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IN REPLY REFER TO:

D18 (DSC-P)  
ATTR NHA

August 28, 2009

## **Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Management Plan Public Scoping Comment Analysis Report**

### **SUMMARY**

The official public scoping comment period for the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ATTR) Management Plan opened on June 13, 2008 and closed on August 31, 2008. Comments received through July 28, 2009 are included in this summary. Comments were received via either 1) hardcopy form from the newsletter mailing, 2) directly input into the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) system by the respondent, 3) were received via email, or 4) were recorded during the eight public scoping meetings held on June 23rd (Baton Rouge), June 24th (Lafayette & Vidalia), June 25th (Breau Bridge & Eunice), June 26th (New Iberia & Patterson), and June 27th (Houma), 2008. The majority of the respondents were from Louisiana; other respondents were from California, Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, and Virginia.

During the official comment period we received 182 correspondences to include the comments recorded at the eight public meetings, overall yielding 1106 total comments.

The following is a brief overview of the comments made by respondents, broken down by topic question provided on the comment forms that were submitted with newsletter #1 in June 2008. This overview was also provided in newsletter #2 in February 2009. During the analysis process, most of these topics were further broken down into several "subtopics." For a more detailed look at comments in this regard please scroll down to the section titled, "Full Comment Listing Sorted by Assigned Code(s)."

All comments that were received are provided below as sent in order to maintain the integrity of the comment. The correspondences can also be viewed in full, with the exception of commenter names and contact information, on the PEPC website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/sero>, and click on "Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Management Plan"). The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Commission and the National Park Service greatly appreciate the participation of many individuals and organizations during the public scoping period of the management planning

process. The scoping comments will provide a solid foundation for the planning and development of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Management Plan.

### *What do you value about the heritage area?*

Not surprisingly, since the majority of newsletter respondents and open house attendees were from parishes within the national heritage area, most people believe the heritage area is special because of the **natural resources or setting which includes the flora, wildlife, views, natural quiet, and undeveloped areas** in and around the heritage area. In addition, respondents said they value the **history and the unique cultural resources** found in the heritage area such as **the various languages, food, music, stories and architecture** and acknowledged a need to **preserve and interpret** these outstanding resources. They also stated that they **value the people** within the heritage area.

Many also noted how much they value the **visitor and recreation opportunities** available in the heritage area. They emphasized their love and lifelong experiences **fishing, crawfishing, hunting, boating, canoeing, kayaking and camping** in the Atchafalaya Basin. They expressed how much they value the **close proximity and ease of access** to these resources and recreational opportunities.

Many respondents shared their personal connections and their family histories that occurred within the Atchafalaya Basin. For this reason, many stated that they highly value the **Atchafalaya Basin and Louisiana history**. They take great **pride in their state**.

Other special values of the heritage area included:

- **Quiet** and opportunities for **solitude**. Visitors value being able to “get away” from the noise and intrusions of daily life and enjoy being able to “slow down” and be close to nature. The heritage area provides a place of serenity, peace and relaxation.
- The value of the **heritage area designation** and what it means by way of the level of education and interpretation of the history and culture, and the preservation of both the cultural and natural resources within the Atchafalaya Basin.

### *What concerns do you have about the heritage area?*

The most frequently mentioned topic of concern was related to **the amount of trash and litter** found within the heritage area. The current lack of maintenance and upkeep with the heritage area were often cited as frustrating factors. Many people identified the lack of public and local residents’ understanding of the importance of the unique cultural and natural resources within the heritage area. They recognized a need for generating an increase in ancestral and cultural awareness in local citizens as well as educating local residents of the benefits of preserving their natural and cultural resources.

**Diminished water quality, increased siltation and the general loss of natural resources** were frequently mentioned as problems. Many people felt that intervention by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, oil and gas exploration and drilling, and logging activities have drastically changed the waterways causing siltation, pollution, an abundance of invasive species, a lack of natural flooding, and poor water quality. They expressed the need to restore the natural waterways and improve the water quality.

The **level of development and commercialization** of the heritage areas was another major concern. People felt that the heritage area provides a refuge from change and development and appreciate the limited presence of commercial development. But some are concerned that future development could diminish open space and that more commercial activities would detract from their experience.

One of the most frequently mentioned concerns was for the future funding of the heritage area. Concerns included the lack of funding for maintenance, staffing, and special projects. They expressed fear of enforcement of strict land use policies on sportsmen, the loss of private property rights, and interference from politicians and special interest groups.

**Maintaining public access and a variety of recreation opportunities** was of interest to many. These opportunities include hunting, recreational and commercial fishing, crawfishing, developing boating, kayaking and canoeing routes, creating trails for walking, hiking and biking, and establishing areas for camping both on the ground and floating. Respondents also mentioned a desire to provide swamp tours, hold more fairs and festivals, and an expansion of ecotourism.

**What issues or concerns do you believe the General Management Plan should address?**

The most frequently mentioned topic was **the protection, preservation, and conservation of the heritage area's natural resources and biodiversity**. Specifically, respondents mentioned the need to protect the remaining cypress trees, restore the natural waterways and water quality, remove invasive species and preserve the native plant and animal species.

Respondents would like to see the **protection and interpretation of the heritage area's unique cultural resources**. Many specifically mentioned preserving the Cajun, Creole and French languages, as well as the stories that are being lost between generations. They want to share their food, music and architecture with local youth and visitors.

Some people wanted to see **more hiking, biking and walking trail connections** in the heritage area to increase the diversity of recreation and access opportunities. In addition, some asked for new or different opportunities for **camping**, including on the ground and floating. There were also numerous comments on **improving and installing more boat**

**ramps, parking areas, restrooms, museums, and visitor centers.** People also expressed an interest in a greater number of **interpretive/education programs** about the heritage area's history, and cultural and natural resources.

Other topics mentioned included the need to **increase funding and not over-develop or over-commercialize the heritage area**, especially as a means to generate revenue. The protection of natural resources should be paramount.

Other concerns mentioned included the need to establish a long-term strategy in the general management plan for **heritage area partnerships and stewardship opportunities**. Partnership and stewardship opportunities need to support complementary heritage area and partner objectives and facilitate a mutual concern, care, and commitment to heritage area resources. The heritage area also needs to **improve coordination** with adjacent landowners, local communities, and area agencies in order to fully protect the heritage area's resources.

Many noted the need to **reach out to local residents** to make them aware of and connect them to the heritage area, increasing ancestral and cultural awareness as well as the understanding of the importance of protecting and preserving the area's natural resources and biodiversity. The need to make the heritage area recognizable and clarify its identity as part of the national heritage area system, as well as provide consistency among the regulations of adjacent public lands was also expressed.

## **Full Comment Listing Sorted by Assigned Code(s)**

### **IC100 ISSUES - Cultural resource issues**

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99289

Comment Text: Totally unbalanced in favor of the "Cajun Culture" as opposed to providing a true balance with the "Creole Culture" and other cultures.

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88731

Comment Text: That the indigenous tribes of SW Louisiana are not included.

Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86710

Comment Text: Increasing population with increased destruction of habitat. Loss of coastline, loss of historic properties.

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88646

Comment Text: We are not protecting the historic sites.

### **IC101 Lack of knowledge about our cultural resources and/or natural heritage**

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99225

Comment Text: It's being lost, we need to educate our children in school about our heritage and how they can learn to enjoy and save it.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99215

Comment Text: The homogenation of culture, the apathy of the youth about their culture and the ignorance about the trials and tribulations of the Acadians cause despair to one who loves this unique culture.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99087

Comment Text: That the national culture of living a completely indoor, virtual world will overwhelm the communities and they'll lose their connection to their land and natural heritage.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

### **IC102 Loss of our cultural heritage and/or language(s)**

Correspondence Id: 179 Comment Id: 99293

Comment Text: Need more events. The Catholic Church-sponsored events along the neighborhood bayous are gone. The culture is on the bayous. Concerned that they are

losing the bayou culture. [Stated in French and then translated] "We don't want it to look professional, we want it to look real."

Commenter: Houma Public Meeting - additional comments N/A

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99219

Comment Text: The gradual erosion of the unique Atchafalaya culture (its language and its way of life) is a true concern. We cannot allow over-development of the land. We cannot allow any more watering down of this wonderful culture by including recent immigrants' language and culture. Keep it French!

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88691

Comment Text: Being lost as a culture

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86710

Comment Text: Increasing population with increased destruction of habitat. Loss of coastline, loss of historic properties.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86509

Comment Text: Current concerns: that natural and cultural resources critical to the character of the basin will be gone before a plan is implemented to preserve them.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86487

Comment Text: The loss of this language and an appreciation for its place in our state's history has been a grave concern for me. The French language has been suffering a slow and painful death in recent history and this is sure to be precipitated and finalized by the modern-day influx of the Hispanic population.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86501

Comment Text: Destruction of natural and historic resources, lack of public access to many areas.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86574

Comment Text: Too much time has elapsed and most of the residents in preserving historic sites - people who have lived and made their living in the Atchafalaya Basin will not live to give the first person true stories - then stories of the Area will be handed down in some false fashion or made-to-create a false image of people and places.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88480

Comment Text: That we'll let it slip away and not preserve it for future generations.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99215

Comment Text: The homogenation of culture, the apathy of the youth about their culture and the ignorance about the trials and tribulations of the Acadians cause dispair to one who loves this unique culture.

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99220

Comment Text: Without the preservation of the language, the culture is neither complete nor vital. It is not completely authentic, and, thus, does not show a true picture of the heritage of this area.

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99255

Comment Text: That there will not be proper funding to develop educational programs and to properly document its history and that the land in the area will be overdeveloped and lost along with the cultures of the people who settled the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99225

Comment Text: It's being lost, we need to educate our children in school about our heritage and how they can learn to enjoy and save it.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

## **IG100 Too much trash/litter/pollution**

Correspondence Id: 181 Comment Id: 99300

Comment Text: Then we have all of these businesses and governments using throw away packaging, containers to replace bottles, and the result id giant landfills and oceans and the gulf of Mexico full of debris.

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99268

Comment Text: The abuse of the area by the ignorant and outsiders. The commercial plunderers who manipulate laws and lawmakers for personal gain at the expense of ANHA. The trash - more signage - dark green with gold lettering (blending) warning about littering. "Don't mess in our Nest."

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99238

Comment Text: My current concern is about pollution of the Basin by people and chemicals.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99117

Comment Text: Pollutants in the water from the northern states.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99084

Comment Text: 1) Litter and industrial abandoned oil/gas installations. 2) Lack of a cohesive, coordinated public plan to sustain ecosystem, resulting in (sometimes) spectacular and damaging resource management blunders (i.e., logging active swallow-tailed kite breeding colony on public land).

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88684

Comment Text: Trash - we need a state-wide push to stop not only trash but dumping of tires and appliances in rural areas

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88598

Comment Text: Areas which are not kept clean

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88551

Comment Text: Try harder to keep the people from littering the waterways

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86975

Comment Text: The litter that is always there - EVERYONE needs to be part of a non-litter environment.

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86988

Comment Text: The trash that is thrown along our highways.

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87001

Comment Text: People not respecting our heritage - not keeping it clean.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88435

Comment Text: People treating it like a dumping ground.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88441

Comment Text: There is too much trash.

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88448

Comment Text: I don't enjoy untidy banks in people's yards, trash floating, impassable log jams and poor water quality for fishing and swimming.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88474

Comment Text: Destruction by development and ruin by trailer homes and litter

Organization: White Hall Plantation House



Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88477

Comment Text: Trash on the roadsides

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88484

Comment Text: The people who "trash" such a treasure. Once destroyed it can be fined but never, never like it was. The trash that is left will remain for years. Four-wheelers should be banned in such areas, they destroy fragile wetlands.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86474

Comment Text: Fast boats, air boats, litter and clear-cut logging.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86494

Comment Text: All the evidence of self-serving humanity - the traces of logging wheels, the canals dug by oil exploration, the ongoing problem with litter - is disturbing to me.

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86540

Comment Text: Trash

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86673

Comment Text: Litter

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86707

Comment Text: The trash!

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86718

Comment Text: Trash along our bayous and roads.

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86720

Comment Text: Also litter - stop litter; why do people trash where we live.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86750

Comment Text: The cleaning of water areas and less trash dumping. The grass problem. I would like to see the Corps put pumps in the Red River and pump water into Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86756

Comment Text: Trash, litter, air boats

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 45    Comment Id: 86757

Comment Text: Mandatory garbage pick up in each parish, litter education, build on tourist industry - culture, crafts, architecture, history, etc.

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 46    Comment Id: 86762

Comment Text: The trash left by fishermen. There is no place in the Basin that is free of cans, boxes, bottles, etc. Shameful!

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 47    Comment Id: 86768

Comment Text: The litter and trash in the scenic area and man's disregard of the natural beauty to profitize every square mile.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 53    Comment Id: 86814

Comment Text: Peoples' little regard for the area such as littering, access is being restricted by siltation and growth.

Correspondence Id: 61    Comment Id: 86856

Comment Text: Environmentally: we should try our best to restrict, through enforcement of laws and regulations, to the highest degree to prevent pollution from making its way in and into this preserve, whether by natural means or by human error: i.e., chemicals: air and water borne, trash, waste materials, substances, etc. - this is evident along our beautiful highways and in and around the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 64    Comment Id: 86876

Comment Text: When I see trash at the boat landing areas and anywhere else.

Correspondence Id: 65    Comment Id: 86882

Comment Text: When you see areas that are littered or growth that is totally haphazard.

Correspondence Id: 70    Comment Id: 86916

Comment Text: The trash left by the oil industry, wells no longer in use, rusting away into the water to be hit by a boat or a kid waterskiing!

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72    Comment Id: 86938

Comment Text: Needs to be kept clean, use money wisely, not like to see industrial development, oil rigs, commercialism, no Wal-Mart, etc.

Correspondence Id: 111    Comment Id: 88589

Comment Text: Most parts are inaccessible and of course, litter ruins the picture. Both are easy to improve.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, ovrking for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic pants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress tress are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88707

Comment Text: Presence of garbage and refuse when water levels are low.

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99109

Comment Text: The pollution, trash, and oil & gas junk left behind.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99187

Comment Text: People not caring, littering all over.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 181 Comment Id: 99299

Comment Text: Nature is not the "enemy" and nature is not really able to negotiate a "peace" with either us or the Corps of Engineers. Whenever natural systems are modified, such as the creation of the shipping channel in the mouth of the Mississippi river or the Atchafalaya floodway and Nature is expected to respond favorably to the designs and projections that were developed back in the planning office then problems appear that were not anticipated. These same types of problems happen when industry builds an oil refinery, chemical plant, paper mill or power plant. Up until recently the engineers and corporate managers figured out what they wanted to build and operate and where to build the facility. What they have not quite figured out how do is to consider things outside of their fence line. Originally if they had a waste generation then their solution was to get the waste off of their property. This led to massive dumping of some extremely toxic and hazardous waste into the air and rivers, streams and lakes. Some clever engineers figured that injecting waste down wells would get the "problem" away from the facility and out of sight. Only in the last twenty years has industry begun to take these problems seriously. The failures of the mining and oil and gas drilling industries in this and other countries is a much longer discussion.

#### **IG101 Development (over-development, encroaching, or unregulated)**

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99255

Comment Text: That there will not be proper funding to develop educational programs and to properly document its history and that the land in the area will be overdeveloped and lost along with the cultures of the people who settled the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86935

Comment Text: The silting in of the Atchafalaya swamp and coastal erosion from oilfield canals. The plan (and impact) to build a huge highway around Baton Rouge.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86524

Comment Text: I hate to see the level of development that's occurring in the Basin today. Areas that were wild and open to the public not too long ago are becoming suburbs for people who want to live in the Basin, but want to change the Basin to make it look like the city neighborhoods they fled from.

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86527

Comment Text: I worry that a few private citizens will put their personal interests ahead of the interests of the many. I worry that people who see the Basin as plots of land instead of a national treasure will wipe out the uniqueness of the Basin and replace it with something that they could easily find a million times over anywhere else. I worry that the short-sighted will make decisions to the long-term detriment of the area. I am

afraid that when my son is my age, there will be nothing left but regrets that we didn't do something to save the Basin while we still had the chance. I worry that the Basin will be gone like Cajun French will be gone.

Correspondence Id: 9    Comment Id: 86532  
Comment Text: Unregulated or ill-planned development.

Correspondence Id: 13    Comment Id: 86543  
Comment Text: Development both residential and industrial

Correspondence Id: 10    Comment Id: 86547  
Comment Text: Private development of the area, clear-cutting of forests, and a general lack of public access along levees and public roads are what OAS members enjoy least.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11    Comment Id: 86559  
Comment Text: Private development of the area and clear-cutting of forests are two things we like least.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 50    Comment Id: 86797  
Comment Text: Commercialism of the Basin area properties: I am concerned about some possible urbanization of some of the higher properties of the Atchafalaya Basin.  
Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 65    Comment Id: 86885  
Comment Text: That some day willy nilly uncontrollable development would destroy the serenity and beauty of the area.

Correspondence Id: 71    Comment Id: 86926  
Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 2    Comment Id: 86482  
Comment Text: Over development is my biggest concern.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 14    Comment Id: 86515  
Comment Text: Funding resources and over-development which would destroy the uniqueness of the area which is symbolic of Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86938

Comment Text: Needs to be kept clean, use money wisely, not like to see industrial development, oil rigs, commercialism, no Wal-Mart, etc.

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99219

Comment Text: The gradual erosion of the unique Atchafalaya culture (its language and its way of life) is a true concern. We cannot allow over-development of the land. We cannot allow any more watering down of this wonderful culture by including recent immigrants' language and culture. Keep it French!

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88522

Comment Text: Logging and other development activities  
Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88478

Comment Text: Commercial development not in keeping with the area.  
Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88417

Comment Text: Any human development

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99203

Comment Text: 1) Sprawl development, encroaching big box chains 2) Mega-mansion developments swallowing towns 3) Junked oil installations, lack of cohesive natural [can't read] sustainability plan.

## **IG102 Oil development/exploration (and the issues associated with . . .)**

Correspondence Id: 181 Comment Id: 99299

Comment Text: Nature is not the "enemy" and nature is not really able to negotiate a "peace" with either us or the Corps of Engineers. Whenever natural systems are modified, such as the creation of the shipping channel in the mouth of the Mississippi river or the Atchafalaya floodway and Nature is expected to respond favorably to the designs and projections that were developed back in the planning office then problems appear that were not anticipated. These same types of problems happen when industry builds an oil refinery, chemical plant, paper mill or power plant. Up until recently the engineers and corporate managers figured out what they wanted to build and operate and where to build the facility. What they have not quite figured out how do is to consider things outside of their fence line. Originally if they had a waste generation then their solution was to get the waste off of their property. This led to massive dumping of some extremely toxic and hazardous waste into the air and rivers, streams and lakes. Some clever engineers figured that injecting waste down wells would get the "problem"

away from the facility and out of sight. Only in the last twenty years has industry begun to take these problems seriously. The failures of the mining and oil and gas drilling industries in this and other countries is a much longer discussion.

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99173

Comment Text: Waste companies and pipeline companies continue to destroy the water quality of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99167

Comment Text: The destruction by mineral (oil) exploration and subdivision, campsites destroying the natural beauty of the area.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99131

Comment Text: Oil industry destruction of natural waterways and wetlands and high noise from air boats.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99109

Comment Text: The pollution, trash, and oil & gas junk left behind.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88639

Comment Text: That business concerns (oil and gas industry) will destroy the area due to USA dependence (I am not suggesting windmills in the swamp)

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88543

Comment Text: That private landowners are permitted to privatize water bodies and destroy cypress forests for their own profit and enjoyment and that oil companies are not held responsible for the spoil piles they created.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86938

Comment Text: Needs to be kept clean, use money wisely, not like to see industrial development, oil rigs, commercialism, no Wal-Mart, etc.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86494

Comment Text: All the evidence of self-serving humanity - the traces of logging wheels, the canals dug by oil exploration, the ongoing problem with litter - is disturbing to me.

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86529

Comment Text: The intrusion of canals and spoil banks associated with oil and gas production.

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86530

Comment Text: More careful management of oil and gas production, enforcement of regulations and permit restrictions pertaining thereto.

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86612

Comment Text: Oil companies, loggers, and all the other idiots that take but don't give back.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86730

Comment Text: No drilling! Keep it wild.

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86793

Comment Text: My least favorite thing about the heritage area is the commercialism of some of the areas of the Basin. Oil companies have come in and drilled and cut passes throughout the Basin causing some natural siltation and blockages of natural passageways.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86895

Comment Text: Its use of commercial interest, shipping, and oil interest.

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86898

Comment Text: The continued destruction of the Basin by the oil and shipping interests. Corps of Engineers.

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86904

Comment Text: Longterm monitoring plan on health of fish needed, as it is likely there will be no limit on drilling.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86905

Comment Text: Oil and gas exploration and drilling. Landowners not cooperating with fed and state agency recommendations.

Organization: USGS NWRC



Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86916

Comment Text: The trash left by the oil industry, wells no longer in use, rusting away into the water to be hit by a boat or a kid waterskiing!

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86917

Comment Text: How the oil field cut right-of-ways and shortcuts in the swam with no supervision whatsoever. The oil industry has really messed up the area. We lose so much land every day thanks to them. Politicians are afraid to stand up. What the oil industry didn't mess up, then we have the Army Corps of Engineers.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86926

Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86929

Comment Text: Oil and gas activities should be stringently managed to minimize local environment and degradation.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86935

Comment Text: The silting in of the Atchafalaya swamp and coastal erosion from oilfield canals. The plan (and impact) to build a huge highway around Baton Rouge.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 91 Comment Id: 88455

Comment Text: It has been abused by oil field type of work. Talking about the Basin area.

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88578

Comment Text: Oil and gas development (exploration and production) unregulated!

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99084

Comment Text: 1) Litter and industrial abandoned oil/gas installations. 2) Lack of a cohesive, coordinated public plan to sustain ecosystem, resulting in (sometimes) spectacular and damaging resource management blunders (i.e., logging active swallow-tailed kite breeding colony on public land).

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99112

Comment Text: That the oil & gas industry will use the Basin as a trash heap.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99134

Comment Text: Continued oilfield destruction of natural waterways in the basin.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99203

Comment Text: 1) Sprawl development, encroaching big box chains 2) Mega-mansion developments swallowing towns 3) Junked oil installations, lack of cohesive natural [can't read] sustainability plan.

### **IG103 Too much traffic**

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86708

Comment Text: Not see - increased pollution, increased traffic, increased destruction of woodlands

### **IG104 Lack of interest by state and/or federal government**

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86941

Comment Text: Not used enough. Federal and state protection may be dropped or compromised!

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86765

Comment Text: Lack of interest by federal government, especially current President.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86782

Comment Text: Political people always want your vote but never live up to their promises.

### **IG105 Too much commercialism/exploitation**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99271

Comment Text: That the commercial and corporate usage will continue to erode the area. The hurricane protection areas should be protected. My family once owned the Timbalier Islands; now they are commercially owned. There must be control and balance in all dealings with this delicate area.

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88556

Comment Text: Commercialization of the area without regard for culture and heritage.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86898

Comment Text: The continued destruction of the Basin by the oil and shipping interests. Corps of Engineers.

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86843

Comment Text: Too much commercialization.

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86793

Comment Text: My least favorite thing about the heritage area is the commercialism of some of the areas of the Basin. Oil companies have come in and drilled and cut passes throughout the Basin causing some natural siltation and blockages of natural passageways.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86483

Comment Text: We don't need Disneyland type tourism in the Atchafalaya because it will be the ecosystem at the short end of that stick. People are drawn to the Atchafalaya for its wildness so it should be kept that way.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86498

Comment Text: I am concerned that, in an effort to gather support for the Heritage Area and its people, many small businesses (RV parks, convenience stores, swamp tours, gator tours, hunting/fishing treks, etc) will crop up and further destroy the very resource we are trying to save.

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86797

Comment Text: Commercialism of the Basin area properties: I am concerned about some possible urbanization of some of the higher properties of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86895

Comment Text: Its use of commercial interest, shipping, and oil interest.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86938

Comment Text: Needs to be kept clean, use money wisely, not like to see industrial development, oil rigs, commercialism, no Wal-Mart, etc.

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88702  
Comment Text: That it becomes "Disneyfied."  
Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99235  
Comment Text: Its exploitation. The ways the Basin has been used without regard to its preservation. The loss of the cypress forests.  
Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

### **IG106 Lack of knowledge, understanding, and appreciation about our natural and cultural resources**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99268  
Comment Text: The abuse of the area by the ignorant and outsiders. The commercial plunderers who manipulate laws and lawmakers for personal gain at the expense of ANHA. The trash - more signage - dark green with gold lettering (blending) warning about littering. "Don't mess in our Nest."

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88664  
Comment Text: a) Public awareness of their inheritance, b) the public's willingness to protect the area's history and natural resources  
Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86978  
Comment Text: The "tourist trap" atmosphere - and the image of LA as a backwood, illiterate people; litter.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86574  
Comment Text: Too much time has elapsed and most of the residents in preserving historic sites - people who have lived and made their living in the Atchafalaya Basin will not live to give the first person true stories - then stories of the Area will be handed down in some false fashion or made-to-create a false image of people and places.  
Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88582  
Comment Text: The abuses people contribute to the area. It's taken for granted because it's "natural" and part of nature.

## IN100 ISSUES - Natural resource issues

Correspondence Id: 181 Comment Id: 99299

Comment Text: Nature is not the "enemy" and nature is not really able to negotiate a "peace" with either us or the Corps of Engineers. Whenever natural systems are modified, such as the creation of the shipping channel in the mouth of the Mississippi river or the Atchafalaya floodway and Nature is expected to respond favorably to the designs and projections that were developed back in the planning office then problems appear that were not anticipated. These same types of problems happen when industry builds an oil refinery, chemical plant, paper mill or power plant. Up until recently the engineers and corporate managers figured out what they wanted to build and operate and where to build the facility. What they have not quite figured out how do is to consider things outside of their fence line. Originally if they had a waste generation then their solution was to get the waste off of their property. This led to massive dumping of some extremely toxic and hazardous waste into the air and rivers, streams and lakes. Some clever engineers figured that injecting waste down wells would get the "problem" away from the facility and out of sight. Only in the last twenty years has industry begun to take these problems seriously. The failures of the mining and oil and gas drilling industries in this and other countries is a much longer discussion.

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99211

Comment Text: I am concerned about increased ecosystem fragmentation, or breaking down of the large areas into smaller ones, which will have a harder time recovering from impacts.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99203

Comment Text: 1) Sprawl development, encroaching big box chains 2) Mega-mansion developments swallowing towns 3) Junked oil installations, lack of cohesive natural [can't read] sustainability plan.

Correspondence Id: 162 Comment Id: 99197

Comment Text: Its current state of deterioration.

Organization: The Atchafalaya at Idlewild Golf Course

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86888

Comment Text: The mosquitoes!

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 86714

Comment Text: Erosion

Organization: Frank Beaulieu, Sr., LLC

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86869

Comment Text: Mosquitos

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99084

Comment Text: 1) Litter and industrial abandoned oil/gas installations. 2) Lack of a cohesive, coordinated public plan to sustain ecosystem, resulting in (sometimes) spectacular and damaging resource management blunders (i.e., logging active swallow-tailed kite breeding colony on public land).

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99126

Comment Text: Interest of land owners not compatible with the survival of the Atchafalaya Basin and its culture.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

## IN101 Water quality (overall)

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99223

Comment Text: It's not taken care of properly, waterways are dirty, and roadways unkempt.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99117

Comment Text: Pollutants in the water from the northern states.

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88725

Comment Text: The area where siltation and stagnated water is ruining a great portion of our beautiful swamps, rivers and bayous. Our lakes, rivers and bayous are disappearing.

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86961

Comment Text: Extreme high water

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88442

Comment Text: Water flow and water quality.

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88448

Comment Text: I don't enjoy untidy banks in people's yards, trash floating, impassable log jams and poor water quality for fishing and swimming.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88451

Comment Text: I am concerned about waterways clogging up and the water quality being unsuitable for something as basic as a cool swim or a fish fry.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88462

Comment Text: I think that the natural flow of the waters in the Basin has been interrupted by siltation, levees, land reclamation and other forces. There is an on-going feud between crawfishermen who want free access throughout the Basin and farmers whose interests lie in reclaiming land.

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88511

Comment Text: Water quality and siltation are what I see as the 2 biggest threats to the area in the future.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88676

Comment Text: The drastic change within the past 20 years in water quality, disappearance of aquatic vegetation and top feeder fish, and erosion of the shoreline.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88713

Comment Text: Algae

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86654

Comment Text: Hydrology has been altered

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86697

Comment Text: Decreasing waterways in Atchafalaya Basin, sedimentation raising floor of Basin, each flood season cypress, tupelo swamps disappearing!



Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86717

Comment Text: The water is not pure anymore. Chemical plants are polluting the waters.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86749

Comment Text: The grass problem in the waterways and the low water rate on the waters.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86750

Comment Text: The cleaning of water areas and less trash dumping. The grass problem. I would like to see the Corps put pumps in the Red River and pump water into Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86752

Comment Text: Low water level, grass problem in Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86759

Comment Text: Neglect, poor management judgement, less wild, poor water quality, siltation, too much access to public

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86831

Comment Text: Silting in, flow, water quality

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86856

Comment Text: Environmentally: we should try our best to restrict, through enforcement of laws and regulations, to the highest degree to prevent pollution from making its way in and into this preserve, whether by natural means or by human error: i.e., chemicals: air and water borne, trash, waste materials, substances, etc. - this is evident along our beautiful highways and in and around the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99094

Comment Text: Nature will take its course, leave it alone (no dikes or changes in water flows)!

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99173

Comment Text: Waste companies and pipeline companies continue to destroy the water quality of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99184

Comment Text: Since I-10 was built, it lost good fishing areas and I hate to see the constant fight with the algae. Years ago I don't remember seeing algae, especially in the Henderson area.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99180

Comment Text: That we won't institute a sound water management plan to mimic the natural ebb and flow of basin water, global climate change will permanently flood part of the basin, that invasive species empowered by warming temperatures will eradicate native flora and fauna, and that selfish interests won't work together for the good of all.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99174

Comment Text: Water quality has become a major issue. Water is low on oxygen making it difficult for fisheries to live in the water.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

## **IN102 Siltation**

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99155

Comment Text: My concern is that if we don't stop our waterways from silting up, we will have difficulties navigating our bayous.

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88549

Comment Text: Too many waterways are being silted in

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88511

Comment Text: Water quality and siltation are what I see as the 2 biggest threats to the area in the future.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86697

Comment Text: Decreasing waterways in Atchafalaya Basin, sedimentation raising floor of Basin, each flood season cypress, tupelo swamps disappearing!

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86759

Comment Text: Neglect, poor management judgement, less wild, poor water quality, siltation, too much access to public

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 49    Comment Id: 86788  
Comment Text: Sediment in the spillway (Atchafalaya).

Correspondence Id: 50    Comment Id: 86793  
Comment Text: My least favorite thing about the heritage area is the commercialism of some of the areas of the Basin. Oil companies have come in and drilled and cut passes throughout the Basin causing some natural siltation and blockages of natural passageways.  
Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 53    Comment Id: 86814  
Comment Text: Peoples' little regard for the area such as littering, access is being restricted by siltation and growth.

Correspondence Id: 56    Comment Id: 86831  
Comment Text: Silting in, flow, water quality  
Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 57    Comment Id: 86834  
Comment Text: No least, except for silt up area.  
Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 62    Comment Id: 86866  
Comment Text: The problem with silting in of the navigable waterways.  
Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 71    Comment Id: 86935  
Comment Text: The silting in of the Atchafalaya swamp and coastal erosion from oilfield canals. The plan (and impact) to build a huge highway around Baton Rouge.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 89    Comment Id: 88442  
Comment Text: Water flow and water quality.

Correspondence Id: 90    Comment Id: 88451  
Comment Text: I am concerned about waterways clogging up and the water quality being unsuitable for something as basic as a cool swim or a fish fry.  
Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 92    Comment Id: 88462  
Comment Text: I think that the natural flow of the waters in the Basin has been interrupted by siltation, levees, land reclamation and other forces. There is an on-going feud between crawfishermen who want free access throughout the Basin and farmers whose interests lie in reclaiming land.

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88494

Comment Text: All of the sand the Corps of Engineers has dumped in our waterways

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88534

Comment Text: To see how pollution has been allowed to go on to see how many of the canals and bayous are silting up.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88629

Comment Text: The silting up of natural bayous

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88728

Comment Text: If we don't do something to protect our remaining swamp we will lose all the beauty of the Basin with siltation.

