

# LA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

E-NEWSLETTER



Spring 2011  
Issue 5

## Trees in the Basin

Boy Scouts, DNR, naturalists enjoy field day

Coastal Resource Scientist Craig LeBlanc of the Office of Coastal Management and other Coastal staff participated in this year's planting service project in the Atchafalaya Basin.

The Atchafalaya Basin Dedication for reforestation of the basin region was double in size this year, with near-perfect weather conditions for the planting of some 10,000 trees.

The Evangeline Area Council of Boy Scouts of America's 2011 Centennial Forest project last year brought scouts into the basin from south Louisiana's Teche and Acadiana areas to plant 5,000 trees and removed more than 45,000 lbs of trash to clean the Basin's waterways and boat ramps.

According to Art Hawkins, executive director of the Evangeline Area Council, a variety of educational and immersive activities are all part of the Boy Scout's 100-year commitment to

make the most of the Atchafalaya Basin.

"The dedication shown for this project is remarkable, the scouts and their leaders really love what they are doing here," DNR Secretary Scott Angelle noted. "The Atchafalaya Basin's ecosystem has a special beauty and value like no other place in our state", said Acting Director Stephen Chustz of the state Department of Natural Resources' Atchafalaya Basin Program. "Working with these young men and women and their families to restore the habitat of the basin is very rewarding - it's an educational experience for all of us," Chustz said.

The Cub Scouts, Keep America Beautiful, and History Channel's Swamp People also participated in the event held Saturday, March 26th at the hosting site—Atchafalaya Basin Welcome Center in Butte LaRose.

**Earth Day 2011  
April 17**



**Simple actions  
can make  
a big difference**

## MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY SCOTT A. ANGELLE

### Celebrating Louisiana Earth Day April 17

*Every Day is Earth Day* would be a good motto for the department. Louisiana's natural resources are important to all of us, and that is why I speak frequently of our commitment to being good stewards of our environment as I travel and talk to groups across the state.

### Recognizing Our Employees in May

Employee appreciation activities are gearing up right now and there's no time like the present to say "thank you" to the good men and women of DNR for all of the things they do in protecting our good earth.

## La. Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Presents Appreciation Award March 24, 2011

Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association announced its 2011 Blue Heron Award recipient Thursday, March 24, at the association's annual meeting in New Orleans. Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Secretary Scott Angelle was presented with the award, which recognizes exceptional environmental stewardship in association with oil and gas activity as well as the unique efforts of the recipient to address the compatibility of the industry with environmental progress.

LMOGA's Board of Directors selected Sec. Angelle for the 2011 Blue Heron Award in recognition of his leadership following the April 20 Deepwater Horizon incident. Sec. Angelle played a key role in coordinating response efforts to preserve and protect Louisiana's coast in the wake of the spill. The secretary was instrumental in communicating to the country the economic hardships caused by the drilling moratorium and the importance of the Gulf of Mexico energy industry to Gulf Coast communities and the entire nation.



LMOGA's Chairman of the Board, James M. Hutchison, Sr., Scott Angelle, and LMOGA President Chris John.

## March Mineral Lease Sale Results in \$11.5 Million

The Mineral and Energy Board collected more than \$11.5 million in bonuses in the March sale, bringing the total collected for FY 10-11 to more than \$35.9 million. For the calendar year, the total is more than \$14.3 million.

At this month's lease sale, the Board awarded 32 leases covering more than 15,000 acres, out of 155 nominated tracts covering more than 232,000 acres.

The Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge owned by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area owned by LDWF, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana State Land Office garnered over \$9.4 million in the March lease sale.

"In Louisiana's sportsman's paradise, it makes good sense to dedicate a portion of the income from nonrenewable resources to manage our renewable resources such as fish and wildlife," said DNR Secretary Scott Angelle.

"In a tight budget year, the mineral revenues generated in the March sale will help us maintain Louisiana's incredible natural and wildlife resources, both at the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge and in other statewide projects," said LDWF Secretary Robert Barham. "Now, more than ever, it is important to continue to invest in our natural resources and the rich fish and wildlife populations across our state. These mineral lease sales allow us to continue to be the premier destination for America's sportsmen and women without placing a burden on the state's taxpayers.

Funds from the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge will be deposited to the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge Trust Fund and Protection Fund. Funds from the Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area will be deposited to the LDWF Conservation Fund. The Conservation Fund is LDWF's primary operating fund; it does not utilize State General Funds.

### Lease Sale Results 2011

January Results - \$2.2 Million • February Results - \$513,269 • March Results - \$11.5 Million

# National Team Reports on Hydraulic Fracturing in Louisiana

If you haven't heard already, the STRONGER Review Team has concluded that the Louisiana hydraulic fracturing program is well-managed, professional and meeting its program objectives. STRONGER stands for State Review of Oil and Gas Environmental Regulators and the team of experts worked in Louisiana in November of last year.

The review team's report is available online under "Haynesville Shale."

A Statement from Commissioner of Conservation Jim Welsh:

"I am pleased to reiterate the conclusion of the STRONGER review team that Louisiana's hydraulic fracturing regulatory program is well-managed. The team also recognized the Office of Conservation's efforts to make adjustments as needed, particularly with the upsurge in Haynesville Shale drilling operations over the past several years.

