



Conservation on Louisiana's Private Lands

January 2007

*A report by the USDA Natural Resources
Conservation Service in cooperation with Louisiana's
44 Soil and Water Conservation Districts and
Louisiana's Resource
Conservation and Development Councils*



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On the cover:

Eastern Wild Turkeys have increased in numbers tremendously in Louisiana over the past decade because of good management techniques and conservation work.

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Mission: Helping People Help the Land
Vision: Productive Land, Healthy Environment**



Natural Resource Facts:

- Agriculture is a multibillion dollar industry for Louisiana--creating jobs and generating income in rural and urban areas.
- Louisiana food and fiber product industries generated about \$15 billion in output during 2004, and another \$8 billion was produced by food and fiber service industries.
- Louisiana businesses generated \$23 billion in food and fiber products during 2004!

**LSU Ag Center
Research and Extension**

From the State Conservationist:

This last year has been one for the record books. Two of the most powerful hurricanes ever hitting Louisiana one month apart was unimaginable. It truly was the worst of times; not only for the residents in the storms' wake, but for the entire state as every community strained to offer shelter, food, health care, and comfort.

While it was the worst of times, we saw the best in people. People helping and sharing in every way they could to ease the suffering, losses, and heartaches of the storms' victims. I am so proud to say that NRCS employees were right there professionally and personally helping and sharing.

There has been so much done since the storms, but there is so much yet to do. NRCS has been helping communities across the Gulf Coast primarily through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP). We have spent tens of millions of dollars in both financial and technical assistance with over sixty different sponsors (communities) working to restore the landscape to avoid future catastrophes that could have come from the routine Gulf storms we see almost every summer. We are working as fast as we can to get this work completed by the height of next hurricane season (September). If everything goes as planned, we truly expect to reach this goal.

At the same time, all of the conservation programs continued. You will see in this report the tremendous accomplishments our NRCS and conservation district employees working voluntarily and cooperatively with landowners and other partnering agencies have achieved. This was possible because of the sheer dedication of our employees to work long hours, take on extended details, and give up personal time to get the job done. It was also possible because of the generosity of over a hundred NRCS employees to willingly share their time and talents helping Louisiana's recovery efforts. These employees left family, co-workers, and customers to come help us. Those they left also contributed to our recovery through sacrifices they made so Louisiana could benefit.

As you read through this report, you will see that even in the face of adversity, Louisiana people have not turned their backs on conservation and stewardship of our natural resources. You can see Louisiana people are rebuilding what they've lost and others are continuing to build for the future through the various conservation programs we have.

While so much conservation work has been done, we have to pause and thank our Congressional officials--especially the Louisiana delegation for giving us the programs and funds to restore and conserve Louisiana. The support we received from Washington (USDA and NRCS) was and is so vital to the land and the people.

As we look to the new year, we have a renewed vision of ourselves as public servants because we have all been victims of the storms and providers of some recovery efforts at the same time. The mission of the Service is "Helping People Help the Land." That mission has never been clearer for us.

**Donald W. Gohmert
State Conservationist**



Environmental Quality Incentives Program



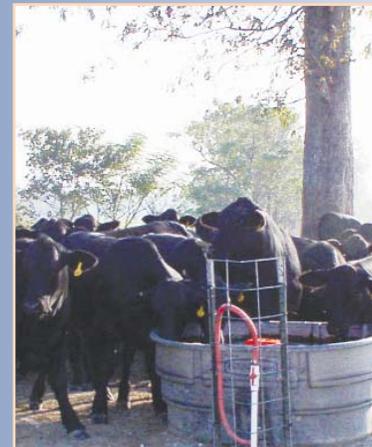
The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

is a voluntary USDA conservation program for farmers and ranchers to treat identified soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on eligible land. It provides technical and financial assistance to eligible agricultural producers.

Since 1996, thousands of Louisiana landowners have made an investment in conserving Louisiana's natural resources through *EQIP*.



Congressional District	2006 Number of Contracts Funded	2006 Contract Acres	2006 Contract Amounts
1	119	6,976	\$837,664
2	-	-	-
3	37	9,544	\$400,804
4	187	22,291	\$1,945,680
5	362	65,645	\$6,493,112
6	65	5,973	\$456,361
7	244	38,828	\$4,535,234
Totals	1,014	149,258	\$14,668,855



Natural Resource Conservation Fact:

Since 1998, through EQIP, private landowners have worked with NRCS to develop 10,024 contracts on 1,124,841 acres of land in Louisiana obligating \$58,909,256 in contract amounts! People and wildlife have been the primary beneficiaries.



Every year the State Technical Advisory Committee makes recommendations on conservation programs to the State Conservationist for his consideration.

Wetlands Reserve Program

The *Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)* is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their properties. NRCS manages *WRP* and provides technical and financial support to help landowners who participate in the program.

During 2006, NRCS offered to purchase easements on another 2,137 acres for 10 additional contracts.