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88725

Comment Text: The area where siltation and stagnant water is ruining a great portion of our beautiful swamps, rivers and bayous. Our lakes, rivers and bayous are disappearing.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88632

Comment Text: Public access and silting of waterways

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

### **IN103 Damming**

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88462

Comment Text: I think that the natural flow of the waters in the Basin has been interrupted by siltation, levees, land reclamation and other forces. There is an on-going feud between crawfishermen who want free access throughout the Basin and farmers whose interests lie in reclaiming land.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88442

Comment Text: Water flow and water quality.

### **IN104 Lack of natural flooding**

Correspondence Id: 162 Comment Id: 99200

Comment Text: It is in a stagnant condition and based on current water regime is locked in its least productive state.

Organization: The Atchafalaya at Idlewild Golf Course

Correspondence Id: 12 Comment Id: 86535

Comment Text: I would like to see more natural water going through the spillway, the Corps of Engineers have totally screwed the natural system up. We need more springtime flooding.

Correspondence Id: 12 Comment Id: 86536

Comment Text: We need more natural spring flooding like before. It increased fish populations and rejuvenated the water system.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86551

Comment Text: We would like to see the natural flood regime restored to areas of the ANHA whenever possible. For example, flow could be restored to Big Alabama Bayou and Little Alabama Bayou.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86556

Comment Text: We are also concerned that the natural flood regime is not being restored (or mimicked via controlled structures) where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86564

Comment Text: We would like to see the natural flood regime restored to areas of the ANHA whenever possible. For example, flow could be restored to Big Alabama Bayou and Little Alabama Bayou.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86569

Comment Text: We are also concerned that the natural flood regime is not being restored (or mimicked via controlled structures) where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86697

Comment Text: Decreasing waterways in Atchafalaya Basin, sedimentation raising floor of Basin, each flood season cypress, tupelo swamps disappearing!

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99193

Comment Text: Change- slipping away- water control-

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99180

Comment Text: That we won't institute a sound water management plan to mimic the natural ebb and flow of basin water, global climate change will permanently flood part of the basin, that invasive species empowered by warming temperatures will eradicate native flora and fauna, and that selfish interests won't work together for the good of all.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88462

Comment Text: I think that the natural flow of the waters in the Basin has been interrupted by siltation, levees, land reclamation and other forces. There is an on-going feud between crawfishermen who want free access throughout the Basin and farmers whose interests lie in reclaiming land.

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86831

Comment Text: Silting in, flow, water quality

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88442

Comment Text: Water flow and water quality.

### **IN105 Army Corps of Engineers intervention**

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99308

Comment Text: The U.S. Congress, the Louisiana Legislature, and the Corps of Engineers have for more than a hundred years been narrowly focused on maintaining navigation in the Mississippi River for ocean going ships. The second priority has been control of the river following the flood of 1927. Since the breach of the levees following Hurricane Katrina, which created the preventable flooding of New Orleans, and the devastation of the Gulf Coast caused by the hurricane itself, a spotlight is finally on the vulnerability of coastal areas across the country. Most of the sediment which used to be deposited in coastal Louisiana is now settling in the lakes behind the dams in the Ohio River Basin, the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and the Missouri River Basin. The smaller remaining quantity of sediment that does reach the mouth of the Mississippi River is shot out or barged out into the deeper waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Even in Louisiana the dams built on the Red River to promote barge traffic between the Atchafalaya River and Shreveport, have dramatically reduced the quantity and quality of the sediment now being deposited in Atchafalaya Bay south of Morgan City. The present channel, which the Corps of Engineers maintains in the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River is, without question, one of the most destructive activities in coastal Louisiana. This deep, and very unnatural, canal is not sustainable. The benefits versus the actual cost of maintaining the present shipping channel at the mouth of the Mississippi River needs to be clearly and fully explained to the people of the state. Our government agencies should be smart enough to develop a better system for getting

ships in and out of the Mississippi River without unnecessarily adding to the destruction of the state.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99304

Comment Text: The loss of sediment in the Mississippi River and our land losses in Louisiana are definitely related. Further, our land loss is a national problem, which requires a national solution. Many major dams and bank stabilization projects have been constructed in every river in the more than thirty states that are drained by the Mississippi River Basin. Cumulatively, these projects have dramatically reduced the amount of sediment that the Mississippi, Atchafalaya and our other delta rivers deposit in coastal Louisiana. For thousands of years these rivers moved sediment, building up the Louisiana coast. This build up has almost totally stopped. It appears that the Corps of Engineers and many other federal and state agencies have built the scores of dams and other structures upriver without proper consideration of how the resulting losses of sediment in the Mississippi River would adversely impact Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico. The Corps of Engineers has also maintained a deep-draft ship channel in the mouth of the Mississippi River for the last hundred years, which is shooting massive amounts of river sediment into the deeper waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The natural process of the river's bird foot delta system would be to deposit sediment over hundreds of miles of our coast. The artificially-deep ship channel in the mouth of the river today extends the mouth further out in the deeper waters of the Gulf of Mexico than the river has ever been. Basically the Corps has established a channel for ocean going ships that is unsustainable and very destructive to the fragile coast. Other human-induced causes of land losses in coastal Louisiana are the result of the digging and dredging of thousands of miles of canals and drilling wells, waste storage pits, pipelines, and roads through the coastal waters and wetlands. The oil and natural gas industry has for the last hundred years dumped and discharged billions of gallons of highly saline produced waters and large amounts of toxic and hazardous waste, which have damaged many thousands of acres of our coast.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99302

Comment Text: CPRA apparently believes that the Corps of Engineers should have a stronger presence in Louisiana. I believe that military control of civilian programs, like navigation and flood control, should be under the control of agencies with civilian leadership rather than the Department of Defense.

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99127

Comment Text: The fact that the Corps of Engineers are managing the Basin in a way that will destroy it reflects the sad state the Atchafalaya is in.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86726

Comment Text: Let the natural channels be, don't let the Corps of Engineers enlarge them; keep Corps of Engineers out

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86801

Comment Text: I would like to see the state have total control of areas that are controlled by the bureaucracies of the of the Corps of Engineers. Management done by a commission like the Mississippi River Commission.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86803

Comment Text: The Corps of Engineers (COE) has bought lands under the pretense of greater public access. Instead they put so many restrictions (that do not apply on any other Corps properties). That normal use, by people who have used these lands all their lives cannot. We cannot go on COE property with airboats, houseboats, PWCs. The hunting season is different than outside. They close the duck season during either male or female deer hunting which is not done anywhere else. Night time access is restricted. When Hurricane Rita was approaching our coast we begged the COE to lower the water in the Henderson area. They refused and every fish in the lake died!! It is disruptive to the eco-cycle of the swamp to hold water.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86898

Comment Text: The continued destruction of the Basin by the oil and shipping interests. Corps of Engineers.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86917

Comment Text: How the oil field cut right-of-ways and shortcuts in the swam with no supervision whatsoever. The oil industry has really messed up the area. We lose so much land every day thanks to them. Politicians are afraid to stand up. What the oil industry didn't mess up, then we have the Army Corps of Engineers.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86967

Comment Text: Trespassers and Corps of Engineers confiscating private land from unwilling landowners by means of "conservation easements" which is just another name for eminent domain. The Corps have come up with a complex formula that allows them to acquire private land for pennies on the dollar. In summary: A: Most of the rights to your land are taken from you unwillingly. B: You are paid pennies on the dollar for the loss of those rights. C: There are at least 14 "rules and regulations" that tell the landowner what can and can't be done with your own land. If you own any land anywhere (even if you are not a landowner) and read these rules and regulations, it would make the hair on the back of you neck stand up! D: You can no longer use the land for collateral, so the property value just went in the tank. E: The landowner retains the rights to oil, gas and minerals, BUT can only extract those natural resources with permission and permits from the Corps of Engineers---GOOD LUCK! The Fifth



Amendment is absolutely circumvented and the landowners stripped of their civil rights and protections provided under the law.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86971

Comment Text: Please try to understand my skepticism. If my family is not losing private property rights we are losing access to our camps when the US Army Corps of Engineers makes "improvements" to the Basin. A few years ago the Corps dammed the end of Bayou Chene and rerouted it to the Atchafalaya River. Now, all the camps between the new route and what used to be the end of the bayou where the dam is can only be accessed when the rivers stage is very high because that section of bayou has silted in. I have seen the river stage stay low for 2 years or more and when it does come up, sometimes it's not for long.

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88494

Comment Text: All of the sand the Corps of Engineers has dumped in our waterways

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88719

Comment Text: The US Corp of Engineers ruined a prime habitat for fishing and water fowl when I pumped dredge material from Whiskey Bay Channel into the Basin Lake.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99123

Comment Text: Greed. Clear-cuts. Poor management of public lands. Poor management from the Corps.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99301

Comment Text: If we are to accomplish coastal restoration and flood protection in Louisiana then I believe we need to consider what is happening in the entire Mississippi River Basin. The current process of discussing alternatives in Louisiana alone is not adequate to deal with land losses on our coast. I also believe that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers needs to be replaced as the lead agency responsible for navigation, flood protection, and the protection and restoration of natural resources in our state and the entire USA. This letter will explain my reasoning. Our officials and state agencies, and especially our Governor and members of Congress, must not limit the research and actions to activities in Louisiana. We must have a clear and affirmative program of working with the other states in the Mississippi River Basin to restore or compensate for the massive amounts of sediment that the river no longer delivers to our state. Because of the major dams that have been constructed in every state in the basin, very little sediment is washed down to Louisiana today.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99303

Comment Text: I would also like to point out that the public needs to receive full and accurate information about the cost versus the benefits to the state with respect to

maintenance of the deep shipping channel at the mouth of the Mississippi River. The adverse impacts on Louisiana from the artificial channel built and maintained by the Corps of Engineers is one of the most costly and environmentally destructive shipping projects in the United States.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99305

Comment Text: In "The IT Decision," the Supreme Court ruled that all state agencies and officials must insure that in all actions they have considered alternative sites, alternative projects, alternative processes, and that the project selected is the one that will best protect, conserve, and replenish the natural resources of the state. Under NEPA, federal agencies and officials must apply these same basic protection standards but only applied to "major federal actions." Therefore, the requirements established in the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 are actually much broader and cover all state government actions that may adversely impact human health and the environment. More than one hundred court decisions since The IT Decision in 1984 have upheld and supported the Supreme Court's decision. I believe the delays mentioned in "2. NEPA Requirements" have, for the most part, been caused by agencies, officials and businesses that have intentionally or incorrectly applied or avoided both federal and state laws. These delays are especially apparent when applicants and agencies seeking permits do not properly consider possible adverse impacts to the natural resources of the state before applying for permits that will adversely impact people, property, and resources like fish, wildlife, forest, farmlands, cities, waters, and wetlands. If the Corps of Engineers and all of the thirty-one states in the Mississippi River Basin had applied something similar to the requirements of NEPA when they were planning to build any one of the multitude of major dams upriver they would have realized their proposed actions would have dramatic negative impacts downriver in Louisiana. If they had identified the downriver impacts of their dams, and properly included these adverse impacts in their project, then our state would not be losing tens of thousands of acres of land every year. If the Corps of Engineers and the proponents of deepening the mouth of the Mississippi River had applied standards like those in NEPA and Article 9, Section 1 of the Louisiana Constitution they would have realized that their plans to "improve" shipping would have serious adverse impacts such as the erosions of more than a million acres of coastal Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99307

Comment Text: Another change which would, I believe, greatly improve Louisiana is to have a civilian authority manage and develop projects and programs for the entire Mississippi River Basin. The Corps of Engineers basically has numerous districts in the Mississippi River Basin headed by colonels and they report to generals in the Basin, but there is no overall system to consider how projects, like dams, in the upper basin will impact waters and wetlands downriver. Our airports and interstate highways are connected together, but our river basin is apparently not operated as a comprehensive unit except for moving commerce and flood waters. Residents of the Missouri River Basin wonder why they experienced such flood damages in 1993 and again in 2007.

After the massive flooding of the lower Mississippi River in 1927, Congress ordered the Corps of Engineers to build a Mississippi River Flood Protection System in the seven states along the lower Mississippi River, which has prevented a repeat of the 1927 flood. Apparently, no similar orders were issued for the upper Mississippi River Basin and only smaller protection systems were built by the Corps of Engineers in the Missouri River Basin. Unfortunately the Corps of Engineers was not ordered to protect the people and land in the Missouri River Basin or to protect New Orleans and the Mississippi coast from Hurricane floodwaters. I believe that a federal agency headed by civilians would not need to be "ordered" by Congress to provide the protection needed to save our coastal residents and natural resources. An agency headed by civilians, rather than the Army, would be more flexible in approaching problems like flood prevention systems and would recognize and protect the important, valuable, and irreplaceable natural resources, which are under threat in every river basin and coastal area presently managed by the Corps of Engineers.

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99306

Comment Text: If the Corps of Engineers and all of the thirty-one states in the Mississippi River Basin had applied something similar to the requirements of NEPA when they were planning to build any one of the multitude of major dams upriver they would have realized their proposed actions would have dramatic negative impacts downriver in Louisiana. If they had identified the downriver impacts of their dams, and properly included these adverse impacts in their project, then our state would not be losing tens of thousands of acres of land every year. If the Corps of Engineers and the proponents of deepening the mouth of the Mississippi River had applied standards like those in NEPA and Article 9, Section 1 of the Louisiana Constitution they would have realized that their plans to "improve" shipping would have serious adverse impacts such as the erosions of more than a million acres of coastal Louisiana.

### **IN106 Loss of cypress trees**

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99261

Comment Text: The culture of the area is built upon the cypress tupelo swamp. My concern is that the cypress trees are being cut and cannot regenerate due to the seasonal flooding!

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86926

Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86697

Comment Text: Decreasing waterways in Atchafalaya Basin, sedimentation raising floor of Basin, each flood season cypress, tupelo swamps disappearing!

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86908

Comment Text: Abusing by cutting cypress and many of our rare trees.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99235

Comment Text: Its exploitation. The ways the Basin has been used without regard to its preservation. The loss of the cypress forests.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99224

Comment Text: Restoration of the coast, our cypress forest paved, beautification of our waterways. Culture saved for future generations.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99129

Comment Text: There should be no permitting of cypress cuts in the Basin.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

### **IN107 Timber harvesting/logging activities**

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99123

Comment Text: Greed. Clear-cuts. Poor management of public lands. Poor management from the Corps.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86908

Comment Text: Abusing by cutting cypress and many of our rare trees.

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86612

Comment Text: Oil companies, loggers, and all the other idiots that take but don't give back.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86474

Comment Text: Fast boats, air boats, litter and clear-cut logging.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86494

Comment Text: All the evidence of self-serving humanity - the traces of logging wheels, the canals dug by oil exploration, the ongoing problem with litter - is disturbing to me.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86547

Comment Text: Private development of the area, clear-cutting of forests, and a general lack of public access along levees and public roads are what OAS members enjoy least.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86559

Comment Text: Private development of the area and clear-cutting of forests are two things we like least.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86725  
Comment Text: Logging in the Basin  
Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86926  
Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88543  
Comment Text: That private landowners are permitted to privatize water bodies and destroy cypress forests for their own profit and enjoyment and that oil companies are not held responsible for the spoil piles they created.  
Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88522  
Comment Text: Logging and other development activities  
Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86956  
Comment Text: Hunting more regulated would be nice to see. No timber or logging (especially of the old cypress trees).  
Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

### **IN108 Destruction of wetlands**

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99131  
Comment Text: Oil industry destruction of natural waterways and wetlands and high noise from air boats.  
Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86697  
Comment Text: Decreasing waterways in Atchafalaya Basin, sedimentation raising floor of Basin, each flood season cypress, tupelo swamps disappearing!

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86667  
Comment Text: Destruction of wetlands and natural resources  
Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

## IN109 Invasive species

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99180

Comment Text: That we won't institute a sound water management plan to mimic the natural ebb and flow of basin water, global climate change will permanently flood part of the basin, that invasive species empowered by warming temperatures will eradicate native flora and fauna, and that selfish interests won't work together for the good of all.  
Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86926

Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86563

Comment Text: Control of invasive species of aquatic and terrestrial vegetation is also important. For example, the exotic Chinese tallow has taken over in many areas where timber activity has occurred.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86518

Comment Text: Non-native vegetation invading the beauty.  
Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86550

Comment Text: Control of invasive species of aquatic and terrestrial vegetation is also important. For example, the exotic Chinese tallow has taken over in many areas where timber activity has occurred.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86828

Comment Text: Aquatic nuisance species  
Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88650

Comment Text: The fact that much of its waterways are slowly being choked by introduced plant species

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working

for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88652

Comment Text: A great problem on the west side of the Basin is the presence of hydrillia. It appears to grow only in the shallow part of the lake and not in the channels. Would keeping the water at a higher level solve the problem better than the application of chemicals that have only temporary effects.

### **IN110 Loss of fish/crawfish**

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, ovrking for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to



virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88676

Comment Text: The drastic change within the past 20 years in water quality, disappearance of aquatic vegetation and top feeder fish, and erosion of the shoreline.

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88636

Comment Text: Overfishing of the area

Organization: Sierra Club

### **IN111 Loss of black bear/black bear habitat**

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86931

Comment Text: Designated, pretty camping areas, some not accessible by cars, protection and restoration of black bear habitat.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

### **IN112 Air quality (overall)**

Correspondence Id: 61    Comment Id: 86856

Comment Text: Environmentally: we should try our best to restrict, through enforcement of laws and regulations, to the highest degree to prevent pollution from making its way in and into this preserve, whether by natural means or by human error: i.e., chemicals: air and water borne, trash, waste materials, substances, etc. - this is evident along our beautiful highways and in and around the waterways.

### **IN113 Loss of/impediments to viewsheds**

Correspondence Id: 29    Comment Id: 86661

Comment Text: Not all areas are scenic

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

### **IN114 General loss of natural resources and/or wildlife habitat**

Correspondence Id: 175    Comment Id: 99278

Comment Text: I do not like to see our vast natural resource be so neglected for many years. I fear that this one of a kind gift to mankind may be lost. The fishing industry is in jeopardy and the tourism impact on our area is neglected. Also, there is much disappointment when I think of the funds that are not being used to enhance the beauty of the river and gateway cities into a magnificent natural preserve. This place is a natural wonder we must protect as soon as possible.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 132    Comment Id: 88725

Comment Text: The area where siltation and stagnated water is ruining a great portion of our beautiful swamps, rivers and bayous. Our lakes, rivers and bayous are disappearing.

Correspondence Id: 124    Comment Id: 88676

Comment Text: The drastic change within the past 20 years in water quality, disappearance of aquatic vegetation and top feeder fish, and erosion of the shoreline.

Correspondence Id: 108    Comment Id: 88569

Comment Text: That it will fall victim to environmental and civic pressures to become annexed. Leave and preserve it to be as nature intended it to be.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 104    Comment Id: 88537

Comment Text: That one day it will be gone. Our grandchildren will not have the opportunity to see what it was.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86708

Comment Text: Not see - increased pollution, increased traffic, increased destruction of woodlands

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86710

Comment Text: Increasing population with increased destruction of habitat. Loss of coastline, loss of historic properties.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86759

Comment Text: Neglect, poor management judgement, less wild, poor water quality, siltation, too much access to public

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86848

Comment Text: My main concern is that we will lose a very special place and recreational value of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86948

Comment Text: Too much dredging and lack of concern for nature.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 91 Comment Id: 88457

Comment Text: Basin - it will never be what it was. Never!

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88480

Comment Text: That we'll let it slip away and not preserve it for future generations.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88497

Comment Text: It will become nothing but sand and willow trees

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88505

Comment Text: That naturally we may fail to recognize what a resource this area is.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86501

Comment Text: Destruction of natural and historic resources, lack of public access to many areas.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86509

Comment Text: Current concerns: that natural and cultural resources critical to the character of the basin will be gone before a plan is implemented to preserve them.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86667

Comment Text: Destruction of wetlands and natural resources

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88543

Comment Text: That private landowners are permitted to privatize water bodies and destroy cypress forests for their own profit and enjoyment and that oil companies are not held responsible for the spoil piles they created.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88605

Comment Text: Too much has been ravaged by farming and poor management

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines

for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99231  
Comment Text: Habitat loss in south Louisiana.  
Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99235  
Comment Text: Its exploitation. The ways the Basin has been used without regard to its preservation. The loss of the cypress forests.  
Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

### **IN115 General pollution**

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680  
Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, ovrking for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic pants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress tress are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines

for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88585  
Comment Text: Pollution of False River.

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88575  
Comment Text: Pollution (water, land, and sometimes air)  
Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88528  
Comment Text: The unreasonable and uncontrolled pollution by users of this beautiful waterway . This pollution must be stopped with stronger rules and laws and enforcement.

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86995  
Comment Text: The tremendous pollution made by people who do not care in preserving the land.  
Organization: Plaucheville Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86856  
Comment Text: Environmentally: we should try our best to restrict, through enforcement of laws and regulations, to the highest degree to prevent pollution from making its way in and into this preserve, whether by natural means or by human error: i.e., chemicals: air and water borne, trash, waste materials, substances, etc. - this is evident along our beautiful highways and in and around the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86708  
Comment Text: Not see - increased pollution, increased traffic, increased destruction of woodlands

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86719  
Comment Text: I would like to see stronger laws on chemical plants in Louisiana!

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86955  
Comment Text: Hunting (killing animals), pollution in the rivers and streams and the disrespect humans have to the wildlife habitat and swamp ecosystem.  
Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87001  
Comment Text: People not respecting our heritage - not keeping it clean.  
Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88534

Comment Text: To see how pollution has been allowed to go on to see how many of the canals and bayous are silting up.

### **IP100 ISSUES - Park management issues**

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99292

Comment Text: The nation of the U.S. failing to support the park service.

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99123

Comment Text: Greed. Clear-cuts. Poor management of public lands. Poor management from the Corps.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88657

Comment Text: Areas which are privately owned within the Basin vastly outnumber the protected areas accessible to the public.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86759

Comment Text: Neglect, poor management judgement, less wild, poor water quality, siltation, too much access to public

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86800

Comment Text: The influence of people outside this area and their effects on our heritage and the ecosystems of the swamps.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86902

Comment Text: No clear management - competing interests

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88508

Comment Text: The constant dispute over what lands is private and what is public.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88514

Comment Text: The overriding fear that the restrictions and rules to be placed on maintenance of the area will be disregarded, disobeyed and ignored (without being duly disciplined and punished for it).

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88563

Comment Text: It is not maintained well - it could be so much more of an experience with federal funding.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99093

Comment Text: As stated above, government screwing it up, with changes, tourists, and useless rules!

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99164

Comment Text: The camps that are built in the area. These are an eyesore and take away from the beauty of the area. Most are not in compliance with Corps of Engineers easement regulations.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99223

Comment Text: It's not taken care of properly, waterways are dirty, and roadways unkempt.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99191

Comment Text: Shared with others, distruction, abuse, neglect.

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99170

Comment Text: Landowners are not cooperating with water management projects unless there is money involved.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

### **IP101 Interference by/from politicians or special interests; poor policies**

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99177

Comment Text: The narrow-minded self serving attitude of many interests who want to exploit their resource to potential detriment of any other values & government agencies that rubber stamp permit applications, etc.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 145 Comment Id: 99105

Comment Text: Govt. takeover.

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99100

Comment Text: Failure due to local politics. Failure due lack of public involvement.



Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 145 Comment Id: 99104

Comment Text: Government intervention.

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99097

Comment Text: Present local and state of LA policies are destroying our unique landmarks. Ignorance on the part of the "public" insures that present policies do not change.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86721

Comment Text: That it is not about control of these areas, but people would have a voice in the matter, and not just politicians!

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86819

Comment Text: That politicians will continue to play games and control the decision process to serve their personal interests rather than the interests of this state and country.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86890

Comment Text: True assessment of properties/landscapes; True inventory of the resources; No political powers at play in the scheme of inventory and assessment; Realistic provisions.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86921

Comment Text: A lot of illegal politics here, so boards and managers need to be monitored if not changed yearly. Everyone has a price and power goes to people's heads.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86922

Comment Text: That before anyone gives a crap it'll be too late. Do what needs to be done asap, do not wait for bureaucratic red tape. Time is of the essence. The government wants our resources, but doesn't give a damn about the effects on our environment and our people. They suck us dry but cry about California, Alaska, Florida, etc. Louisiana is self-sufficient and the USA relies on us for energy. Take care of us.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88487

Comment Text: I am concerned that special business interests will have "big money" talking and it will talk loud enough to sway votes and ideals until this area will become a commercial interest and a play land for people who do not really care about the area. I

am concerned that this area will become a rich man's playground and a place to become rich, instead of a place to make memories and a place for caring generations to come.

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88517

Comment Text: The possibility of conflicting influences, including selfish and harmful invasions by powerful and monetarily influential forces (government or otherwise).

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88559

Comment Text: Politicians will get their pet projects introduced into the plan which will not be true to the concept and/or outside the scope of the project.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88640

Comment Text: I lived in Florida for 6.5 years and the Sierra Club and other environmental groups were always in conflict with business (sugarcane industry) and Homestead trying to expand airport noise abatement. I am concerned with similar issues in Louisiana.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 12 Comment Id: 86537

Comment Text: Too much politics, I'm afraid it will end up like the Louisiana marshes, disappearing - lots of talk and NO ACTION!

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86603

Comment Text: Let historic preservation specialists/planners guide management and not let local politicians interfere.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86605

Comment Text: Local politics and politicians that are not focused on the larger issues of historic preservation and the larger picture of the national heritage area and how this relates to American history.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86648

Comment Text: The acquisition of private lands by the federal government and the imposition of strict land use policies on the sportsmen.

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86651

Comment Text: Federal takeover and intervention.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86682

Comment Text: Politics, differing desires cause riffs in interested parties

## IP102 Acquisition of private lands/threats to private property rights

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88698

Comment Text: That it will intrude upon the rights and activities of private property owners.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88695

Comment Text: Its threat to rights of property owners.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86648

Comment Text: The acquisition of private lands by the federal government and the imposition of strict land use policies on the sportsmen.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86890

Comment Text: True assessment of properties/landscapes; True inventory of the resources; No political powers at play in the scheme of inventory and assessment; Realistic provisions.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86967

Comment Text: Trespassers and Corps of Engineers confiscating private land from unwilling landowners by means of "conservation easements" which is just another name for eminent domain. The Corps have come up with a complex formula that allows them to acquire private land for pennies on the dollar. In summary: A: Most of the rights to your land are taken from you unwillingly. B: You are paid pennies on the dollar for the loss of those rights. C: There are at least 14 "rules and regulations" that tell the landowner what can and can't be done with your own land. If you own any land anywhere (even if you are not a landowner) and read these rules and regulations, it would make the hair on the back of your neck stand up! D: You can no longer use the land for collateral, so the property value just went in the tank. E: The landowner retains the rights to oil, gas and minerals, BUT can only extract those natural resources with permission and permits from the Corps of Engineers---GOOD LUCK! The Fifth Amendment is absolutely circumvented and the landowners stripped of their civil rights and protections provided under the law.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86970

Comment Text: The loss of private property rights so some tourist can see a bald eagle. I have spent a lot of time in the middle of the Basin and have NEVER seen a bald eagle or a black bear for that matter. Everyone should be concerned when the government takes away someone's private property rights, because if they can do it to me - they can do it to you.

### **IP103 Strict land use policies (on sportsmen, private owners, etc.)**

Correspondence Id: 145    Comment Id: 99103

Comment Text: As a landowner, being able to do with the land as I see fit.

Correspondence Id: 48    Comment Id: 86781

Comment Text: Sportsmen and outdoors people always have the money taken away first.

Correspondence Id: 85    Comment Id: 87014

Comment Text: Posted signs everywhere; no access

Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 39    Comment Id: 86721

Comment Text: That it is not about control of these areas, but people would have a voice in the matter, and not just politicians!

Correspondence Id: 7    Comment Id: 86521

Comment Text: The National Park Service and the State will impose very restrictive management practices that will kill the deal.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 27    Comment Id: 86648

Comment Text: The acquisition of private lands by the federal government and the imposition of strict land use policies on the sportsmen.

### **IP104 Lack of funding**

Correspondence Id: 171    Comment Id: 99255

Comment Text: That there will not be proper funding to develop educational programs and to properly document its history and that the land in the area will be overdeveloped and lost along with the cultures of the people who settled the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 92    Comment Id: 88467

Comment Text: With cuts in funding of projects of this nature at both the federal and the state levees. I am concerned that the necessary funds and resources will not be allocated to fulfill the purposes of the national heritage area.

Correspondence Id: 96    Comment Id: 88491

Comment Text: Being sure money is available to complete plans and support it.

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88685  
Comment Text: Funding and continued funding

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99133  
Comment Text: Priority on identification of special historical and natural features in the basin and provision of access information. Full time historian, cultural anthropologist to identify sites of historical and cultural interest. Need a source of dependable ongoing operational funding for a heritage area program.  
Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88463  
Comment Text: In my area (Jeanerette, LA located on the southern shore of Lake Fausse Point), there is a beautiful and pristine site where a local group has been formed to develop Eagle Point Park. Funding has always been a problem. Another worthy project in Jeanerette is the Harry Hewes House, a museum dedicated to the cypress lumber industry in the Basin. Both projects have tremendous potential but need more funding.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86490  
Comment Text: Lack of funding in the future, lack of leadership, or lack of adequate publicity.

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86515  
Comment Text: Funding resources and over-development which would destroy the uniqueness of the area which is symbolic of Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86664  
Comment Text: Lack of dollars  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 86746  
Comment Text: Funding may not be available

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86780  
Comment Text: Monies will be cut by Congress and spend on other areas instead of the heritage area.

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86781  
Comment Text: Sportsmen and outdoors people always have the money taken away first.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86938  
Comment Text: Needs to be kept clean, use money wisely, not like to see industrial development, oil rigs, commercialism, no Wal-Mart, etc.

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87004

Comment Text: The economy - saving enough money to develop our national heritage trace.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88432

Comment Text: Lack of funding - no interest from the state or nation, they don't seem to be aware or care what a treasure the area is.

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88437

Comment Text: Tax dollars spent on this project and not spent on give-away programs.

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88438

Comment Text: The money will not be there to fund the project.

### **IP105 Lack of leadership; lack of public involvement**

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99180

Comment Text: That we won't institute a sound water management plan to mimic the natural ebb and flow of basin water, global climate change will permanently flood part of the basin, that invasive species empowered by warming temperatures will eradicate native flora and fauna, and that selfish interests won't work together for the good of all.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86490

Comment Text: Lack of funding in the future, lack of leadership, or lack of adequate publicity.

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99100

Comment Text: Failure due to local politics. Failure due lack of public involvement.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

### **IP106 Lack of adequate publicity**

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86490

Comment Text: Lack of funding in the future, lack of leadership, or lack of adequate publicity.

## **IP107 Constraints on timber harvesting**

Correspondence Id: 28    Comment Id: 86658  
Comment Text: Constraints on harvesting timber  
Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

## **IV100 ISSUES - Visitor use or experience issues**

Correspondence Id: 171    Comment Id: 99252  
Comment Text: The difficulty to see the area. There is no continuous or clear way to travel through the area, even by waterways. Also, many of the people in the area are unfamiliar with activities, history and attractions in the different areas.  
Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 79    Comment Id: 86978  
Comment Text: The "tourist trap" atmosphere - and the image of LA as a backwood, illiterate people; litter.

Correspondence Id: 72    Comment Id: 86941  
Comment Text: Not used enough. Federal and state protection may be dropped or compromised!

Correspondence Id: 2    Comment Id: 86474  
Comment Text: Fast boats, air boats, litter and clear-cut logging.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 17    Comment Id: 86588  
Comment Text: Shooting range - limited access to some areas - lack of trails. There could be miles to hiking/walking trails with numerous stops that would open untold acres of discovery to everyone that wanted the opportunity.

Correspondence Id: 42    Comment Id: 86737  
Comment Text: Private hunting clubs dictating the use of public land.  
Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 45    Comment Id: 86756  
Comment Text: Trash, litter, air boats  
Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 59    Comment Id: 86848  
Comment Text: My main concern is that we will lose a very special place and recreational value of the Atchafalaya Basin.  
Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86955

Comment Text: Hunting (killing animals), pollution in the rivers and streams and the disrespect humans have to the wildlife habitat and swamp ecosystem.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87009

Comment Text: Having to pay to crawfish there.

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88647

Comment Text: We always promote Louisiana as swamps, cypress tress, alligators, and birds. But if you are not from here and do not have a guide try to find this.

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88645

Comment Text: Tourism and tourists are here now, but we are not ready for them. Hikers, bird watchers and paddlers cannot explore the real Louisiana because we do not give them what they need to navigate. We are directing them to hotels and bed & breakfasts which they can find in any state.

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88471

Comment Text: Hunters and fishermen who disrespect it with noise, litter and 4-wheeler destruction

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88643

Comment Text: Poor roads, bad directions, little access to the real Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99131

Comment Text: Oil industry destruction of natural waterways and wetlands and high noise from air boats.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

#### **IV101 Limited accessibility**

Correspondence Id: 173 Comment Id: 99263

Comment Text: Limited access.

