

Resolution Supporting Land & Water Conservation Fund Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund was passed by Congress in 1964, and has aided the creation and enhancement of national forests, parks, and wildlife refuges, as well as state and local parks, historical sites, and recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has delivered tremendous benefits to Louisiana through both its federal and state components, the former including Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge, and the latter including parks, recreation facilities, and educational sites, in the [13] parishes of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program; and

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund was innovative for deriving its funding from offshore oil production revenues, and is specified as a recipient of Gulf of Mexico production revenues in the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA); and

WHEREAS, the conservation, outdoor recreation, and educational benefits of the Land and Water Conservation Fund have enhanced the mission of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program as well as Louisiana's efforts in support of coastal restoration, wildlife conservation, and sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund is slated for reauthorization in 2015, as well as annual funding through the Congressional appropriations process;

THEREFORE, the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program Management Conference expresses its support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and its continued implementation for the benefit of America and the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program region, to be conveyed to Louisiana's federal and state officials.

Al Levron, Management Conference Chairman,

Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program

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Susan Testroet-Bergeron, Director,

Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program