



**Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
Management Conference Meeting #107**

Thursday, May 9, 2024 | 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
Nicholls State University Ballroom in the Student Union

FINAL MINUTES MC#107

BTNEP Staff					
X	Andrew Barron	X	Michael Massimi		
X	Ashleigh Lambiotte	X	Natalie Waters		
X	Delaina LeBlanc	X	Nicole Babin		
X	Emily Braud	X	Siva Nunna		
X	Emily Knobloch Bonvillain				
X	Matt Benoit				
		X	Steve Mathies, Director Emeritus Kerry St. Pé, Director Emeritus Susan Testroet-Bergeron Director Emerita		
		X			
Management Conference Member		Member		Alternate	
American Sugarcane League		Herman Waguespack		Atticus Finger	
Atchafalaya National Heritage Area/CRT		Justin Lemoine		X	Caroline Byrne Cassagne
Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District		X	Hugh Caffery Dustin Rabalais	X	Ernie Blanchard Amy Hebert
Cajun Music Preservation Society		X	Quenton Fontenot		Misty McElroy Allyse Ferrara
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana		X	Gardner Goodall Michael Biros	X	Rowan Lambert Andrew Ferris
Coastal Conservation Association of LA			John Walther		
Coastal Protection Restoration Authority (CPRA)			Bren Hase		Greg Grandy Brian Lezina
Commercial Fisheries			John Tesvich		Peter Vujnovic Clint Guidry
Greater Lafourche Parish Port Commission		X	Davie Breaux		Thad Angelloz
Iberville Parish Government		X	John Clark		
Jefferson Parish Government			Michelle Gonzales	X	Jason Smith David Illgen
LA Association of Conservation District			Ruben Dauzat		Brad Spicer Jerome Cantrelle
LA Association of Levee Boards		X	Dwayne Bourgeois		Katie DeRoche
LA Department of Agriculture & Forestry			Joey Breaux		Faran Dietz Jeremy Rodriguez
LA Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT)		X	Debra Credeur Maida Owens		Karen Leathem Linda Smith
LA Department of Economic Development			Paul Sawyer		Anne Perry
LA Department of Education			Nathan Corley		Michelle Lewis Tana Luther
LA Department of Environmental Quality			Aimee Preau	X	John Sheehan Melanie Bauder

LA Department of Health and Hospitals		Lauren Comeaux		Chasity Cheramie
Management Conference Member		Member		Alternate
LA Department of Energy & Natural Resources (LDNR)		Charles Reulet Sara Krupa	X	Robert Williamson Rod Pierce
LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	X	Willie Cheramie Dylan Landry		Andrew Cumberland Jonathan Wiebe
	X	Troy Sehlinger		Robert Dobbs
LA Forestry Association				
LA Governor's Office of Coastal Activities		Chip Kline		
LA Independent Oil & Gas Association		Randy Robichaux		
LA Landowners Association	X	Tim Allen Francis Fields		Russell Walters Kacey Peterson
LA Mid Continent Oil & Gas Association		Lori LeBlanc		Ed Landgraf Melissa Cloutet
LA Oil Spill Coordinator's Office		Karolien Debusschere		Jennifer Beall
LA Science Teachers' Association	X	Nicole Cotten		Nathan Cotten Jean May-Brett
LA Wildlife Federation	X	Rebecca Triche		
Lafourche Parish Government		Archie Chaisson	X	Megan Dufrene Mitch Orgeron
LSU Ag Center & LA Sea Grant		Rex Caffey Haley Gambill Korey Pham		Julie Falgout Emily Maung-Douglass Thomas Hymel
Lowlander Center		Kristina Peterson Dr. Shirell Dardar	X	Dr. Shirley Laska Eugene Turner
LUMCON	X	Dr. Brian Roberts John Conover	X	Donna Lottinger Willy Schley
US NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	X	Alexis Rixner		Craig Gothreaux
Nicholls State University		Dr. Jay Clune Dr. John Doucet Jenny Schexnayder	X X	Allyse Ferrara Justine Whitaker Tim Clay
Plaquemines Parish Government		John Helmers Scott Rousselle		Robert Spears
Pointe Coupee Parish Government		Rosemary Rummmler		
South Central Planning and Development Commission	X X	Kevin Belanger Pat Gordon		Tim Bourcier Adam Lefort
South Louisiana Economic Council (SLEC)		Christy Alley Zeringue		
South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center	X	Jonathan Foret	X	Samantha Hicks Sarah Fontana
St. Charles Parish		Marny Stein		Zoey Bittur
St. John Parish		Tara Lambeth		Dov Block
Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government	X	Mart Black		Jennifer Gerbasi
The Nature Conservancy	X	Jean Landry		Karen Gautreaux Emily Vuxton
U.S. National Park Service		Angela Rathle Allyn Rodriguez		Mark Ford Julie Whitbeck Dusty Pate
US Coast Guard		Brian Black		LCDR Anthony Romero
US Army Corps of Engineers		Sarah Bradley		Kaitlyn C Richard