Organization: Cajun Houseboats and Rentals, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88643

Comment Text: Poor roads, bad directions, little access to the real Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88618

Comment Text: Difficult to access and/or navigate by road and water

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



Correspondence Id: 85    Comment Id: 87014  
Comment Text: Posted signs everywhere; no access  
Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 14    Comment Id: 86512  
Comment Text: Accessibility [from question 32]

Correspondence Id: 10    Comment Id: 86547  
Comment Text: Private development of the area, clear-cutting of forests, and a general lack of public access along levees and public roads are what OAS members enjoy least.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11    Comment Id: 86560  
Comment Text: Another is a general lack of public access along levees and public roads, particularly outside of the Sherburne Complex.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 17    Comment Id: 86588  
Comment Text: Shooting range - limited access to some areas - lack of trails. There could be miles to hiking/walking trails with numerous stops that would open untold acres of discovery to everyone that wanted the opportunity.

Correspondence Id: 29    Comment Id: 86659  
Comment Text: As a hunter and fisherman, owning a campsite, it is so conducive to hunting and fishing, but not always accessible.  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 48    Comment Id: 86777  
Comment Text: The area can only be used 4-6 months of the year due to water from the north.

Correspondence Id: 49    Comment Id: 86785  
Comment Text: Bayous and canals and rivers that public is now shut off to.

Correspondence Id: 53    Comment Id: 86811  
Comment Text: Lack of access to the Basin, lack of security to protect personal property when away from vehicle while visiting the Basin.

Correspondence Id: 73    Comment Id: 86945  
Comment Text: Its accessibility to the average citizen.  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86501

Comment Text: Destruction of natural and historic resources, lack of public access to many areas.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88589

Comment Text: Most parts are inaccessible and of course, litter ruins the picture. Both are easy to improve.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88632

Comment Text: Public access and silting of waterways

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99252

Comment Text: The difficulty to see the area. There is no continuous or clear way to travel through the area, even by waterways. Also, many of the people in the area are unfamiliar with activities, history and attractions in the different areas.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99258

Comment Text: Difficult access into the swamp - a primary attraction.

#### **IV102 Too much accessibility**

Correspondence Id: 74 Comment Id: 86952

Comment Text: Excessive, unrestricted access.

Organization: Louisiana Duck Decoys

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86759

Comment Text: Neglect, poor management judgement, less wild, poor water quality, siltation, too much access to public

Organization: Environmental Design

#### **IV103 Hunting (safety, interfering with visitor experience)**

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86968

Comment Text: I am all for tourism to help the economy and promote Louisiana, but it is probably not a good idea to have canoe trips in the Basin during deer hunting season (Nov-Jan). If the canoe doesn't flip from all the boat traffic, it is still not safe with high powered rifles being shot in the area. I know that is a risky statement because someone will come up with the bright idea to either take our guns away (there goes the 2nd

Amendment, the Corps has already taken my 5th Amendment away) or try to stop deer hunting altogether.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86955

Comment Text: Hunting (killing animals), pollution in the rivers and streams and the disrespect humans have to the wildlife habitat and swamp ecosystem.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86956

Comment Text: Hunting more regulated would be nice to see. No timber or logging (especially of the old cypress trees).

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

#### **IV104 Lack of recreational uses (general)**

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88688

Comment Text: Lack of outdoor opportunities available for the public.

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86588

Comment Text: Shooting range - limited access to some areas - lack of trails. There could be miles to hiking/walking trails with numerous stops that would open untold acres of discovery to everyone that wanted the opportunity.

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86593

Comment Text: Weaving into the area in a boat and just sitting.

#### **MT1000 Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments**

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88692

Comment Text: Please include Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge and Sherburne complex opportunities in your publications. Check [www.fws.gov/atchafalaya/](http://www.fws.gov/atchafalaya/)

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88678

Comment Text: I am very worried that NO ACTION will be taken to correct the serious situation this area faces or at least not in time to reverse the dramatic deterioration of the past 25 years.

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88672

Comment Text: As I read the intent of this endeavor I truly wish success for those upon whose shoulders fall the responsibility for its accomplishment. This is the brightest hope

for an area long neglected. I hope my remarks have not been too burdensome. Thank you for allowing me to express these sentiments.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88633

Comment Text: Keep the funds for "inside the levees" - no monies funneled outside of the spillway

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88624

Comment Text: Being stuck on interstate with no exit over Atchafalaya on I-10

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88612

Comment Text: Mosquitoes, flies, heat (no shade trees) in some areas

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88609

Comment Text: The road between whisky bay and LA-190 needs resurfacing.

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88602

Comment Text: Excited about working with planners and getting things done.

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88601

Comment Text: Projects planned may not be completed.

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88595

Comment Text: We're very interested in the interest of the nation and would like to be a part of the planning. Get lots of input! We're proud!

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88552

Comment Text: Old Man River (The Mississippi River) will change course into the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88501

Comment Text: I really enjoy everything about the area.

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86998

Comment Text: What will happen when the "old folks" are gone and no plan is in place to continue their work.

Organization: Plaquemine Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86997

Comment Text: Take advantage of the wealth of the area and plan on its management and care to the best of all abilities.

Organization: Plaucheville Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86991

Comment Text: I would like to see some kind of hi-tech industry here in this area to have work for our young women at a good wage level.

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86985

Comment Text: I would like to know what wetland is? What you can do or can't do!

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86982

Comment Text: I moved to the Atchafalaya Basin about 20 years ago. I was told this is wetland and could not be destroyed! What a joke! I have seen dozers, chainsaws, excavators destroying it for the almighty dollar.

Correspondence Id: 78 Comment Id: 86972

Comment Text: The Trust for Public Land's Louisiana office is available to assist the NPS with land transactions required for the Atchafalaya program.

Organization: The Trust for Public Land

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86923

Comment Text: I hope you have at least been here and seen what goes on if you're in a position to figure this out. Do not judge unless you have not been here. Check out [voiceofthewetlands.com](http://voiceofthewetlands.com).

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86899

Comment Text: We need to start now on preserving this unique area.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86892

Comment Text: This will become a major draw for tourism in all realms - thus bringing in awareness of what we have to offer. Let's do it right!

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86816

Comment Text: [I] Do not actively participate or visit the area.

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86815

Comment Text: Native Louisianan - Born in central Louisiana. Interested in correcting coastal erosion.

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86798

Comment Text: I live in the Basin; so it's very special to me.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86791

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is in my backyard. Over the years, many changes have occurred. Some natural, some unnatural. We can't control nature but we can control human changes. The natural beauty of the Basin makes this area very special to me.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86790

Comment Text: Former Governor Kathleen Blanco and present Governor Bobby Jindal have done nothing for the Louisiana sportsmen.

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86787

Comment Text: State parks (nice)

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 86734

Comment Text: That it will be changed and no longer authentic

Organization: Village of Moreauville

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86711

Comment Text: The formation of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area is an excellent opportunity to save and enhance an important area in our state and nation.

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86704

Comment Text: I would like to be better informed about what goes on in the Basin.

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86676

Comment Text: Completion of promised goals

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 86643

Comment Text: I am sending information in and around the town of Washington in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86637

Comment Text: Not being able to experience it as it should be.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86614

Comment Text: To develop a plan to make this area a National Park so it can be regulated to protect its environment.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86613

Comment Text: This area must become a National Park to save it.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

### **MT1001 Atchafalaya Basin history**

Correspondence Id: 176 Comment Id: 99283

Comment Text: I am sure that the final strategy will incorporate not only the need to promote the culture and history of the area, but also to preserve the sensitive ecosystem that is the Atchafalaya Basin. As I stated last night this is a monumental task. The diversity of culture, history, geography, geology and economy throughout the designated area makes finding that "common thread" quite difficult. There are so many stories here, and all deserve our interest and attention. Marksville State Historic Site is a Native American mound site in Avoyelles Parish. These mounds were constructed between 50 BC and 400 AD. We do not know what happened to the indigenous people that built these mounds. They used the mounds during that period, then stopped. Did they migrate? Were they ravaged by disease? Did they lose belief in what the mounds might have embodied? There are so many questions and so few answers. This is the mystery of our site and what makes it so compelling for me. There are numerous "prehistoric" sites in the National Heritage Area. Most are on private property. Most are still considered sacred by the "historic" tribes that have inhabited the area since the "ancients" left. It is my hope that these sites can be included in your plan for interpreting the culture and history of the area.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99273

Comment Text: It is the inheritance of all that live in Louisiana and the greater United States of America. The great Atchafalaya, named by the local native American Indians, means "long river." This magnificent body of water, alive and bursting with life has been a relaxing and peaceful recreation for my family most of my adult life. Great memories of camping, boating, fishing, watching beautiful scenes of the sunrise and sunsets and just being still in the most scenic water lands in Louisiana and the United States.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88526

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is officially recognized as the largest wetlands in the U.S. and is presently accessible to over a million citizens. Let's expand accessibility facilities that will allow more people to enjoy.

Correspondence Id: 82   Comment Id: 86993

Comment Text: It is home. Our heritage is based on our ancestral ties and our ancestors were dependent on the land and its resources. We should also lay claim to preserving the bountiful resources of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Plaucheville Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 15   Comment Id: 86575

Comment Text: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc. (PPI) has sponsored five successful Heritage Days Festivals in Iberville Parish since 1984.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11   Comment Id: 86557

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ANHA) is located in the largest swamp in North America. Large expanses of the Atchafalaya basin remain forested and we would like to see it remain this way. The ANHA, specifically, is an area frequented by bird watchers from our organization. The Sherburne Complex and Indian Bayou Wildlife Management Area, in particular, have been birding and field trip destinations for the Orleans Audubon Society (OAS) and other local birding groups for many decades.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 4   Comment Id: 86491

Comment Text: It is essential that the folk adaptation to the Basin is presented to the public. This includes presentations the relationship between technology (traps, boats, homes), and the natural environment (swamps, river deltas, etc). That story should be told in not only in English, but also in French. Language and culture are inseparable; to convey fully the cultural adaptation to the environment in the Basin, that presentation should be in French. That French should be Cajun French and not standard French; for that is the French of Louisiana. That folk adaptation includes not only European, but also Native American and African elements. There should be some presentation of the period of exploitation of resources of the Basin similar to what we are seeing in the Amazon Basin. As those cultures have sought modernity, they have changed their riverine environments a was done in Atchafalaya Basin. The ethnicity of those participating in the exploitation of the Basin should be presented.

Correspondence Id: 8   Comment Id: 86522

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya has always been important to those of us of Acadian descent. The greatest regret of many of the old-timers who helped log off the great cypress trees was that they had changed the area in a way that wouldn't be corrected for a hundred generations. What remains of the area is still special. When outsiders think of Cajun Louisiana, the image that comes to their minds is the wild landscape of the Basin.



Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86525

Comment Text: Keep the Basin wild, so that everyone can see what the land was like when the Broussard brothers arrived. It's wild right now. Why change it? Once changed, it's gone forever. Why kill something now that will be a tourist boon in just a few years? In the 1940s, the refuge of the last of the Ivory-billed Woodpeckers was destroyed for lumber up in NE Louisiana. If we still had these birds, they would generate millions of dollars per year in tourism for this now poverty-stricken area. The only sedentary flock of Whooping Cranes in the world was destroyed at White Lake. If still alive, they would bring millions of dollars yearly to Vermilion Parish. And if the government hadn't wiped out our French, think of the tourism mecca this land would be today. We need to think to the future, and understand when we have something unique, something that people will want to experience. The Basin is our Eiffel Tower, our Grand Canyon. We need to capitalize on it in a sustainable way.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86545

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ANHA) is located in the largest swamp-river basin in North America. Large expanses of this basin remain forested and we would like to see it remain this way. The ANHA, specifically, is an area frequented by bird watchers from our organization. Fort Jackson, in particular, has been a birding and field trip destination for the Orleans Audubon Society (OAS) and other local birding groups for many decades.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86570

Comment Text: The idea for an Atchafalaya National Heritage Area was born in The Capital Resource and Conservation (Capital RC&D) Council, formed under the USDA. This is a volunteer group monthly meeting to promote economic development using our natural resources. RC&D Council was comprised of 13 parishes, which included some of the Atchafalaya Basin Parish. In the mid 1990's, a fellow volunteer and resident of Plaquemine, Aaron Tulley, proposed and worked to have the Atchafalaya Basin designated as an Heritage Area. Iberville Parish volunteer Sue G. Hebert, served for 12 years with RC&D. The then Lt. Gov. Kathleen Blanco recognized the project would benefit the Acadiana Parish and gave life to the proposal. As Governor during the following years, the Area gained support of Louisiana Congressional Delegation, who secured the Atchafalaya Heritage Area recognition in Year 2006. The Area is important to me, as I lived all my life in Iberville Parish. I am retired and serve as the President of Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc. (501(c)(3) organization) formed initially to promote plantations, homes and restaurants in preparation of the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition. Today, the mission statement includes the promotion of the heritage and culture of people and places of Iberville Parish.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 20 Comment Id: 86606

Comment Text: Second to largest in the U.S.

## **MT1002 Louisiana history**

Correspondence Id: 8    Comment Id: 86525

Comment Text: Keep the Basin wild, so that everyone can see what the land was like when the Broussard brothers arrived. It's wild right now. Why change it? Once changed, it's gone forever. Why kill something now that will be a tourist boon in just a few years? In the 1940s, the refuge of the last of the Ivory-billed Woodpeckers was destroyed for lumber up in NE Louisiana. If we still had these birds, they would generate millions of dollars per year in tourism for this now poverty-stricken area. The only sedentary flock of Whooping Cranes in the world was destroyed at White Lake. If still alive, they would bring millions of dollars yearly to Vermilion Parish. And if the government hadn't wiped out our French, think of the tourism mecca this land would be today. We need to think to the future, and understand when we have something unique, something that people will want to experience. The Basin is our Eiffel Tower, our Grand Canyon. We need to capitalize on it in a sustainable way.

## **MT1003 Personal history/connection to area**

Correspondence Id: 175    Comment Id: 99273

Comment Text: It is the inheritance of all that live in Louisiana and the greater United States of America. The great Atchafalaya, named by the local native American Indians, means "long river." This magnificent body of water, alive and bursting with life has been a relaxing and peaceful recreation for my family most of my adult life. Great memories of camping, boating, fishing, watching beautiful scenes of the sunrise and sunsets and just being still in the most scenic water lands in Louisiana and the United States.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 111    Comment Id: 88587

Comment Text: We live in the heart of this area so it's important to treasure this natural treasure. It's one of LA's best "medals" - like the mighty Mississippi River.

Correspondence Id: 111    Comment Id: 88588

Comment Text: Telling and visiting the area with family, friends, tourists. The beauty and ever changing seasonal landscape is beautiful, intriguing and a legacy to our children and grandchildren!

Correspondence Id: 113    Comment Id: 88603

Comment Text: It allows me to step back in time and try to enjoy a pristine environment.

Correspondence Id: 114    Comment Id: 88611

Comment Text: Relaxing next to the water (river), picnics with family and friends, celebrating special holidays.

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88622

Comment Text: This is a big and beautiful part of our heritage and next door to me.

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88623

Comment Text: I enjoy fishing and bird watching. We also take our friends to see the Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88634

Comment Text: I am a life member of the Sierra Club and also a member of The Nature Conservancy, and I feel it is important to preserve wild things (nature) and land and water resources.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88649

Comment Text: My family and I have been fishing, birding, etc. in the Basin for many years and hope to do the same for many more years to come.

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99089

Comment Text: I live in the Basin. My home is 7 miles south of Krotz Springs on LA Hwy 105. I also own several hundred acres used for timber production.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86953

Comment Text: St. Landry Parish is where my family is from. I was raised in this area. I've watched the wildlife that inhabit this area diminish over the last 40 years, at an unbelievable rate. I believe we can implement programs so we can all live in harmony.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86965

Comment Text: My dad was born in the Basin and moved to New Iberia when he was 5 years old when the levees were built. He also died at our camp in the Basin. We own property in the Basin in 4 different parishes. I have been going to our camp in the Basin for 45 of my 50 years.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86966

Comment Text: The peacefulness of being isolated from civilization. A strong connection to MY heritage.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86971

Comment Text: Please try to understand my skepticism. If my family is not losing private property rights we are losing access to our camps when the US Army Corps of Engineers makes "improvements" to the Basin. A few years ago the Corps dammed the end of Bayou Chene and rerouted it to the Atchafalaya River. Now, all the camps

between the new route and what used to be the end of the bayou where the dam is can only be accessed when the rivers stage is very high because that section of bayou has silted in. I have seen the river stage stay low for 2 years or more and when it does come up, sometimes it's not for long.

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86986

Comment Text: One thing it is my home and one of the most beautiful places in the world.

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86993

Comment Text: It is home. Our heritage is based on our ancestral ties and our ancestors were dependent on the land and its resources. We should also lay claim to preserving the bountiful resources of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Plaucheville Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88433

Comment Text: I have lived in this area my entire life of 51 years. This is a beautiful area and has good hunting and fishing. Most people who live in the area take it for granted. It is a paradise.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88439

Comment Text: We enjoy hunting, fishing, and just being outdoors in the spillway. Also we enjoy having a small state lease with a "camp" to stay in for up to 10 days at a time.

Correspondence Id: 91 Comment Id: 88453

Comment Text: I was born and raised there.

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 86731

Comment Text: I was born and raised there.

Organization: Village of Moreauville

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86735

Comment Text: The outdoor activities it presents. I fish and hunt in this area at least 30 days of the year. Its undeveloped natural beauty is also distinct and important.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86747

Comment Text: We built a retirement home in the Spring Bayou area, it is the cypress trees, the birds, all the wildlife, and the waterways we enjoy.

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86760

Comment Text: I have personally lived in the Atchafalaya Basin and love it dearly. I now live beside it and love it more.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86804

Comment Text: I was born and raised in Iberville Parish. I fished and did a lot of boat riding in the area before 1970. My first husband and I had a pleasure boat that we kept at our camp on the bayou near Plaquemine. On Sundays we would launch and ride to Pierre Port, Bayou Pigeon, Lake Pelourle, Morgan City, etc.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86821

Comment Text: I am a Cajun and grew up near Lake Dasetrive and have used the area since a child and still. It is rich in heritage, culture and history.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86832

Comment Text: Born and raised around the Basin - fish and crab and crawfish all my life in the Basin - love it; also hunting

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86833

Comment Text: Natural, scenic and recreational area. My sons and daughter and grandchildren love the Basin.

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86838

Comment Text: Have a camp at Belle River and had house boats at Bayou Sorrel for years - love the Basin.

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86485

Comment Text: I live in this area and appreciate any efforts to preserve our state's cultural and geographical uniqueness.

Correspondence Id: 12 Comment Id: 86533

Comment Text: I was raised up hunting and fishing in the Atchafalaya swamp.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86570

Comment Text: The idea for an Atchafalaya National Heritage Area was born in The Capital Resource and Conservation (Capital RC&D) Council, formed under the USDA. This is a volunteer group monthly meeting to promote economic development using our natural resources. RC&D Council was comprised of 13 parishes, which included some of the Atchafalaya Basin Parish. In the mid 1990's, a fellow volunteer and resident of Plaquemine, Aaron Tulley, proposed and worked to have the Atchafalaya Basin designated as an Heritage Area. Iberville Parish volunteer Sue G. Hebert, served for 12 years with RC&D. The then Lt. Gov. Kathleen Blanco recognized the project would

benefit the Acadiana Parish and gave life to the proposal. As Governor during the following years, the Area gained support of Louisiana Congressional Delegation, who secured the Atchafalaya Heritage Area recognition in Year 2006. The Area is important to me, as I lived all my life in Iberville Parish. I am retired and serve as the President of Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc. (501(c)(3) organization) formed initially to promote plantations, homes and restaurants in preparation of the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition. Today, the mission statement includes the promotion of the heritage and culture of people and places of Iberville Parish.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86576

Comment Text: am a life-long resident of the Atchafalaya Heritage Area. My maternal and paternal grandparents migrated to the Atchafalaya swampland to work during the expansive lumber industry. My years of research, support and interest of local history, culture and lifestyles have made me aware of the significance of the Area.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86616

Comment Text: It's my heritage, my family owns hundreds of acres of property in Iberville and St. Martin Parishes. I was reared there by a commercial fishing father. I own a camp on family property where I spend most of my leisure time hunting and fishing and working with my swamp tour business.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 26 Comment Id: 86644

Comment Text: First it covers the parish where I live and also all three parishes that the company I work for serves electricity.

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86652

Comment Text: Roy O. Martin owns several 1000's of acres in the A.N.H.A. timber and wildlife, along with recreation, are very important to us.

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86659

Comment Text: As a hunter and fisherman, owning a campsite, it is so conducive to hunting and fishing, but not always accessible.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86665

Comment Text: This is the area for which I reside and choose to raise my children in.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86693

Comment Text: As a young man I worked in the Atchafalaya Basin as a land agent for a large land owner 1955-1991.

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86698

Comment Text: My ancestors lived in Bayou Chene in the Basin hundreds of years before now. The land I own there has been passed down from generation to generation.

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86700

Comment Text: It is so far from where I live that I have trouble getting there.

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 86712

Comment Text: Family owns property in Iberia, St. Martin and St. Mary Parishes  
Organization: Frank Beaulieu, Sr., LLC

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86715

Comment Text: I was born and raised in the area. I love this place! I can tell you many stories about this area! I remember when the water and air was pure. I remember when the bayous and lakes had abundant fish.

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86839

Comment Text: My husband, Ben Skerrett, was the chairman of the Atchafalaya Basin Committee for years before his death. We are very interested in "preserving the Basin" for future generations - for all uses - sports, business, nature, etc.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86844

Comment Text: What makes it special to me is that it is the largest freshwater swamp in Louisiana. We are building a camp for disabled children and adults adjacent to the Atchafalaya Basin. I am glad to hear that it will be a national heritage area. It is about time.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 60 Comment Id: 86850

Comment Text: This area has been my home for 77 years. I enjoy hunting and fishing in the Basin. It is excellent habitat for all game as well as crawfish and blue crabs. I had occasion to be working on a pipeline from the east to the west levees during the 1973 high water. It is hard to believe the difference the high water makes.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86855

Comment Text: Within the USA and overseas, as a successful project facilities engineering planner, designer, builder, constructor, manager of buildings and appurtenances, other structures, highways, the environment, coastal restoration facilities projects: I have to admit that this national treasure is a natural "diamond-in-

the-rough" that continues to emulate ever-developing, always showing off its wonderful splendor, to be enjoyed by all of the world: tourists, scientists, researchers.

Correspondence Id: 62    Comment Id: 86862

Comment Text: I own two camps in the Atchafalaya Basin and have several friends that own camps. I have been visiting this area since I was a kid.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 65    Comment Id: 86880

Comment Text: I have fished in the area many times and hunted on the edge of it too. It is a special recreation area that holds many memories.

Correspondence Id: 70    Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70    Comment Id: 86915

Comment Text: A place where we enjoy getting away and spending quality time with family and friends away from everyday B.S.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 91    Comment Id: 88454

Comment Text: Everything there is part of me.

Correspondence Id: 92    Comment Id: 88460

Comment Text: I am now in my mid-seventies, but I grew up spending a lot of time boating and swimming in Lake Fausse Point, one of the many lakes in the Atchafalaya Basin.

Correspondence Id: 95    Comment Id: 88482

Comment Text: I was raised in this area, hunting and fishing in this area for 50 years. This area has a history all of its own. It is one of the best places in the world to enjoy our hunting and fishing, it holds a special place in my heart.

Correspondence Id: 97    Comment Id: 88492

Comment Text: Have lived here for 81 years

Correspondence Id: 99    Comment Id: 88507

Comment Text: I hunt and fish in it.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP



Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88547

Comment Text: I lived here all my life. When I became disabled the Atchafalaya became a place to go and be relaxed mentally. Medicines are not always the answer to good health.

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88560

Comment Text: The wildlife, scenery and close proximity to my home make it an irreplaceable natural resource! I grew up hunting and fishing in the Basin!

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88580

Comment Text: It's where I grew up and live now. It's part of my past and future.

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99096

Comment Text: My present lifestyle with respect to nature, family & friends.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 145 Comment Id: 99102

Comment Text: My family was born and raised in the Atchafalaya spillway.

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99145

Comment Text: It is a beautiful natural area that I grew up in hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, etc.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99151

Comment Text: I am an advocate of the Basin. I have been in and out of it all my life. In my opinion, there is no place like the Basin in the world. It is complete nature at its best!

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99156

Comment Text: I have been involved with DNR for years now. We have been successful in many areas of the Basin on removing of siltation. I would hope that we can continue to do so.

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99182

Comment Text: It is where my family and I spent many hours fishing and boat riding.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99222

Comment Text: This is where I grew up (Pointe Coupee Parish). The beauty of nature is at every turn.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99233

Comment Text: I grew up surrounded by the Atchafalaya Basin in Morgan City. It taught me the beauty and rawness of nature, how to live in harmony with it, how to respect its power and beauty, and how to use it respectfully.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88662

Comment Text: a) Place of birth, b) Land of my French and Acadian forefathers, c) The development, protection, and acknowledgement of a unique area, d) Recognizing the contribution of areas early settlers that participated in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of New Orleans, and War of Succession, e) It is the land about which Longfellow wrote. A land whose culture and language is rapidly disappearing rescued for history.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, gouss, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out

to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88686

Comment Text: It's where my family was born and is my heritage. It's what I manage for visitors to experience on my refuge.

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88717

Comment Text: Includes area settled by my wife's grandfather, later became area I hunted and fished for 45 years.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88723

Comment Text: I was born and raised next to the Atchafalaya Basin in the Community of Catahoula. The beauty and peacefulness of the area is like nowhere else on earth.

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88724

Comment Text: I am a water patrol deputy for St. Martin Sheriff's Dept. I enjoy patrolling the swamps, bayous, and rivers of the Atchafalaya Basin. the scenery is unbelievable.

Correspondence Id: 136 Comment Id: 99060

Comment Text: I'm retired, living in Lafayette, love the outdoors, want to get involved.

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99079

Comment Text: It's where I live, It's part of my life.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99266

Comment Text: The need to keep an ecosystem as balanced as possible and maintained for our descendants is upper most in my mind. My ancestor was brought in as the commandant of the post of Opellousas by the King of Spain so my ancestors and their children settled there - new roads, Arnaudville and St. Martinsville.

Correspondence Id: 173 Comment Id: 99262

Comment Text: Born and raised in M.C. LA - My mother was raised on a houseboat in the Basin. I own Cajun Houseboats & Rentals, Inc. and our mission is to have locals and

tourists "Hurry Up and Come Slow Down With Us" so they can have an "Up Close and Personal Experience with Nature." It will help make the world a better place.  
Organization: Cajun Houseboats and Rentals, Inc.

### **MT1004 Project is taking too long**

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88654

Comment Text: Don't wait too long before going beyond the planning stage.

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88538

Comment Text: I have heard a lot of mission statements, and then fizzled out. Stay with the plan and see it through, make this area proud for the people of LA.

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88531

Comment Text: That the development of the management plan and the implementation of the plan would be delayed another fifty years.

Correspondence Id: 101 Comment Id: 88519

Comment Text: Anything you'll do besides talk about it would be good. Just don't study it to death forever. Just do something. It seems there is too much studying and not enough action in every department of this country. We are about to lose the Spring Bayou area because of no action just studying. If it wasn't for Benny Paul Bordelon we wouldn't be getting anything done, and that's a fact. I love where I live, it could be beautiful again with action, not words.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86619

Comment Text: Failure of Atchafalaya Basin program to deliver on the master plan for improving water quality in Iberville and St. Martin Parishes inside of the Atchafalaya Basin as planned. Program moving too slow on these issues.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86615

Comment Text: That like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, that has been mandated by Congress to develop this area into a recreation area since the early 1970's, do nothing but lip service!

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86922

Comment Text: That before anyone gives a crap it'll be too late. Do what needs to be done asap, do not wait for bureaucratic red tape. Time is of the essence. The government wants our resources, but doesn't give a damn about the effects on our environment and our people. They suck us dry but cry about California, Alaska, Florida, etc. Louisiana is self-sufficient and the USA relies on us for energy. Take care of us.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

### **MT1005 Comments about the planning effort and/or previous plans**

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99249

Comment Text: In 33 years working for CRT I have seen many management plans written. I hope there will be continuity & completion of this one.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99228

Comment Text: Planning processes can stall on the ground actions.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99241

Comment Text: The long time of "necessity" to get through all the state & federal details and requirements to get something done - not enough public education and awareness on what this is all about?

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99243

Comment Text: That with a lack of patience and or progress the effort to do this might "fail" - or stall?

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88653

Comment Text: Great plans for the Basin have been introduced over the years but they eventually fall by the wayside without being implemented. Let's hope that this time people are serious and the work gets done.

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 86642

Comment Text: Continue the progress made by Ms. Sandra Thompson and her committees.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86619

Comment Text: Failure of Atchafalaya Basin program to deliver on the master plan for improving water quality in Iberville and St. Martin Parishes inside of the Atchafalaya Basin as planned. Program moving too slow on these issues.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86584

Comment Text: The Primary Interpretive Themes that were identified when the area was a state heritage area need to be revisited. Some of this is from January 1997 when Mary Frye, Project Coordinator from the National Park Service in the Denver Service Center - sent workers to each parish to do Resources Planning.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86585

Comment Text: Within your publication - Atchafalaya National Heritage Area-Louisiana-June 2008 - page 3 - Authentic Expressions #10 Crawfish - from Swamp to Table. I feel that this should be renamed as: Crawfish: from China to Louisiana stores and restaurants (the Atchafalaya Basin fishermen are vital to further successful economic development within the Basin and they are aware that imported Chinese crawfish has a definite impact on our local economy, culture and lifestyle.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86624

Comment Text: Continue master plan for the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86808

Comment Text: On page 3 under "The Many and the One" no. 4 - change to the African-American influence. I don't think slavery should be mentioned.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

### **MT1006 Comments about meetings**

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88553

Comment Text: Put out meeting notices earlier and not just one time in a newspaper

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86670

Comment Text: Meeting dates and times not included in packet.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

### **MT1007 Keep local citizens, residents and landowners involved in the planning process**

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86721

Comment Text: That it is not about control of these areas, but people would have a voice in the matter, and not just politicians!

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86581

Comment Text: Planning should involve civic, history and preservation organization in local parishes and cities. State legislators and Congressional leaders should be informed through their legislative aids in the state. The first group of organizations is the movers and shakers while the State and National officials hold keys to funding.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86506

Comment Text: Management direction: achievable concrete goals and milestones with real deadlines; more effort to include a broader segment of the public in the planning process; support of local initiatives through funding matches and/or provision of technical expertise.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86669

Comment Text: Whether the local elderly are called upon to assist in the plan development and implementation

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86703

Comment Text: That the interests of the landowners will be overlooked while all of this planning is going on by people with no connection to the land.

### **OC100 Protection/preservation of cultural resources and historical sites**

Correspondence Id: 177 Comment Id: 99285

Comment Text: All management considerations for the Atchafalaya Basin region should be environmentally sustainable and should conserve native ecosystems. They should also support cultural authenticity, while helping support a high quality of life for residents of the region. We should take our lesson from other areas of the country and the world, which boast some sort of spectacular natural resource to experience and enjoy. Some have been better managed than others. We want to make sure the human actions we encourage with this commission uplift people by upholding the integrity of the resource itself, and we need to consider the resource as consisting of both the wetland and the people who are rooted there.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99279

Comment Text: More efforts to preserve and protect the Atchafalaya with improvement and enhancement of the interpretation of the history, culture, traditions and stories of the people who lived around the river and who are settled on the lands nearby.

Assistance with the preservation of the French language is a great need since it was French speaking Acadians who settled this area in the 1760s. All interpretations should be bi-lingual.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99229

Comment Text: Active protection & preservation of cultural & natural resources. Designation through DOT as Natural Scenic Byway.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99217

Comment Text: Preservation of existing historical sites is vital and should be encouraged and helped.

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99205

Comment Text: 1) Sustainability, environment & culture priority one.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86574

Comment Text: Too much time has elapsed and most of the residents in preserving historic sites - people who have lived and made their living in the Atchafalaya Basin will not live to give the first person true stories - then stories of the Area will be handed down in some false fashion or made-to-create a false image of people and places.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86580

Comment Text: Also, include preservation and restoration efforts from the National Heritage Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86600

Comment Text: More preservation/restoration of sites, like buildings, that contribute to its [incomplete thought].

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86640

Comment Text: The changing way of life due to population growth.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86771

Comment Text: Historic preservation blending with progress and development.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86957

Comment Text: Importance of preserving the cultural heritage and swamp preservation regulations. Pollution control.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88472

Comment Text: Protection of historic structures and natural landscapes

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88529

Comment Text: I believe that it's a special opportunity to develop the history and the various cultures of the people of this Basin. Native Americans, Acadians, Anglos, etc.



who lived and worked in the Atchafalaya. Note: I would not like the above to be overlooked.

