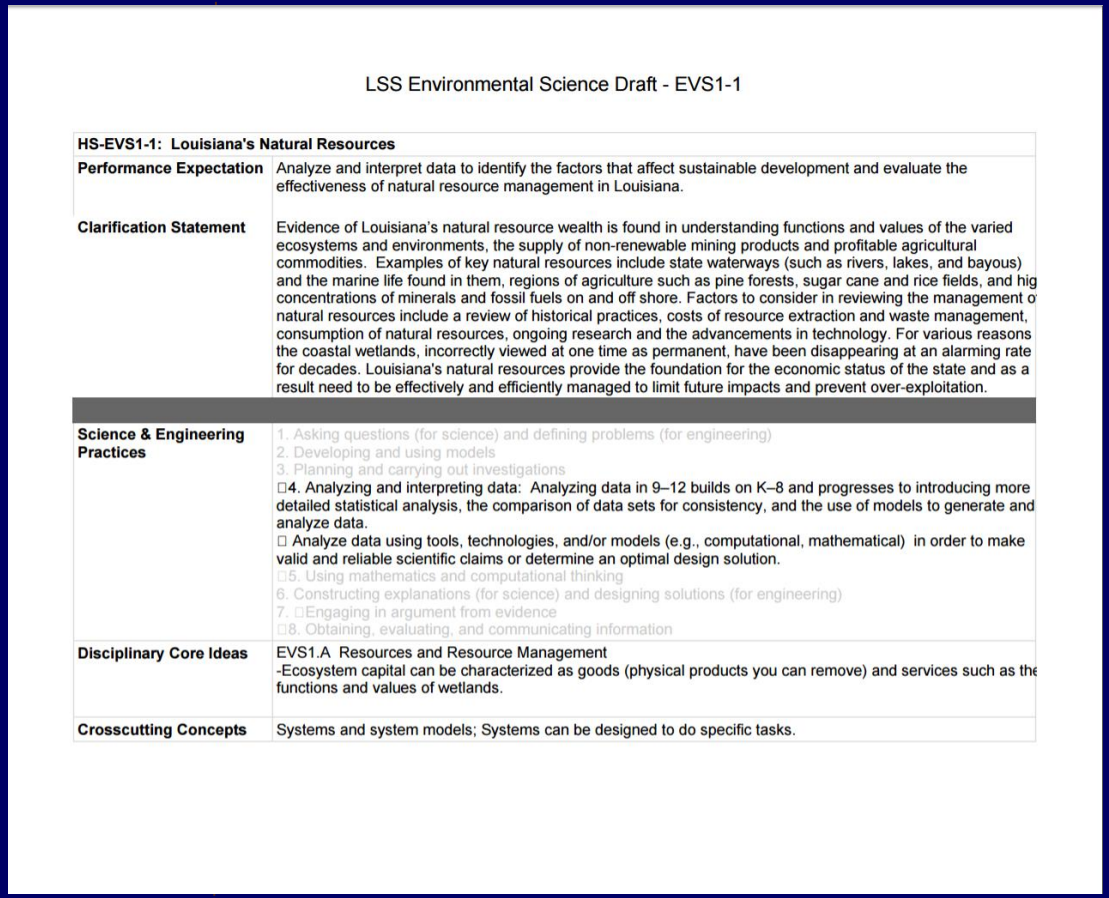
WRC Annual Report

- Similar to other reports on activities and activities submitted in recent years
- Timeframe for completion: Mid-January
- Review Period: Late January
- Completion and Distribution: Early February
- Sent to: Governor's Office, Legislature

New State Science Content Standards

- Content standards available for review at:
- Comments from educators accepted through January 6
- Under review by agency staff