Of the 215,347 acres in WRP in Louisiana, over 174,594 acres have been fully restored to trees, shallow water, and functioning wetlands!

A green ash seedling begins to grow as part of the restoration process on a *WRP* site.

Natural Resource Facts:

- Wetland functions include water quality improvement, floodwater storage, fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetics and biological productivity.
- Up to one-half of North American bird species nest or feed in wetlands

Environmental Protection Agency



Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program



The *Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)* is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on their private lands. *WHIP* provides both technical assistance and cost-share payments to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Practices installed under *WHIP* include:

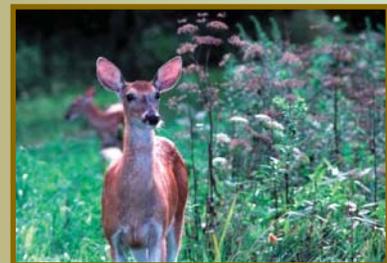
- *Dikes* to hold water for wildlife, especially migratory waterfowl and shorebirds.
- *Prescribed Burning* uses fire as a management tool to establish and maintain highly desirable food and cover plants for wildlife.
- *Tree Establishment* to help grow more trees for wildlife; longleaf pine ecosystems are a priority.
- *Structures for Water Control* to provide water during the most critical periods of the year. Water may be removed to promote the establishment and growth of food and cover plants.
- *Shallow Water Management for Wildlife* uses management tools such as disking to encourage the establishment and growth of important wildlife plants.
- *Brush Management* to remove invasive species of brush that have no wildlife benefits.



Helping Wildlife Through *WHIP*

Since 1998:

- 479 *WHIP* agreements developed
- Agreements developed on 31,734 acres
- Agreements provided almost \$3 million in cost-share assistance matched by more than \$1 million from landowner participants.



Conservation Reserve Program

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is administered by the **USDA Farm Service Agency**. The program offers annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to farmers to establish long-term conserving covers like grass and trees on eligible land. Contracts are for a minimum of 10 years and a maximum of 15 years.

CRP requires a balance among conservation purposes for soil erosion control, water quality protection, and wildlife habitat. **CRP** technical assistance is provided by NRCS.

Through 34 **CRP** Sign-ups, Louisiana has:

- 4,518 active **CRP** contracts.
- 305,312 total **CRP** acres.
- Annual rental payments in excess of \$13 million!



Natural Resource Fact:

- *Field borders provide good cover and habitat for game birds, songbirds and a multitude of other wildlife.*

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program



The *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)* is an offspring of the *Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)* administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency. *CREP* is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. Unique state and federal partnerships allow landowners to receive incentive payments for installing specific conservation practices. Through *CREP*, farmers can receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible land.

As of November 2006, the nine parishes in the program accepted 661 offers including 47,670 acres.



CREP was officially implemented by the official signing of the agreement on April 22, 2005. Shown (L-R) Don Anderson, Black Bear Conservation Committee; Don Gohmert, NRCS State Conservationist; Willie Cooper, FSA State Executive Director; Dennis Milligan, U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development; Robbie Howard, Ducks Unlimited; (seated) Bob Odom, Commissioner of Agriculture; and James Little, former FSA Administrator.

Conservation Security Program

The *Conservation Security Program (CSP)* is a voluntary program that supports ongoing stewardship of private agricultural lands by providing payments for maintaining and enhancing natural resources. *CSP* identifies and rewards those farmers and cattle producers who are meeting the highest standards of conservation and environmental management on their operations in selected watersheds.

The *Conservation Security Program* in Louisiana:

- 44 contracts funded
- 26,221 acres funded
- \$453,667 (first year funding dollars)



CSP sign-ups are only offered in selected priority watersheds across the nation.