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88557

Comment Text: I would like to see development of resources in a way that provides greater access but in a way that is sensitive to the local culture

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86507

Comment Text: The protection of the most-threatened natural and cultural resources that are critical for the character of the basin through strategies including conservation easements, conserving these unique resources for future generations.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86525

Comment Text: Keep the Basin wild, so that everyone can see what the land was like when the Broussard brothers arrived. It's wild right now. Why change it? Once changed, it's gone forever. Why kill something now that will be a tourist boon in just a few years? In the 1940s, the refuge of the last of the Ivory-billed Woodpeckers was destroyed for lumber up in NE Louisiana. If we still had these birds, they would generate millions of dollars per year in tourism for this now poverty-stricken area. The only sedentary flock of Whooping Cranes in the world was destroyed at White Lake. If still alive, they would bring millions of dollars yearly to Vermilion Parish. And if the government hadn't wiped out our French, think of the tourism mecca this land would be today. We need to think to the future, and understand when we have something unique, something that people will want to experience. The Basin is our Eiffel Tower, our Grand Canyon. We need to capitalize on it in a sustainable way.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86572

Comment Text: Preservation and restoration to continue - identify all cultural resources, buildings, and historic sites which in many cases have been over-looked in the past.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88659

Comment Text: Archeological surveys for all historic and prehistoric sites within the Basin, including evaluations of potential significance.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88661

Comment Text: Heritage is not simply protecting natural areas to appreciate scenery. Vital information is urgently needed on the historic and prehistoric sites within the Basin, before any more are destroyed.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99054

Comment Text: Plenty of outreach and education for children and the area. I'd also like to see activities or events that strive for cultural diversity.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99077

Comment Text: Cleanliness, preserve culture.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99124

Comment Text: The Basin should be protected (what is left of it) and the unique culture of the area should be preserved. That unique way of life is almost forever gone.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99178

Comment Text: I would like to see the myriad natural resources of the basin, including the historic, cultural and aesthetic preserved, protected and conserved in accordance with our Louisiana constitution.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99179

Comment Text: A plan that takes into account landowners and non-landowners, those who live in the basin and those who do not, all of the basin's resources, the tangible and intangible and most of all a plan that sustains the basin as a fabulous natural resource.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99213

Comment Text: This area is unique in a homogenized American culture. The Acadian way of life, based in a French background, is rapidly disappearing and needs to be celebrated and preserved.

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99224

Comment Text: Restoration of the coast, our cypress forest paved, beautification of our waterways. Culture saved for future generations.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

### **OC101 Restoration of cultural resources**

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88473

Comment Text: Protection, litter control, development of traditional building styles

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86910

Comment Text: Bring in the Atakapa-Ishak Indian tribe and other indian tribes to share this land that was theirs to begin with first.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86600

Comment Text: More preservation/restoration of sites, like buildings, that contribute to its [incomplete thought].

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86572

Comment Text: Preservation and restoration to continue - identify all cultural resources, buildings, and historic sites which in many cases have been over-looked in the past.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

### **OC102 Education, interpretation and identification of cultural resources**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99297

Comment Text: Another relevant issue that has come up from time to time that bears on the goals of the ANHA is the quality of information conveyed by tour guides as they interpret the area to their customers. It would be appropriate and of value to establish an educational tour guide certification program so that the correct information about the Atchafalaya is conveyed to visitors to the area. Along those same lines, certification should discourage tour operators from feeding of wild animals, particularly alligators, a

practice that can encourage dangerous confrontations and is always detrimental to the health and welfare of the wild animals of the swamp.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 176 Comment Id: 99283

Comment Text: I am sure that the final strategy will incorporate not only the need to promote the culture and history of the area, but also to preserve the sensitive ecosystem that is the Atchafalaya Basin. As I stated last night this is a monumental task. The diversity of culture, history, geography, geology and economy throughout the designated area makes finding that "common thread" quite difficult. There are so many stories here, and all deserve our interest and attention. Marksville State Historic Site is a Native American mound site in Avoyelles Parish. These mounds were constructed between 50 BC and 400 AD. We do not know what happened to the indigenous people that built these mounds. They used the mounds during that period, then stopped. Did they migrate? Were they ravaged by disease? Did they lose belief in what the mounds might have embodied? There are so many questions and so few answers. This is the mystery of our site and what makes it so compelling for me. There are numerous "prehistoric" sites in the National Heritage Area. Most are on private property. Most are still considered sacred by the "historic" tribes that have inhabited the area since the "ancients" left. It is my hope that these sites can be included in your plan for interpreting the culture and history of the area.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86824

Comment Text: Develop tourist attractions showcasing culture and heritage.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86857

Comment Text: I would like to see greater emphasis be placed in developing a data base spectrum of information centers and landmarks for each community, town, city, province within each of the parishes: regards historical designation of each, from their beginning and forward progression, kept up to date on an interim basis - with emphasis on tourism, cultural activities, research, development.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86976

Comment Text: Preserved in its natural state - but with opportunity for people to enjoy and appreciate. 1) Do not allow to become a "tourist trap." 2) Project good image of state and people.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86977

Comment Text: Tell our history.

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88465

Comment Text: The reservation of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana is also located nearby and offers rich opportunities for study of this Native American culture.

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88529

Comment Text: I believe that it's a special opportunity to develop the history and the various cultures of the people of this Basin. Native Americans, Acadians, Anglos, etc. who lived and worked in the Atchafalaya. Note: I would not like the above to be overlooked.

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88568

Comment Text: Educate people on the historical aspect of this area and what it takes to perpetuate this going forward.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88658

Comment Text: The development of tourist centers, trails, cause and boat routes, historic and archeological education, and conservation will be essential.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99192

Comment Text: Recorded educational material from the people who live in the basin.

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 4 Comment Id: 86491

Comment Text: It is essential that the folk adaptation to the Basin is presented to the public. This includes presentations the relationship between technology (traps, boats, homes), and the natural environment (swamps, river deltas, etc). That story should be told in not only in English, but also in French. Language and culture are inseparable; to convey fully the cultural adaptation to the environment in the Basin, that presentation should be in French. That French should be Cajun French and not standard French; for that is the French of Louisiana. That folk adaptation includes not only European, but also Native American and African elements. There should be some presentation of the period of exploitation of resources of the Basin similar to what we are seeing in the Amazon Basin. As those cultures have sought modernity, they have changed their riverine environments a was done in Atchafalaya Basin. The ethnicity of those participating in the exploitation of the Basin should be presented.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86504

Comment Text: Would like to see: presentation of the lifeways of basin residents from oral history and other projects; recognition of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of basin cultures in all presentations; recognition and presentations on the technological and cultural adaptations and innovations of basin occupants, especially in boating and fishing; facilities that combine several types of related resources in their

presentation and emphasis, e.g. a boat museum that also emphasizes the natural resources of the area and how these resources contributed to the culture of the basin in the past and continue to contribute to the current culture of the basin and region today, and also includes opportunities for guided and non-guided education and recreation such as guided boat tours and boat launching and rental facilities.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86508

Comment Text: Gain wider recognition of the economic, natural, cultural and historical significance of the basin. Promoting awareness and use of the basin in a synergistic manner, incorporating education about nature, culture and history, but also providing opportunities for recreation and active learning as well as local economic diversification and sustainability.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86757

Comment Text: Mandatory garbage pick up in each parish, litter education, build on tourist industry - culture, crafts, architecture, history, etc.

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86807

Comment Text: I would also like to see more movies made in the area portraying a realistic image of the culture of the people who live in the area.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99216

Comment Text: An emphasis on the French language and culture is of utmost importance. Bilingual signage and brochures of attractions are vital to encourage Francophone tourism.

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99218

Comment Text: The hospitality industry should be educated about attractions in the area, and Francophones should be given opportunities in management. The hospitality industry should encourage and employ Francophone workers.

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99244

Comment Text: Joint promotion between northern section (Concordia Parish) and southern area - reinforce blending of several cultures.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99245

Comment Text: Unique ecology - story of environment's effect on man and his work, music, culture & food.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99269

Comment Text: A splendid museum, near the waterways but adjacent to I-10. This would give the history of the area, the lives of the people still living there, the story of "correct" commercial use within, and swamp tours. Perhaps a small zoo of native animals, too! This would allow the tourist passing through the opportunity to realize the richness of the area and allow them to explore alternative vacation opportunities.

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99279

Comment Text: More efforts to preserve and protect the Atchafalaya with improvement and enhancement of the interpretation of the history, culture, traditions and stories of the people who lived around the river and who are settled on the lands nearby.

Assistance with the preservation of the French language is a great need since it was French speaking Acadians who settled this area in the 1760s. All interpretations should be bi-lingual.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99281

Comment Text: It would be a strong addition if more effective programs could be developed such as: Enhanced river tours, historic and cultural programs geared toward heritage and ecotourism, nationally recognized birding paths and tours, a strong protection of the fishing industry so important to the people who live off the Basin, and the creation of much more camp sites with nice state operated cottages, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99282

Comment Text: As Director of St. Martinville Tourism I am concerned about the missed opportunities to capitalize on what this and other gateway cities can add to the interpretation of the Atchafalaya, steeped in history of one of the oldest settlements in Louisiana. I believe that the historic heritage area must look to a museum or center to be the major part of telling the local history. The "Atchafalaya Basin" can be the mecca for tourist learning the story of the Acadian settlement.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88660

Comment Text: There can be no "heritage" without knowledge of the actual sites, their locations and significance. Most sites are virtually unrecorded and unexamined, from ancient Indian mounds to Civil War forts and cemeteries.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88661

Comment Text: Heritage is not simply protecting natural areas to appreciate scenery. Vital information is urgently needed on the historic and prehistoric sites within the Basin, before any more are destroyed.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88667

Comment Text: c) A Civil War Trail that defines the route and battles of the Confederate and Union Armies through the area. d) An Evangeline or Acadian Trail that identifies the route traveled by the Acadians in settling the area. Possibly using the route outlined by Longfellow in his poem "Evangeline."

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88722

Comment Text: I would like to see some recognition of the French influence in Louisiana. Julien Poydras the founder of public education in LA is burried in front of the Poydras School on False River.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88732

Comment Text: I would like to see the original Louisiana history told.

Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88733

Comment Text: Continue to inform about the heritage and cultures of this area.

Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 136 Comment Id: 99063

Comment Text: Explain about the history of the area, Cajun culture.

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99133

Comment Text: Priority on identification of special historical and natural features in the basin and provision of access information. Full time historian, cultural anthropologist to identify sites of historical and cultural interest. Need a source of dependable ongoing operational funding for a heritage area program.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99160

Comment Text: Expand access for recreational activities. Set up regional interpretive sites that show how the Basin ties in to local history. Explore Native American history and prehistory in the Basin.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99290

Comment Text: More Afro-american depictions and more Afro-american manning the stations.



Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99291

Comment Text: Management that thrives on the balance of all cultures.

### **OC103 Document/record the history of the area; identify historical features**

Correspondence Id: 176 Comment Id: 99283

Comment Text: I am sure that the final strategy will incorporate not only the need to promote the culture and history of the area, but also to preserve the sensitive ecosystem that is the Atchafalaya Basin. As I stated last night this is a monumental task. The diversity of culture, history, geography, geology and economy throughout the designated area makes finding that "common thread" quite difficult. There are so many stories here, and all deserve our interest and attention. Marksville State Historic Site is a Native American mound site in Avoyelles Parish. These mounds were constructed between 50 BC and 400 AD. We do not know what happened to the indigenous people that built these mounds. They used the mounds during that period, then stopped. Did they migrate? Were they ravaged by disease? Did they lose belief in what the mounds might have embodied? There are so many questions and so few answers. This is the mystery of our site and what makes it so compelling for me. There are numerous "prehistoric" sites in the National Heritage Area. Most are on private property. Most are still considered sacred by the "historic" tribes that have inhabited the area since the "ancients" left. It is my hope that these sites can be included in your plan for interpreting the culture and history of the area.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99254

Comment Text: First and foremost I would like to see an educational program developed and instituted in schools in Louisiana, especially in the fourteen (14) parishes in the Heritage area. I would also like to see the management plan to include the documenting of information and history, through folklorists, of the cultures in the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99192

Comment Text: Recorded educational material from the people who live in the basin.

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99160

Comment Text: Expand access for recreational activities. Set up regional interpretive sites that show how the Basin ties in to local history. Explore Native American history and prehistory in the Basin.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99133

Comment Text: Priority on identification of special historical and natural features in the basin and provision of access information. Full time historian, cultural anthropologist to identify sites of historical and cultural interest. Need a source of dependable ongoing operational funding for a heritage area program.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88660

Comment Text: There can be no "heritage" without knowledge of the actual sites, their locations and significance. Most sites are virtually unrecorded and unexamined, from ancient Indian mounds to Civil War forts and cemeteries.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86504

Comment Text: Would like to see: presentation of the lifeways of basin residents from oral history and other projects; recognition of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of basin cultures in all presentations; recognition and presentations on the technological and cultural adaptations and innovations of basin occupants, especially in boating and fishing; facilities that combine several types of related resources in their presentation and emphasis, e.g. a boat museum that also emphasizes the natural resources of the area and how these resources contributed to the culture of the basin in the past and continue to contribute to the current culture of the basin and region today, and also includes opportunities for guided and non-guided education and recreation such as guided boat tours and boat launching and rental facilities.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86572

Comment Text: Preservation and restoration to continue - identify all cultural resources, buildings, and historic sites which in many cases have been over-looked in the past.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86574

Comment Text: Too much time has elapsed and most of the residents in preserving historic sites - people who have lived and made their living in the Atchafalaya Basin will not live to give the first person true stories - then stories of the Area will be handed down in some false fashion or made-to-create a false image of people and places.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86601

Comment Text: More documentation/recording of history of area.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86807

Comment Text: I would also like to see more movies made in the area portraying a realistic image of the culture of the people who live in the area.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86857

Comment Text: I would like to see greater emphasis be placed in developing a data base spectrum of information centers and landmarks for each community, town, city, province within each of the parishes: regards historical designation of each, from their beginning and forward progression, kept up to date on an interim basis - with emphasis on tourism, cultural activities, research, development.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86861

Comment Text: I would like to see more research done to ensure that there be complete and concise synopsis of the history of each culture and heritage of the people of all races and traditions and experiences, from their birth to early childhood through and to further developments, improvements, progressions forward and showing how that the progression of the relationships of each parish's inhabitants intertwines with each other, as a whole area concept.

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88659

Comment Text: Archeological surveys for all historic and prehistoric sites within the Basin, including evaluations of potential significance.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88661

Comment Text: Heritage is not simply protecting natural areas to appreciate scenery. Vital information is urgently needed on the historic and prehistoric sites within the Basin, before any more are destroyed.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99150

Comment Text: History of basin - archaeological - geology - [can't read] natural biology - fishing (commercial & recreational) - wildlife - hunting history - These [can't read] need to be researched & made a part of the heritage plan.

Organization: Sierra Club

## **OC104 Increase ancestral/cultural awareness in local citizens**

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88671

Comment Text: b) A colossal educational process must take place to create respect for this effort. Recognition of the effort by the general public must take place to make the administration and management effective. (This is an exceptionally vital key.)

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86757

Comment Text: Mandatory garbage pick up in each parish, litter education, build on tourist industry - culture, crafts, architecture, history, etc.

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86488

Comment Text: The eventual awareness of local citizens of the value that the French language holds in their ancestry, and the awareness of ancestry in general.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86979

Comment Text: Get people to be LA proud and live that concept.

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87002

Comment Text: I would like to see a place where the locals can travel with their families and enjoy what their state has to offer - discover that grass is greener in their own backyard.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88665

Comment Text: a) a multi-focused educational process directed toward developing a broad appreciation and understanding. One that reaches the hidden depths of the area populace, presented in many different formats.

Organization: Image Commission

### **OG100 General protection/restoration/preservation and/or maintenance (including clean-up)**

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99230

Comment Text: Protection of the future of the basin and slowing the deterioration of coastal south Louisiana.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99125

Comment Text: Management of the Basin by the Corps and other government agencies, both state and federal, should reflect a willingness to preserve the Basin.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99110

Comment Text: Clean up the trash, get rid of the spoil banks and the location canals, enforce the 404 permits.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88734  
Comment Text: That it is maintained for future generations.  
Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99055  
Comment Text: So often human entertainment takes precedence over protection of the environment. I hope preservation will be the priority.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99077  
Comment Text: Cleanliness, preserve culture.  
Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99111  
Comment Text: Enforce the Clean Water Act, the National Historic Prservation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act.  
Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88473  
Comment Text: Protection, litter control, development of traditional building styles  
Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86662  
Comment Text: Beautification projects - campsites  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86763  
Comment Text: 1) Less trash, 2) More canoe/kayak mapped trails and opportunities, 3) Less oil presence, 4) Maybe kiosks at boat landings about wildlife, vegetation, etc.  
Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86865  
Comment Text: Keep this area accessible to the public and preserve it for future generations.  
Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86872  
Comment Text: Continued maintenance  
Organization: Retired from Natural Resources

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86897  
Comment Text: Managed for preservation and education.

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88429  
Comment Text: Save and protect the area

## **OG101 Limit commercialization/overexploitation**

Correspondence Id: 173 Comment Id: 99265

Comment Text: I would not want it to simply be another "Disney World" attraction.

Organization: Cajun Houseboats and Rentals, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99236

Comment Text: I would like to see that it remains first and foremost for and about the local people. I would not like it to become Disneyworld. I would like to see trilingual signage.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86602

Comment Text: No commercialization - more sensitive planning

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86727

Comment Text: Keep it wild and keep out commercialization.

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86763

Comment Text: 1) Less trash, 2) More canoe/kayak mapped trails and opportunities, 3) Less oil presence, 4) Maybe kiosks at boat landings about wildlife, vegetation, etc.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86769

Comment Text: Commercial development should blend in with the natural area.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86794

Comment Text: I would like to see this area stay in the natural way that it is today with as little commercialism as possible.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88421

Comment Text: Over development as tourist area

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88515

Comment Text: A desire to see the area wildlife oriented, with the complete avoidance of all commercial activities.

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88637

Comment Text: 1) Attempts to commercialize area (build Disneyland) should be avoided, 2) Consider bike paths on secondary roads

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88701

Comment Text: Emphasis on conservation and wilderness experience - less emphasis on providing for RV visitors et. al.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

### **OG102 Incorporate agricultural practices**

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86668

Comment Text: I would not like to see destruction of our wetlands. I would like to see more of an investment in our coastal region and agriculture.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

### **OG103 Add more signage; add bilingual signage**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99268

Comment Text: The abuse of the area by the ignorant and outsiders. The commercial plunderers who manipulate laws and lawmakers for personal gain at the expense of ANHA. The trash - more signage - dark green with gold lettering (blending) warning about littering. "Don't mess in our Nest."

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99236

Comment Text: I would like to see that it remains first and foremost for and about the local people. I would not like it to become Disneyworld. I would like to see trilingual signage.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99216

Comment Text: An emphasis on the French language and culture is of utmost importance. Bilingual signage and brochures of attractions are vital to encourage Francophone tourism.

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99237

Comment Text: a) A local advisory board that has a final say in projects. b) Trilingual signage, English, French and Spanish.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99246

Comment Text: Need more development in Concordia - museums, exhibits, etc. Better roads in area - signage.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99072

Comment Text: Use volunteer groups and prison labor to collect litter. Possible signage: "When you litter, you are cursing the community."

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88620

Comment Text: Improve access and signage on roadways and waterways; Forest health; Manage aquatic invasive species

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86695

Comment Text: Signage denoting area and special interest areas

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86812

Comment Text: Additional nice boat launches, security to protect parking areas, signs of significant areas, activities to improve wildlife like feed and viewing areas, nature trails to old schools and churches.

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88619

Comment Text: Improve access and signage; Manage the timber quantities to achieve the highest degree of forest health; Improve hydrology

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88625

Comment Text: More interpretive setups like you have on I-10 rest area over Atchafalaya on I-10

### **OG104 Economic growth (sustainable); support local businesses**

Correspondence Id: 177 Comment Id: 99285

Comment Text: All management considerations for the Atchafalaya Basin region should be environmentally sustainable and should conserve native ecosystems. They should also support cultural authenticity, while helping support a high quality of life for residents of the region. We should take our lesson from other areas of the country and the world, which boast some sort of spectacular natural resource to experience and enjoy. Some have been better managed than others. We want to make sure the human actions we encourage with this commission uplift people by upholding the integrity of



the resource itself, and we need to consider the resource as consisting of both the wetland and the people who are rooted there.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99201

Comment Text: 1) Nature - diversity & bounty - keeping it. 2) Culture - staying authentic 3) Focusing resulting economic increase via tourism into true improvement in quality of life of residents.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99076

Comment Text: Preserve our business - keep out Walmarts and other large chains.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99088

Comment Text: Don't try to please everyone in every way, but find out what seems to be the common threads and build your vision on that. Concentrate on sustainable economic and environmental models rather than quick, "love it to death" exploitation.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99204

Comment Text: 1) More natural area 2) Less suburban sprawl 3) Making sure economic increase stays in communities.

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86823

Comment Text: Make this a national tourist attraction that will be economically stimulating for the local communities such as the village of Loreauville.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86505

Comment Text: Would like to see: inclusion of the various stakeholders in the basin and opportunities for locals with localized knowledge of the culture and ecology of the basin to benefit economically from increased tourism and from the NHA in general.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86623

Comment Text: Promote tourism to help local economy.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86701

Comment Text: Some economic growth for residents and land owners.

### **OG105 Support local initiatives**

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99236

Comment Text: I would like to see that it remains first and foremost for and about the local people. I would not like it to become Disneyworld. I would like to see trilingual signage.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86657

Comment Text: Management plan should address the economic impacts of forestry and the importance of silviculture.

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88450

Comment Text: I would like to see more use of water pumps, best management practices and a huge campaign to stop litter.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86506

Comment Text: Management direction: achievable concrete goals and milestones with real deadlines; more effort to include a broader segment of the public in the planning process; support of local initiatives through funding matches and/or provision of technical expertise.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

## **OG106 Limit development (private and/or commercial)**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99270

Comment Text: Because the area is so vast it is difficult to control and manage. An impact tax, perhaps 1/2 percent should be put upon any and all construction in the restricted area would enable the enforcers to better patrol and control illegal usage.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88708

Comment Text: A return to the wild, natural habitat it once was. No clearing and development for the sake of profit.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88631

Comment Text: Keep it natural and wild. No parks, campgrounds, bridges or roadways.  
Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88592

Comment Text: More trails, boat ramps, camping areas, house boat rentals. Please please do not exploit the area or allow others to do so (no private ownership!). Lease, maybe.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86889

Comment Text: It needs to remain in its natural state - it does not need "encroachment and progress" to mar its beauty. Enhancing what is there - not adding to it or changing it.

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88418

Comment Text: See - undeveloped wild area

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88419

Comment Text: No see - over development; Develop access areas only

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88420

Comment Text: Undeveloped wild area

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88421

Comment Text: Over development as tourist area

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88503

Comment Text: Protection from commercial development which would destroy its pristine nature.

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88576

Comment Text: I would not like to see urban and industrial development unregulated! I would like to see better management of land and water and growth of ecotourism!  
Organization: Istroma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88583

Comment Text: I would like to see more money being used toward preservation of these areas, more enforcement. I would like to see less logging, less construction, etc.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88590

Comment Text: Strict environmental laws concerning the usage and not exploiting the area.

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86526

Comment Text: I'd like to see land set aside for public use, not private development.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86692

Comment Text: It doesn't get developed.

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86763

Comment Text: 1) Less trash, 2) More canoe/kayak mapped trails and opportunities, 3) Less oil presence, 4) Maybe kiosks at boat landings about wildlife, vegetation, etc.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88613

Comment Text: Campgrounds - cleared somewhat, but have enough trees for shade and comfort. No commercial building (stores, etc.)

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88701

Comment Text: Emphasis on conservation and wilderness experience - less emphasis on providing for RV visitors et. al.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99165

Comment Text: Would like to see less development in this natural area.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99204

Comment Text: 1) More natural area 2) Less suburban sprawl 3) Making sure economic increase stays in communities.

## **ON100 Protection, preservation, and/or conservation of natural resources and biodiversity**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99297

Comment Text: Another relevant issue that has come up from time to time that bears on the goals of the ANHA is the quality of information conveyed by tour guides as they interpret the area to their customers. It would be appropriate and of value to establish an educational tour guide certification program so that the correct information about the Atchafalaya is conveyed to visitors to the area. Along those same lines, certification should discourage tour operators from feeding of wild animals, particularly alligators, a practice that can encourage dangerous confrontations and is always detrimental to the health and welfare of the wild animals of the swamp.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99154

Comment Text: Freshwater projects. It is a must.

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99178

Comment Text: I would like to see the myriad natural resources of the basin, including the historic, cultural and aesthetic preserved, protected and conserved in accordance with our Louisiana constitution.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99179

Comment Text: A plan that takes into account landowners and non-landowners, those who live in the basin and those who do not, all of the basin's resources, the tangible and intangible and most of all a plan that sustains the basin as a fabulous natural resource.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes

encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99204

Comment Text: 1) More natural area 2) Less suburban sprawl 3) Making sure economic increase stays in communities.

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99205

Comment Text: 1) Sustainability, environment & culture priority one.

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99224

Comment Text: Restoration of the coast, our cypress forest paved, beautification of our waterways. Culture saved for future generations.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99229

Comment Text: Active protection & preservation of cultural & natural resources.

Designation through DOT as Natural Scenic Byway.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 173 Comment Id: 99264

Comment Text: Would like to see it stay pristine and people enjoying it from a "low tech" approach while promoting a more sane life that hopefully those who visit, will want to bring that concept back to where they live.

Organization: Cajun Houseboats and Rentals, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86525

Comment Text: Keep the Basin wild, so that everyone can see what the land was like when the Broussard brothers arrived. It's wild right now. Why change it? Once changed, it's gone forever. Why kill something now that will be a tourist boon in just a few years? In the 1940s, the refuge of the last of the Ivory-billed Woodpeckers was destroyed for lumber up in NE Louisiana. If we still had these birds, they would generate millions of dollars per year in tourism for this now poverty-stricken area. The only sedentary flock of Whooping Cranes in the world was destroyed at White Lake. If still alive, they would bring millions of dollars yearly to Vermilion Parish. And if the government hadn't wiped out our French, think of the tourism mecca this land would be today. We need to think to the future, and understand when we have something unique, something that people will want to experience. The Basin is our Eiffel Tower, our Grand Canyon. We need to capitalize on it in a sustainable way.

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86542

Comment Text: Protection of natural resources

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86544

Comment Text: As much as possible should be protected green field

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86545

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ANHA) is located in the largest swamp-river basin in North America. Large expanses of this basin remain forested and we would like to see it remain this way. The ANHA, specifically, is an area frequented by bird watchers from our organization. Fort Jackson, in particular, has been a birding and field trip destination for the Orleans Audubon Society (OAS) and other local birding groups for many decades.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86549

Comment Text: We would like to see large blocks of bottomland hardwood forest managed and maintained to become mature, old growth forest.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86553

Comment Text: We would like to see forests remain intact, with the exception of control for invasive species. We would also like to see more areas reforested where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86555

Comment Text: We are concerned that not enough acreage is being protected or conserved. We would like to see bottomland hardwood forests protected when they can be and conserved when protection is not possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86562

Comment Text: We would like to see large blocks of bottomland hardwood forest managed and maintained to become mature, old growth forest.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86566

Comment Text: We would like to see forests remain intact, with the exception of control for invasive species. We would also like to see more areas reforested where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86568

Comment Text: We are concerned that not enough acreage is being protected or conserved. We would like to see bottomland hardwood forests protected when they can be and conserved when protection is not a viable option.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86580

Comment Text: Also, include preservation and restoration efforts from the National Heritage Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86590

Comment Text: Keeping intact

Correspondence Id: 20 Comment Id: 86608

Comment Text: Keep it looking natural

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86620

Comment Text: Continue water management in Atchafalaya Basin to improve water quality.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86625

Comment Text: Direct more money to the Basin for water quality.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 86633

Comment Text: Not see any changes in nature.

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86638

Comment Text: I would not like to see it changed a great deal. I would also not like to see exploding population in the sensitive areas.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86668

Comment Text: I would not like to see destruction of our wetlands. I would like to see more of an investment in our coastal region and agriculture.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86730

Comment Text: No drilling! Keep it wild.

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 86733

Comment Text: Keep it pristine and natural

Organization: Village of Moreauville



Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86767

Comment Text: I enjoy the natural water bodies and their surrounding "green space"... This area abounds in natural "Green Space." It just has to be preserved, not reinvented.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86802

Comment Text: Water quality, normal access to lands controlled by the Corps of Engineers, address the siltation problems, allow more water in Basin from the Mississippi River in the Spring.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86813

Comment Text: Ways to protect the area - water flow, tree management, improve access, wildlife management.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86837

Comment Text: Keeping the Basin pure and wild.

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86841

Comment Text: Natural flow of water preserved for fishing, crawfishing, boating, and wildlife preservation.

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86842

Comment Text: Let the Engineers do their job to preserve Buffalo Cove and the rest of the Basin, in cooperation with Fish and Wildlife Dept. and still allowing shipping and oil production.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86856

Comment Text: Environmentally: we should try our best to restrict, through enforcement of laws and regulations, to the highest degree to prevent pollution from making its way in and into this preserve, whether by natural means or by human error: i.e., chemicals: air and water borne, trash, waste materials, substances, etc. - this is evident along our beautiful highways and in and around the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86858

Comment Text: I would like to see more preservation - of the existing physical characteristics of the natural habitat - in the context of change: with each parish making its contribution to the collective criteria regards needs and requirements of each sector's responsibilities to keep the natural state of the environment in protective modes at all times.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86859

Comment Text: My greatest concern at this time is preservation: there is vital need, at this time, to continue the push in Washington, our State of Louisiana and the collaboration of efforts of the parishes, as a while, to promote and support coastal and wetlands restoration projects of coastal Louisiana at the Gulf of Mexico.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860

Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86864

Comment Text: I would like to see better wildlife management and for it to be kept as natural as possible.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86883

Comment Text: I would like to see a few more interpretive sites and I wouldn't like to see it lost its "wildness."

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86889

Comment Text: It needs to remain in its natural state - it does not need "encroachment and progress" to mar its beauty. Enhancing what is there - not adding to it or changing it.

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86896

Comment Text: More points of public access developed, more land preserved.

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86903

Comment Text: No development needed. Few more access points. Maybe walkways/trails. Need monitoring of condition of animals.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86904

Comment Text: Longterm monitoring plan on health of fish needed, as it is likely there will be no limit on drilling.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86909

Comment Text: Restrictions on destroying our wilderness. Preservation of what we have at this time to last forever.

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86927

Comment Text: I would like to see intact forests protected from logging, hydrological restoration projects, invasive species control, areas with house power limits, NO jet skis.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86929

Comment Text: Oil and gas activities should be stringently managed to minimize local environment and degradation.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86931

Comment Text: Designated, pretty camping areas, some not accessible by cars, protection and restoration of black bear habitat.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86942

Comment Text: Can be made self-supporting! Use money wisely, need more areas, make more land available for wildlife - plant and animal protection.

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86947

Comment Text: Beautification of the river - campsites, commercial development so people can experience this great river.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86957

Comment Text: Importance of preserving the cultural heritage and swamp preservation regulations. Pollution control.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86976

Comment Text: Preserved in its natural state - but with opportunity for people to enjoy and appreciate. 1) Do not allow to become a "tourist trap." 2) Project good image of state and people.

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86989

Comment Text: We have had a real good freshwater fishing industry all around the Atchafalaya Basin and the fin fish is going away.

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88472

Comment Text: Protection of historic structures and natural landscapes

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88485

Comment Text: I would like to see this area remain as "natural" has humanly possible. I would like to see my great-grandchildren be able to enjoy what has been enjoyed by "responsible" people for so many years.

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88496

Comment Text: Emphasis on maintaining natural beauty

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88502

Comment Text: Increased accessibility for the general public - protection for its natural beauty.

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88504

Comment Text: I would hope that management would result in maintaining the natural beauty and wildlife of the area and as a result create opportunities to make this area a destination for travelers (worldwide) looking for an opportunity to see these natural wetlands.

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88515

Comment Text: A desire to see the area wildlife oriented, with the complete avoidance of all commercial activities.