	X	Alice Kerl		Danielle Keller
	X	Terri Von hoven	X	Timothy Lacoste
	X	Amy Dixon	X	Michael Saucier
US Environmental Protection Agency		Huy Vu (Zoom)		Kathleen Kutschenreuter
US Fish & Wildlife Service		Karen Soileau		Ronny Paille
US Department of Agriculture's – Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA/NRCS)	X	Micah Rodrigue Kristin Chatelain Bailey Kimble Angela Trahan Lacy Bellanger	X X	John Boatman Jaimie Gallagher Andrew Kears Garret Thomassie
US Geological Survey (USGS) – CWPPRA		Lauren Leonpacher Scott Wilson Jill Jenkins	X	Kacie Wright Steve Hardley Beth Middleton
		Guest Organization		Guest
Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation	X	Gary LaFleur Laynie Barrilleaux Becky Gautreaux		Nolan Falgout, III Earl Melancon Michelle Felterman
Bayou Grace Community Services		Anne Parr		
BOR - Board of Regents	X	Eddie Filce		
CAMO (Coastal and Marine Operators)	X	Capt. Jake Stahl		Ed Landgraf
Comite Resources, Inc.	X	Rachael Hunter	X	Robert Lane
Cynthia Louisiana & In Between International	X	Rebeka Bahadorani	X X	Richard Thommeret Philippe Gustin
Delta Hand Services		Daniel Bollich		
Ducks Unlimited		Amanda Voisin		Scott Graham
Fletcher – BayouSTEM	X	Dr. Kristina Strickland Christie Landry	X	Trevor Vicks Laurie Rodrigue
LUMCON	X	Guillaume Rieucou	X	Adam Quade
LSU	X	Todd Johnson		
Mississippi Sound Estuary Program		Carley Zapfe Sara Martin		Evenlyn McQueen
Mississippi State Extension		Keith Chenier		Sara Martin
Nicholls	X	Chris Bonvillain	X	Rissa Inselman
Pontchartrain Conservancy		Michael Hopkins		
Port of Morgan City	X	Cindy Cutrera	X	Mac Wade
Tele-Louisiana	X	Will McGrew	X	Drake LeBlanc Caitlin Orgeron
White Car Marketing	X	Cody Blanchard		
United State Representative		Cong. Garret Graves		Christian Bergeron
Woodland Conservancy	X	Katie Brasted		
		Deputy Chief Donald Dardar	X	Theresa Dardar
	X	Sabina Miller		
	X	Martin Bourgeois	X	Ivy Mathieu
	X	Doug Daigle		Robert Bergeron
		David Gisclair		
WYES	X	Marcie Kavangaah	X	Lenny Dehart

Final Minutes from Management Conference Meeting #107 – May 9, 2024

- Meeting was called to order by Dr. Quenton Fontenot, BTNEP MC Chairman, at 9:30 am.
- Management Conference members and guests were asked by Nicole Babin to register with their name and affiliation.
- The floor was opened for comments and approval of the minutes from the Quarter 1 meeting.
 - Quenton Fontenot asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes as written.
 - Megan Dufrene motioned to accept. Gary LaFleur seconded the motion.
 - Motion was approved by consensus.

Chairman Remarks

- Dr. Quenton Fontenot
 - Mart Black asked to correct the dates on the agenda.

Director's Report

- Dr. Brian Roberts spoke about the Director's position and indicated the position would be filled by the next Management Conference.

Report from Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation (BTEF)

- Dr. Gary LaFleur, Foundation President, talked about the support the Foundation gives to BTNEP. White Boot Gala September 24, 2024. \$70 for a single ticket, \$130 for a pair.

BTNEP Senior Scientist Andrew Barron gave a brief update about BTNEP's 320 and BIL3 projects and funding.

