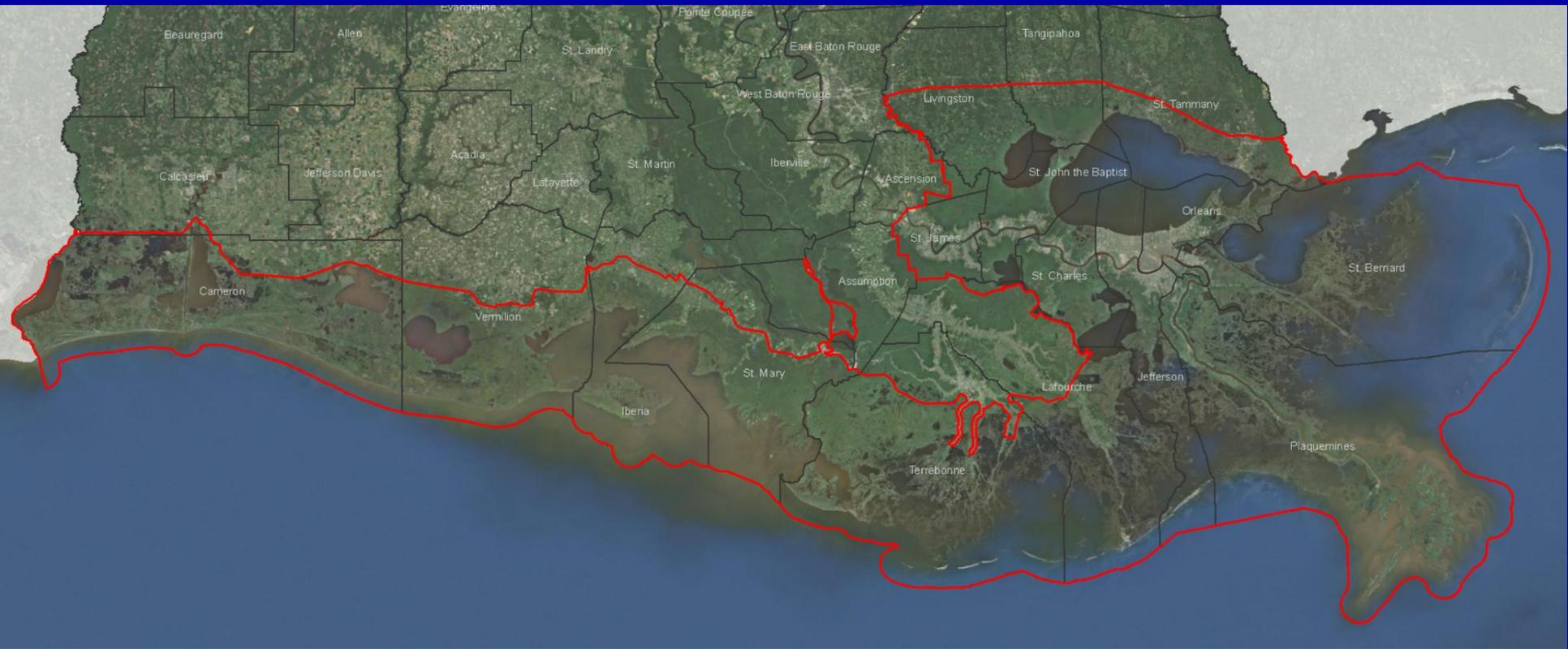




# The Louisiana Coastal Zone



# History



- Coastal Zone Boundary was established in 1978
- Was amended in 1979 and 1980 to include additional areas
- Senate Concurrent Resolution 60 of the 2009 Legislative Session directed CPRA to perform a science based evaluation of the Coastal Zone Boundary
- Study performed from July 2009 through May 2011 with input of numerous stakeholders
- Report presented to CPRA in May 2011
- CPRA passed resolution in May 2011 accepting the report
- Report provided to the Louisiana Legislature June 17, 2011
- Thereby parts of Ascension incorporated into Coastal Zone pursuant to Act 956 of 2010
- CPRA requested legislature to consider statutory changes for implementation of the recommendations at the earliest possible time

# CPRA Resolution to the Louisiana Legislature



COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING – May 17, 2011  
Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
May 17, 2011

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

**A Resolution in Support of Recommendations Submitted by the Office of Coastal Management - Department of Natural Resources, to the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority in the report "Defining Louisiana's Coastal Zone: A Science-based Evaluation of the Louisiana Coastal Zone Inland Boundary" revised October 2010**