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88523

Comment Text: I would hope to see a decrease in the amount of habitat destruction and that management would focus on restoration of the natural environment.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88524

Comment Text: Government purchase of private property from willing sellers; purchase of conservation servitudes and development rights. More restrictions on habitat destruction.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88564

Comment Text: The proliferation and creation of even a better home for wildlife. I want the future generations to have an experience that is as good or better than I had.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88565

Comment Text: Focus on the habitat potential for wildlife.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88576

Comment Text: I would not like to see urban and industrial development unregulated! I would like to see better management of land and water and growth of ecotourism!

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88583

Comment Text: I would like to see more money being used toward preservation of these areas, more enforcement. I would like to see less logging, less construction, etc.

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88619

Comment Text: Improve access and signage; Manage the timber quantities to achieve the highest degree of forest health; Improve hydrology

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88620

Comment Text: Improve access and signage on roadways and waterways; Forest health; Manage aquatic invasive species

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88631

Comment Text: Keep it natural and wild. No parks, campgrounds, bridges or roadways.

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88658

Comment Text: The development of tourist centers, trails, canoe and boat routes, historic and archeological education, and conservation will be essential.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88666

Comment Text: b) A forestry program developed for the management of Cypress and other native trees. For promotion, planting and protection.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88697

Comment Text: Full sustainable use of all resources.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88701

Comment Text: Emphasis on conservation and wilderness experience - less emphasis on providing for RV visitors et. al.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88708

Comment Text: A return to the wild, natural habitat it once was. No clearing and development for the sake of profit.

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99068

Comment Text: Preservation of nature to allow paddling.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99071

Comment Text: Maintain natural remoteness with restricted access.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99098

Comment Text: Self guided "Road Map" tours to accent the area (next year if possible). Protect our unique geography (cypress forests).

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99118

Comment Text: I would like to see a diversion along the Wax Lake outlet to divert the fresh water farther out to sea, giving our estuaries a more sustainable salinity level so in high water years we don't lose our oysters which takes years to recover.

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99124

Comment Text: The Basin should be protected (what is left of it) and the unique culture of the area should be preserved. That unique way of life is almost forever gone.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99135

Comment Text: If we do not preserve natural conditions in the basin then we lose the core of what this highly valuable natural resource is all about. We need, and the basin needs for us to start now to identify places to see and how to access them. We need to get visitors out into those natural areas of the basin that we have left so that we build up a constituency of persons interested in its preservation. There are many good ideas listed in the management plan executive summary. We probably can't do all of them in the near term. We need to focus on those projects that will be most effective in preserving the natural characteristics of the basin for future enjoyment.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99149

Comment Text: The ecology of the basin is in steep decline - That direction must change.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86479

Comment Text: I would not like to see clear-cut logging areas, what is a cypress swamp without cypress?

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86480

Comment Text: Conservation of flora and fauna. Conservation of not just game species, but of biodiversity. It is biodiversity that brings eco-tourists.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86507

Comment Text: The protection of the most-threatened natural and cultural resources that are critical for the character of the basin through strategies including conservation easements, conserving these unique resources for future generations.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86520

Comment Text: A complete tour opportunity in the Basin, and Land Management for forestry.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99280

Comment Text: I hope to see in place visions and goals that will help save one of the largest swamps in the United States. To have a management team from the National Park Service assist with future plans, would give fresh and new ideas to enhance and improve the natural site.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99279

Comment Text: More efforts to preserve and protect the Atchafalaya with improvement and enhancement of the interpretation of the history, culture, traditions and stories of the people who lived around the river and who are settled on the lands nearby.

Assistance with the preservation of the French language is a great need since it was French speaking Acadians who settled this area in the 1760s. All interpretations should be bi-lingual.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 177 Comment Id: 99285

Comment Text: All management considerations for the Atchafalaya Basin region should be environmentally sustainable and should conserve native ecosystems. They should also support cultural authenticity, while helping support a high quality of life for residents of the region. We should take our lesson from other areas of the country and the world, which boast some sort of spectacular natural resource to experience and enjoy. Some have been better managed than others. We want to make sure the human actions we encourage with this commission uplift people by upholding the integrity of the resource itself, and we need to consider the resource as consisting of both the wetland and the people who are rooted there.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99266

Comment Text: The need to keep an ecosystem as balanced as possible and maintained for our descendants is upper most in my mind. My ancestor was brought in as the commandant of the post of Opelousas by the King of Spain so my ancestors and their children settled there - new roads, Arnaudville and St. Martinsville.

## **ON101 Restoration of natural resources**

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99259

Comment Text: Overall connectiveness - more trees planted - more signage - transportation around the Basin - bus routes for tourists - development of water trails for canoeists, kayakers, etc.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88708

Comment Text: A return to the wild, natural habitat it once was. No clearing and development for the sake of profit.

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99147

Comment Text: A greatly diminished ecosystem needs to be restored.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88666

Comment Text: b) A forestry program developed for the management of Cypress and other native trees. For promotion, planting and protection.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88535

Comment Text: Cleaner, pollution free, a practical management plan and always open to the public



Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88450

Comment Text: I would like to see more use of water pumps, best management practices and a huge campaign to stop litter.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86928

Comment Text: Restoration of longleaf pine savannah.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86818

Comment Text: Ways to assist the area in rebuilding of coastal areas.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86553

Comment Text: We would like to see forests remain intact, with the exception of control for invasive species. We would also like to see more areas reforested where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86566

Comment Text: We would like to see forests remain intact, with the exception of control for invasive species. We would also like to see more areas reforested where possible.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 86687

Comment Text: 1) Improvement in water quality of False River in Pointe Coupee Parish.  
2) Decrease in soil erosion into False River.

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86764

Comment Text: 1) Clean up bayous, 2) Dredging Bayou Pigeon, et al, 3) Perhaps a few wildlife explanatory kiosks at a few visitor stops in the Basin.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86815

Comment Text: Native Louisianan - Born in central Louisiana. Interested in correcting coastal erosion.

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86817

Comment Text: Consider ways and means for area to participate in solving the rebuilding of coastal areas.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86918

Comment Text: We need more projects geared toward land restoration. We need the oil industry to remove all those old rigs and pipelines. With record profits, they need to pony up and fix the problem they caused.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86931

Comment Text: Designated, pretty camping areas, some not accessible by cars, protection and restoration of black bear habitat.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88523

Comment Text: I would hope to see a decrease in the amount of habitat destruction and that management would focus on restoration of the natural environment.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88651

Comment Text: I would like to see the Basin - if not brought back to its original state, at least kept in its present state.

## **ON102 Education, interpretation and identification of natural resources**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99297

Comment Text: Another relevant issue that has come up from time to time that bears on the goals of the ANHA is the quality of information conveyed by tour guides as they interpret the area to their customers. It would be appropriate and of value to establish an educational tour guide certification program so that the correct information about the Atchafalaya is conveyed to visitors to the area. Along those same lines, certification should discourage tour operators from feeding of wild animals, particularly alligators, a practice that can encourage dangerous confrontations and is always detrimental to the health and welfare of the wild animals of the swamp.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99245

Comment Text: Unique ecology - story of environment's effect on man and his work, music, culture & food.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99135

Comment Text: If we do not preserve natural conditions in the basin then we lose the core of what this highly valuable natural resource is all about. We need, and the basin needs for us to start now to identify places to see and how to access them. We need to get visitors out into those natural areas of the basin that we have left so that we build up a constituency of persons interested in its preservation. There are many good ideas

listed in the management plan executive summary. We probably can't do all of them in the near term. We need to focus on those projects that will be most effective in preserving the natural characteristics of the basin for future enjoyment.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 134 Comment Id: 99044

Comment Text: To show people how the ecosystem gives and takes and survives through good and hot so good times. It balances itself.

Organization: County Ridge Bed and Breakfast

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86858

Comment Text: I would like to see more preservation - of the existing physical characteristics of the natural habitat - in the context of change: with each parish making its contribution to the collective criteria regards needs and requirements of each sector's responsibilities to keep the natural state of the environment in protective modes at all times.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86812

Comment Text: Additional nice boat launches, security to protect parking areas, signs of significant areas, activities to improve wildlife like feed and viewing areas, nature trails to old schools and churches.

Correspondence Id: 4 Comment Id: 86491

Comment Text: It is essential that the folk adaptation to the Basin is presented to the public. This includes presentations the relationship between technology (traps, boats, homes), and the natural environment (swamps, river deltas, etc). That story should be told in not only in English, but also in French. Language and culture are inseparable; to convey fully the cultural adaptation to the environment in the Basin, that presentation should be in French. That French should be Cajun French and not standard French; for that is the French of Louisiana. That folk adaptation includes not only European, but also Native American and African elements. There should be some presentation of the period of exploitation of resources of the Basin similar to what we are seeing in the Amazon Basin. As those cultures have sought modernity, they have changed their riverine environments a was done in Atchafalaya Basin. The ethnicity of those participating in the exploitation of the Basin should be presented.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86504

Comment Text: Would like to see: presentation of the lifeways of basin residents from oral history and other projects; recognition of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of basin cultures in all presentations; recognition and presentations on the technological and cultural adaptations and innovations of basin occupants, especially in boating and fishing; facilities that combine several types of related resources in their presentation and emphasis, e.g. a boat museum that also emphasizes the natural resources of the area and how these resources contributed to the culture of the basin in

the past and continue to contribute to the current culture of the basin and region today, and also includes opportunities for guided and non-guided education and recreation such as guided boat tours and boat launching and rental facilities.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86508

Comment Text: Gain wider recognition of the economic, natural, cultural and historical significance of the basin. Promoting awareness and use of the basin in a synergistic manner, incorporating education about nature, culture and history, but also providing opportunities for recreation and active learning as well as local economic diversification and sustainability.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86763

Comment Text: 1) Less trash, 2) More canoe/kayak mapped trails and opportunities, 3) Less oil presence, 4) Maybe kiosks at boat landings about wildlife, vegetation, etc.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86764

Comment Text: 1) Clean up bayous, 2) Dredging Bayou Pigeon, et al, 3) Perhaps a few wildlife explanatory kiosks at a few visitor stops in the Basin.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86846

Comment Text: I would like to see the institution of Camp Atchafalaya. More land uses for the public like boat launches, picnic areas, and more educational tours for the study of wildlife and ecosystems.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919

Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99133

Comment Text: Priority on identification of special historical and natural features in the basin and provision of access information. Full time historian, cultural anthropologist to identify sites of historical and cultural interest. Need a source of dependable ongoing operational funding for a heritage area program.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99150

Comment Text: History of basin - archaeological - geology - [can't read] natural biology - fishing (commercial & recreational) - wildlife - hunting history - These [can't read] need to be researched & made a part of the heritage plan.

Organization: Sierra Club

### **ON103 Restoration of natural waterways/water quality**

Correspondence Id: 162 Comment Id: 99199

Comment Text: Restoring historic hydrology and making the Basin a productive and healthy overflow swamp.

Organization: The Atchafalaya at Idlewild Golf Course

Correspondence Id: 162 Comment Id: 99198

Comment Text: Return the Basin to its original hydraulic regime.

Organization: The Atchafalaya at Idlewild Golf Course

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99153

Comment Text: I would like to see our waterways kept up. Siltation is a serious problem in the Basin. We need to keep dredging out canals and natural bayous.

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99132

Comment Text: Remediation of damage to natural waterways and wetlands that has been caused by oil industry development. We should exert pressure on them to put it back the way they found it, and to quit dredge and fill practices that have the effect of taking publicly accessible areas in the basin and passing them into private ownership. We need much greater use of effective conservation easements to preserve natural conditions in the Basin.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99110

Comment Text: Clean up the trash, get rid of the spoil banks and the location canals, enforce the 404 permits.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88726

Comment Text: Would like to see natural flow of water in our remaining area like we had 40 to 50 years ago.

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88714

Comment Text: Cleaner water and less growth on the water.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86813

Comment Text: Ways to protect the area - water flow, tree management, improve access, wildlife management.

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86825

Comment Text: Changes in the natural flow of water.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86829

Comment Text: Dredged and better flow, removal of largemouth bass, size limits

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86830

Comment Text: Remove 14" minimum, use spillway to improve water quality.

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86841

Comment Text: Natural flow of water preserved for fishing, crawfishing, boating, and wildlife preservation.

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86930

Comment Text: Hydrology restoration in the Atchafalaya spillway.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86963

Comment Text: Allow state or federal government to introduce more funds in the dredging opportunities we now have started.

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88436

Comment Text: I would like to see improvements in water quality.

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88449

Comment Text: I would like to see a small steady flow of water in Bayou Grosse Tete, located in Iberville and Pointe Coupee Parishes and lots of people catching fish along its banks.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88495

Comment Text: Clear out the sand and restore our waterways

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88510

Comment Text: I also would like to see more focus on water quality.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88550

Comment Text: Open silted in waterways, more/better handicap parking at boat ramps

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88630

Comment Text: Bayous and canals that are silting up need to remain open. Improved water flow. Improved fishing. Public access.

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88638

Comment Text: Careful attention given to reducing water contamination from agricultural or business drainage (prevent dumping!!)

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88651

Comment Text: I would like to see the Basin - if not brought back to its original state, at least kept in its present state.

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88683

Comment Text: Would like to see our waterways clean, navigable and connected for ecotourism - canoe, boating experience

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88709

Comment Text: Better control with respect to water levels and sedimentation. Stiffer regulations regarding dumping and garbage disposal.

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86656

Comment Text: Would like to see help with drainage problems.

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86683

Comment Text: Restore natural waterways. Oil canals and dredge banks disturb this.

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 86687

Comment Text: 1) Improvement in water quality of False River in Pointe Coupee Parish.  
2) Decrease in soil erosion into False River.

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86726

Comment Text: Let the natural channels be, don't let the Corps of Engineers enlarge them; keep Corps of Engineers out

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86739

Comment Text: The better flow of water through the "landlocked" areas of the Basin.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86740

Comment Text: Lack of sufficient through tin blocking certain waterway access canals.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86741

Comment Text: Allow the flow of water and improve access to the public.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86750

Comment Text: The cleaning of water areas and less trash dumping. The grass problem. I would like to see the Corps put pumps in the Red River and pump water into Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86751

Comment Text: Dredging all waterways in Spring Bayou, control the grass in waterways.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86758

Comment Text: Clean water, regulate water for crawfishing, more open land and less private land

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86764

Comment Text: 1) Clean up bayous, 2) Dredging Bayou Pigeon, et al, 3) Perhaps a few wildlife explanatory kiosks at a few visitor stops in the Basin.

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86779

Comment Text: Dredge areas that have silt in over many years.

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86802

Comment Text: Water quality, normal access to lands controlled by the Corps of Engineers, address the siltation problems, allow more water in Basin from the Mississippi River in the Spring.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88720

Comment Text: Additional navigability of some bayous which have silted in my mismanagement of the waterways.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88727

Comment Text: Get rid of the high siltation banks that keep fresh water to enter swamp, and get rid of spoil banks along gas pipeline in the Basin.



Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99119

Comment Text: I would like water quality to be at the forefront, and public launches, roads, and parks well-managed.

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99148

Comment Text: Restoration of the hydrology - designating public lands & waters.

Organization: Sierra Club

### **OP100 General management opportunities**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99296

Comment Text: 3 resolutions: [1) Preserving the Swamp Forest Character of the Lower Atchafalaya Basin Floodway; 2) Assessment of Bayous in the Atchafalaya Basin for Suitability for Nomination for Scenic Streams Designation; 3) Placement and Remediation of Pipelines, Flowlines and Locations in Wetlands] addressing matters pertinent to the conservation and management of the Atchafalaya Basin that have been adopted in recent years by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation and that may be relevant to the development of the management plan for the ANHA. One resolution recommends the acquisition of the timber rights on private land in the AB from willing sellers. The resolution sufficiently articulates the rationale for the recommendation, so it will not be repeated here. Another resolution urges the evaluation of the waterways in the AB for suitability of inclusion in the Louisiana Natural and Scenic Rivers System. A third addresses the need to remediate oilfield infrastructure (in the AB and elsewhere) that has been abandoned or is no longer in service, including pipelines, flowlines, tank batteries, wellheads and associated structures that are eyesores, hazards and potential sources of environmental contamination. Although the AB [Atchafalaya Basin] and environs is a great asset, it can stand some improvement.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 173 Comment Id: 99264

Comment Text: Would like to see it stay pristine and people enjoying it from a "low tech" approach while promoting a more sane life that hopefully those who visit, will want to bring that concept back to where they live.

Organization: Cajun Houseboats and Rentals, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99229

Comment Text: Active protection & preservation of cultural & natural resources. Designation through DOT as Natural Scenic Byway.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 146 Comment Id: 99106

Comment Text: Leave the Basin alone. Don't turn it into a tourist attraction.

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88626

Comment Text: Perhaps another state park with boat launch for fishing, etc.

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88644

Comment Text: I would like to see good maps that are updated. Also for all parks and boat ramps to keep their present names. Maps have been produced in the past only to have some of these sites change their names (parks, boat landing names have been changed by local government)

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88696

Comment Text: I would like to see coordination among all users of the area. I would NOT like to see exclusion of timber harvesting in the area.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88709

Comment Text: Better control with respect to water levels and sedimentation. Stiffer regulations regarding dumping and garbage disposal.

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88715

Comment Text: People really interested in the area and not what they can gain from it.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99078

Comment Text: Keeping it as is.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99088

Comment Text: Don't try to please everyone in every way, but find out what seems to be the common threads and build your vision on that. Concentrate on sustainable economic and environmental models rather than quick, "love it to death" exploitation.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99091

Comment Text: Area remain just as it is. We need no government improvements!

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99092

Comment Text: Leave it alone! It's a great place if government does not mess it up and tourists overrun it.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86829

Comment Text: Dredged and better flow, removal of largemouth bass, size limits

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86830

Comment Text: Remove 14" minimum, use spillway to improve water quality.

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86864

Comment Text: I would like to see better wildlife management and for it to be kept as natural as possible.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86879

Comment Text: Not to promote and utilize the ANHA to its fullest.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86891

Comment Text: Will landowners feel the "power of the dollar" if pressed and sell vital areas within the national heritage area? What will be (or is) planned to see this not happen?

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86921

Comment Text: A lot of illegal politics here, so boards and managers need to be monitored if not changed yearly. Everyone has a price and power goes to people's heads.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86942

Comment Text: Can be made self-supporting! Use money wisely, need more areas, make more land available for wildlife - plant and animal protection.

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86964

Comment Text: Hopefully we understand that nature can't do this overnight and alone. We need all help and cooperation from all resources.

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86984

Comment Text: I would like to see the Atchafalaya Basin run like a business. Seems to work at Lake Faussee Point. Pay to play!

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86595

Comment Text: Protection of communities in the area in an unobtrusive way as possible.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86603

Comment Text: Let historic preservation specialists/planners guide management and not let local politicians interfere.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86622

Comment Text: A state park on east side of Atchafalaya Basin levee.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86626

Comment Text: A state park on the east side south of I-10 with black top road access.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86629

Comment Text: The Indian Mound at Bayou Sorrel on the East Atchafalaya levee is a National Heritage Area. A park with community ties is needed to preserve.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86657

Comment Text: Management plan should address the economic impacts of forestry and the importance of silviculture.

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 86744

Comment Text: Need to expand for the whole state

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86801

Comment Text: I would like to see the state have total control of areas that are controlled by the bureaucracies of the of the Corps of Engineers. Management done by a commission like the Mississippi River Commission.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 91 Comment Id: 88456

Comment Text: Properly managed!

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88486

Comment Text: The opportunity I would like to see explored is the opportunity that we have to save this area for future generations. The management direction would be to have management that really want to save this area.

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88536

Comment Text: Have people in the decision process who have a 1st hand knowledge of the area.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88545

Comment Text: We need a competitive project grant program. Successful grants should be selected by a panel of experts. The grants could require a non-federal match, to ensure the sense of partnership. The primary mission of the grant program should be to "conserve local culture and heritage."

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88566

Comment Text: Maintain the heritage area as a public domain.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88584

Comment Text: More of a "grand plan" that's made the public aware of the direction we should travel toward preservation.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88590

Comment Text: Strict environmental laws concerning the usage and not exploiting the area.

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88621

Comment Text: I do not want private landowners/timber manager to be negatively impacted under any management plan (i.e. no halt to timber harvesting or silviculture practices)

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99119

Comment Text: I would like water quality to be at the forefront, and public launches, roads, and parks well-managed.

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99260

Comment Text: Encourage package tours - B&Bs, museums, festivals, swamp tours. Involve people from all the communities. Develop a user friendly updated website for exploring possible trips.

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99291

Comment Text: Management that thrives on the balance of all cultures.

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99295

Comment Text: The State of Louisiana's Atchafalaya Basin Program (ABP) has developed an excellent plan for the enhancement of the AB [Atchafalaya Basin]. The ABP has just been given a boost with the adoption of HB 1135 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. The new statute restructures the ABP and focuses it more precisely on water quality improvements and the development of public access opportunities. Another piece of legislation, HB 420, proposes a constitutional amendment, which among other things if approved by the electorate, will dedicate up to \$10 million a year in state mineral revenues produced within the AB to the work of the ABP. We highly recommend that the management plan for the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area be coordinated with the ABP.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

## **OP101 Development of partnerships**

Correspondence Id: 181 Comment Id: 99298

Comment Text: There should be no problem working with the Corps of Engineers. They have some excellent employees and they are looking for ways to develop better relationships with people of interest. They are capable of doing excellent work. The problem is the overall focus. They are part of the U.S. Department of Defense and their base or overriding mission is to protect us from the enemy. This mission does not translate well if they have to consider much beyond drainage, flood control and navigation. When they get into esthetics, historic preservation and fish and wildlife resources and habitat then things and the mission gets very fuzzy. The Corps of Engineers has some excellent staff and contractors who can deal with all of these resources and do an excellent job. Unfortunately this is not the mission they were trained to develop.

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99260

Comment Text: Encourage package tours - B&Bs, museums, festivals, swamp tours. Involve people from all the communities. Develop a user friendly updated website for exploring possible trips.

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99136

Comment Text: Identify heritage area as a state priority, form coalition of groups to seek legislative funding for Heritage program office, program manager, historian, clerical help.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99086

Comment Text: 1) Make contact with ecotourism development orgs like TIES and get them down here. 2) Adopt a "sustainable tourism" ethic. 3) Actively encourage and incentivize grassroots sustainability groups in each community, enjoying.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86583

Comment Text: In relying on local parish officials appointing delegates to serve, this limits the opportunities to bring professional people and viable organizations together that are bonded through common interest.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88530

Comment Text: For the "management" plan to be administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the State of Louisiana and local governments.

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99113

Comment Text: Louisiana Crawfish Producers Association-West needs to be a consulting party under the National Historic Preservation Act. LCPA-West is a nonprofit organization.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99232

Comment Text: I would be interested in meeting 1 on 1 to discuss how this effects refuges within the area & discuss matching [funds].

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 177 Comment Id: 99286

Comment Text: It might be a good thing, if this body hasn't already, to make contact with a group called The International Ecotourism Society (TIES). They are a Washington D.C.-based politically nonpartisan nonprofit non-governmental organization which helps communities around the world make crucial decisions about sustainable development and nature-based sustainable tourism. I found out about them several years ago in preparing a public radio piece on ecotourism in Louisiana.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 179 Comment Id: 99293

Comment Text: Need more events. The Catholic Church-sponsored events along the neighborhood bayous are gone. The culture is on the bayous. Concerned that they are losing the bayou culture. [Stated in French and then translated] "We don't want it to look professional, we want it to look real."

Commenter: Houma Public Meeting - additional comments N/A

## **OP102 Participation by/from parishes**

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes

encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86796

Comment Text: I would like to see job opportunities for participation parishes. For example, St. Martin Parish will be the starting point of the tour, let's turn the city into a showplace for tourists. Artisan building, city tours on mule drawn wagons, boat tours up and down the Bayou Teche, taste of Cajun cuisine in the heart of Cajun land.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86573

Comment Text: Each parish be invited and encouraged to participate in a management plan, with active committee members. Include parish seat cities to participate.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86581

Comment Text: Planning should involve civic, history and preservation organization in local parishes and cities. State legislators and Congressional leaders should be informed through their legislative aids in the state. The first group of organizations is the movers and shakers while the State and National officials hold keys to funding.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86604

Comment Text: Attempt to get collaboration/coordination between parishes, contributing group.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86817

Comment Text: Consider ways and means for area to participate in solving the rebuilding of coastal areas.

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99172

Comment Text: Would like to see a multi-parish cooperative endeavor agreement with the ANHA to manage the plan.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86858

Comment Text: I would like to see more preservation - of the existing physical characteristics of the natural habitat - in the context of change: with each parish making its contribution to the collective criteria regards needs and requirements of each sector's responsibilities to keep the natural state of the environment in protective modes at all times.



Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99099

Comment Text: More "push" @ local parish commissioner level. Personalized meetings @ local parish level.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

### **OP103 Increased use of volunteers**

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99212

Comment Text: The heritage area should partner with volunteer organizations, who can assist in the collection and allocation of resources, including volunteers.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99072

Comment Text: Use volunteer groups and prison labor to collect litter. Possible signage: "When you litter, you are cursing the community."

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86495

Comment Text: I would like to see a volunteer effort established similar to the "Adopt A Mile" program which keeps highways litter-free.

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99209

Comment Text: I would like to see the heritage area create an emphasis on managing volunteer resources.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

### **OP104 Minimal management preferred (limited restrictions & regulations)**

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88721

Comment Text: Protection of private ownership and hunting/fishing rights.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86884

Comment Text: I wouldn't want it to be hyper managed, over bureaucratized. I hope the management is kept in land and state control.

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86655

Comment Text: Would not like to see any further constraints on timber harvesting.

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86628

Comment Text: Less government control for commercial fishermen. This way of life is essential to the surrounding communities and good for state government. No future control on limits for commercial crawfishing.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86649

Comment Text: I would like to see the Atchafalaya Basin remain free from excessive federal restrictions and regulations allowing the basin to remain wild and free as it is currently.

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86722

Comment Text: The area is not made into a National Park where people could not hunt!

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88696

Comment Text: I would like to see coordination among all users of the area. I would NOT like to see exclusion of timber harvesting in the area.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

### **OP105 Multiple management agencies**

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99247

Comment Text: Enough public access but no over development. Cooperation & joint promotion between parishes, state agencies & government agencies.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88466

Comment Text: Management should include local, state and federal agencies.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86583

Comment Text: In relying on local parish officials appointing delegates to serve, this limits the opportunities to bring professional people and viable organizations together that are bonded through common interest.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86581

Comment Text: Planning should involve civic, history and preservation organization in local parishes and cities. State legislators and Congressional leaders should be informed through their legislative aids in the state. The first group of organizations is the movers and shakers while the State and National officials hold keys to funding.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86847

Comment Text: I would like to see the management plan work with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Department of State Parks, and other state entities.  
Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

### **OP106 State, parish, and/or local management only**

Correspondence Id: 182 Comment Id: 99307

Comment Text: Another change which would, I believe, greatly improve Louisiana is to have a civilian authority manage and develop projects and programs for the entire Mississippi River Basin. The Corps of Engineers basically has numerous districts in the Mississippi River Basin headed by colonels and they report to generals in the Basin, but there is no overall system to consider how projects, like dams, in the upper basin will impact waters and wetlands downriver. Our airports and interstate highways are connected together, but our river basin is apparently not operated as a comprehensive unit except for moving commerce and flood waters. Residents of the Missouri River Basin wonder why they experienced such flood damages in 1993 and again in 2007. After the massive flooding of the lower Mississippi River in 1927, Congress ordered the Corps of Engineers to build a Mississippi River Flood Protection System in the seven states along the lower Mississippi River, which has prevented a repeat of the 1927 flood. Apparently, no similar orders were issued for the upper Mississippi River Basin and only smaller protection systems were built by the Corps of Engineers in the Missouri River Basin. Unfortunately the Corps of Engineers was not ordered to protect the people and land in the Missouri River Basin or to protect New Orleans and the Mississippi coast from Hurricane floodwaters. I believe that a federal agency headed by civilians would not need to be "ordered" by Congress to provide the protection needed to save our coastal residents and natural resources. An agency headed by civilians, rather than the Army, would be more flexible in approaching problems like flood prevention systems and would recognize and protect the important, valuable, and irreplaceable natural resources, which are under threat in every river basin and coastal area presently managed by the Corps of Engineers.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86505

Comment Text: Would like to see: inclusion of the various stakeholders in the basin and opportunities for locals with localized knowledge of the culture and ecology of the basin to benefit economically from increased tourism and from the NHA in general.  
Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86847

Comment Text: I would like to see the management plan work with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Department of State Parks, and other state entities.  
Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86801

Comment Text: I would like to see the state have total control of areas that are controlled by the bureaucracies of the of the Corps of Engineers. Management done by a commission like the Mississippi River Commission.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86884

Comment Text: I wouldn't want it to be hyper managed, over bureaucratized. I hope the management is kept in land and state control.

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86650

Comment Text: I would like the management of any type of plan adopted be under the management and control of the state, parish and local government officials.

### **OP107 Incorporate educational institutions**

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88669

Comment Text: a) The Atchafalaya River the entrance to largest river swamp in N. America. The Atchafalaya River the distributary into the richest wetlands, and march in the United States. What an excellent place for research operatives to move by small vessel either way for day studies. b) There is no question that facilities should exist for (Grant) studies by Universities because of hte easy access to the Basin, marsh, and gulf from Morgan City. Particularly since Morgan City is already home to the most aggressive underwater operatives in the world, Oceaneering, Inc.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86939

Comment Text: Cabins, have a contest - every senior high school biology class involved in study, protection, resources, etc.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860

Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86489

Comment Text: Programs that involve the public, programs and publicity that increase tourism, especially from francophone countries, and programs that involve schools and families.

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86594

Comment Text: Some way to limit is great and give to people who have teaching in mind.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919

Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86940

Comment Text: Advertise - include school activities to participate, set up special family activities, extra festivals

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88516

Comment Text: Youth deserves opportunities always, perhaps with the use of guidance and instruction as to the continuance of concern and work in the area.

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88431

Comment Text: More schools involved. If the kids are not educated about it; it will be their responsibility to preserve the area for the future. What they can't touch will not get their attention.

### **OP108 Attract interest of local citizens/residents**

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99260

Comment Text: Encourage package tours - B&Bs, museums, festivals, swamp tours. Involve people from all the communities. Develop a user friendly updated website for exploring possible trips.

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99179

Comment Text: A plan that takes into account landowners and non-landowners, those who live in the basin and those who do not, all of the basin's resources, the tangible and intangible and most of all a plan that sustains the basin as a fabulous natural resource.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86489

Comment Text: Programs that involve the public, programs and publicity that increase tourism, especially from francophone countries, and programs that involve schools and families.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86505

Comment Text: Would like to see: inclusion of the various stakeholders in the basin and opportunities for locals with localized knowledge of the culture and ecology of the basin to benefit economically from increased tourism and from the NHA in general.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86582

Comment Text: Too many local people expressed opinions they do not want to make changes in the Heritage Area to attract visitors. Before attracting visitors, efforts to coordinate programs and educational projects needs to be designed to attract interest of local citizens in some of the parishes in the Heritage Area.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86940

Comment Text: Advertise - include school activities to participate, set up special family activities, extra festivals

Correspondence Id: 96 Comment Id: 88490

Comment Text: More people getting together

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88558

Comment Text: As an architect who was raised inside the "area" I would like to see design professionals such as myself included in the decision making.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88593

Comment Text: Management by national and local citizens.

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88696

Comment Text: I would like to see coordination among all users of the area. I would NOT like to see exclusion of timber harvesting in the area.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of

our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99248

Comment Text: Input from the people who actually LIVE in the basin - farmers, trappers, fishermen, etc.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99194

Comment Text: Have Parish Representative contact people who actually have an interest in the Atchafalaya and inform them of such a management plan.

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99242

Comment Text: A more concerted effort to make local cities aware of this project.

Organization:

Hugh Bateuran

### **OP109 Work with area landowners to enhance the area**

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99181

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a national treasure that ranks alongside the other great river bottoms of the south, the Altamaha, the Suwannee, the Apalachicola and the Pascagoula. As one who has been aware of the complexity of basin issues my entire conservation career, dating back to the late 1960's, I am convinced the basin must have a comprehensive management plan that brings together the users and residents of the basin area, that takes into account all the resources of the basin, including its tourism potential, one that sustains its renewable resources, including its waters, its forests and its wildlife, both plentiful and scarce and aquatic, its crawfish and other fisheries, its nonconsumptive resources like its history and scenic beauty, and one that calls for wise use of its non-renewable resources, its gas and oil. Indeed, under Article 9, Section 1 of our 1974 Revised Louisiana Constitution, it can do no less! Let me emphasize, the Atchafalaya Basin is for all people and all users, both those who own land in the basin and those who do not, but most of all it is for the people who live in the parishes encompassing and surrounding the basin. This is their home and to the fullest extent possible should be their plan. In fact, any plan can work best, and perhaps only if it is their plan.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86891

Comment Text: Will landowners feel the "power of the dollar" if pressed and sell vital areas within the national heritage area? What will be (or is) planned to see this not happen?