Example from Environmental Science Draft Content Standards, EVS1-1

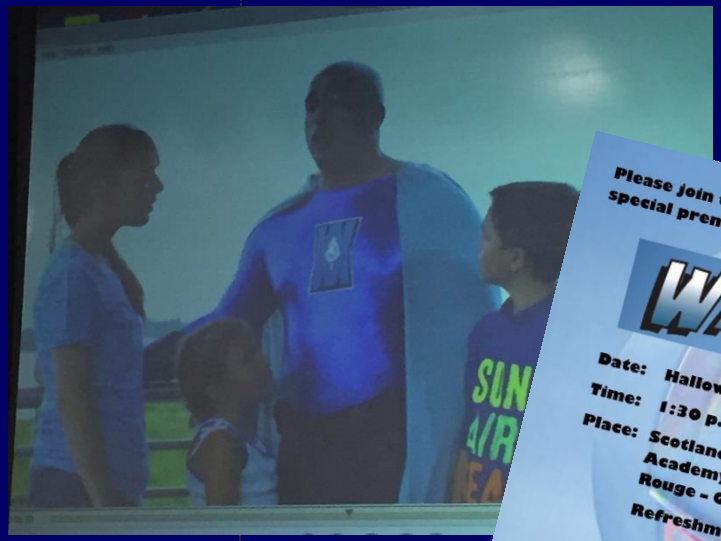


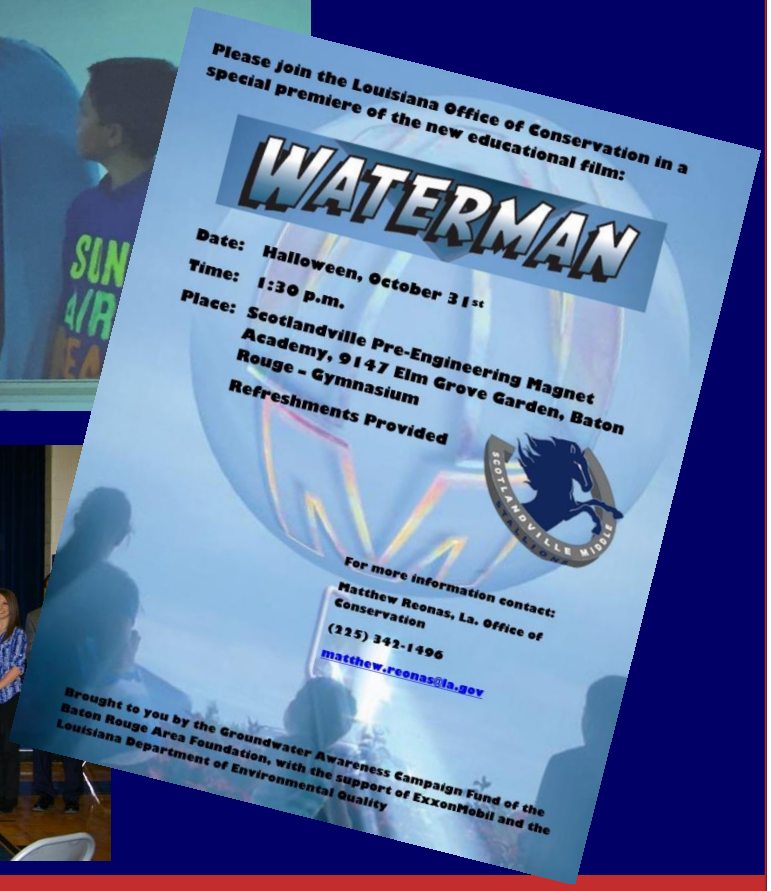
LSS Environmental Science Draft - EVS1-1