**WHEREAS**, an effective coastal zone management program is an integral component necessary for achieving a coast with sustainable coastal communities, sustainable coastal wetland habitat, sustainable commerce and industry, sustainable fisheries, sustainable employment opportunities, sustainable wildlife habitat, sustainable cultural setting, and sustainable hazard mitigation and protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2009 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature by Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 60 requested the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority ("Authority") to conduct an evaluation of the adequacy of the inland boundary of the coastal zone to meet the needs of the state and its residents in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority requested by Resolution, adopted June 29, 2009, that the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management conduct the evaluation based on their accumulated knowledge and expertise on the subject; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Coastal Management did present the results of their evaluation in a presentation and accompanying report on August 18, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the report has recognized and taken into account, the social, economic and cultural factors present in coastal Louisiana, including commercial and recreational fishing and hunting, oil and gas production and transportation, maritime transportation and ports, coastal related and water dependent commercial and industrial activities necessary for the economic health of Louisiana, the unique cultural and historic setting of this area; and

# Concerns with Existing Boundary



- Water quality in the coastal zone can be significantly affected by activities occurring outside the coastal zone
- Wetlands which influence the coastal zone are not included in the coastal zone
- Inconsistent with boundaries of other coastal related programs in the State of Louisiana
- Coastline has changed significantly since boundary was established

# Public Meetings on CZB



Group	Location	Date
CPRA Meeting	Baton Rouge	July 29, 2009
Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting	Baton Rouge	August 1, 2009
OCPR Stakeholder Workshop	New Orleans	September 1, 2009
OCPR Stakeholder Workshop	Houma	September 2, 2009
OCPR Stakeholder Workshop	Lake Charles	September 3, 2009
CPRA Meeting	New Orleans	December 9, 2009
Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting	Baton Rouge	December 11, 2009
CPRA Meeting	Baton Rouge	August 18, 2010
Governor's Coastal Advisory Committee Meeting	Lake Charles	August 19, 2010
Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting	Baton Rouge	August 20, 2010

# Stakeholder Advisory Group Invited Participants



## Organization

- La. Farm Bureau Federation
- Coalition to Restore Coastal La.
- La. Forestry Association
- Louisiana Landowners Assn.
- Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
- National Audubon Society
- Coastal Conservation Assn.
- Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Assn.
- La. Oil & Gas Assn.
- La. Association of Business and Industry
- La. Chemical Association
- Council for a better La.

## Organization

- La. Shrimp Association
- La. Commercial Fisherman's Assn.
- University of La., Lafayette
- LSU Sea Grant Program
- Levee Region 3
- Ports Association of La.
- The Nature Conservancy
- Parishes Against Coastal Erosion (PACE)
- La. Association of Police Juries



# Study Methodology: Scientific Criteria

- Geology
- Vegetation
- Elevation (5', 8' & 10')
- STATSGO Soils
- Inundation - storm surge (SLOSH Model)
- Predicted subsidence/sea level rise
- Watershed boundaries
- Boundaries of existing coastal programs

