



Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Inc.

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RESOLUTION NO. 35

SUBJECT: COASTAL RESTORATION

WHEREAS, coastal Louisiana has 40% of the nation's coastal wetlands formed primarily by the deltas of the Mississippi River, and

WHEREAS, the coastal zone of Louisiana is a nationally and internationally significant geological and biological resource, and

WHEREAS, this coastal zone has lost over 1 million acres of wetlands since 1900 and is eroding and subsiding at a rate exceeding 50 square miles or 30,000 acres per year, and

WHEREAS, 80% of the nation's coastal wetland erosion is occurring in coastal Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the generic causes of the overall erosion of coastal Louisiana are (a) sediment starvation brought about by levees extending into the Gulf which block transport of Mississippi River sediment into the coast's wetlands and estuaries and (b) saltwater intrusion brought about by construction of thousands of miles of canals, and

WHEREAS, a new citizens group with broad-based support in Louisiana, the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana, has recently formed, with the help of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, to address the problems of coastal Louisiana.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation supports large-scale Mississippi River sediment diversion, wetland restoration and reduction of canal construction in the coastal wetlands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LWF strongly recommends the establishment of a state Office of Coastal Restoration and a federal task force co-chaired by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency to design and implement a joint federal-state program for Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LWF will support and work closely with the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana in the effort to preserve Louisiana's coastal resources.

Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation in convention assembled,
21 February 1988 in Lafayette, LA.