"In September 2009, new water usage reporting was put into place. Since September 2010, surface water management agreements have been authorized. For several years now, the department's website has been recognized for its public education efforts, providing extensive information on the Haynesville Shale and Ground Water Resources program.

"Additionally, Conservation has been working to address internal staff training to keep pace with technological advances in the industry, specifically reviewing web-based education courses for staff and field agents.

"Incidentally, the Office of Conservation also has plans to announce draft rules that will address the recommendations mentioned in the report as well as a few other related environmental issues. We feel like we have been working a step ahead in order to balance responsible development and protection of our water and natural resources. As we continue to lay-out changes and make adjustments in the regulatory processes, we believe Louisiana can have a stand-out program among the producing states."

## Surface Water Usage & Act 955 of 2010

In Louisiana, surface water is used for

- 59 % Power Generation
- 33 % Industrial Use
- 4 % Agricultural Use
- 4 % For Public Supply

DNR Office of Coastal Management has recently prepared a brochure on *Louisiana's Surface Water Management Initiative- Act 955 of 2010*.

The law allows the Secretary the ability to enter into cooperative endeavor agreements with willing persons or entities seeking to withdraw running surface water within the state.

The program is completely voluntary and the application process is reviewed by DNR, OCPD and other agencies.

For questions on Act 955, contact O.C. Smith at 225-342-7360 or o.c.smith@la.gov



Surface water as a source in hydraulic fracturing process

## Upcoming Events and Meetings

### APRIL

- 13 Mineral and Energy Board Meeting, LaSalle Building at 8:30 am
- 14 Alternate Energy 2011 Conference, LSU Center for Energy Studies at 3:00 pm
- 17 Louisiana Earth Day, Downtown Baton Rouge at Noon
- 21 Pipeline Hearing, LaSalle Building at 9:00 am
- 21 Oilfield Site Restoration Commission Meeting, LaSalle Building at 1:30 pm
- 22 Global Earth Day
- 22 Good Friday – State Holiday
- 24 Easter Sunday

### MAY

- 8 Mother's Day
- 11 Mineral and Energy Board Meeting, LaSalle Building at 8:30 am
- 11 Advisory Committee for Water Well Drillers, LaSalle Building at Noon
- 19 Pipeline Hearing, LaSalle Building at 9:00 am
- 30 Memorial Day - State Holiday



## SAVE THE DATE!

AUGUST 24

2011 GREEN BUSINESS EXPO- DEQ Headquarters, Baton Rouge

Email contact: Terry.thomas@la.gov

AUGUST 28-30

DNR OIL AND GAS: SONRIS to Sunset Conference –Roosevelt

Hotel, New Orleans

Email contact: Stacey.talley@la.gov

## Did you know...

## From Technology Assessment Division

- Louisiana OCS (federal) territory is the most extensively developed and mature OCS territory in the U.S.
- Louisiana OCS territory has produced approximately 88.1% of the 17.9 billion barrels of crude oil and condensate, and 80.3% of the 170 TC of natural gas extracted from all federal OCS territories from the beginning of time through the end of 2009.
- Currently, Louisiana OCS territory produces 27.0% of the oil and 8.1% of the natural gas produced in the entire U.S., and 93.3% of the oil and 70.7% of the natural gas produced in the Gulf of Mexico OCS.
- Louisiana OCS is ranked 1st in crude oil and 1st in natural gas production. Also ranked 1st in LNG terminal capacity.
- Produced by DNR Technology Assessment Division, the 2010 Louisiana Energy Facts Annual is now available at [http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/TAD/newsletters/energy\\_facts](http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/TAD/newsletters/energy_facts)

# Employee Appreciation to be Held May 2-6



## FUN FACT

Harvey R. Ball is credited with the simple drawing of a smiling face on a yellow background, which has become a cultural icon.

Ball, who co-owned an advertising and public relations firm in Worcester, NY, designed the Smiley Face in 1963 to boost the morale of workers in two recently merged insurance companies.

DNR Human Resources Office will host special events during the month of May to recognize all employees for their hard work and dedication to their jobs.

This is a special salute to DNR Conservation, Coastal, and Mineral Resources **field staff** in Lafayette, New Orleans, Houma/Thibodaux, Shreveport, Monroe, Lake Charles, Dallas and Houston!

Keep Making Each Day the Best Day It Can Be!

## GREAT QUOTES ABOUT SERVICE

**EMPOWERMENT:** "Few things help an individual more than to place responsibility upon him, and to let him know you trust him." - Booker T. Washington, Educator

**SERVICE:** "Help others and give something back. I guarantee you will discover that while public service improves the lives and the world around you, its greatest reward is the enrichment and new meaning it will bring your own life." - Arnold Schwarzenegger, Former Governor of CA

**LEADERSHIP:** "A great leader's courage to fulfill his vision comes from passion, not position." - John Maxwell

Send your Basin pictures to  
[info@la.gov](mailto:info@la.gov)

## Atchafalaya Reforestation Dedication - March 2011

### Left to Right Photos

A young scout spends his Saturday at work in the basin.

OCM's Nicole Dandurand teaches about water resources.

OCM's Craig LeBlanc shows scout how to plant a sapling.