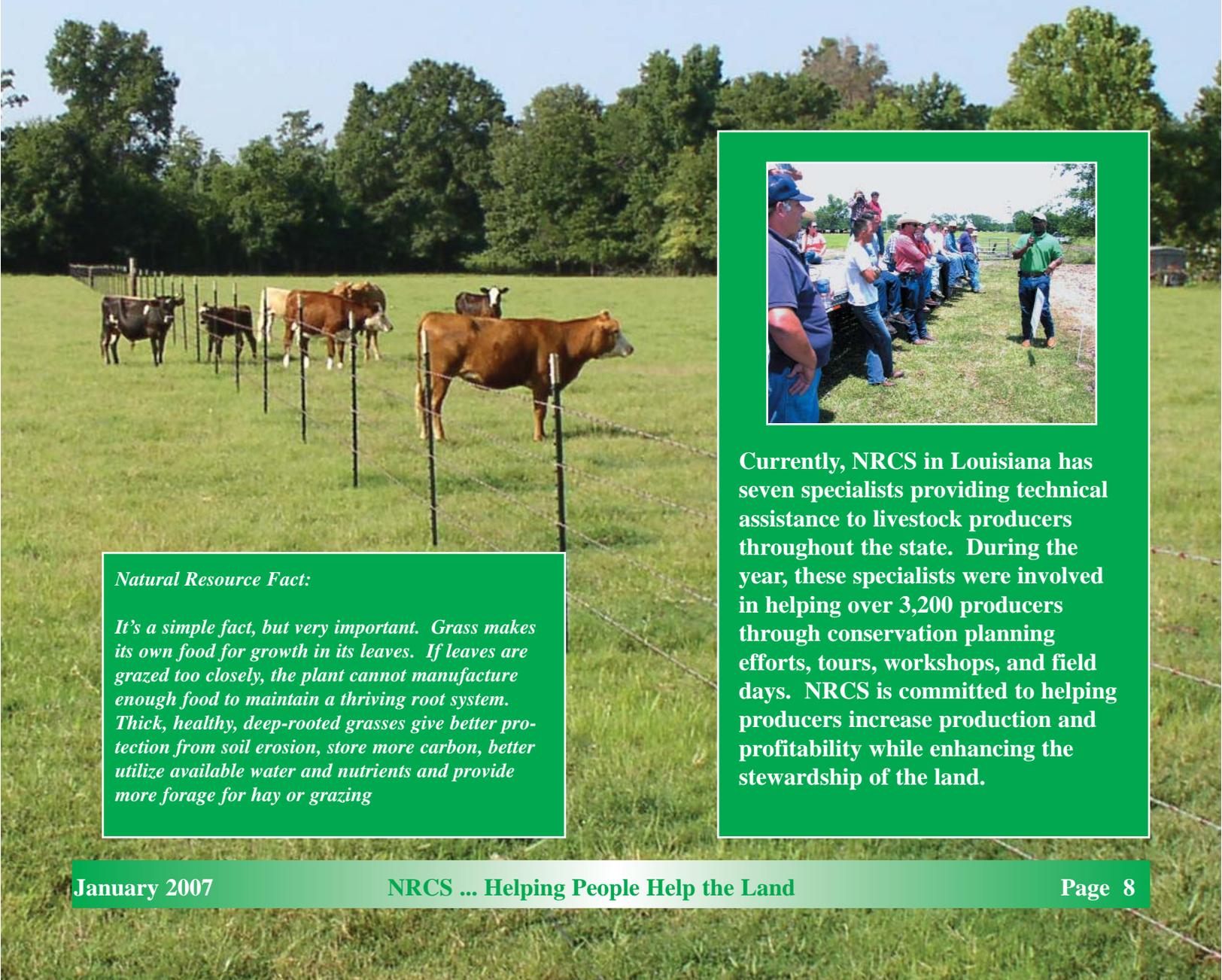
- *Eligible producers received “rewards” for conservation applied in the form of stewardship and enhancement payments.*
- *Farms accepted into the program are those doing the best jobs for conservation, production, and wildlife habitat.*

Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI)



The *Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative's (GLCI's)* mission is to provide high quality technical assistance on privately-owned grazing lands on a voluntary basis and to increase the awareness of the importance of grazing land resources

America's private grazing lands provide habitat to two-thirds of our wildlife, water for urban and other users, and visually appealing open space. Healthy grazing lands mean less erosion and cleaner water. Private grazing lands make up nearly one-half of the non-federal land in the United States.



Natural Resource Fact:

It's a simple fact, but very important. Grass makes its own food for growth in its leaves. If leaves are grazed too closely, the plant cannot manufacture enough food to maintain a thriving root system. Thick, healthy, deep-rooted grasses give better protection from soil erosion, store more carbon, better utilize available water and nutrients and provide more forage for hay or grazing



Currently, NRCS in Louisiana has seven specialists providing technical assistance to livestock producers throughout the state. During the year, these specialists were involved in helping over 3,200 producers through conservation planning efforts, tours, workshops, and field days. NRCS is committed to helping producers increase production and profitability while enhancing the stewardship of the land.

Emergency Watershed Protection Program--Help After the Storms



The *Emergency Watershed Protection program (EWP)* was set up by Congress to respond to emergencies created by natural disasters. Administered by the NRCS, it is designed to eliminate imminent hazards to life and property after storms and restore the land to pre-storm conditions. All projects are sponsored by a unit of state or local government. NRCS personnel completed “Damage Survey Reports” to document specific damages on over 600 sites across coastal Louisiana.

Most of the *EWP* work after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was debris removal from waterways and levee repair, but NRCS also worked with FEMA, soil and water conservation districts, and local units of government to help remove and dispose of animal carcasses after the storms. NRCS also worked with Resource Conservation and Development Councils to help with downed timber removal on private forestland to reduce the risk of future catastrophic wildfires.