HS-EVS1-1: Louisiana's Natural Resources	
Performance Expectation	Analyze and interpret data to identify the factors that affect sustainable development and evaluate the effectiveness of natural resource management in Louisiana.
Clarification Statement	Evidence of Louisiana's natural resource wealth is found in understanding functions and values of the varied ecosystems and environments, the supply of non-renewable mining products and profitable agricultural commodities. Examples of key natural resources include state waterways (such as rivers, lakes, and bayous) and the marine life found in them, regions of agriculture such as pine forests, sugar cane and rice fields, and hig concentrations of minerals and fossil fuels on and off shore. Factors to consider in reviewing the management o natural resources include a review of historical practices, costs of resource extraction and waste management, consumption of natural resources, ongoing research and the advancements in technology. For various reasons the coastal wetlands, incorrectly viewed at one time as permanent, have been disappearing at an alarming rate for decades. Louisiana's natural resources provide the foundation for the economic status of the state and as a result need to be effectively and efficiently managed to limit future impacts and prevent over-exploitation.
Science & Engineering Practices	1. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering) 2. Developing and using models 3. Planning and carrying out investigations □4. Analyzing and interpreting data: Analyzing data in 9–12 builds on K–8 and progresses to introducing more detailed statistical analysis, the comparison of data sets for consistency, and the use of models to generate and analyze data. □ Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models (e.g., computational, mathematical) in order to make valid and reliable scientific claims or determine an optimal design solution. □5. Using mathematics and computational thinking 6. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering) 7. □Engaging in argument from evidence □8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information
Disciplinary Core Ideas	EVS1.A Resources and Resource Management -Ecosystem capital can be characterized as goods (physical products you can remove) and services such as the functions and values of wetlands.
Crosscutting Concepts	Systems and system models; Systems can be designed to do specific tasks.

Office of Conservation – Release of "Waterman" Production

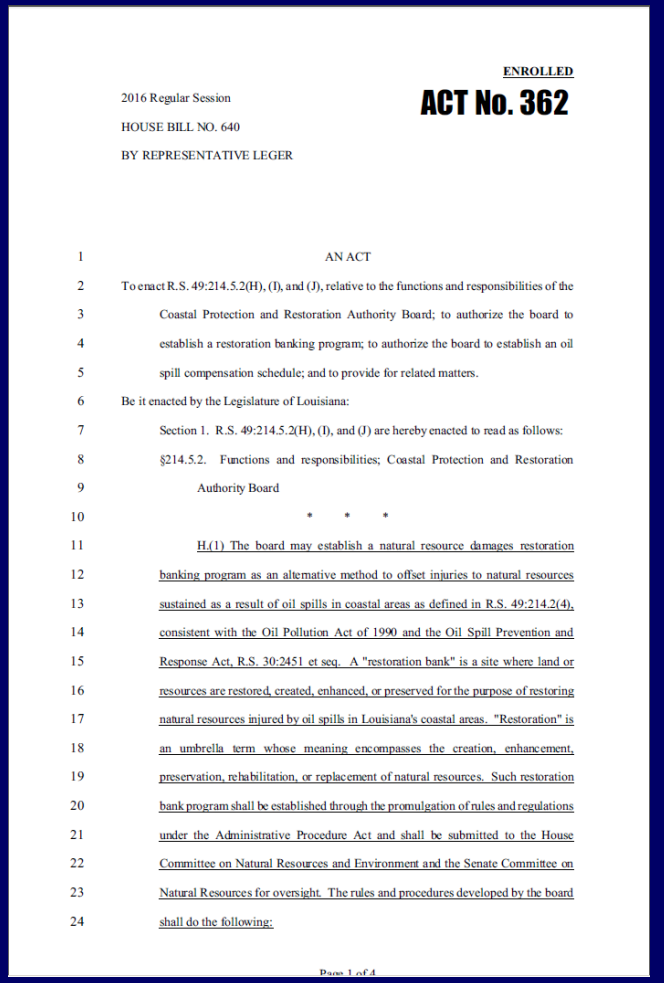
- Release held at Scotlandville Pre-Engineering Academy on Halloween
- Goal is to distribute to all science teachers in East Baton Rouge Parish and make available to others in surrounding area
- Tied to pre-existing groundwater curriculum





Act 362 – Natural Resource Disaster Restoration Bank

- Will incentivize private investors to help fund Coastal Master Plan projects who will receive restoration bank credits
- Restoration bank credits can then be purchased by Responsible Parties in oil spills to satisfy liabilities
- Planning process underway, headed by CPRA
- For more information, email: mitigation.banking@la.gov.