# Science Summary

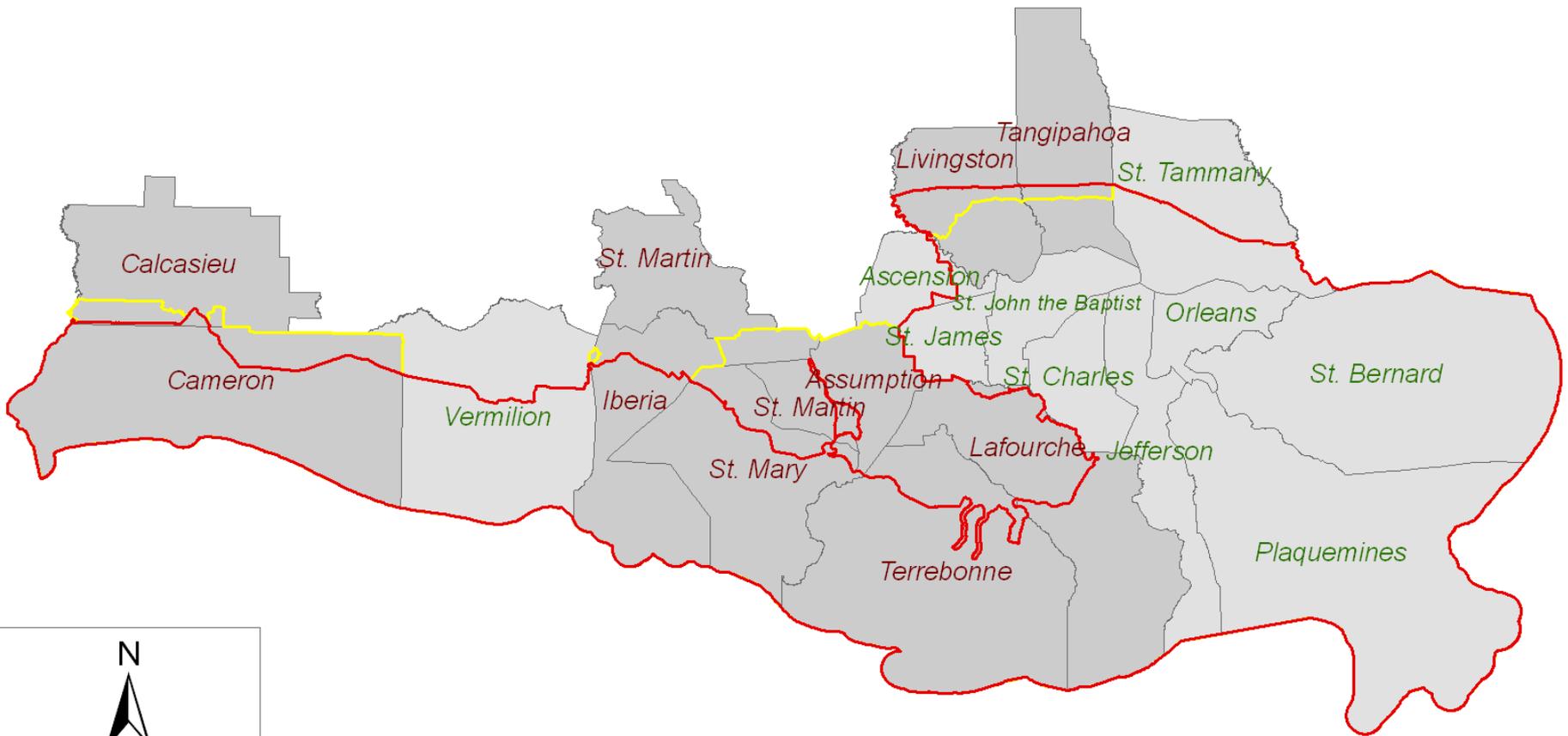


- Science-based boundary incorporates environmental changes that have taken place since boundary was established in 1978
- Proposed coastal zone boundary incorporates a net increase of 1887 additional square miles an increase of approximately 12.6%
- Areas incorporated all determined to have a high level of coastal influence

# Summary of Recommended CZ Boundary Changes

- CZ area will increase in 8 parishes (Cameron, Calcasieu, Iberia, St. Martin, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Assumption)
- CZ area will be reduced in 2 parishes (Tangipahoa and Livingston)
- CZ area will not change in 10 parishes (Vermilion, St. John, St. James, Ascension, St. Charles, Jefferson, Plaquemines, Orleans, St. Bernard and St. Tammany)

# CZB Existing vs Proposed



N

1 in = 19 miles

Current Boundary

Proposed Boundary

**Coastal Zone Parishes**

No Proposed Changes

Proposed Changes



# Potential Benefits: Coastal Zone Management



- Provides for State management of coastal resources in areas with a high level of coastal influence
- Ensures consistency with the Coastal Master Plan
- Reduces coastal hazards and wetland impacts through permit review of development proposals
- Federal activities within CZ area subject to full force of state's federal consistency authority under CZMA
- CUP applicants often eligible for Corps of Engineers' Programmatic General Permit (PGP) approval; Reduces processing time for wetland permits in newly added areas

