



## Coast-It Notes

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## Greetings from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management.

*Friday September 19, 2014*

### Permits/Mitigation Division Updates

- OCM recently has completed development of a "Hydrologic Modification Impact Analysis (HMIA)" document for use as a guide and directive in Coastal Use Permitting. OCM strives to develop guidance for our staff and user groups that is scientifically based, pertinent, and effective while causing the least cost and inconvenience for the applicants. The intent of this guide is to provide applicants for Coastal Use Permits (CUPs) with a tool that will ultimately streamline their CUP review processing period by providing the applicant with a consistent and concise set of components that are necessary for OCM staff to adequately review potential project impacts with respect to hydrology, drainage and water pollution.

These hydrologic reports typically investigate the pre- and post-development surface water conditions at a site proposed for development and are used by OCM to determine if adverse impacts to adjacent lands and/or waterways will occur as a result of the proposed use. Projects proposed in the coastal zone of Louisiana cannot, to the maximum extent practicable, increase the potential for flooding or draining, adversely impact water quality, or unnecessarily conflict with other uses in the vicinity. If a proposed use would, in OCM's opinion, modify existing hydrologic conditions, the modification must be reviewed to determine if adverse impacts will occur. Adverse impacts resulting from modified hydrology include, but are not limited to, an increase in drainage from or flooding to other properties or waterways and alteration of water quality that increases total suspended solids (TSS), point and non-point source discharge and biological oxygen demand (BOD); or changes in the salinity or temperature of surface waters in the project area. You can view the guide [here](#).

- OCM is pleased to announce the addition of a new member of the permit staff. Matthew O'Neal will begin working with OCM on Monday September 22, 2014. Please help us in welcoming our newest staff member. OCM also is welcoming back Stephanie Zumo. Stephanie is returning to the mitigation section starting September 22 full time after from an extended absence.

### Office of Coastal Management News

- OCM is requesting public comment on our five (5) year Assessment and Strategy plan for 2016-2020. The Coastal Zone Enhancement Program encourages state and territorial coastal management programs to strengthen and improve their federally approved coastal management programs in one or more of nine areas. These "enhancement areas" include wetlands, coastal hazards, public access, marine debris, cumulative and secondary impacts, special area management plans, ocean and Great Lakes resources, energy and government facility siting, and aquaculture. The enhancement program was established under Section 309 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), as amended. The federal guidance documents are available [online at: http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/backmatter/guidance.html](http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/backmatter/guidance.html).

The public is invited to submit comments by mail or email for consideration in the assessment and strategic planning process. Comments will be accepted until December 31, 2014. Correspondence should be emailed to [OCMInfo@la.gov](mailto:OCMInfo@la.gov) or mailed to: Attention Sara Krupa, Interagency Affairs/Field Services Division, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, P.O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487.

*Coastit Notes is a publication of the Office of Coastal Management to inform permit applicants, the public and others of events and items that may impact them or their interaction with our office. This e-document is intended to improve customer service and awareness of OCM works and functions and includes announcements from all OCM divisions as issues arise.*

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