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86770

Comment Text: Education and financial incentives to private owners to enhance the area promoting the goals of the heritage area.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86505

Comment Text: Would like to see: inclusion of the various stakeholders in the basin and opportunities for locals with localized knowledge of the culture and ecology of the basin to benefit economically from increased tourism and from the NHA in general.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86774

Comment Text: Funding and stimulating private owners to contribute to the esthetic benefits of this natural green space.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86905

Comment Text: Oil and gas exploration and drilling. Landowners not cooperating with fed and state agency recommendations.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99179

Comment Text: A plan that takes into account landowners and non-landowners, those who live in the basin and those who do not, all of the basin's resources, the tangible and intangible and most of all a plan that sustains the basin as a fabulous natural resource.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

### **OP110 Land acquisition**

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88606

Comment Text: Reduce permanent residence by attrition. Limit hunting.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88445

Comment Text: More land for public access.



Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86942

Comment Text: Can be made self-supporting! Use money wisely, need more areas, make more land available for wildlife - plant and animal protection.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86627

Comment Text: Purchase of Grand River Flats for management area.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86554

Comment Text: We would like to see more acreage protected in government-owned land-holdings.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86567

Comment Text: We would like to see more land protected in government-owned land-holdings.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86684

Comment Text: Purchase private lands to add to public domain.

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86983

Comment Text: I would like to see the state or federal government purchase all the property in the Basin.

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88524

Comment Text: Government purchase of private property from willing sellers; purchase of conservation servitudes and development rights. More restrictions on habitat destruction.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

### **OP111 Employ local residents and/or Francophones; develop local advisory boards**

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99237

Comment Text: a) A local advisory board that has a final say in projects. b) Trilingual signage, English, French and Spanish.

Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87003

Comment Text: Maybe to be able to increase jobs for our young - to want to stay in LA.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86795

Comment Text: Each parish in the heritage area should be able to employ locals to serve as curators, tour guides, boat drivers, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86505

Comment Text: Would like to see: inclusion of the various stakeholders in the basin and opportunities for locals with localized knowledge of the culture and ecology of the basin to benefit economically from increased tourism and from the NHA in general.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86796

Comment Text: I would like to see job opportunities for participation parishes. For example, St. Martin Parish will be the starting point of the tour, let's turn the city into a showplace for tourists. Artisan building, city tours on mule drawn wagons, boat tours up and down the Bayou Teche, taste of Cajun cuisine in the heart of Cajun land.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88593

Comment Text: Management by national and local citizens.

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99218

Comment Text: The hospitality industry should be educated about attractions in the area, and Francophones should be given opportunities in management. The hospitality industry should encourage and employ Francophone workers.

## **OP112 Conservation easements**

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99132

Comment Text: Remediation of damage to natural waterways and wetlands that has been caused by oil industry development. We should exert pressure on them to put it back the way they found it, and to quit dredge and fill practices that have the effect of taking publicly accessible areas in the basin and passing them into private ownership. We need much greater use of effective conservation easements to preserve natural conditions in the Basin.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88524

Comment Text: Government purchase of private property from willing sellers; purchase of conservation servitudes and development rights. More restrictions on habitat destruction.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86502

Comment Text: Would like to see: conservation easements protecting both natural and cultural resources that are intrinsic to the character of the basin (easements that could protect different types of threatened resources with the same land acquisition should receive priority)

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86507

Comment Text: The protection of the most-threatened natural and cultural resources that are critical for the character of the basin through strategies including conservation easements, conserving these unique resources for future generations.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

### **OS100 Related to specific areas/items/structures**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99266

Comment Text: The need to keep an ecosystem as balanced as possible and maintained for our descendants is upper most in my mind. My ancestor was brought in as the commandant of the post of Opellousas by the King of Spain so my ancestors and their children settled there - new roads, Arnaudville and St. Martinsville.

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99246

Comment Text: Need more development in Concordia - museums, exhibits, etc. Better roads in area - signage.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99101

Comment Text: Please help us share our local 1940 vintage bridge which has been awarded National Heritage of Historic place eligibility.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88680

Comment Text: Since my knowledge of the entire Atchafalaya area is limited, I will concentrate my comments to a specific area, Lake Verret. My knowledge of this area is an accumulation of twenty something years of observation and asking questions, working for water quality and environmental quality. My camp is located on Lake Verret near Four-Mile Bayou and I have been there for twenty plus years, during which I have personally witnessed the constant deterioration of aquatic plants and varieties of fish, causing the once abundant top water feeders, such as bass, brim and sacaulait, to virtually disappear from the area. What replaces them is scavengers such as crabs, catfish, garfish, goux, and carp. This area is unique. When I say Lake Verret, I mean the entire watershed area from White Castle to the Intracoastal Canal near Amelia. There are two main reasons this entire area is in peril: surface water drainage and river water

needed. We must change how our surface water reaches the main channel of the water system. Instead of a straight drainage canal, we need to use our natural lowlands (swamps, marshes, etc.) as a filter by pumping the surface water into the surrounding swamps. The fertilizer and sediment will nourish the swamps and make natural ridges. In turn, the swamps will remove pollutants and clarify the water, giving sunlight penetrations to the roots of the aquatic plants and stimulating the plants to grow. Many of the shoreline cypress trees are washing out and falling due to the lack of aquatic vegetation acting as a wave break. This is seriously eroding what has been a pristine and natural cypress swamp. The aquatic grass also used to protect top feeder fish by providing bedding and reproduction shelter. River water introduced back into the main channel of the watershed will swiften the current in the channel and carry sediment out to the barrier islands. The deeper channels and less fertilizer in the water should also reduce the negative effects that result in a dead zone in the Gulf. Additionally, stronger enforcement of litter laws on the water could greatly improve water quality. Boaters and campers should be provided a brochure on do's and don'ts of the waterways. This would make people more aware of what is demanded by law. Citing the laws and fines for littering could go a long way in educating such people. The sooner all this happens the better, because the loss is daily and cumulative.

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99081

Comment Text: A road map showing all of our historic sites. Help save our historic landmarks like the Vida Bridge in Iberia Parish, LA.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99118

Comment Text: I would like to see a diversion along the Wax Lake outlet to divert the fresh water farther out to sea, giving our estuaries a more sustainable salinity level so in high water years we don't lose our oysters which takes years to recover.

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88669

Comment Text: a) The Atchafalaya River the entrance to largest river swamp in N. America. The Atchafalaya River the distributary into the richest wetlands, and marsh in the United States. What an excellent place for research operatives to move by small vessel either way for day studies. b) There is no question that facilities should exist for (Grant) studies by Universities because of hte easy access to the Basin, marsh, and gulf from Morgan City. Particularly since Morgan City is already home to the most aggressive underwater operatives in the world, Oceaneering, Inc.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88447

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is to take my family for a shady boat ride down Bayou Grosse Tete and into the intercoastal waterway.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88449

Comment Text: I would like to see a small steady flow of water in Bayou Grosse Tete, located in Iberville and Pointe Coupee Parishes and lots of people catching fish along its banks.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88452

Comment Text: My immediate concern is Bayou Grosse Tete. Bayou Grosse Tete is a beautiful waterway which courses through two parishes, Iberville and Pointe Coupee. It needs a constant steady flow of water to ensure water quality.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88463

Comment Text: In my area (Jeanerette, LA located on the southern shore of Lake Fausse Point), there is a beautiful and pristine site where a local group has been formed to develop Eagle Point Park. Funding has always been a problem. Another worthy project in Jeanerette is the Harry Hewes House, a museum dedicated to the cypress lumber industry in the Basin. Both projects have tremendous potential but need more funding.

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88468

Comment Text: The scenic Bayou Teche as part of the Atchafalaya Basin offers yet another great opportunity. A project developed by Dr. Thomas Himel of the Louisiana State University Experimental Station at Jeanerette is a good example. His project, the Bayou Teche watershed, has great potential.

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88479

Comment Text: Build an interpretive center near Lake Palourde. But have it 1st Class. Lots of hands-on learning experiences about the Basin.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 101 Comment Id: 88519

Comment Text: Anything you'll do besides talk about it would be good. Just don't study it to death forever. Just do something. It seems there is too much studying and not enough action in every department of this country. We are about to lose the Spring Bayou area because of no action just studying. If it wasn't for Benny Paul Bordelon we wouldn't be getting anything done, and that's a fact. I love where I live, it could be beautiful again with action, not words.

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88585  
Comment Text: Pollution of False River.

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88609  
Comment Text: The road between whisky bay and LA-190 needs resurfacing.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86564  
Comment Text: We would like to see the natural flood regime restored to areas of the ANHA whenever possible. For example, flow could be restored to Big Alabama Bayou and Little Alabama Bayou.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86565  
Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86619  
Comment Text: Failure of Atchafalaya Basin program to deliver on the master plan for improving water quality in Iberville and St. Martin Parishes inside of the Atchafalaya Basin as planned. Program moving too slow on these issues.  
Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86627  
Comment Text: Purchase of Grand River Flats for management area.  
Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86629  
Comment Text: The Indian Mound at Bayou Sorrel on the East Atchafalaya levee is a National Heritage Area. A park with community ties is needed to preserve.  
Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 86641  
Comment Text: Historic site - increased touring to the 3rd oldest settlement in Louisiana (Washington).

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 86687  
Comment Text: 1) Improvement in water quality of False River in Pointe Coupee Parish.  
2) Decrease in soil erosion into False River.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86750

Comment Text: The cleaning of water areas and less trash dumping. The grass problem. I would like to see the Corps put pumps in the Red River and pump water into Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86751

Comment Text: Dredging all waterways in Spring Bayou, control the grass in waterways.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86476

Comment Text: Addition of birding, hiking and paddling trails like the trails at Indian Bayou. They are easy to follow and give you a relatively safe, wild-like experience, both the hiking and paddle trails are great for birdwatching.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86548

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86552

Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86557

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ANHA) is located in the largest swamp in North America. Large expanses of the Atchafalaya basin remain forested and we would like to see it remain this way. The ANHA, specifically, is an area frequented by bird watchers from our organization. The Sherburne Complex and Indian Bayou Wildlife Management Area, in particular, have been birding and field trip destinations for the Orleans Audubon Society (OAS) and other local birding groups for many decades.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86560

Comment Text: Another is a general lack of public access along levees and public roads, particularly outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86561

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86752  
Comment Text: Low water level, grass problem in Spring Bayou.

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86753  
Comment Text: Spring Bayou could be what is used to be with a little help. Sports Man's Paradise.

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86796  
Comment Text: I would like to see job opportunities for participation parishes. For example, St. Martin Parish will be the starting point of the tour, let's turn the city into a showplace for tourists. Artisan building, city tours on mule drawn wagons, boat tours up and down the Bayou Teche, taste of Cajun cuisine in the heart of Cajun land.  
Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86823  
Comment Text: Make this a national tourist attraction that will be economically stimulating for the local communities such as the village of Loreauville.  
Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86842  
Comment Text: Let the Engineers do their job to preserve Buffalo Cove and the rest of the Basin, in cooperation with Fish and Wildlife Dept. and still allowing shipping and oil production.

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86926  
Comment Text: The denuding of the land for urban sprawl. Abandoned, leaking oil fields in the swamp. Legal clear-cutting and subsequent invasion by Chinese tallow and privet and water hyacinth. Urban sprawl in EBR and Ascension Parishes. Cutting cypress trees for the mulch industry.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86934  
Comment Text: Bayou Manchac and other waterways included in the National Scenic Rivers program.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86969  
Comment Text: There are a lot of towns in the National Heritage Area that have a lot to offer tourists. There are wonderful towns like Eunice, Breaux Bridge, New Iberia, Henderson, Butte la Rose and so on that have a lot to offer tourists and learn about our history. I think the management plan can do great things in this area.



## OS101 Related to specific programs

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99297

Comment Text: Another relevant issue that has come up from time to time that bears on the goals of the ANHA is the quality of information conveyed by tour guides as they interpret the area to their customers. It would be appropriate and of value to establish an educational tour guide certification program so that the correct information about the Atchafalaya is conveyed to visitors to the area. Along those same lines, certification should discourage tour operators from feeding of wild animals, particularly alligators, a practice that can encourage dangerous confrontations and is always detrimental to the health and welfare of the wild animals of the swamp.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99137

Comment Text: Form a heritage area economic development district that transcends Parish boundaries. EDD would have strict guidelines to enhance cultural values, projects reviewed by an EDD commission.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88669

Comment Text: a) The Atchafalaya River the entrance to largest river swamp in N. America. The Atchafalaya River the distributary into the richest wetlands, and march in the United States. What an excellent place for research operatives to move by small vessel either way for day studies. b) There is no question that facilities should exist for (Grant) studies by Universities because of hte easy access to the Basin, marsh, and gulf from Morgan City. Particularly since Morgan City is already home to the most aggressive underwater operatives in the world, Oceaneering, Inc.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88481

Comment Text: I would like to see us develop the "Atchafalaya Trace Bicycle Way!" It would provide a slow paces way to explore the area.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88544

Comment Text: We need a watercraft museum, probably located in Henderson. This museum should also offer classes in boat building and boat handling, and opportunities to use traditional Atchafalaya boats should be made available to visitors and tourists.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropoloty, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88609

Comment Text: The road between whisky bay and LA-190 needs resurfacing.

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88692

Comment Text: Please include Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge and Sherburne complex opportunities in your publications. Check [www.fws.gov/atchafalaya/](http://www.fws.gov/atchafalaya/)

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88468

Comment Text: The scenic Bayou Teche as part of the Atchafalaya Basin offers yet another great opportunity. A project developed by Dr. Thomas Himel of the Louisiana State University Experimental Station at Jeanerette is a good example. His project, the Bayou Teche watershed, has great potential.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86495

Comment Text: I would like to see a volunteer effort established similar to the "Adopt A Mile" program which keeps highways litter-free.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86846

Comment Text: I would like to see the institution of Camp Atchafalaya. More land uses for the public like boat launches, picnic areas, and more educational tours for the study of wildlife and ecosystems.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86849

Comment Text: In the future there will be a camp for disabled children and adults adjacent to the Atchafalaya Basin and I am hoping that with the national heritage area that we can count on the help and assistance from the National Park Service working with our Louisiana State Parks and the U.S. Department of the Interior to financially assist in making this happen.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86934

Comment Text: Bayou Manchac and other waterways included in the National Scenic Rivers program.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88463

Comment Text: In my area (Jeanerette, LA located on the southern shore of Lake Fausse Point), there is a beautiful and pristine site where a local group has been formed to develop Eagle Point Park. Funding has always been a problem. Another worthy project in Jeanerette is the Harry Hewes House, a museum dedicated to the cypress lumber industry in the Basin. Both projects have tremendous potential but used more funding.

## OV100 Camping (on the ground and/or floating campsites)

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99070

Comment Text: Floating campsites and maintenance thereof.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86920

Comment Text: Opportunities in tourism are there. Instead of hotels, tourists want to stay where it's at, more cabins and camping areas, a lot of cabins. With that comes more affiliated businesses such as convenience stores, supply stores, fuel outlets, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86674

Comment Text: More canoeing trails with floating campsites

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86630

Comment Text: Improve area with camping and river access.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86662

Comment Text: Beautification projects - campsites

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86871

Comment Text: Special huts and/or cabins for tourist camping

Organization: Retired from Natural Resources

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86931

Comment Text: Designated, pretty camping areas, some not accessible by cars, protection and restoration of black bear habitat.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88592

Comment Text: More trails, boat ramps, camping areas, house boat rentals. Please please do not exploit the area or allow others to do so (no private ownership!). Lease, maybe.

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87012

Comment Text: Backcountry camping, canoe trails

Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86933

Comment Text: Tourist and local "destinations" in camping, access, education about local cultures.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86947

Comment Text: Beautification of the river - campsites, commercial development so people can experience this great river.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88613

Comment Text: Campgrounds - cleared somewhat, but have enough trees for shade and comfort. No commercial building (stores, etc.)

### **OV101 Promote fishing**

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88630

Comment Text: Bayous and canals that are silting up need to remain open. Improved water flow. Improved fishing. Public access.

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88518

Comment Text: Our vision of the heritage area is one of fishing convenience, with perhaps platforms and piers, with light - lighting for extended time on the waters.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86836

Comment Text: New recreational area for tours set up for crawfish, crabbing, catfishing, large tours - by boat

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 20 Comment Id: 86609

Comment Text: Keep the fishing and hunting open

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86519

Comment Text: Do not limit the Hunting or Fishing opportunities in the Basin.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86789

Comment Text: Good fishing.

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86841

Comment Text: Natural flow of water preserved for fishing, crawfishing, boating, and wildlife preservation.

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88614

Comment Text: Port (as in simmerport) commercials to that extent would benefit the towns and people. Fishing - sport and commercial.

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88570

Comment Text: Keep the Atchafalaya Basin and this heritage area open to the public for public hunting and fishing activities! Get funding to keep it well preserved.

Organization: McIlhenny

### **OV102 Promote crawfishing**

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86841

Comment Text: Natural flow of water preserved for fishing, crawfishing, boating, and wildlife preservation.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86836

Comment Text: New recreational area for tours set up for crawfish, crabbing, catfishing, large tours - by boat

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

### **OV103 Less control on limits on commercial crawfishing**

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86628

Comment Text: Less government control for commercial fishermen. This way of life is essential to the surrounding communities and good for state government. No future control on limits for commercial crawfishing.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

### **OV104 Allow hunting**

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88570

Comment Text: Keep the Atchafalaya Basin and this heritage area open to the public for public hunting and fishing activities! Get funding to keep it well preserved.

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 20 Comment Id: 86609

Comment Text: Keep the fishing and hunting open

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86519

Comment Text: Do not limit the Hunting or Fishing opportunities in the Basin.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86722

Comment Text: The area is not made into a National Park where people could not hunt!

### **OV105 Do not allow hunting**

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99052

Comment Text: Minimal motoring boats and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88606

Comment Text: Reduce permanent residence by attrition. Limit hunting.

### **OV106 Develop hiking and walking trails/opportunities**

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88667

Comment Text: c) A Civil War Trail that defines the route and battles of the Confederate and Union Armies through the area. d) An Evangeline or Acadian Trail that identifies the route traveled by the Acadians in settling the area. Possibly using the route outlined by Longfellow in his poem "Evangeline."

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86877

Comment Text: I would like to see marked trails, short and long, for adventure and sightseeing via canoes, kayaks, and boats with no more than 3 hp engines.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86812

Comment Text: Additional nice boat launches, security to protect parking areas, signs of significant areas, activities to improve wildlife like feed and viewing areas, nature trails to old schools and churches.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86690

Comment Text: Walking trails, biking trails, increase recreational areas

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86561

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86476

Comment Text: Addition of birding, hiking and paddling trails like the trails at Indian Bayou. They are easy to follow and give you a relatively safe, wild-like experience, both the hiking and paddle trails are great for birdwatching.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86481

Comment Text: Addition of birding, paddling and hiking opportunities.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86541

Comment Text: Dedicated trails for hiking, biking, and kayaking.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86548

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86552

Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86565

Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86728

Comment Text: Develop more walking trails if possible.

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860

Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86903

Comment Text: No development needed. Few more access points. Maybe walkways/trails. Need monitoring of condition of animals.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88658

Comment Text: The development of tourist centers, trails, cause and boat routes, historic and archeological education, and conservation will be essential.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 74 Comment Id: 86951

Comment Text: More small trails that are walkable but not intrusive.

Organization: Louisiana Duck Decoys

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88592

Comment Text: More trails, boat ramps, camping areas, house boat rentals. Please please do not exploit the area or allow others to do so (no private ownership!). Lease, maybe.

### **OV107 Promote biking (create trails for)**

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88637

Comment Text: 1) Attempts to commercialize area (build Disneyland) should be avoided, 2) Consider bike paths on secondary roads

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86690

Comment Text: Walking trails, biking trails, increase recreational areas

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86541

Comment Text: Dedicated trails for hiking, biking, and kayaking.

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88481

Comment Text: I would like to see us develop the "Atchafalaya Trace Bicycle Way!" It would provide a slow paces way to explore the area.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

### **OV108 Develop canoeing/kayaking/paddling trails/opportunities; to include guided trips**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99277

Comment Text: In my opinion, there are not enough river tours and house boat rentals. With the vast amount of non-toured areas, it would be an asset if the state could offer more opportunities for canoe and boat tours. This would open more interest for travel writers, artists, media, tourists and locals who do not own boats to tour untapped regions that are only seen by those who have known how to navigate the paths around the basin.



Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99069  
Comment Text: Guided canoe and kayak trips.  
Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99068  
Comment Text: Preservation of nature to allow paddling.  
Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88683  
Comment Text: Would like to see our waterways clean, navigable and connected for ecotourism - canoe, boating experience

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87012  
Comment Text: Backcountry camping, canoe trails  
Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86763  
Comment Text: 1) Less trash, 2) More canoe/kayak mapped trails and opportunities, 3) Less oil presence, 4) Maybe kiosks at boat landings about wildlife, vegetation, etc.  
Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86565  
Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86552  
Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86476  
Comment Text: Addition of birding, hiking and paddling trails like the trails at Indian Bayou. They are easy to follow and give you a relatively safe, wild-like experience, both the hiking and paddle trails are great for birdwatching.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86481  
Comment Text: Addition of birding, paddling and hiking opportunities.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86531

Comment Text: More catering to canoes and kayaks, less to powerboats.

Correspondence Id: 13   Comment Id: 86541

Comment Text: Dedicated trails for hiking, biking, and kayaking.

Correspondence Id: 11   Comment Id: 86561

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 31   Comment Id: 86674

Comment Text: More canoeing trails with floating campsites

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 64   Comment Id: 86877

Comment Text: I would like to see marked trails, short and long, for adventure and sightseeing via canoes, kayaks, and boats with no more than 3 hp engines.

Correspondence Id: 109   Comment Id: 88579

Comment Text: Paddle trails (canoe, kayak) developed for short and long excursions to assist in education and conservation activities would be beneficial.

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 136   Comment Id: 99062

Comment Text: More kayak trails, maybe some youth camps that teach outdoor skills, surviving, rappelling, kayaking, hiking and biking.

Correspondence Id: 172   Comment Id: 99259

Comment Text: Overall connectiveness - more trees planted - more signage - transportation around the Basin - bus routes for tourists - development of water trails for canoeists, kayakers, etc.

Correspondence Id: 142   Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

## **OV109 Develop tourism without damaging resources**

Correspondence Id: 170   Comment Id: 99247

Comment Text: Enough public access but no over development. Cooperation & joint promotion between parishes, state agencies & government agencies.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86525

Comment Text: Keep the Basin wild, so that everyone can see what the land was like when the Broussard brothers arrived. It's wild right now. Why change it? Once changed, it's gone forever. Why kill something now that will be a tourist boon in just a few years? In the 1940s, the refuge of the last of the Ivory-billed Woodpeckers was destroyed for lumber up in NE Louisiana. If we still had these birds, they would generate millions of dollars per year in tourism for this now poverty-stricken area. The only sedentary flock of Whooping Cranes in the world was destroyed at White Lake. If still alive, they would bring millions of dollars yearly to Vermilion Parish. And if the government hadn't wiped out our French, think of the tourism mecca this land would be today. We need to think to the future, and understand when we have something unique, something that people will want to experience. The Basin is our Eiffel Tower, our Grand Canyon. We need to capitalize on it in a sustainable way.

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86513

Comment Text: Would like to see development as a tourism resource without becoming too commercialized.

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86589

Comment Text: Expanded access without damaging current socio/eco balance. Trails to conform to topography in place without changing drainages, etc.

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99161

Comment Text: Balancing access with need to protect this fragile ecosystem.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86702

Comment Text: Attractions for tourists without spoiling the land.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88444

Comment Text: East/west access without causing siltation.

**OV110 Education/interpretation for visitors and schools; programs for/in schools; traveling exhibits - libraries, museums, etc.**

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99272

Comment Text: There is incredible potential there - not for exploitation but rather enhancements and to educate. It is costly to educate; revenues from a "minor" tax and a small "Disneyland" type museum along the interstate which depicts life in the lowlands and swamps would help offset educational expenses.

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99210

Comment Text: I would like to see an emphasis on educational outreach to interest groups, educational programs in schools & traveling exhibits for libraries & public venues.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99160

Comment Text: Expand access for recreational activities. Set up regional interpretive sites that show how the Basin ties in to local history. Explore Native American history and prehistory in the Basin.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88667

Comment Text: c) A Civil War Trail that defines the route and battles of the Confederate and Union Armies through the area. d) An Evangeline or Acadian Trail that identifies the route traveled by the Acadians in settling the area. Possibly using the route outlined by Longfellow in his poem "Evangeline."

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88479

Comment Text: Build an interpretive center near Lake Palourde. But have it 1st Class. Lots of hands-on learning experiences about the Basin.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86933

Comment Text: Tourist and local "destinations" in camping, access, education about local cultures.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86489

Comment Text: Programs that involve the public, programs and publicity that increase tourism, especially from francophone countries, and programs that involve schools and families.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86497

Comment Text: I believe that education of the general public - local citizens as well as tourists - is the key to saving the Atchafalaya for future generations. Many people do not realize (or believe) that their actions affect the world around them. Educational displays should be set up in areas regularly visited by the general public - libraries, malls, etc - where people will "stumble" onto the information, and hopefully be enlightened in spite of themselves.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86508

Comment Text: Gain wider recognition of the economic, natural, cultural and historical significance of the basin. Promoting awareness and use of the basin in a synergistic manner, incorporating education about nature, culture and history, but also providing opportunities for recreation and active learning as well as local economic diversification and sustainability.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86514

Comment Text: Tourism and educational development provided to visitors to Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86579

Comment Text: Interpretive programs, fairs, festivals focusing on authentic sites where history was made - use of authentic costumes - educational program for school-age children involved.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86729

Comment Text: Develop interpretive themes on the periphery

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86883

Comment Text: I would like to see a few more interpretive sites and I wouldn't like to see it lost its "wildness."

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86897

Comment Text: Managed for preservation and education.

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88464

Comment Text: The projects mentioned above offer enormous and wonderful opportunities. These include development of ecotourism themes, educational programs and seminars, and vast recreational opportunities.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88591

Comment Text: Educational, boat landings, picnic, scenic spots, lighted security in select areas. Another bridge across the area.

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88671

Comment Text: b) A colossal educational process must take place to create respect for this effort. Recognition of the effort by the general public must take place to make the administration and management effective. (This is an exceptionally vital key.)

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99208

Comment Text: I would like to see the heritage area support programs in school systems.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99241

Comment Text: The long time of "necessity" to get through all the state & federal details and requirements to get something done - not enough public education and awareness on what this is all about?

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99254

Comment Text: First and foremost I would like to see an educational program developed and instituted in schools in Louisiana, especially in the fourteen (14) parishes in the Heritage area. I would also like to see the management plan to include the documenting of information and history, through folklorists, of the cultures in the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99253

Comment Text: In the next 20 years, I would like to see a comprehensive map and guidebooks to the area that can help people explore the area. I would also like to see all of the schools have included in their regular curriculum the history of the National Heritage Area. I would not like to see physical development of the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

### **OV111 Educate local residents (and staff) of the benefits of preserving their natural and cultural resources**

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99253

Comment Text: In the next 20 years, I would like to see a comprehensive map and guidebooks to the area that can help people explore the area. I would also like to see all of the schools have included in their regular curriculum the history of the National Heritage Area. I would not like to see physical development of the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86496

Comment Text: I would like to see efforts made to educate the local populations on how their actions help/harm the Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86497

Comment Text: I believe that education of the general public - local citizens as well as tourists - is the key to saving the Atchafalaya for future generations. Many people do not realize (or believe) that their actions affect the world around them. Educational displays should be set up in areas regularly visited by the general public - libraries, malls, etc -

where people will "stumble" onto the information, and hopefully be enlightened in spite of themselves.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86757

Comment Text: Mandatory garbage pick up in each parish, litter education, build on tourist industry - culture, crafts, architecture, history, etc.

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86770

Comment Text: Education and financial incentives to private owners to enhance the area promoting the goals of the heritage area.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86773

Comment Text: Educating the residents of the benefits of preserving and maintaining the culture and physical aspects of the region for improved quality of life for the present and the future.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87002

Comment Text: I would like to see a place where the locals can travel with their families and enjoy what their state has to offer - discover that grass is greener in their own backyard.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88516

Comment Text: Youth deserves opportunities always, perhaps with the use of guidance and instruction as to the continuance of concern and work in the area.

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88607

Comment Text: Establish an education program for staff to include all species in the area. Instill in them a strong sense of stewardship.

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99143

Comment Text: Let it be as much meaning to South LA as the French Quarter is to N.O.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99054

Comment Text: Plenty of outreach and education for children and the area. I'd also like to see activities or events that strive for cultural diversity.

Correspondence Id: 134 Comment Id: 99046

Comment Text: To have the next generation know its existence without altering its evolution.

Organization: County Ridge Bed and Breakfast

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88665

Comment Text: a) a multi-focused educational process directed toward developing a broad appreciation and understanding. One that reaches the hidden depths of the area populace, presented in many different formats.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88671

Comment Text: b) A colossal educational process must take place to create respect for this effort. Recognition of the effort by the general public must take place to make the administration and management effective. (This is an exceptionally vital key.)

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99190

Comment Text: Not knowing enough!

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99241

Comment Text: The long time of "necessity" to get through all the state & federal details and requirements to get something done - not enough public education and awareness on what this is all about?

**OV112 Develop facilities/services for visitor use (visitor centers, parking areas, boat launches, restrooms, museums, picnic areas, concessions, transportation routes, maps)**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99282

Comment Text: As Director of St. Martinville Tourism I am concerned about the missed opportunities to capitalize on what this and other gateway cities can add to the interpretation of the Atchafalaya, steeped in history of one of the oldest settlements in Louisiana. I believe that the historic heritage area must look to a museum or center to be the major part of telling the local history. The "Atchafalaya Basin" can be the mecca for tourist learning the story of the Acadian settlement.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88567

Comment Text: Spend money on public facilities (federal and state funding).

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88591

Comment Text: Educational, boat landings, picnic, scenic spots, lighted security in select areas. Another bridge across the area.



Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88592

Comment Text: More trails, boat ramps, camping areas, house boat rentals. Please please do not exploit the area or allow others to do so (no private ownership!). Lease, maybe.

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88614

Comment Text: Port (as in simmerport) commercials to that extent would benefit the towns and people. Fishing - sport and commercial.

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88626

Comment Text: Perhaps another state park with boat launch for fishing, etc.

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88658

Comment Text: The development of tourist centers, trails, cause and boat routes, historic and archeological education, and conservation will be essential.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99081

Comment Text: A road map showing all of our historic sites. Help save our historic landmarks like the Vida Bridge in Iberia Parish, LA.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99142

Comment Text: A tourist map, including pathways, shops, hunting and fishing areas for everybody. Not only the ones that have "camps", etc.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86778

Comment Text: We need to have better parking and launching ramps similar to the ones in Texas.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86812

Comment Text: Additional nice boat launches, security to protect parking areas, signs of significant areas, activities to improve wildlife like feed and viewing areas, nature trails to old schools and churches.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86846

Comment Text: I would like to see the institution of Camp Atchafalaya. More land uses for the public like boat launches, picnic areas, and more educational tours for the study of wildlife and ecosystems.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860

Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86873

Comment Text: Some type of concession stands for refreshments

Organization: Retired from Natural Resources

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919

Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86920

Comment Text: Opportunities in tourism are there. Instead of hotels, tourists want to stay where it's at, more cabins and camping areas, a lot of cabins. With that comes more affiliated businesses such as convenience stores, supply stores, fuel outlets, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86939

Comment Text: Cabins, have a contest - every senior high school biology class involved in study, protection, resources, etc.

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86947

Comment Text: Beautification of the river - campsites, commercial development so people can experience this great river.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86504

Comment Text: Would like to see: presentation of the lifeways of basin residents from oral history and other projects; recognition of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of basin cultures in all presentations; recognition and presentations on the technological and cultural adaptations and innovations of basin occupants, especially in boating and fishing; facilities that combine several types of related resources in their

presentation and emphasis, e.g. a boat museum that also emphasizes the natural resources of the area and how these resources contributed to the culture of the basin in the past and continue to contribute to the current culture of the basin and region today, and also includes opportunities for guided and non-guided education and recreation such as guided boat tours and boat launching and rental facilities.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86548

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86552

Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86561

Comment Text: We would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trails, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86565

Comment Text: Again, we would like to see more pedestrian trails, canoeing trail, and boat launches in areas outside of the Sherburne Complex.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86621

Comment Text: Money spent in local communities to improve boat launching facilities.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86709

Comment Text: Increased availability of touring and facilities for such. I believe increasing tourist activity is promoting a clean, profitable industry that gives an excellent view of our area to the outside world.