Hurricane *Katrina* EWP Summary Fall 2006

- 33 Assistance Requests
- 386 Damage Survey Reports Completed
- 127 Contracts Awarded
- Funds Obligated \$26,360,051
- 528 “Downed-Timber” Applications
- 73,444 “Downed-Timber” Acres

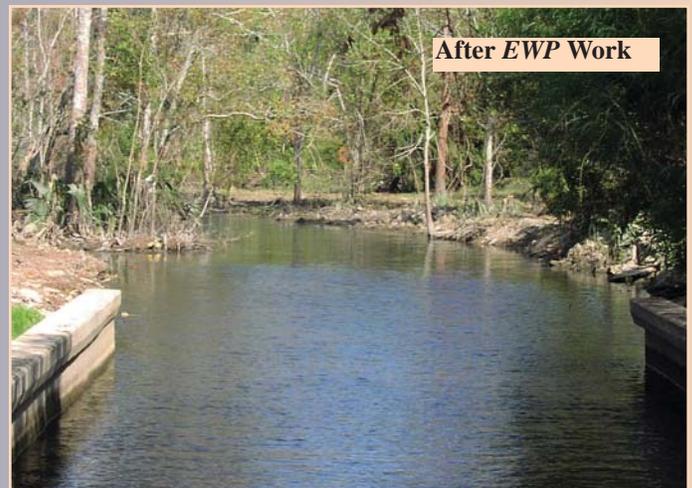


Hurricane *Rita* EWP Summary Fall 2006

- 34 Assistance Requests
- 224 Damage Survey Reports Completed
- 40 Contracts Awarded
- Funds Obligated \$6,470,637
- 84 “Downed-Timber” Applications
- 8,361 “Downed-Timber” Acres



Before *EWP* Work



After *EWP* Work



Coastal Wetlands Protection and (CWPPRA)

In November 1990, Congress passed *Public Law 101-686, Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)*. The Act directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and other agencies and the state of Louisiana develop a "comprehensive plan to prevent the loss of coastal wetlands."

CWPPRA has been the State of Louisiana's primary focus for wetlands restoration. *CWPPRA* emphasizes intergovernmental cooperation. There were 142 active projects on 16 Priority Project sites, 10 projects under construction, and 10 projects scheduled for construction.

NRCS has completed 35 CWPPRA projects. Completed projects with NRCS as the federal sponsor and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources as the state sponsor:

*Cheniere Au Tigre
Naomi Outfall
Oaks-Avery
West Hackberry Planting Demonstration
Falgout Canal Vegetation Demonstration
Boston Canal
Holly Beach
East Mud Lake
Cameron Creole Maintenance
Raccoon Island Demonstration
Brady Canal
Plowed Terraces Demonstration
Barataria Bay Waterway/West
Barataria Bay Waterway/East
Cote Blanche Hydrologic Restoration
Lake Portage
Upper Oaks River
East Sabine Construction Unit #1*

*Jonathan Davis--Construction Unit 1,2,3
Sweet Lake/Willow Lake
Perry Ridge West
Dewitt Rollover Planting Demonstration
Timbalier Island Vegetation Demonstration
Highway 384 Hydrologic Restoration
Southwest Shore of White Lake Demonstration
Freshwater Bayou Wetlands
Freshwater Bayou Bank Stabilization
Perry Ridge/GIWW Bank Protection (Incre. 1)
Thin-Mat Enhancement Demonstration
GIWW to Clovelly (revised)
Fritchie Marsh
Barataria Basin Landbridge--Const. Unit 1 & 2
Caernarvon Outfall Management
Humble Canal
Bayou L'Ours Ridge*

Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)



Public Law 101-646, the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act provided a national mandate to help save coastal wetlands. That a task force consisting of five federal agencies developed a comprehensive approach to restore and prevent the loss of wetlands.

The Act is the primary tool for responding to coastal wetland loss. It requires federal cooperation. As of November 2006, there are 100 CWPPRA Lists with 68 projects completed, 18 projects in progress and 14 funded for fiscal year 2007.

Natural Resource Facts:

Louisiana's coastal wetlands are a national treasure. The wetlands:

- Support and protect a multi-billion dollar oil and gas industry.
- Provide nursery grounds for fish and shellfish for much of the nation's seafood.
- Protect 400 million tons of waterborne commerce annually.
- Provide winter habitat for about one-half of the Mississippi Flyway waterfowl population.
- Serve as a buffer from hurricanes and storms.



The Black Bayou Culverts CWPPRA project south of Lake Charles, Louisiana, is under construction. When completed in April 2007, the ten 10' x 10' flap-gated concrete box culverts will restore the natural flow of excess water from the Mermentau Basin through Black Bayou into Calcasieu Lake while preventing salt water from entering the basin. The project sponsors are NRCS and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention

NRCS administers watershed projects under *Public Law 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954*. These projects help urban and rural communities protect, improve, and develop the water and land resources of watersheds up to 250,000 acres. *Public Law 83-566* projects can be multipurpose.