Draft Work Plan for EPA Fiscal Year 2025 Clean Water Act Sec. 320 Funding

- **Delaina LeBlanc, Biological Resources**
 - Presented Biological Resources Action Plan Team proposed projects
- **Emily Braud, Community Engagement**
 - Presented Community Engagement Action Plan Team proposed projects
- **Michael Massimi, Invasive Species**
 - Presented Invasive Species Action Plan Team proposed projects
- **Andrew Barron, Water Quality**
 - Presented Water Quality Action Plan Team proposed projects

Draft Work Plan for EPA Fiscal Year 2025 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL3) Funding

- **Andrew Barron, Water Quality**
 - Presented Water Quality Action Plan Team proposed projects
- **Emily Braud, Community Engagement**
 - Presented Community Engagement Action Plan Team proposed projects
- **Michael Massimi, Invasive Species**
 - Presented Invasive Species Action Plan Team proposed projects

EPA Fiscal Year 2025 Clean Water Act Sec. 320 Funding Vote

- A motion to approve the proposed work plan was made by Dwayne Bourgeois. Mart Black seconded the motion. The motion was approved by consensus.

EPA Fiscal Year 2025 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL3) Funding

- A motion to approve the proposed work plan was made by Dr. Brian Roberts with an exception to admin the BIL3 budget IDC and Mart Black seconded the motion. The motion was approved by consensus.

Presentations and Project Spotlight

- Dr. Chris Bonvillain, NSU Director of University Graduate Studies, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator, Biological Sciences - *“Effects of an absent riverine flood pulse on Red Swamp Crayfish life history and fecundity characteristics in the upper Barataria Basin”*
- Rebeka Bahadorani, Founder of the project and CEO of In-Between International, Richard Thommeret, CTO of Cynthia Louisiana & In-Between International, and Philippe Gustin, CEO of Cynthia Louisiana - *“Cynthia Project”*
- Delaina LeBlanc, BTNEP Biological Resources Coordinator - *“Celebrating Ten Years of Red Knot Research in Louisiana”*

Upcoming Scheduled BTNEP Management Conference Meetings

- Save the Date – August 8, 2024 – Location: TBD
- Save the Date – November 7, 2024 – Location: TBD
- Save the Date – February 13, 2025 – Location: TBD
- Save the Date – May 8, 2025 - Location: TBD
- Save the Date – August 7, 2025 – Location: TBD
- Save the Date – November 6, 2025 – Location: TBD

Upcoming BTNEP Events

- Farm Friday | June 7, 2024 | 9 am - 12 pm | Location: BTNEP Native Plant Nursery
- Farm Friday | August 2, 2024 | 9 am - 12 pm | Location: BTNEP Native Plant Nursery/Nicholls Farm
- Farm Friday | September 6, 2024 | 9 am - 12 pm | Location: BTNEP Native Plant Nursery/Nicholls Farm
- Native Plant Giveaway | September 14, 2024 | 8 am - 12 pm | Location: BTNEP Native Plant Nursery/Nicholls Farm
- International Coastal Cleanup | September 21, 2024 | Location: Elmer’s Island
- White Boot Gala | September 24, 2024 | 6 pm - 9 pm | Location: Spahr’s Des Allemands Hwy 90
- Paddle Bayou Lafourche | October 12, 2024 | Napoleonville to Thibodaux

Media Coverage – February 1, 2024 – April 31, 2024

- February 2, 2024 | Houma Courier/Thibodaux Daily Comet
[CPRA New head of coastal protection intends to use rocks to protect Louisiana's Gulf coast](#)
- February 17, 2024 | St. Mary Now
[JOHN K. FLORES: BALD EAGLE'S INCREASING NUMBERS ARE REASON TO CELEBRATE](#)
- March 14, 2024 | Lafourche Gazette
[Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program Announces Bayou Lafourche Cleanup 2024](#)
- March 15, 2024 | Louisiana's Cajun Bayou
[Bayou Lafourche Cleanup](#)
- April 8, 2024 | Nola.com
[This new-to-Louisiana bird wails like a banshee but eats pesky nuisance, saving crops](#)

Other Business

- Don't forget to pick up your 2024 Tidal Graph calendars! Large quantities are available to distribute at your organizations.
- Introducing the Estuary Updates Newsletter: send your submissions to the monthly newsletter by the 25th of the preceding month to info@btnep.org.
- Vote to induct Coastal and Marine Operators (CAMO) as a Management Conference Member. John Clark motioned to accept the vote. Dwayne Bourgeois seconded the motion.
- Dr. Brian Roberts stated that the CCMP needs to be updated, and will be one of the first orders of business for the incoming director.

Adjourned

- Dr. Quenton Fontenot, MC Chairman, asked if there was a motion to adjourn.
- A motion was made by Alexis Rixner. Seconded by John Clark.
- The motion was approved by consensus. The meeting was adjourned.

BTNEP Management Conference / 2024 2 #107 | View the recording here:
<https://youtu.be/bG914BO93Ow?si=y1LnbGftAfxkcX7z>