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86962

Comment Text: Possible tourist station (properly managed)

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86990

Comment Text: I would like to see a museum to show our children and grandchildren what a pleasure it was to work at that kind of living.

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86996

Comment Text: More recreational areas, i.e. boat landings, tours, and greater production of food.

Organization: Plaucheville Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88440

Comment Text: Poor boat landings and each launch area is managed by different agencies. Some are nice and most are not.

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88479

Comment Text: Build an interpretive center near Lake Palourde. But have it 1st Class. Lots of hands-on learning experiences about the Basin.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88518

Comment Text: Our vision of the heritage area is one of fishing convenience, with perhaps platforms and piers, with light - lighting for extended time on the waters.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88544

Comment Text: We need a watercraft museum, probably located in Henderson. This museum should also offer classes in boat building and boat handling, and opportunities to use traditional Atchafalaya boats should be made available to visitors and tourists.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88550

Comment Text: Open silted in waterways, more/better handicap parking at boat ramps

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99269

Comment Text: A splendid museum, near the waterways but adjacent to I-10. This would give the history of the area, the lives of the people still living there, the story of "correct" commercial use within, and swamp tours. Perhaps a small zoo of native animals, too! This would allow the tourist passing through the opportunity to realize the richness of the area and allow them to explore alternative vacation opportunities.

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99259

Comment Text: Overall connectiveness - more trees planted - more signage - transportation around the Basin - bus routes for tourists - development of water trails for canoeists, kayakers, etc.

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99253

Comment Text: In the next 20 years, I would like to see a comprehensive map and guidebooks to the area that can help people explore the area. I would also like to see all of the schools have included in their regular curriculum the history of the National Heritage Area. I would not like to see physical development of the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99186

Comment Text: Try to interest investors that do recreational parks. Also a nice motel in these areas.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 170 Comment Id: 99246

Comment Text: Need more development in Concordia - museums, exhibits, etc. Better roads in area - signage.

Organization: Concordia Parish Tourist Commission

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99277

Comment Text: In my opinion, there are not enough river tours and house boat rentals. With the vast amount of non-toured areas, it would be an asset if the state could offer more opportunities for canoe and boat tours. This would open more interest for travel writers, artists, media, tourists and locals who do not own boats to tour untapped regions that are only seen by those who have known how to navigate the paths around the basin.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99281

Comment Text: It would be a strong addition if more effective programs could be developed such as: Enhanced river tours, historic and cultural programs geared toward heritage and ecotourism, nationally recognized birding paths and tours, a strong protection of the fishing industry so important to the people who live off the Basin, and the creation of much more camp sites with nice state operated cottages, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

### **OV113 Limit the development of facilities**

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99253

Comment Text: In the next 20 years, I would like to see a comprehensive map and guidebooks to the area that can help people explore the area. I would also like to see all of the schools have included in their regular curriculum the history of the National Heritage Area. I would not like to see physical development of the area.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86903

Comment Text: No development needed. Few more access points. Maybe walkways/trails. Need monitoring of condition of animals.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99085

Comment Text: 1) See - more boat landings (motorboat), a no-motor paddling area, a children's fishing pier at Atch Rest Stop I-10. 2) Not See - more camp developments, big box chains, sprawl, swamp converted to ag.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

### **OV114 Swamp/boat tours; river tours**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99281

Comment Text: It would be a strong addition if more effective programs could be developed such as: Enhanced river tours, historic and cultural programs geared toward heritage and ecotourism, nationally recognized birding paths and tours, a strong protection of the fishing industry so important to the people who live off the Basin, and the creation of much more camp sites with nice state operated cottages, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86996

Comment Text: More recreational areas, i.e. boat landings, tours, and greater production of food.

Organization: Plaquemine Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86870

Comment Text: More sightseeing boat trips for tourists

Organization: Retired from Natural Resources

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86836

Comment Text: New recreational area for tours set up for crawfish, crabbing, catfishing, large tours - by boat

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86504

Comment Text: Would like to see: presentation of the lifeways of basin residents from oral history and other projects; recognition of the multi-lingual and multi-cultural nature of basin cultures in all presentations; recognition and presentations on the technological and cultural adaptations and innovations of basin occupants, especially in boating and fishing; facilities that combine several types of related resources in their presentation and emphasis, e.g. a boat museum that also emphasizes the natural resources of the area and how these resources contributed to the culture of the basin in the past and continue to contribute to the current culture of the basin and region today, and also includes opportunities for guided and non-guided education and recreation such as guided boat tours and boat launching and rental facilities.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86806

Comment Text: I would like to see more boat tours available, which would increase tourism.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860

Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86877

Comment Text: I would like to see marked trails, short and long, for adventure and sightseeing via canoes, kayaks, and boats with no more than 3 hp engines.

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88430

Comment Text: Guided tours

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99277

Comment Text: In my opinion, there are not enough river tours and house boat rentals. With the vast amount of non-toured areas, it would be an asset if the state could offer more opportunities for canoe and boat tours. This would open more interest for travel writers, artists, media, tourists and locals who do not own boats to tour untapped regions that are only seen by those who have known how to navigate the paths around the basin.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99269

Comment Text: A splendid museum, near the waterways but adjacent to I-10. This would give the history of the area, the lives of the people still living there, the story of "correct" commercial use within, and swamp tours. Perhaps a small zoo of native animals, too! This would allow the tourist passing through the opportunity to realize the richness of the area and allow them to explore alternative vacation opportunities.

### **OV115 Hold fairs/festivals/events**

Correspondence Id: 179 Comment Id: 99293

Comment Text: Need more events. The Catholic Church-sponsored events along the neighborhood bayous are gone. The culture is on the bayous. Concerned that they are losing the bayou culture. [Stated in French and then translated] "We don't want it to look professional, we want it to look real."

Commenter: Houma Public Meeting - additional comments

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86579

Comment Text: Interpretive programs, fairs, festivals focusing on authentic sites where history was made - use of authentic costumes - educational program for school-age children involved.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86940

Comment Text: Advertise - include school activities to participate, set up special family activities, extra festivals

### **OV116 Greater river access**

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88720

Comment Text: Additional navigability of some bayous which have silted in my mismanagement of the waterways.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86663

Comment Text: All availability for those interested in the river.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86630

Comment Text: Improve area with camping and river access.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88599

Comment Text: Waterways open with needs for visitors

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86786

Comment Text: Public access to all waterways! Not land just water!

### **OV118 Promote birding**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99281

Comment Text: It would be a strong addition if more effective programs could be developed such as: Enhanced river tours, historic and cultural programs geared toward heritage and ecotourism, nationally recognized birding paths and tours, a strong protection of the fishing industry so important to the people who live off the Basin, and the creation of much more camp sites with nice state operated cottages, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner



Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86476

Comment Text: Addition of birding, hiking and paddling trails like the trails at Indian Bayou. They are easy to follow and give you a relatively safe, wild-like experience, both the hiking and paddle trails are great for birdwatching.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86481

Comment Text: Addition of birding, paddling and hiking opportunities.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

### **OV119 Visitors'/locals' safety/security**

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99141

Comment Text: A source of hurricane evacuation ("north and south") road from Swy 90 to I-10. More availability for sportsmen without boats, etc.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86968

Comment Text: I am all for tourism to help the economy and promote Louisiana, but it is probably not a good idea to have canoe trips in the Basin during deer hunting season (Nov-Jan). If the canoe doesn't flip from all the boat traffic, it is still not safe with high powered rifles being shot in the area. I know that is a risky statement because someone will come up with the bright idea to either take our guns away (there goes the 2nd Amendment, the Corps has already taken my 5th Amendment away) or try to stop deer hunting altogether.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86811

Comment Text: Lack of access to the Basin, lack of security to protect personal property when away from vehicle while visiting the Basin.

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 86634

Comment Text: Keeping it safe.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88591

Comment Text: Educational, boat landings, picnic, scenic spots, lighted security in select areas. Another bridge across the area.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88443

Comment Text: Security at landings.

## **OV120 Continue and/or implement specific programs/projects**

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99210

Comment Text: I would like to see an emphasis on educational outreach to interest groups, educational programs in schools & traveling exhibits for libraries & public venues.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86932

Comment Text: Delta building projects.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 136 Comment Id: 99062

Comment Text: More kayak trails, maybe some youth camps that teach outdoor skills, surviving, rappelling, kayaking, hiking and biking.

Organization:

## **OV121 Expand ecotourism (ecotours, certified ecotour guides, etc.)**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99281

Comment Text: It would be a strong addition if more effective programs could be developed such as: Enhanced river tours, historic and cultural programs geared toward heritage and ecotourism, nationally recognized birding paths and tours, a strong protection of the fishing industry so important to the people who live off the Basin, and the creation of much more camp sites with nice state operated cottages, etc.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88577

Comment Text: Ecotourism with emphasis on conservation education, development, as well as sports related activities.

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88464

Comment Text: The projects mentioned above offer enormous and wonderful opportunities. These include development of ecotourism themes, educational programs and seminars, and vast recreational opportunities.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86484

Comment Text: It would be wonderful if we could be an example to world on responsible eco-tourism by balancing the wants of people and the needs of biodiversity.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86475  
Comment Text: I would like to see small boat eco-tours.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86477  
Comment Text: I would also like to see certified eco-tour guides, not just someone saying they provide eco-tours.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86696  
Comment Text: Eco-tourism expanded

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88576  
Comment Text: I would not like to see urban and industrial development unregulated! I would like to see better management of land and water and growth of ecotourism!  
Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99086  
Comment Text: 1) Make contact with ecotourism development orgs like TIES and get them down here. 2) Adopt a "sustainable tourism" ethic. 3) Actively encourage and incentivize grassroots sustainability groups in each community, enjoying.  
Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88683  
Comment Text: Would like to see our waterways clean, navigable and connected for ecotourism - canoe, boating experience

**OV122 Intimate visitor experiences only (small groups, keep close to the resource - i.e. tours by small boats not barges)**

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86478  
Comment Text: I would not like to see barges of tourists, this takes away from the wild, mysterious experience.  
Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

**OV123 Increase/promote tourism (in general)**

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99218  
Comment Text: The hospitality industry should be educated about attractions in the area, and Francophones should be given opportunities in management. The hospitality industry should encourage and employ Francophone workers.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99075

Comment Text: So large and spread out - need more information to tourists.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88690

Comment Text: Develop publicity about festivals, events, public outdoor opportunities.

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88600

Comment Text: Advertisement of our attractions. Planned tours and excursions.

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88504

Comment Text: I would hope that management would result in maintaining the natural beauty and wildlife of the area and as a result create opportunities to make this area a destination for travelers (worldwide) looking for an opportunity to see these natural wetlands.

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86992

Comment Text: We need more attractions to bring more tourists into our area.

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86946

Comment Text: Large boats to carry tourists wherever possible.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86878

Comment Text: A national and international plan to attract people to see and enjoy and discover ANHA.

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86520

Comment Text: A complete tour opportunity in the Basin, and Land Management for forestry.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86623

Comment Text: Promote tourism to help local economy.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86709

Comment Text: Increased availability of touring and facilities for such. I believe increasing tourist activity is promoting a clean, profitable industry that gives an excellent view of our area to the outside world.

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 86745  
Comment Text: That our culture is widely known nationally

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86757  
Comment Text: Mandatory garbage pick up in each parish, litter education, build on tourist industry - culture, crafts, architecture, history, etc.  
Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86823  
Comment Text: Make this a national tourist attraction that will be economically stimulating for the local communities such as the village of Loreauville.  
Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86835  
Comment Text: More tours from all over the United States first then the world.  
Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86836  
Comment Text: New recreational area for tours set up for crawfish, crabbing, catfishing, large tours - by boat  
Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86860  
Comment Text: Besides the natural habitat - I would like to see the construction - development of several designated locations in and around the waterways: miniature aquariums: along the Gulf of Mexico shores in inland - for research and studies for students: grade school through college, scientific and technical research; tourism, recreational, walk trails and boat travel.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86489  
Comment Text: Programs that involve the public, programs and publicity that increase tourism, especially from francophone countries, and programs that involve schools and families.

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86514  
Comment Text: Tourism and educational development provided to visitors to Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919  
Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.  
Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86969

Comment Text: There are a lot of towns in the National Heritage Area that have a lot to offer tourists. There are wonderful towns like Eunice, Breaux Bridge, New Iberia, Henderson, Butte la Rose and so on that have a lot to offer tourists and learn about our history. I think the management plan can do great things in this area.

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88428

Comment Text: Easier access - more advertisement and nationwide

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88586

Comment Text: Please continue publicizing the importance of our "National Heritage Area" preservation/legacy.

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88689

Comment Text: Publicity

Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99185

Comment Text: More interest from investors. That whole area could become a large or I should say, a much larger tourist attraction.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99144

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin should be commercialized as much as "Mount Rushmore", "Ruby Falls", Grand Canyon, etc. I'm sure it would create less money, especially being so close to N.O.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

### **OV124 Promote internationally (francophone countries)**

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99216

Comment Text: An emphasis on the French language and culture is of utmost importance. Bilingual signage and brochures of attractions are vital to encourage Francophone tourism.

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86489

Comment Text: Programs that involve the public, programs and publicity that increase tourism, especially from francophone countries, and programs that involve schools and families.

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86878

Comment Text: A national and international plan to attract people to see and enjoy and discover ANHA.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86835  
Comment Text: More tours from all over the United States first then the world.  
Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

#### **OV125 Greater public access (general)**

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99171  
Comment Text: More accessibility to the Atchafalaya Basin and surrounding areas for hunting, fishing, and commercial fishing.  
Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88619  
Comment Text: Improve access and signage; Manage the timber quantities to achieve the highest degree of forest health; Improve hydrology  
Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88535  
Comment Text: Cleaner, pollution free, a practical management plan and always open to the public

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919  
Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.  
Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86933  
Comment Text: Tourist and local "destinations" in camping, access, education about local cultures.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87013  
Comment Text: Access for backcountry travel  
Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88419  
Comment Text: No see - over development; Develop access areas only

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88428  
Comment Text: Easier access - more advertisement and nationwide

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88444  
Comment Text: East/west access without causing siltation.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88445  
Comment Text: More land for public access.

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88502  
Comment Text: Increased accessibility for the general public - protection for its natural beauty.

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88526  
Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is officially recognized as the largest wetlands in the U.S. and is presently accessible to over a million citizens. Let's expand accessibility facilities that will allow more people to enjoy.

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86738  
Comment Text: Better access to certain remote areas.  
Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86741  
Comment Text: Allow the flow of water and improve access to the public.  
Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86758  
Comment Text: Clean water, regulate water for crawfishing, more open land and less private land  
Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86772  
Comment Text: Developing access to natural areas that don't look like obvious accesses so visitors can see the natural Louisiana.  
Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86802  
Comment Text: Water quality, normal access to lands controlled by the Corps of Engineers, address the siltation problems, allow more water in Basin from the Mississippi River in the Spring.  
Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86813  
Comment Text: Ways to protect the area - water flow, tree management, improve access, wildlife management.

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86865  
Comment Text: Keep this area accessible to the public and preserve it for future generations.



Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86896

Comment Text: More points of public access developed, more land preserved.

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86903

Comment Text: No development needed. Few more access points. Maybe walkways/trails. Need monitoring of condition of animals.

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86503

Comment Text: Would like to see: greater public access to the basin.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86526

Comment Text: I'd like to see land set aside for public use, not private development.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86691

Comment Text: Recreational area increased for local residents, as well as visitors to our state.

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88557

Comment Text: I would like to see development of resources in a way that provides greater access but in a way that is sensitive to the local culture

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88620

Comment Text: Improve access and signage on roadways and waterways; Forest health; Manage aquatic invasive species

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99159

Comment Text: More access for residents and visitors. Most people only know the area through a few documentaries, and maybe swamp tours in Henderson. The area is so much more than that.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99140

Comment Text: Not utilized to its maximum potential. Need to be more accessible to the "locals" as well as visitors. Fishing warfs, bait ships, tourist "house", etc.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88630

Comment Text: Bayous and canals that are silting up need to remain open. Improved water flow. Improved fishing. Public access.

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99135

Comment Text: If we do not preserve natural conditions in the basin then we lose the core of what this highly valuable natural resource is all about. We need, and the basin needs for us to start now to identify places to see and how to access them. We need to get visitors out into those natural areas of the basin that we have left so that we build up a constituency of persons interested in its preservation. There are many good ideas listed in the management plan executive summary. We probably can't do all of them in the near term. We need to focus on those projects that will be most effective in preserving the natural characteristics of the basin for future enjoyment.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99160

Comment Text: Expand access for recreational activities. Set up regional interpretive sites that show how the Basin ties in to local history. Explore Native American history and prehistory in the Basin.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

### **OV126 Provide recreation opportunities (general)**

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99166

Comment Text: Opportunities for natural outdoor activities.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 136 Comment Id: 99062

Comment Text: More kayak trails, maybe some youth camps that teach outdoor skills, surviving, rappelling, kayaking, hiking and biking.

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87008

Comment Text: More opportunities to rent house boats to explore Atchafalaya longer.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86919

Comment Text: We need more public areas for tourists to visit and spend money. Nicer boat launches and recreation camping/picnic areas. A program to educate our young students about coastal erosion and getting them involved in its restoration, etc.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86690

Comment Text: Walking trails, biking trails, increase recreational areas

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86508

Comment Text: Gain wider recognition of the economic, natural, cultural and historical significance of the basin. Promoting awareness and use of the basin in a synergistic manner, incorporating education about nature, culture and history, but also providing opportunities for recreation and active learning as well as local economic diversification and sustainability.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86691

Comment Text: Recreational area increased for local residents, as well as visitors to our state.

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87007

Comment Text: More scenic ways for people to see it that have never been there before.

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88464

Comment Text: The projects mentioned above offer enormous and wonderful opportunities. These include development of ecotourism themes, educational programs and seminars, and vast recreational opportunities.

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99098

Comment Text: Self guided "Road Map" tours to accent the area (next year if possible). Protect our unique geography (cypress forests).

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99141

Comment Text: A source of hurricane evacuation ("north and south") road from Swy 90 to I-10. More availability for sportsmen without boats, etc.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99140

Comment Text: Not utilized to its maximum potential. Need to be more accessible to the "locals" as well as visitors. Fishing warfs, bait ships, tourist "house", etc.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

### **OV127 Limit certain types of recreation**

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99052

Comment Text: Minimal motoring boats and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86531

Comment Text: More catering to canoes and kayaks, less to powerboats.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86758

Comment Text: Clean water, regulate water for crawfishing, more open land and less private land

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88509

Comment Text: I would like to see deer hunting with dogs eliminated.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86968

Comment Text: I am all for tourism to help the economy and promote Louisiana, but it is probably not a good idea to have canoe trips in the Basin during deer hunting season (Nov-Jan). If the canoe doesn't flip from all the boat traffic, it is still not safe with high powered rifles being shot in the area. I know that is a risky statement because someone will come up with the bright idea to either take our guns away (there goes the 2nd Amendment, the Corps has already taken my 5th Amendment away) or try to stop deer hunting altogether.

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86927

Comment Text: I would like to see intact forests protected from logging, hydrological restoration projects, invasive species control, areas with house power limits, NO jet skis.

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 54 Comment Id: 86820

Comment Text: Remove all private camps from area (Atchafalaya Basin).

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88484

Comment Text: The people who "trash" such a treasure. Once destroyed it can be fined but never, never like it was. The trash that is left will remain for years. Four-wheelers should be banned in such areas, they destroy fragile wetlands.

## **OV128 Maintenance of facilities and trails**

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99070

Comment Text: Floating campsites and maintenance thereof.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86675

Comment Text: Maintenance of canoeing trails and floating campsites.

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86677

Comment Text: Need trash dumpsters at public boat launches.  
Organization: "Canoe 2"

### **OV129 Protect/promote viewsheds**

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88668  
Comment Text: e) Development of "Overviews." In the mountains "overviews" provide a panorama. Our level land is not conducive; however, elevated towers (not unlike fire towers above the trees.) would provide panoramic views from above the trees. (Example) Located at Bayou Ramous the bayou divides into three outlets from the intra-coastal waterway into Lake Palourde. It is a scenic view. One can view it from the elevated I-49 proposed highway out of Morgan City. Each season the colors change, water levels cause different vegetation to bloom. It is beautiful. Sadly one can only see it driving by at excess speeds. From a higher elevation the view would be spectacular. A photographer's dream.  
Organization: Image Commission

### **OV130 Restrict Access**

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99071  
Comment Text: Maintain natural remoteness with restricted access.  
Organization: Canoe 2

### **TG100 The failure of river structures**

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86596  
Comment Text: The "old river" structure - if it fails we have a mess.

### **TG101 Overpopulation**

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88525  
Comment Text: That it will be overrun by human activity and spoiled by unsustainable practices.  
Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86638  
Comment Text: I would not like to see it changed a great deal. I would also not like to see exploding population in the sensitive areas.  
Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86710

Comment Text: Increasing population with increased destruction of habitat. Loss of coastline, loss of historic properties.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86958

Comment Text: The over population of campsites and residences along the river and bayous. No treatment regulation in place (i.e., sewer).

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 60 Comment Id: 86852

Comment Text: As large as it is, it is getting very crowded at times.

### **TG102 Commercialization**

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99206

Comment Text: That it becomes a Disneyland (or worse) caricature of itself.

Correspondence Id: 60 Comment Id: 86853

Comment Text: I hope it doesn't get too commercial.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86685

Comment Text: Commercialization

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86599

Comment Text: Any attempt to commercialize it!

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88525

Comment Text: That it will be overrun by human activity and spoiled by unsustainable practices.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88716

Comment Text: That there not be too many bars, games and etc. added

### **TN100 THREATS - Threats to natural resources**

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88710

Comment Text: Unplanned, unnecessary exploitation for personal profit without regard to native species of fauna and flora.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88546

Comment Text: Continued environmental deterioration; Non-sustainable exploitation for the benefit of the few; Traditional method of sustainable exploitation will be lost.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88498

Comment Text: As you can see, my greatest concern is with the Atchafalaya Basin. We need to reduce or eliminate the amount of Mississippi River water being routed to the Atchafalaya and Red Rivers.

### **TN101 Development**

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88716

Comment Text: That there not be too many bars, games and etc. added

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88615

Comment Text: That its development will not continue to its fullest intent. Upkeep will not continue.

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88525

Comment Text: That it will be overrun by human activity and spoiled by unsustainable practices.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88474

Comment Text: Destruction by development and ruin by trailer homes and litter

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86639

Comment Text: Make development more efficient so as not to have as much "sprawl" working with local communities.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86911

Comment Text: That mankind will keep chopping away at it 'til it will dwindle to become a big subdivision and malls.

### **TN102 Overuse**

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88608

Comment Text: That it will eventually be cleared and overrun for recreation and farming.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88594

Comment Text: Overuse, overkill. Keep it natural and allow nature to do most of the changes - such as water level, natural selection (bird, fish, insects, etc.). Nature's smarter than man!

Correspondence Id: 60 Comment Id: 86852

Comment Text: As large as it is, it is getting very crowded at times.

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88525

Comment Text: That it will be overrun by human activity and spoiled by unsustainable practices.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

### **TN103 Overexploitation**

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88608

Comment Text: That it will eventually be cleared and overrun for recreation and farming.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88594

Comment Text: Overuse, overkill. Keep it natural and allow nature to do most of the changes - such as water level, natural selection (bird, fish, insects, etc.). Nature's smarter than man!

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88525

Comment Text: That it will be overrun by human activity and spoiled by unsustainable practices.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86911

Comment Text: That mankind will keep chopping away at it 'til it will dwindle to become a big subdivision and malls.

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86912

Comment Text: Many of "privately owned" lands are allowing the cutting down of cypress trees for mulching for Wal-Mart.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88546

Comment Text: Continued environmental deterioration; Non-sustainable exploitation for the benefit of the few; Traditional method of sustainable exploitation will be lost.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette



## VG100 Value the people

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99256

Comment Text: It's so unique and wonderful; paddling amongst the cypress, meeting crawfishermen pulling in their traps, stopping for fabulous meals in little Mom and Pop places. It's like nowhere else!

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99202

Comment Text: 1) Birding 2) Fishing 3) Eating & visiting the people & enjoying their outlook.

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99108

Comment Text: Recreational opportunities & the commercial fishery. LCPA-West and all the commercial fishermen are fundamental to my enjoyment of the national heritage area.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99073

Comment Text: Our home - love it - the people, the natural beauty of the land.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88542

Comment Text: The people who grew up in and around the area - in particular, their resourcefulness, independence, self-sufficiency, and fun-loving lifestyle.

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86500

Comment Text: [Enjoy most] People, nature, culture, food.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86636

Comment Text: The people.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86840  
Comment Text: The people and the natural beauty.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86887  
Comment Text: Natural beauty - lots of greenery - history, culture, the people and their language, the food.

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86987  
Comment Text: The friendliness of the people.

Correspondence Id: 96 Comment Id: 88489  
Comment Text: Meet new people (tourist)

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88493  
Comment Text: Beauty, people, serenity

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663  
Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99074  
Comment Text: The beauty of our area in its natural form. The people and culture - amazing!

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

### **VG101 Value the cultural diversity**

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99250  
Comment Text: Throughout the fourteen (14) parishes in the Atchafalaya Heritage Area, there are many very diverse ethnic and unique cultural groups who have maintained many of the customs, language and music of their ancestors.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86792

Comment Text: The diverse cultures of the different areas. This heritage area is vast and contains many different types of cultures, foods, music and unique historical values in each area.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99214

Comment Text: The "joie de vivre" attitude, the food, the International Festival, Festivals Acadiens, and the attempt to preserve the French language and culture are most enjoyable.

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86694

Comment Text: Diverse people, culture, food, music

### **VG102 State and/or local pride**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88587

Comment Text: We live in the heart of this area so it's important to treasure this natural treasure. It's one of LA's best "medals" - like the mighty Mississippi River.

Correspondence Id: 38 Comment Id: 86713  
Comment Text: The opportunities for pride in our state.  
Organization: Frank Beaulieu, Sr., LLC

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86766  
Comment Text: This area of bayous, lakes, river and swampland and its residences IS Louisiana. It is what makes us unique from other states and what visitors come to see now that "cajun" is cool.  
Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86874  
Comment Text: The beauty, abundance of flora and fauna, fishing, and bragging rights.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86973  
Comment Text: Louisiana home and history. Opportunity to show Louisiana in a positive light.

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88561  
Comment Text: It's part of what makes Louisiana unique.  
Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88581  
Comment Text: The history, scenery, beauty and it exists in Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 168 Comment Id: 99234  
Comment Text: Just being in it, that it remains the pride of the local folks. That we really feel like it's our Basin.  
Organization: Council for the Development of French in Louisiana

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99267  
Comment Text: The sheer beauty and tranquility. Knowing that so many who occupy and live together with nature are doing their utmost to maintain a delicate balance. Most who live there respect and treasure their environment with pride.

### **VG103 Value the economic opportunities**

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99239  
Comment Text: An "opportunity" for both economic and environmental (as well as cultural) preservation of landscapes to general local people??? The restoration part is of great interest to me personally.

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99176

Comment Text: The knowledge that this area can provide flood protection, a rich diversity of natural resources, and both economic and recreational opportunities for so many people.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88681

Comment Text: The economic opportunities for this area. The cultural exposure possibilities.

### **VH100 VALUES - Value the history or cultural resources**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99257

Comment Text: The restaurants, dance halls, shops in the little communities, festivals, listening to the way people speak.

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99251

Comment Text: Its diversity in natural landscape, rural areas and different and unique cultures and customs which are still practiced today.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99250

Comment Text: Throughout the fourteen (14) parishes in the Atchafalaya Heritage Area, there are many very diverse ethnic and unique cultural groups who have maintained many of the customs, language and music of their ancestors.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99214

Comment Text: The "joie de vivre" attitude, the food, the International Festival, Festivals Acadiens, and the attempt to preserve the French language and culture are most enjoyable.

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99176

Comment Text: The knowledge that this area can provide flood protection, a rich diversity of natural resources, and both economic and recreational opportunities for so many people.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88711

Comment Text: History, enjoyment, beautiful trees and waterways.

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88729

Comment Text: The Atakapa-Ishak Tribe of SW Louisiana and SE Texas history and culture to be introduced to the public.

Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 133 Comment Id: 88730

Comment Text: The public can see the Atakapa territory before it became what it is called today and they can read about the Aboriginal Atakapa Ishak of Louisiana.

Organization: Atakapa Ishak Nation

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99067

Comment Text: Natural remoteness for canoeing.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99074

Comment Text: The beauty of our area in its natural form. The people and culture - amazing!

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99082

Comment Text: 1) Nature - its beauty and abundance. 2) Place to fish and paddle. 3) Place to get away from civilization. 4) Culture - unique and authentic, not dominated by chain stores and malls.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99095

Comment Text: Historical & cultural "icons." Food, geography, man made historical items.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99115

Comment Text: The fact that generations have been hunting and fishing and making their living there. The only other major tributary putting fresh water into our ecosystem to sustain a viable mixture of brackish water along our coast for shrimp, oyster and crab habitat.

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99157

Comment Text: This area is an integral part of the cultural fabric of French Louisiana. It is a "natural beauty," a sensitive and dynamic ecosystem.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88635

Comment Text: History of the area; social meanings of food; America's largest ecosystem; swamp tours for Yankees

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88641

Comment Text: It is what we do when we are not working and for some it is our work. The history that is here and what this area has gone through.

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88655

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is unique for its ecology, landscape (both physical and cultural), history and archeological sites.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88662

Comment Text: a) Place of birth, b) Land of my French and Acadian forefathers, c) The development, protection, and acknowledgement of a unique area, d) Recognizing the contribution of areas early settlers that participated in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of New Orleans, and War of Succession, e) It is the land about which Longfellow wrote. A land whose culture and language is rapidly disappearing rescued for history.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88681

Comment Text: The economic opportunities for this area. The cultural exposure possibilities.

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88682  
Comment Text: Waterways, land, cultural resources

Correspondence Id: 126 Comment Id: 88687  
Comment Text: Culture  
Organization: USFWS

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88699  
Comment Text: It is a unique natural environment that has shaped cultural elements of the area in a profound way. On its own it is an important ecosystem and it serves a very important social and economic function.  
Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86809  
Comment Text: The unique culture, the history of the area, the joys and hardships the people faced, the area's resources at the different times of year, the Basin's purpose.

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86821  
Comment Text: I am a Cajun and grew up near Lake Dasetrive and have used the area since a child and still. It is rich in heritage, culture and history.  
Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86887  
Comment Text: Natural beauty - lots of greenery - history, culture, the people and their language, the food.

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86936  
Comment Text: Acadian heritage, Cajun heritage, wildlife, fishing

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86943  
Comment Text: It has been part of Louisiana's heritage for as long as I can remember - its beauty, its availability for fishing and hunting.  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88425  
Comment Text: It holds the history of our ancestors within its banks.

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88461  
Comment Text: The natural beauty of the cypress swamp is a treasure that must be preserved. It is also an area with a rich cultural and historical background.

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88469  
Comment Text: Human history in built environment - homes, architecture  
Organization: White Hall Plantation House



Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88475

Comment Text: It represents our history for several hundred years. Many interesting old towns, historic homes and a vibrant culture.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86486

Comment Text: Since I am a French teacher, I enjoy any facet of the national heritage area related to this heritage language. I enjoy the history of the people who spoke the language, the family and place names with French origins, and the cultural impact the language has had on this area.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86499

Comment Text: Prehistoric to recent archaeological sites and other historic resources, culture of the basin and lifeways of people who live and/or work in the basin especially in fishing and other resource industries, unique natural resources, centrality of boats to life in the basin and the boating heritage of the basin and south Louisiana

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86523

Comment Text: Being in the Basin is like being a million miles from anywhere, in terms of nature and culture.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86546

Comment Text: OAS members appreciate the historical and cultural importance of preserving the two forts and also the importance of this area to viewing local wildlife, especially birds. We also have a special love for the scenic tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the ANHA.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86571

Comment Text: The Heritage Area relates to people and an economy that is intricately connected - in history, rivers, lakes and bayous, and food-ways. Settlement patterns developed as floods occurred and due to natural resources of the Atchafalaya swampland.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86577

Comment Text: Cultural diversity, archeological sites, historic waterways, our built environment, aqua-culture, agriculture, history of Colonial Louisiana period of French and Spanish rule, Louisiana's place in the American Revolution, authentic places and people of those times, who now have hundreds of descendants living in Iberville Parish.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86597

Comment Text: Its unique, unspoiled beauty - it's got wonderful historical composition that showcases various "systems" existing side-by-side: economic, environmental, ethnic, architectural.