# Potential Benefits: Coastal Zone Management

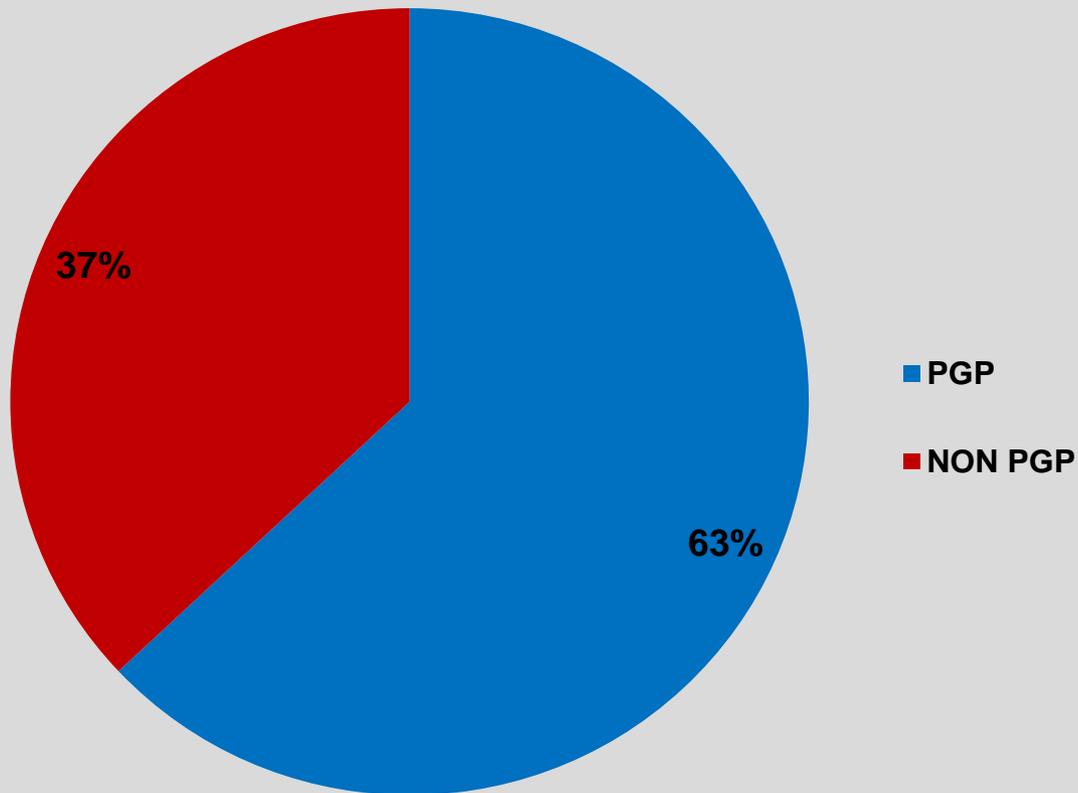


- Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) handle projects of local concern in parishes with approved LCPs and process CUPs
- Online permit tracking (web-based system) available via DNR-OCM - assistance from DNR-OCM Field Offices, Local Program staff and Permitting staff
- May increase opportunities for mitigation (e.g., mitigation banks)
- Impact on Federal Funding Opportunities through NOAA
- Incorporating previously excluded areas into the LCZ helps demonstrate, to the Nation, Louisiana's strong commitment to coastal sustainability and thereby improve chances for federal funding