The completed Bayou Bourbeux Watershed Project in a residential area of Opelousas, Louisiana.

Louisiana NRCS, in partnership with the Vermilion Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), developed the Coulee Baton Microwatershed plan. The Coulee Baton Microwatershed is a 6,200-acre watershed project. The goal of this project is to restore water quality in the watershed. Various Best Management Practices will be applied by landowners and homeowners to address all non-point source polluting activities. The Vermilion SWCD formed a partnership with thirteen other entities to assist in this initiative. EPA funding has been requested to collect surface water quality data from at least five locations to identify "hot spots" for nonpoint source pollution. The Coulee Baton Microwatershed plan can be accessed on NRCS's Web site at www.la.nrcs.usda.gov under the word "Programs" at the top of the page on the main menu or navigation menu; then select the words "Small Watershed" on the sub menu.



NRCS has completed the Red Bayou Watershed Project Plan/Environmental Assessment in Caddo Parish. The project will transfer irrigation water from the Red River into Red Bayou for use by farmers on 10,700 acres of cropland. The project will eliminate the need for pumping groundwater and improve the productivity of the land during seasonal droughts.

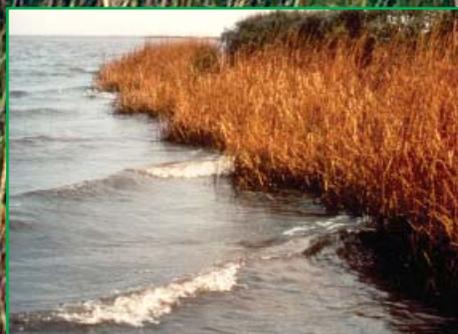
Soil and Water Conservation Districts

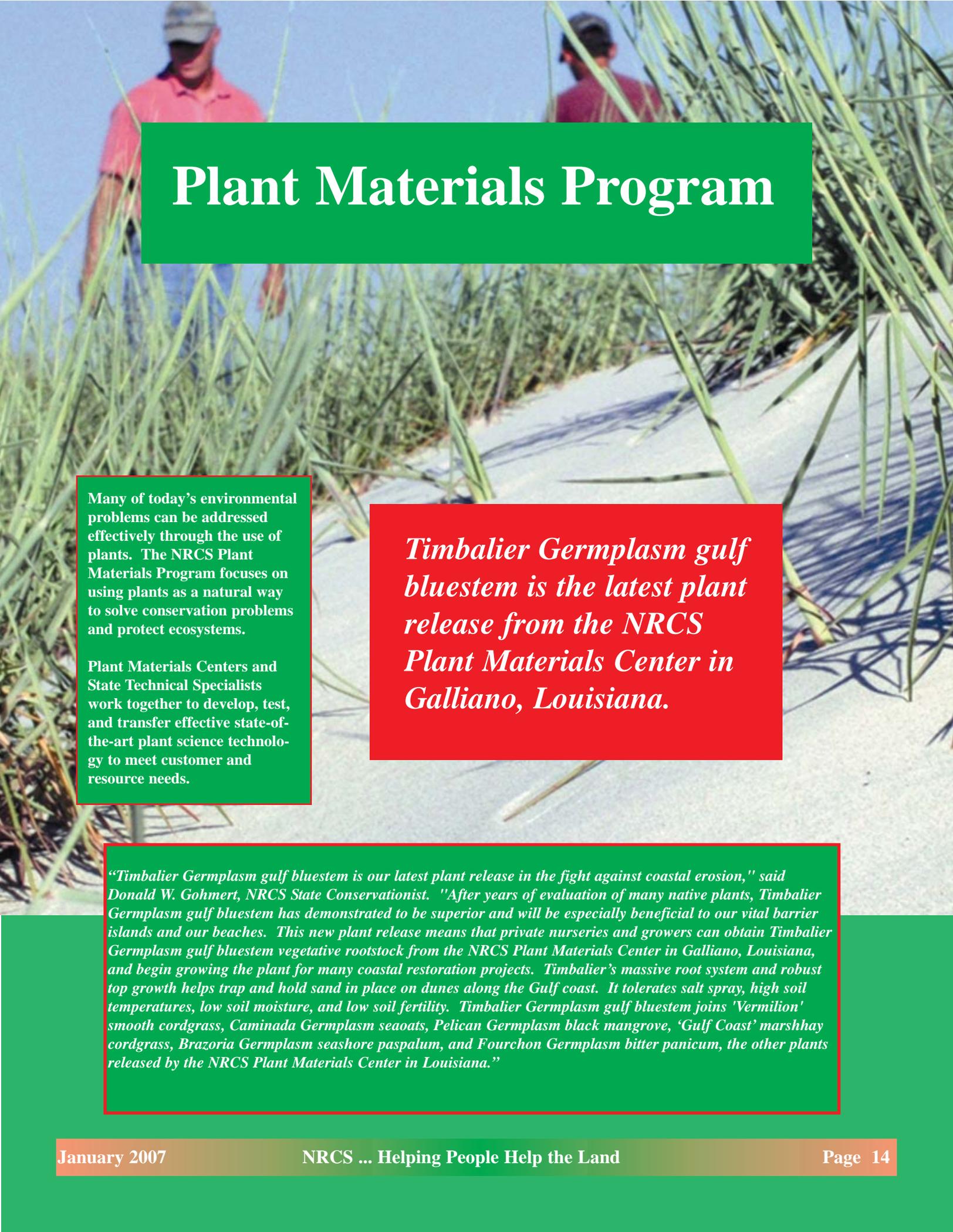


Louisiana has 44 local soil and water conservation districts. Soil and water conservation districts are legal subdivisions of state government that coordinate and help administer natural resource conservation programs within their respective boundaries. Conservation districts promote soil and water conservation work at the local level in every parish of the state through their conservation programs and outreach efforts.

Every year, soil and water conservation districts revegetate over 30 miles of shorelines and other areas along the coast! The revegetation program is a joint Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) program. Most of the funding for the program is from DNR. The program is staffed and managed by LDAF. SWCD and NRCS employees provide technical support for the program. The partnership has resulted in impressive results:

- **Over 400 miles of shoreline and interior coastal marsh vegetation has been planted through this program!**





Plant Materials Program

Many of today's environmental problems can be addressed effectively through the use of plants. The NRCS Plant Materials Program focuses on using plants as a natural way to solve conservation problems and protect ecosystems.

Plant Materials Centers and State Technical Specialists work together to develop, test, and transfer effective state-of-the-art plant science technology to meet customer and resource needs.

Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem is the latest plant release from the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Galliano, Louisiana.

"Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem is our latest plant release in the fight against coastal erosion," said Donald W. Gohmert, NRCS State Conservationist. "After years of evaluation of many native plants, Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem has demonstrated to be superior and will be especially beneficial to our vital barrier islands and our beaches. This new plant release means that private nurseries and growers can obtain Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem vegetative rootstock from the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Galliano, Louisiana, and begin growing the plant for many coastal restoration projects. Timbalier's massive root system and robust top growth helps trap and hold sand in place on dunes along the Gulf coast. It tolerates salt spray, high soil temperatures, low soil moisture, and low soil fertility. Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem joins 'Vermilion' smooth cordgrass, Caminada Germplasm sea oats, Pelican Germplasm black mangrove, 'Gulf Coast' marshhay cordgrass, Brazoria Germplasm seashore paspalum, and Fourchon Germplasm bitter panicum, the other plants released by the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Louisiana."

NRCS Plant Materials Center



The NRCS Plant Materials Center is located on 90 acres of land near Galliano and Golden Meadow, Louisiana.

The Center began as an idea to respond to



the catastrophic deterioration of coastal wetlands by using improved plant technology.

In 1986, through a cooperative effort of the Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, Lafourche-Terrebonne Soil and Water Conservation District, NRCS, DNR, and EPA, the Louisiana Marshlands Plant Materials Laboratory was established. The lab consisted of 15 field/ponds completed on the site.

The laboratory was dedicated as the NRCS Plant Materials Center (PMC) in August 1991.

Today, the PMC has three greenhouses, 26 ponds used for evaluation and increase of marsh plants, and 11 fields used for other evaluations.



Plant releases from the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Louisiana:

- ‘Vermilion’ smooth cordgrass
- Caminada Germplasm seaots
- Pelican Germplasm black mangrove
- ‘Gulf Coast’ marshhay cordgrass
- Timbalier Germplasm gulf bluestem
- Brazoria Germplasm seashore paspalum
- Fourchon Germplasm bitter panicum

The NRCS Plant Materials Center in Galliano, Louisiana:

- Develops improved plants that will persist in changing coastal marsh environments.
- Develops cultural techniques for the successful establishment and use of improved plants.
- Provides material for the commercial production of improved plant materials.
- Develops and transfers effective plant science technology.
- Promotes the use of proven plant materials.
- Cooperates with many partners including the Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program.