ENROLLED

2016 Regular Session

ACT No. 362

HOUSE BILL NO. 640

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 49:214.5.2(H), (I), and (J), relative to the functions and responsibilities of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board; to authorize the board to establish a restoration banking program; to authorize the board to establish an oil spill compensation schedule; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 49:214.5.2(H), (I), and (J) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§214.5.2. Functions and responsibilities; Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board

* * *

H.(1) The board may establish a natural resource damages restoration banking program as an alternative method to offset injuries to natural resources sustained as a result of oil spills in coastal areas as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(4), consistent with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act, R.S. 30:2451 et seq. A "restoration bank" is a site where land or resources are restored, created, enhanced, or preserved for the purpose of restoring natural resources injured by oil spills in Louisiana's coastal areas. "Restoration" is an umbrella term whose meaning encompasses the creation, enhancement, preservation, rehabilitation, or replacement of natural resources. Such restoration bank program shall be established through the promulgation of rules and regulations under the Administrative Procedure Act and shall be submitted to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources for oversight. The rules and procedures developed by the board shall do the following:

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HCR 110 – Management of Natural and Scenic Rivers in Energy Development

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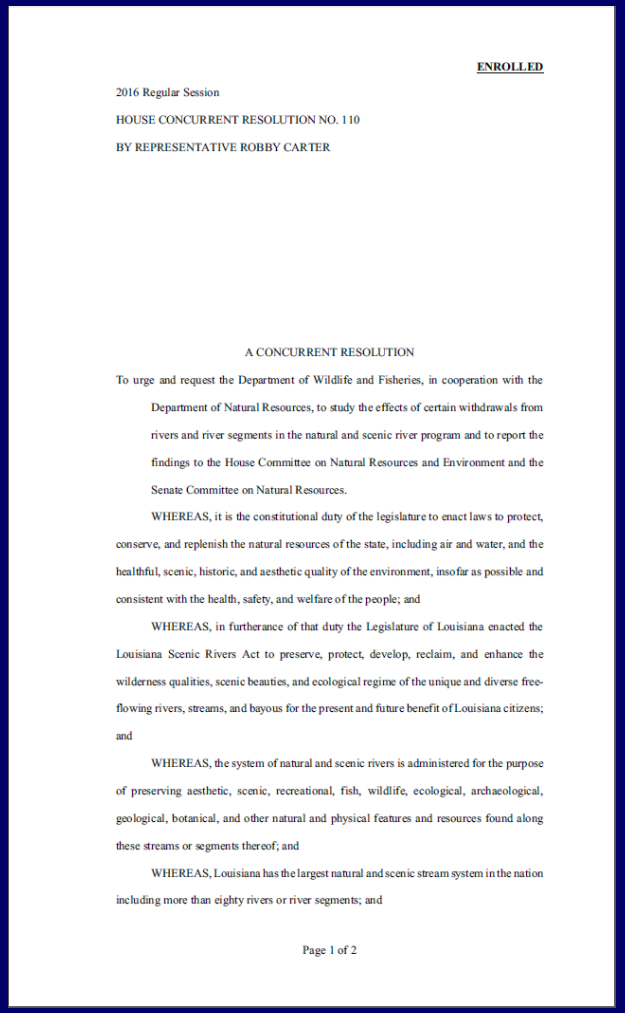
- To evaluate water withdrawals from natural and scenic rivers for energy development
- Lead agency is Wildlife & Fisheries, supported by DNR
- Report due by March 1, 2017



ENROLLED

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBBY CARTER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, to study the effects of certain withdrawals from rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to report the findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional duty of the legislature to enact laws to protect, conserve, and replenish the natural resources of the state, including air and water, and the healthful, scenic, historic, and aesthetic quality of the environment, insofar as possible and consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of the people; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of that duty the Legislature of Louisiana enacted the Louisiana Scenic Rivers Act to preserve, protect, develop, reclaim, and enhance the wilderness qualities, scenic beauties, and ecological regime of the unique and diverse free-flowing rivers, streams, and bayous for the present and future benefit of Louisiana citizens; and

WHEREAS, the system of natural and scenic rivers is administered for the purpose of preserving aesthetic, scenic, recreational, fish, wildlife, ecological, archaeological, geological, botanical, and other natural and physical features and resources found along these streams or segments thereof; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has the largest natural and scenic stream system in the nation including more than eighty rivers or river segments; and