# Permit Processing Corps Programmatic General Permit (PGP) vs Non PGP

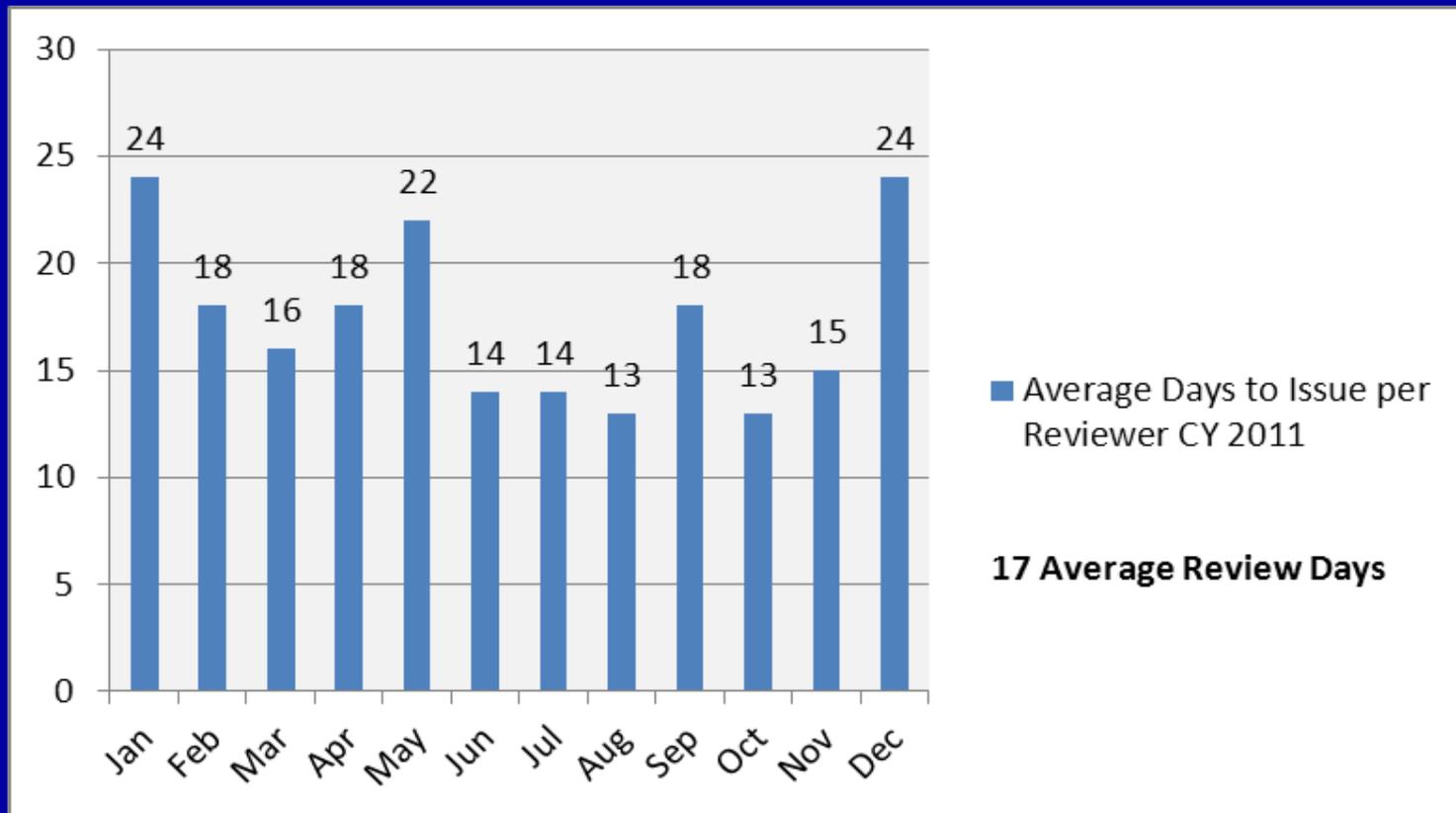


LDNR-OCM DETERMINATIONS  
FOR PERMITS ISSUED CY 2001-2010





# Control Your Own Destiny: LDNR OCM Active Permit Processing Average Review Days



# Regulatory Streamlining



- Exemptions still apply:
  - Fastlands
  - Areas above the 5 foot contour
  - Existing agricultural, forestry and aquaculture activities
  - Normal maintenance and repair
  - Camps and residences
  - Activities which do not have a direct and significant impact on coastal waters
- Additional clarification on exemptions and NDSI criteria to be developed to reduce bureaucracy and focus on issues of importance

# Summary of Proposed Legislation

## House Bill No. 656



- Modifies inland boundary of LA Coastal Zone
- Proposed boundary follows recommendations of science-based evaluation of the Louisiana coastal zone inland boundary accepted by the CPRA in May 2011 and provided to Legislature in June 2011
- Requires an electronic version of the new boundary map to be made available on the OCM website for viewing or download

# Summary of Proposed Legislation

## House Bill No. 656 (cont'd)



- Requires DNR to maintain map(s) depicting areas in coastal zone determined by the Secretary to be a fastland or above the 5-foot contour
- Map shall be readily accessible to the public for inspection and self-service comparison to proposed project footprints to aid in applicants' own determination of whether their activity is exempt (obviates need to submit an application for a coastal use permit).

# Summary of Proposed Legislation

## House Bill No. 656 (cont'd)



- Depiction of exempt areas on the map shall be the result of any one of the following:
  - DNR may determine (on his initiative) an area to be fastlands or above the 5-foot contour
  - A parish engineer or other local government subdivision may nominate an area within that jurisdiction as fastlands or above 5-foot contour, and following investigation or inspection of the area, DNR may determine that the area is fastland or above the 5-foot contour
  - Pursuant to a procedure established by rule, in response to a request made for determination whether a coastal use permit is required for an activity, DNR may determine that the area is a fastland or above the 5-foot contour

# THE BIG PICTURE: Long Term Outcome Vision



- Sustainable Coastal Communities
- Sustainable Commerce and Industry
- Sustainable Fisheries Production
- Sustainable Coastal Ecology
- Sustainable Employment Opportunities
- Sustainable Coastal Louisiana Culture

# Sustain our Future!