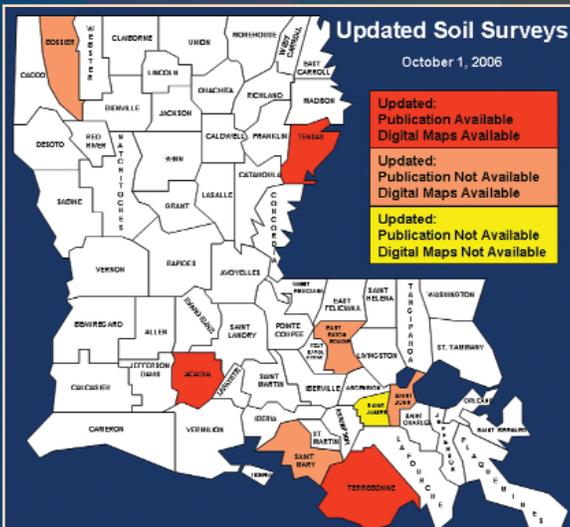
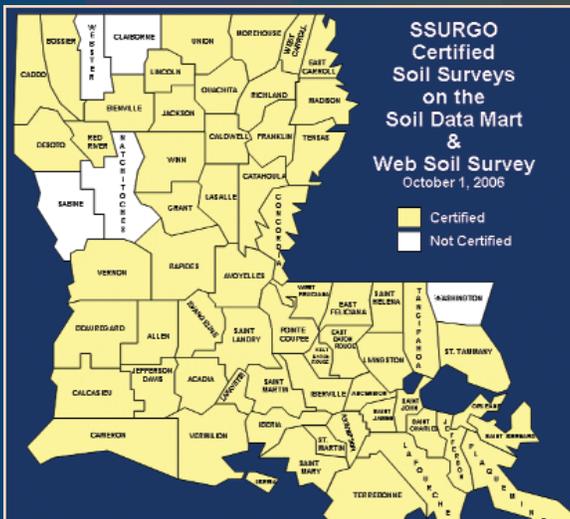
Soil Survey and Soil Services

Soil surveys furnish soil maps and interpretations needed in giving technical assistance to farmers and ranchers; in guiding decisions about soil selection, use, and management; and in planning research and disseminating the results of research. The surveys also are used in educational programs about soil use and conservation.

A soil survey published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that is still in print can be requested from the state or local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. In addition, many libraries keep published soil surveys on file for reference.

As time passes, the data in published surveys become dated. The official information about the soils in a given area is available from the Soil Data Mart, which provides the most current data about the soils. If spatial data are available, the Web Soil Survey also provides access to the most current information. It is an interface that allows the user to define an area of interest, to view and print a soil map, to assess soil data about the area, and to obtain information about the suitability of the soils for selected uses.

Web Soil Survey..... <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
 Soil Data Mart..... <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/>
 Printed Soil Surveys..... http://soils.usda.gov/survey/printed_surveys/



Cross section of Crowley Silt Loam in Acadia Parish.

Resource Conservation and Development

The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program, approved by Congress in 1962, is designed to assist resource development and environmental protection in multi-parish and multi-county areas. RC&D areas are led by councils made up of community leaders and local officials that help provide practical solutions for land management, conservation, water management, and community development.



The Northeast Delta RC&D donated hardwood seedlings to the town of Columbia, Louisiana, to help the "Mainstreet" Program celebrate Arbor Day and to help the Caldwell Parish beautification effort.



The Clifton Choctaw Nursery Project involved Resource Conservation and Development, NRCS, Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and the Clifton Choctaw Tribe. Tribal members worked with the Twin Valley RC&D to establish common buttonbush seedlings on six WRP sites in Natchitoches and Rapides Parishes covering 781 acres of land. Adult stands of common buttonbush provide valuable cover and related benefits to waterfowl and other forms of wildlife.

Louisiana Native Plant Initiative



The *Louisiana Native Plant Initiative (LNPI)* is a cooperative effort to help conserve a vanishing natural resource in Louisiana.

Public and private land managers around the state have a growing interest to utilize locally adapted native plant materials for restoration, conservation, and revegetation projects.

Many restoration projects in Louisiana have failed or been unable to proceed because of the lack of commercially available sources of plant material that are adapted to the state.



Working groups within *LNPI* will identify resource areas, develop species list for seed collections, establish seed increase sites, develop relationships to promote commercial production, and develop partnerships to establish future funding needs.

Down the road *LNPI* will be conserving a vanishing natural resource and providing an essential step in the development of a native plant industry whereby commercial growers can supply Louisiana adapted plant material for restoration, revegetation, roadside plantings, and the ornamental plant industry.



Memorandums of Understanding have been signed to establish partnerships among the Coastal Plain Conservancy, McNeese State University, USGS National Wetlands Research Center, Nicholls State University, Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Seed collections have been initiated and seed increase fields are being developed.



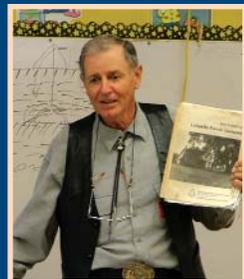
The Earth Team

Since 1981, NRCS has provided an opportunity for volunteers to use their talents and abilities on behalf of conservation. These volunteers are known as the “Earth Team.”
This past year, 542 volunteers donated 31,078 hours with the NRCS Earth Team in Louisiana!



Want to become an Earth Team volunteer?

To become an Earth Team volunteer you must be 14 years of age or older. Contact any office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.





“A Partner in Conservation Since 1935”

Time Line

September 19, 1933 - Soil Erosion Service is created as a temporary agency in the Department of Interior to demonstrate practical conservation methods to farmers.

