

## DRAFT CPRA New Project Proposal

**Project Title:** Combining Storm Surge Protection with Oyster Industry Development

**Contact:** Mitchel Jurisich, Chairman, Louisiana Oyster Task Force

### **Project Description: Structural Protection**

Emergent terraces created from adjacent barrow areas. Terraces will be oriented to maximize storm surge dampening. Created barrow-canals will be dedicated to oyster production. Terraces will be positioned to control water flow through the canals to maximize oyster growth. Where possible, terraces will be connected to a source of saltwater to allow blending of salt and brackish water for maximum oyster production. Given appropriate permitting and financial incentives, the private- and NGO-sectors will participate in the construction and maintenance of the terraces/canals. Each added terrace should add a measurable increment of storm protection for communities and should stimulate additional taxable income to the State to help pay for the structures.

Examples:

1. Storm protection structures running westerly/easterly from MRGO would create wide canals dedicated to oyster production and terraces for land-based enterprises. Terrace-land-based enterprises include: solar/wind power generation, forestry, agriculture, tourism, fishery-support, etc. Water from MRGO could be used to blend the desired salinity in the canals for maximum oyster production.
2. Storm protection structures (terraces or bulkheads) near Mardi Gras Pass would direct water and sediment to build land while creating dedicated oyster production areas.

### **Meets CPRA Screening Criteria:**

1. Consistency with Master Plan Objectives and Principles:
2. Magnitude of Expected Effects: To be determined. Example: If the canals were ¼ mile wide, each acre of canal would be 33' "long." If 10,000 acres were created, the accumulative length of the many, separate terraces would be about 63 miles long. If each of the 10,000 acres produces 200 sacks of oysters per year, the annual production would be 2,000,000 sacks and about equal to annual La. oyster landings. The expected production would double La. average annual production.
3. Geographic Area: St. Bernard and/or Plaquemines Parishes

### **Project Attributes:**

**To Be Completed:** Structural Protection: Location, Alignment, Levee Footprint (acres), Targeted Protection Level (50, 100, or 500 year), Levee Length (ft), Levee Top Height (ft NAVD 88), Levee Top Width (ft), Levee Side Slope, Levee Fill Volume (cubic yards), Existing Average Elevation (ft NAVD 88), Design Elevation (ft NAVD 88), Number of Concrete T-Walls (if necessary), T-Wall Height (ft), T-Wall Length (ft), T-Wall Thickness (ft), T-Wall Base Width and Thickness (ft), Number of Floodgates (if necessary), Gate Type, Gate Length (ft), Gate Height (ft), Number of Pumps, Pump Type, etc.

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