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HCR 115 – Sustainability of Groundwater Use in the Southern Hills Aquifer System of Southeast Louisiana

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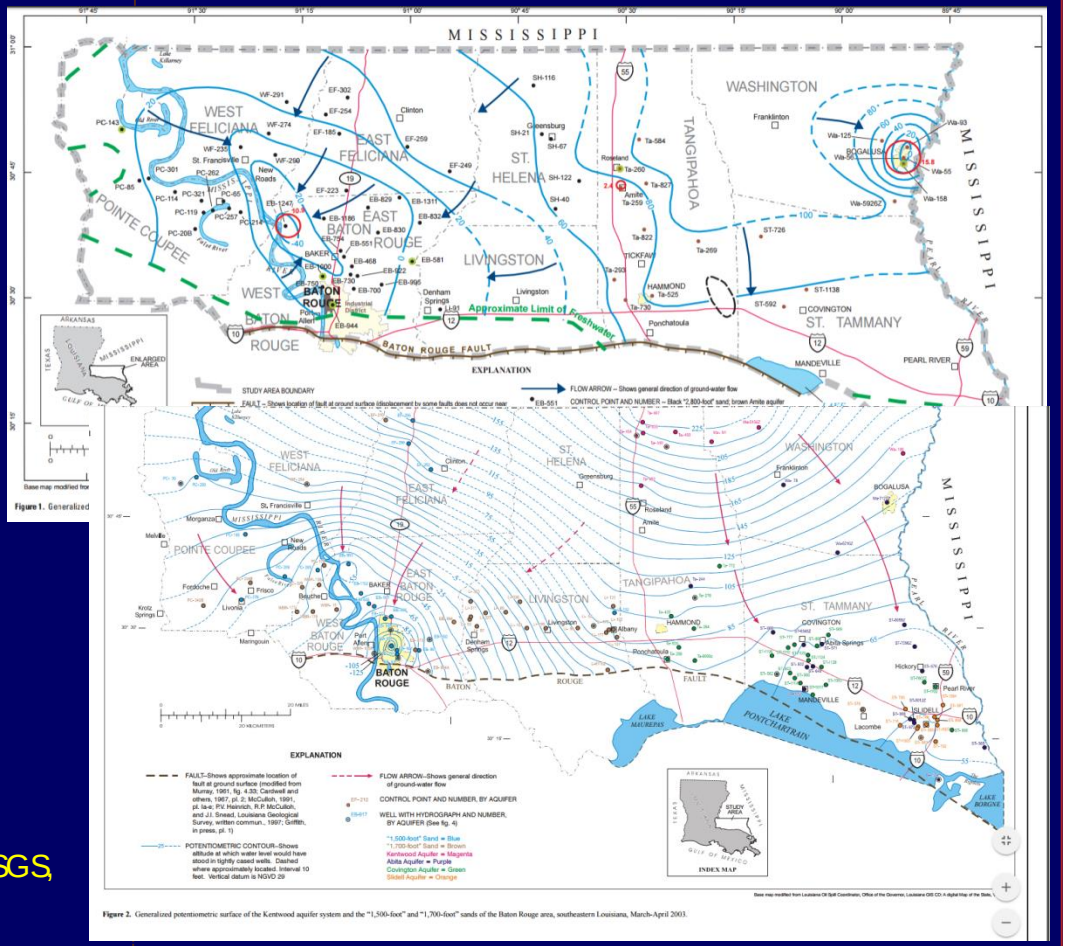
- To evaluate groundwater sustainability across southeast Louisiana
- Lead agency is Office of Conservation
- Evaluating water level data from regional network along with major USGS studies; evaluating water use across the region
- Support from USGS in development of a regional groundwater resources pamphlet
- Report due by March 1, 2017



Top: Fendick, USGS, 2007, "2800-foot" potentiometric map: Bottom: Prakken, USGS, 2004, "1500- and 1700-foot" potentiometric map

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