March 11, 1934 - A fierce windstorm from the Great Plains sweeps fine soil particles across areas as far away as Washington, D.C. Congress decides action must be taken immediately to reduce erosion.

April 27, 1935 - The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) is established in the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help private landowners carry out soil conservation practices.

February 27, 1937 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt urges governors to enact conservation district law that will allow landowners to organize conservation districts.

November 9, 1938 - Feliciana becomes the first soil and water conservation district organized in Louisiana. It is located near Baton Rouge.

December 22, 1944 - Flood Control Act of 1944 authorizes 11 flood prevention projects and the Emergency Watershed Protection Program to help protect lives and property following natural disasters.

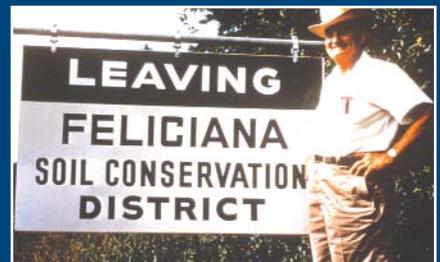
July 25, 1946 - National Association of Conservation Districts founded in Chicago.

August 1954 - The Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act is enacted to help communities protect, improve, and develop watersheds.

September 27, 1962 - The Resource Conservation and Development Program is created to advance community development and environmental protection in multi-county areas.

December 23, 1985 - The 1985 Farm Bill requires landowners to carry out their conservation plans to receive USDA conservation program benefits.

October 20, 1994 - Soil Conservation Service changes its name to the Natural Resources Conservation Service to reflect its efforts to conserve natural resources.



USDA - NRCS Office Directory

Louisiana



Field Office	Telephone Number	Field Office	Telephone Number
Abbeville	(337) 893-5664 Ext. 3	Lake Providence	(318) 559-2604 Ext. 3
Addis	(225) 687-2184 Ext. 3	Leesville	(337) 239-2193 Ext. 3
Alexandria	(318) 473-7856 Ext. 3	Mansfield	(318) 872-4949 Ext. 3
Amite	(985) 748-8751 Ext. 3	Many	(318) 256-3491
Bastrop	(318) 283-7626 Ext. 3	Marksville	(318) 253-9445 Ext. 3
Benton	(318) 965-2185 Ext. 3	Minden	(318) 377-3950 Ext.3
Clinton	(225) 683-5496 Ext. 3	Monroe	(318) 343-4467 Ext. 3
Colfax	(318) 627-9903 Ext. 3	Natchitoches	(318) 357-8366 Ext. 3
Columbia	(318) 649-2651 Ext. 3	New Iberia	(337) 369-6623 Ext. 3
Coushatta	(318) 932-4352 Ext. 3	New Orleans (Boutte)	(985) 758-2162 Ext. 3
Crowley	(337) 783-1257 Ext. 3	New Roads	(225) 638-7746 Ext. 3
Denham Springs	(225) 664-1430 Ext. 3	Oak Grove	(318) 428-9303 Ext. 3
DeRidder	(337) 463-8555 Ext. 3	Oberlin	(337) 639-4850 Ext. 3
Donaldsonville	(225) 473-7638 Ext. 3	Opelousas	(337) 942-2530 Ext. 3
Farmerville	(318) 368-8021	Rayville	(318) 728-4451 Ext. 3
Ferriday	(318) 757-2455 Ext. 3	Ruston	(318) 255-3136 Ext. 3
Franklin	(337) 828-1461 Ext. 3	Shreveport	(318) 676-3461 Ext. 3
Franklinton	(985) 839-5688 Ext. 3	St. Joseph	(318) 766-3502 Ext. 3
Jennings	(337) 824-0975 Ext. 3	Tallulah	(318) 574-4158 Ext. 3
Jonesville	(318) 339-4239 Ext. 3	Thibodaux	(985) 447-3871 Ext. 3
Lafayette	(337) 262-6601 Ext. 3	Ville Platte	(337) 363-6602 Ext. 3
Lake Charles	(337) 436-5020 Ext. 3	Winnsboro	(318) 435-6743 Ext. 3

Natural Resource Facts--Louisiana:

- The state bird is the brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*).
- The state wildflower is the La. Iris (*Iris giganticaerulea*).
- The state amphibian is the green tree frog (*Hyla cinerea*).
- The state crustacean is the crawfish (*Procamberus sp.*).
- The state fish is the white perch, white crappie, or "sac-au-lait" (*Pomoxis annularis*).



Louisiana Secretary of State Office

More Louisiana Facts:

- Louisiana's surface area totals 31,376,800 acres.
- There are about 3.8 million acres of water in Louisiana.
- Approximately 79 percent of Louisiana's land is rural.
- There are over 13 million acres of forest land in Louisiana.

NRCS National Resources Inventory



*The Natural Resources Conservation Service is an agency of
the United States Department of Agriculture.*

For more information, please contact:

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