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86598

Comment Text: Historic points of interest; natural beauty

Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86666

Comment Text: Beauty of nature, family oriented culture and agricultural by-products of the area.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86680

Comment Text: The heritage.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86688

Comment Text: Promotes my culture and heritage, as well as preserving areas for future generations to enjoy. Promotes tourism for any state.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86705

Comment Text: 1) The abundance of wildlife. 2) Beauty of swampland and coastal marshland. 3) The easy of attainment of natural edibles (i.e., crawfish, fish, frogs, waterfowl. 4) The history of the area.

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 86743

Comment Text: Cultural aspect (promotion)

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86754

Comment Text: Wilderness, culture, history, plants & animals

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86792

Comment Text: The diverse cultures of the different areas. This heritage area is vast and contains many different types of cultures, foods, music and unique historical values in each area.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88532

Comment Text: It's a place where you can go back in time, still see the butts of huge cypress trees, and the axe marks when the big trees were there.

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88539

Comment Text: The history and culture of the people it includes

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88554

Comment Text: The culture, heritage, food, and abundant fish and wildlife.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88581

Comment Text: The history, scenery, beauty and it exists in Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88588

Comment Text: Telling and visiting the area with family, friends, tourists. The beauty and ever changing seasonal landscape is beautiful, intriguing and a legacy to our children and grandchildren!

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88596

Comment Text: The history of our area and its people.

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88616

Comment Text: Beautiful bottomland hardwood ecosystem; Excellent fishery; Historical treasure; Important provider of natural resources for our nation (timber and petroleum, fish and game)

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88622

Comment Text: This is a big and beautiful part of our heritage and next door to me.

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99201

Comment Text: 1) Nature - diversity & bounty - keeping it. 2) Culture - staying authentic 3) Focusing resulting economic increase via tourism into true improvement in quality of life of residents.

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99221

Comment Text: Cypress trees, bayous, culture, serenity.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

**VH101 Unique cultural resources (Cajun, Creole, and French language, food, music, stories, history, and architecture)**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99276

Comment Text: The bedroom cities offer city services, shopping, antique and specialty boutiques, restaurants, museums, memorials, historic state park sites, historic monuments/buildings, and Cajun, Creole, Zydeco music and dancing created by the local musicians. There are B&Bs, hotels, camp and house boat rentals for tourists or locals who want to get near the sights and scents of the mighty natural water. These riverside hamlets make for a wondrous backdrop to the Atchafalaya River.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99256

Comment Text: It's so unique and wonderful; paddling amongst the cypress, meeting crawfishermen pulling in their traps, stopping for fabulous meals in little Mom and Pop places. It's like nowhere else!

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99214

Comment Text: The "joie de vivre" attitude, the food, the International Festival, Festivals Acadiens, and the attempt to preserve the French language and culture are most enjoyable.

Correspondence Id: 165 Comment Id: 99213

Comment Text: This area is unique in a homogenized American culture. The Acadian way of life, based in a French background, is rapidly disappearing and needs to be celebrated and preserved.

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99188

Comment Text: The uniqueness!

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99116

Comment Text: The seafood mostly, but hunting and fishing that is open to the public.

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86805

Comment Text: The scenery, the natural waterways and the availability of fish and other seafood.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86809

Comment Text: The unique culture, the history of the area, the joys and hardships the people faced, the area's resources at the different times of year, the Basin's purpose.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86887

Comment Text: Natural beauty - lots of greenery - history, culture, the people and their language, the food.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86936

Comment Text: Acadian heritage, Cajun heritage, wildlife, fishing

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86954

Comment Text: Its natural beauty and swamp ecosystem, the wildlife and Cajun culture.

Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86994

Comment Text: The recreation, the scenic outlooks and the food provided by the heritage area.

Organization: Plaquemine Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87000

Comment Text: The scenery - traveling through the towns of LA. They are unique - something out of the past.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88554

Comment Text: The culture, heritage, food, and abundant fish and wildlife.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 3 Comment Id: 86486

Comment Text: Since I am a French teacher, I enjoy any facet of the national heritage area related to this heritage language. I enjoy the history of the people who spoke the language, the family and place names with French origins, and the cultural impact the language has had on this area.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86500

Comment Text: [Enjoy most] People, nature, culture, food.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86510

Comment Text: The unique culture and the recreational resources.

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86666

Comment Text: Beauty of nature, family oriented culture and agricultural by-products of the area.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 35 Comment Id: 86694

Comment Text: Diverse people, culture, food, music

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86705

Comment Text: 1) The abundance of wildlife. 2) Beauty of swampland and coastal marshland. 3) The easy of attainment of natural edibles (i.e., crawfish, fish, frogs, waterfowl. 4) The history of the area.

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86766

Comment Text: This area of bayous, lakes, river and swampland and its residences IS Louisiana. It is what makes us unique from other states and what visitors come to see now that "cajun" is cool.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86792

Comment Text: The diverse cultures of the different areas. This heritage area is vast and contains many different types of cultures, foods, music and unique historical values in each area.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88555

Comment Text: Food, fish and wildlife

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88635

Comment Text: History of the area; social meanings of food; America's largest ecosystem; swamp tours for Yankees

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88662

Comment Text: a) Place of birth, b) Land of my French and Acadian forefathers, c) The development, protection, and acknowledgement of a unique area, d) Recognizing the contribution of areas early settlers that participated in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of New Orleans, and War of Succession, e) It is the land about which Longfellow wrote. A land whose culture and language is rapidly disappearing rescued for history.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88699

Comment Text: It is a unique natural environment that has shaped cultural elements of the area in a profound way. On its own it is an important ecosystem and it serves a very important social and economic function.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99083

Comment Text: 1) Birding Whiskey Bay Rd., seeing Bald Eagles Morgan City. 2) Fishing all over Basin. 3) Eating at local spots like Gracie's City Cafe Plaquemine, Love Pierre Part Store, Joe Dreyfuss, various places in Henderson.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99095

Comment Text: Historical & cultural "icons." Food, geography, man made historical items.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99107

Comment Text: The natural beauty, the wildlife, & the Cajun people.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99169

Comment Text: Culture, food, recreation, scenery, Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99202

Comment Text: 1) Birding 2) Fishing 3) Eating & visiting the people & enjoying their outlook.

## VH102 Value Louisiana history

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99158

Comment Text: The area, as outlined, covers a large section of Louisiana, therefore emphasizing how important this diverse yet fragile area is to the well being of our entire state.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99095

Comment Text: Historical & cultural "icons." Food, geography, man made historical items.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88662

Comment Text: a) Place of birth, b) Land of my French and Acadian forefathers, c) The development, protection, and acknowledgement of a unique area, d) Recognizing the contribution of areas early settlers that participated in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of New Orleans, and War of Succession, e) It is the land about which Longfellow wrote. A land whose culture and language is rapidly disappearing rescued for history.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86943

Comment Text: It has been part of Louisiana's heritage for as long as I can remember - its beauty, its availability for fishing and hunting.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 25 Comment Id: 86641

Comment Text: Historic site - increased touring to the 3rd oldest settlement in Louisiana (Washington).



Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86499

Comment Text: Prehistoric to recent archaeological sites and other historic resources, culture of the basin and lifeways of people who live and/or work in the basin especially in fishing and other resource industries, unique natural resources, centrality of boats to life in the basin and the boating heritage of the basin and south Louisiana

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86577

Comment Text: Cultural diversity, archeological sites, historic waterways, our built environment, aqua-culture, agriculture, history of Colonial Louisiana period of French and Spanish rule, Louisiana's place in the American Revolution, authentic places and people of those times, who now have hundreds of descendants living in Iberville Parish.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 24 Comment Id: 86635

Comment Text: It shaped the majority of the culture of south Louisiana.

Organization: SJB Group LLC

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86886

Comment Text: It is the "heart" of Louisiana. It is what, literally, everyone things and sees when Louisiana is mentioned or brought forth. It is our heritage - what we are. It speaks of who we are in the natural and beautiful sense - a "come enjoy it all."

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86973

Comment Text: Louisiana home and history. Opportunity to show Louisiana in a positive light.

### **VH103 Value Atchafalaya Basin history and/or significance to the state**

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99226

Comment Text: It is environmentally significant to the state's natural resources.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88648

Comment Text: There is no other place like the Atchafalaya Basin and it should be preserved for future generations to enjoy, just as we are enjoying it today.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86499

Comment Text: Prehistoric to recent archaeological sites and other historic resources, culture of the basin and lifeways of people who live and/or work in the basin especially in fishing and other resource industries, unique natural resources, centrality of boats to life in the basin and the boating heritage of the basin and south Louisiana

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 15 Comment Id: 86571

Comment Text: The Heritage Area relates to people and an economy that is intricately connected - in history, rivers, lakes and bayous, and food-ways. Settlement patterns developed as floods occurred and due to natural resources of the Atchafalaya swampland.

Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86809

Comment Text: The unique culture, the history of the area, the joys and hardships the people faced, the area's resources at the different times of year, the Basin's purpose.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86886

Comment Text: It is the "heart" of Louisiana. It is what, literally, everyone thinks and sees when Louisiana is mentioned or brought forth. It is our heritage - what we are. It speaks of who we are in the natural and beautiful sense - a "come enjoy it all."

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88641

Comment Text: It is what we do when we are not working and for some it is our work. The history that is here and what this area has gone through.

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88662

Comment Text: a) Place of birth, b) Land of my French and Acadian forefathers, c) The development, protection, and acknowledgement of a unique area, d) Recognizing the contribution of areas early settlers that participated in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of New Orleans, and War of Succession, e) It is the land about which Longfellow wrote. A land whose culture and language is rapidly disappearing rescued for history.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99175

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a great national treasure and unquestionably one of the largest semi-wild wetlands in the south.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

**VH104 Value the heritage area designation and subsequent provisions  
(preservation of cultural and natural resources, etc.)**

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99240

Comment Text: A real opportunity to see the natural history of this local area be preserved and promoted for the "right" reasons in the "right" ways - for our children.

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88506

Comment Text: I believe that the designation will help conserve the area.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88512

Comment Text: An easily accessible area, attractive to the many forms of wildlife, flora, etc. and consequently being completely worthy of protection by the federal government.

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88656

Comment Text: I most enjoy the protected areas, free from development and further destruction, which can be enjoyed by boat, car, and on foot.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88670

Comment Text: a) I am happy with the designation as a National Heritage Area. Really I don't know enough to be concerned.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 169 Comment Id: 99239

Comment Text: An "opportunity" for both economic and environmental (as well as cultural) preservation of landscapes to general local people??? The restoration part is of great interest to me personally.

Correspondence Id: 167 Comment Id: 99227

Comment Text: Potential to protect cultural & natural resources.

Organization: USFWS, Bayou Cocodrie NWR

**VN100 VALUES - Value the natural resources or setting (flora, fauna, views, natural quiet, undev. areas)**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99287

Comment Text: As a Pennsylvania transplant, I see the immense beauty of the basin.

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99274

Comment Text: The huge and vast span of nature takes my breath away when watching the sanctuary that host many species of beautiful birds and wildlife as they begin their roosting at dusk, then on clear evenings catching the sunset as the sun slowly seeps into the basin and at the same time turning around to face a full moon rise in the sky amidst the shadows of the moss draped Cypress trees. My senses are filled during each visit, making this a very special and sacred place to meditate our precious earth. Ah, like no other place in the world, the state of Louisiana can boast of this incredible gift from nature. That is the most precious and special place that surround my community.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99273

Comment Text: It is the inheritance of all that live in Louisiana and the greater United States of America. The great Atchafalaya, named by the local native American Indians, means "long river." This magnificent body of water, alive and bursting with life has been

a relaxing and peaceful recreation for my family most of my adult life. Great memories of camping, boating, fishing, watching beautiful scenes of the sunrise and sunsets and just being still in the most scenic water lands in Louisiana and the United States.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 174 Comment Id: 99267

Comment Text: The sheer beauty and tranquility. Knowing that so many who occupy and live together with nature are doing their utmost to maintain a delicate balance. Most who live there respect and treasure their environment with pride.

Correspondence Id: 171 Comment Id: 99251

Comment Text: Its diversity in natural landscape, rural areas and different and unique cultures and customs which are still practiced today.

Organization: City of Eunice, LA/Liberty Center for the Performing Arts

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99222

Comment Text: This is where I grew up (Pointe Coupee Parish). The beauty of nature is at every turn.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 166 Comment Id: 99221

Comment Text: Cypress trees, bayous, culture, serenity.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Police Jury

Correspondence Id: 164 Comment Id: 99207

Comment Text: The natural resource, which must be supported in a way that is sustainable over a long time.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99201

Comment Text: 1) Nature - diversity & bounty - keeping it. 2) Culture - staying authentic 3) Focusing resulting economic increase via tourism into true improvement in quality of life of residents.

Correspondence Id: 162 Comment Id: 99195

Comment Text: Unique area flow riverine cypress-tupelo swamp.

Organization: The Atchafalaya at Idlewild Golf Course

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99183

Comment Text: I love to see the wildlife.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99176

Comment Text: The knowledge that this area can provide flood protection, a rich diversity of natural resources, and both economic and recreational opportunities for so many people.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99175

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is a great national treasure and unquestionably one of the largest semi-wild wetlands in the south.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99169

Comment Text: Culture, food, recreation, scenery, Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99163

Comment Text: The natural beauty of the area. Vast acreage of bottomland hardwoods, with cypress/tupelo swamps.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99162

Comment Text: Recreational opportunities that exist in this area. The beauty of the area. Also, the remoteness of this area.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 155 Comment Id: 99157

Comment Text: This area is an integral part of the cultural fabric of French Louisiana. It is a "natural beauty," a sensitive and dynamic ecosystem.

Organization: Marksville State Historic Site, Office of State Parks

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99152

Comment Text: Peacefulness, wildlife and waterways.

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 154 Comment Id: 99151

Comment Text: I am an advocate of the Basin. I have been in and out of it all my life. In my opinion, there is no place like the Basin in the world. It is complete nature at its best!

Organization: Water Mgmt Committee Member of DNR

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99139

Comment Text: Sights and fishing.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99138

Comment Text: It is a natural wild refuge for plants and animals, its close proximity to my parish (St. Mary), good fishing areas.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99130

Comment Text: Quiet canoe paddling on the natural bayous, observing wildlife in natural forest and wetlands.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99128

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area is a unique natural feature. Standing cypress in wetland forests such as the Atchafalaya Basin has very high value including provision of habitat for a large variety of wildlife and fish, control of flooding and storm surges, and water quality improvement. Standing cypress also supports diverse components of a thriving local economy in recreational and commercial fishing and tourism.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99122

Comment Text: The incredible amount of life in the ecosystem that makes the Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 149 Comment Id: 99121

Comment Text: Its unique wetlands and culture. The last great floodplain of the Mississippi - America's Amazon.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Keeper/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99115

Comment Text: The fact that generations have been hunting and fishing and making their living there. The only other major tributary putting fresh water into our ecosystem to sustain a viable mixture of brackish water along our coast for shrimp, oyster and crab habitat.

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99107

Comment Text: The natural beauty, the wildlife, & the Cajun people.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 144 Comment Id: 99095

Comment Text: Historical & cultural "icons." Food, geography, man made historical items.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99090

Comment Text: The wildlife and privacy from the general public. No smog, no traffic and congestion, etc.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99082

Comment Text: 1) Nature - its beauty and abundance. 2) Place to fish and paddle. 3) Place to get away from civilization. 4) Culture - unique and authentic, not dominated by chain stores and malls.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99080

Comment Text: Fishing, Hunting, Boating & It's Beauty.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99074

Comment Text: The beauty of our area in its natural form. The people and culture - amazing!

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 138 Comment Id: 99073

Comment Text: Our home - love it - the people, the natural beauty of the land.

Organization: Budden's Store, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 134 Comment Id: 99043

Comment Text: The serenity, the feeling of how it is so vast and you are at its mercy.

Organization: County Ridge Bed and Breakfast

Correspondence Id: 134 Comment Id: 99042

Comment Text: Once you go into the basin and witness the power of nature and its meaning of harmony and its ability to survive you will know it is special.

Organization: County Ridge Bed and Breakfast

Correspondence Id: 132 Comment Id: 88723

Comment Text: I was born and raised next to the Atchafalaya Basin in the Community of Catahoula. The beauty and peacefulness of the area is like nowhere else on earth.

Correspondence Id: 131 Comment Id: 88718

Comment Text: The diverse wildlife and mixture of hardwood forest and bayous.

Organization: Pointe Coupee Historical Society

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88712

Comment Text: The beauty of the place.



Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88711

Comment Text: History, enjoyment, beautiful trees and waterways.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88706

Comment Text: Its unique natural beauty.

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88700

Comment Text: Protection of natural habitat and effective water management.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 128 Comment Id: 88699

Comment Text: It is a unique natural environment that has shaped cultural elements of the area in a profound way. On its own it is an important ecosystem and it serves a very important social and economic function.

Organization: MP6

Correspondence Id: 127 Comment Id: 88694

Comment Text: It is a rich area for growing trees and producing other natural resources.

Organization: Louisiana Forestry Association

Correspondence Id: 125 Comment Id: 88682

Comment Text: Waterways, land, cultural resources

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88675

Comment Text: The wildness of it, the natural beauty that is not as evident in our towns and cities.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.

Correspondence Id: 122 Comment Id: 88663

Comment Text: a) Beauty and diversity of the landscape, b) The potential for the Cypress Tree to acquire its rightful place amongst the aged giant trees, c) The descendants of the French and Acadians, their friendliness, openness, and love of life, d) The history of the area: 1) the ability of the French to form a unique alliance with the Indians, 2) complex military history, 3) quaint political background, 4) seafood, 5) abundance of difference of species of wildlife, 300 species of migratory and resident birds; 46 species of mammals; 90 species of fish, crayfish, crab & shrimp; 65 species of reptiles and amphibians, 6) its many lakes, river, bayous, and surprisingly numerous islands.

Organization: Image Commission

Correspondence Id: 121 Comment Id: 88655

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is unique for its ecology, landscape (both physical and cultural), history and archeological sites.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 119 Comment Id: 88642

Comment Text: The wildlife and the outdoors. The out-of-state visitors tell us, "It is so green!"

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88635

Comment Text: History of the area; social meanings of food; America's largest ecosystem; swamp tours for Yankees

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 118 Comment Id: 88634

Comment Text: I am a life member of the Sierra Club and also a member of The Nature Conservancy, and I feel it is important to preserve wild things (nature) and land and water resources.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88627

Comment Text: Natural beauty, the wildlife

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88616

Comment Text: Beautiful bottomland hardwood ecosystem; Excellent fishery; Historical treasure; Important provider of natural resources for our nation (timber and petroleum, fish and game)

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88604

Comment Text: Birding and wildlife

Correspondence Id: 112 Comment Id: 88597

Comment Text: Beautiful waterways, floral areas, birds, and wildlife

Organization: St. Landry Ambassador

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88588

Comment Text: Telling and visiting the area with family, friends, tourists. The beauty and ever changing seasonal landscape is beautiful, intriguing and a legacy to our children and grandchildren!

Correspondence Id: 111 Comment Id: 88587

Comment Text: We live in the heart of this area so it's important to treasure this natural treasure. It's one of LA's best "medals" - like the mighty Mississippi River.

Correspondence Id: 110 Comment Id: 88581

Comment Text: The history, scenery, beauty and it exists in Louisiana.

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88574

Comment Text: The peacefulness, quietness you find in arid desert lands except you are in an aquatic area. Unique for hearing, feeling, seeing nature.

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 109 Comment Id: 88573

Comment Text: Ecosystem (unique) for flora, fauna for land and aquatic species as well as geological bottomland and swamps

Organization: Istrouma Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88555

Comment Text: Food, fish and wildlife

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 107 Comment Id: 88554

Comment Text: The culture, heritage, food, and abundant fish and wildlife.

Organization: URS Corporation

Correspondence Id: 106 Comment Id: 88548

Comment Text: Its size and beauty

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88540

Comment Text: The ecological/environmental aspects of the area

Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88527

Comment Text: Its natural beauty of water, trees, plants, land, animals, fish, etc. and it's ability to replenish and survive, despite man's intrusion and pollution.

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88521

Comment Text: Areas that are in their natural state or are returning to their natural state.

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 102 Comment Id: 88520

Comment Text: Wildlife, forest, the feeling of wilderness

Organization: Louisiana Sea Grant Law & Policy Program

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88513

Comment Text: The restrictions and rules to be placed on maintenance of the area, including the banning of toxins and pollutants from the area (including great concern for water purity).

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88512

Comment Text: An easily accessible area, attractive to the many forms of wildlife, flora, etc. and consequently being completely worthy of protection by the federal government.

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88500

Comment Text: The beauty, the accessibility to it, the variety of wildlife. Most importantly - the general public has access and is able to enjoy the area.

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88499

Comment Text: Its wetlands are among the largest such areas many untouched by development which destroys these types of areas. In Louisiana we recognize the uniqueness of the valuable resource we have.

Correspondence Id: 97 Comment Id: 88493

Comment Text: Beauty, people, serenity

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88483

Comment Text: The many places that are still wild and pristine. You can go into many areas and feel close to nature. The beauty of the swamps, rivers, the wildlife, all just breathtaking.

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88476

Comment Text: The Basin provides a unique sanctuary for wildlife and provides many recreational opportunities.

Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 93 Comment Id: 88470

Comment Text: Natural, unspoiled beauty

Organization: White Hall Plantation House

Correspondence Id: 92 Comment Id: 88461

Comment Text: The natural beauty of the cypress swamp is a treasure that must be preserved. It is also an area with a rich cultural and historical background.

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88446

Comment Text: What makes the ANA special to me is the abundant wildlife and beautiful land and waterscape.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88434

Comment Text: The bayous and trees.

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88427

Comment Text: Wildlife, moss, flowers, natural beauty

Correspondence Id: 87 Comment Id: 88426

Comment Text: The beauty.

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87010

Comment Text: Vast roadless area, rare in the deep south.

Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 87000

Comment Text: The scenery - traveling through the towns of LA. They are unique - something out of the past.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 83 Comment Id: 86999

Comment Text: It is the most beautiful and rich with history in central Louisiana. Piece of land we should develop this strip not only for the tourist but the locals as well. Include the Atchafalaya program into this development.

Organization: LLD Public Relations and Marketing

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86994

Comment Text: The recreation, the scenic outlooks and the food provided by the heritage area.

Organization: Plaquemine Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 81 Comment Id: 86986

Comment Text: One thing it is my home and one of the most beautiful places in the world.

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86981

Comment Text: The abundance of waterfowl and game in the area.

Correspondence Id: 80 Comment Id: 86980

Comment Text: One of the last great wildernesses not spoiled by man.

Correspondence Id: 79 Comment Id: 86974

Comment Text: It's beautiful - a wonderful place to bring visitors to.

Correspondence Id: 77 Comment Id: 86966

Comment Text: The peacefulness of being isolated from civilization. A strong connection to MY heritage.

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86960

Comment Text: The natural look of many different sites and surroundings.

Correspondence Id: 75 Comment Id: 86954

Comment Text: Its natural beauty and swamp ecosystem, the wildlife and Cajun culture.  
Organization: Bennett & Bennett Assoc, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 74 Comment Id: 86950

Comment Text: The spring and fall migratory birds.  
Organization: Louisiana Duck Decoys

Correspondence Id: 74 Comment Id: 86949

Comment Text: The wild untouched beauty of it.  
Organization: Louisiana Duck Decoys

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86944

Comment Text: The beauty of the river - the trees, so large - and exciting; the birds of all kinds that inhabit it.  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86943

Comment Text: It has been part of Louisiana's heritage for as long as I can remember - its beauty, its availability for fishing and hunting.  
Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86937

Comment Text: Beauty of the land, scenery, joy of the solitude

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86936

Comment Text: Acadian heritage, Cajun heritage, wildlife, fishing

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86925

Comment Text: The beauty of the swamp, the wildlife and birds, what little is left of what used to be thousands of acres of bottomland and upland hardwood forest, and longleaf pine savannah.  
Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 71 Comment Id: 86924

Comment Text: Primarily the Atchafalaya swamp. It has incredibly beautiful areas that are unique because of the flora and fauna there as a result of a wetland ecosystem. That

it is a roadless area minimizes development outside the swamp, many areas are still rural and not urbanized!

Organization: Amite Environmental Associates

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86914

Comment Text: Its beauty, the camping, the boating and recreation, fishing, hunting.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86907

Comment Text: A place to bring your family, friends and for tourists to enjoy. For wild creatures to roam and live.

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86906

Comment Text: Its beautiful! Wildlife, birds, hunting, fishing, sports, forestry, swamps, river, water, levee.

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86901

Comment Text: Visually

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 68 Comment Id: 86900

Comment Text: Plants, animals, swamp

Organization: USGS NWRC

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86894

Comment Text: Its flora and fauna.

Correspondence Id: 66 Comment Id: 86887

Comment Text: Natural beauty - lots of greenery - history, culture, the people and their language, the food.

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86881

Comment Text: The scenery, the serenity, recreational boating, fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86874

Comment Text: The beauty, abundance of flora and fauna, fishing, and bragging rights.

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86868

Comment Text: The beautiful sights of nature - water, trees, animals, birds, etc.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86855

Comment Text: Within the USA and overseas, as a successful project facilities engineering planner, designer, builder, constructor, manager of buildings and appurtenances, other structures, highways, the environment, coastal restoration facilities projects: I have to admit that this national treasure is a natural "diamond-in-the-rough" that continues to emulate ever-developing, always showing off its wonderful splendor, to be enjoyed by all of the world: tourists, scientists, researchers.

Correspondence Id: 61 Comment Id: 86854

Comment Text: "The natural habitat" - because this phenomenon was created by God: I believe that everything and every aspect of this area should be preserved and observed by everyone that comes into its environment with pleasantness and appreciation for this wonderful experience.

Correspondence Id: 60 Comment Id: 86851

Comment Text: The scenery is breathtaking. Recently, we had three generations in our boat catching sac-a-lait and bream.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86844

Comment Text: What makes it special to me is that it is the largest freshwater swamp in Louisiana. We are building a camp for disabled children and adults adjacent to the Atchafalaya Basin. I am glad to hear that it will be a national heritage area. It is about time.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 58 Comment Id: 86840

Comment Text: The people and the natural beauty.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86833

Comment Text: Natural, scenic and recreational area. My sons and daughter and grandchildren love the Basin.

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86827

Comment Text: Tranquility, fishing

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86826

Comment Text: Scenery, wildlife, fisheries - proximity

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries



Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86810

Comment Text: The beauty of the area, the changing of the area, the wildlife and uniqueness of the area.

Correspondence Id: 53 Comment Id: 86809

Comment Text: The unique culture, the history of the area, the joys and hardships the people faced, the area's resources at the different times of year, the Basin's purpose.

Correspondence Id: 52 Comment Id: 86805

Comment Text: The scenery, the natural waterways and the availability of fish and other seafood.

Organization: Iberville Parish Chapter, DAR

Correspondence Id: 51 Comment Id: 86799

Comment Text: The Basin's abundance of wildlife and the ability to replenish itself after constant harvest.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Landing and Marina

Correspondence Id: 50 Comment Id: 86791

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin in in my backyard. Over the years, many changes have occurred. Some natural, some unnatural. We can't control nature but we can control human changes. The natural beauty of the Basin makes this area very special to me.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Government

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86775

Comment Text: A place to get away from the outside world. See nature at its best.

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86767

Comment Text: I enjoy the natural water bodies and their surrounding "green space"... This area abounds in natural "Green Space." It just has to be preserved, not reinvented.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 47 Comment Id: 86766

Comment Text: This area of bayous, lakes, river and swampland and its residences IS Louisiana. It is what makes us unique from other states and what visitors come to see now that "cajun" is cool.

Organization: Dupuy Land Company

Correspondence Id: 46 Comment Id: 86761

Comment Text: The scenery, wildlife, serenity, solitude

Organization: Friends of the Library, newspaper reporter, Jump Start Pierre Part

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86754

Comment Text: Wilderness, culture, history, plants & animals

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86748

Comment Text: The waterways

Correspondence Id: 44 Comment Id: 86747

Comment Text: We built a retirement home in the Spring Bayou area, it is the cypress trees, the birds, all the wildlife, and the waterways we enjoy.

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86736

Comment Text: Fishing and its undeveloped beauty.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86735

Comment Text: The outdoor activities it presents. I fish and hunt in this area at least 30 days of the year. Its undeveloped natural beauty is also distinct and important.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86724

Comment Text: Being able to see the wildlife

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 40 Comment Id: 86723

Comment Text: Wild and wonderful

Organization: Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86705

Comment Text: 1) The abundance of wildlife. 2) Beauty of swampland and coastal marshland. 3) The easy of attainment of natural edibles (i.e., crawfish, fish, frogs, waterfowl. 4) The history of the area.

Correspondence Id: 36 Comment Id: 86699

Comment Text: It's beauty, it's bounty of wildlife and all of the natural resources it provides.

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86688

Comment Text: Promotes my culture and heritage, as well as preserving areas for future generations to enjoy. Promotes tourism for any state.

Correspondence Id: 33 Comment Id: 86686

Comment Text: It's one of the most beautiful places on earth.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86678

Comment Text: The wilderness.

Correspondence Id: 30 Comment Id: 86666

Comment Text: Beauty of nature, family oriented culture and agricultural by-products of the area.

Organization: Louisiana Gov. Office of Elderly Affairs

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86660

Comment Text: Its beauty, wildlife, commercial traffic

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86653

Comment Text: Wildlife, recreation, timber

Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86647

Comment Text: The quiet, serene beauty of the area and the abundance of wildlife.

Correspondence Id: 26 Comment Id: 86645

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin itself

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 86632

Comment Text: Being back to nature.

Correspondence Id: 23 Comment Id: 86631

Comment Text: It is a natural area not spoiled by man.

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86610

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya is a gem of unmatched beauty that must be saved for all to enjoy.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 20 Comment Id: 86607

Comment Text: The wildlife and trees

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86598  
Comment Text: Historic points of interest; natural beauty  
Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 19 Comment Id: 86597  
Comment Text: Its unique, unspoiled beauty - it's got wonderful historical composition that showcases various "systems" existing side-by-side: economic, environmental, ethnic, architectural.  
Organization: LSUE - LeDoux Library

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86592  
Comment Text: I don't use it but the fact that it's there for us to use in all its pristine quiet is important to me.

Correspondence Id: 18 Comment Id: 86591  
Comment Text: Because it's "nature in the raw" and it should stay that way - one of the few such places in this part of the world.

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86587  
Comment Text: Setting up in secluded areas and letting nature come out for a visit. It is truly remarkable amount of game, birds, etc. that this area provides a home for.

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86586  
Comment Text: Spring - return of the migratory birds as they build nests and the photo ops they provide - natural beauty of the place sprouts from everywhere.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86558  
Comment Text: OAS members appreciate the importance of this area for viewing local wildlife, especially birds. We also have a special love for the scenic tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the ANHA.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86546  
Comment Text: OAS members appreciate the historical and cultural importance of preserving the two forts and also the importance of this area to viewing local wildlife, especially birds. We also have a special love for the scenic tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the ANHA.  
Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86539  
Comment Text: Vistas, scenery

Correspondence Id: 13 Comment Id: 86538  
Comment Text: Geography and natural resources.

Correspondence Id: 12 Comment Id: 86534

Comment Text: All the natural waterways, wildlife, and forest of cypress and willow and hardwood ridges.

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86528

Comment Text: The availability of undeveloped hardwoods and swamps for recreation.

Correspondence Id: 8 Comment Id: 86523

Comment Text: Being in the Basin is like being a million miles from anywhere, in terms of nature and culture.

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86517

Comment Text: Hunting and Fishing- Natural Beauty

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86516

Comment Text: The scenic nature views and wildlife.

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 6 Comment Id: 86500

Comment Text: [Enjoy most] People, nature, culture, food.

Organization: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86493

Comment Text: The beauty of the Atchafalaya Basin; in the midst of the swamp, away from the bustle and noise of "civilization" provides a place to find peace and - as corny as it sounds - to commune with nature.

Correspondence Id: 5 Comment Id: 86492

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya area is special because it remains - to some extent - natural, in spite of the impact mankind has had on it over the past centuries. There are fewer and fewer areas in the US that have not been significantly altered - or destroyed - by human development. We need to save those which remain.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86472

Comment Text: The lack of people, the wildness and the mystique.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

## **VN101 Close proximity to the resources**

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the

inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88705

Comment Text: Close proximity to excellent fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 63 Comment Id: 86867

Comment Text: It is close and convenient.

Organization: Retired from Natural Resources

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86716

Comment Text: Hunting! Fishing! What I enjoy most is freedom, I thank God for being born in America! I enjoy the bayous and lakes near my area.

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86646

Comment Text: The opportunity to hunt and fish at a location which is in close proximity and relatively easy to access.

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86671

Comment Text: Close proximity of natural resource

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86705

Comment Text: 1) The abundance of wildlife. 2) Beauty of swampland and coastal marshland. 3) The easy of attainment of natural edibles (i.e., crawfish, fish, frogs, waterfowl. 4) The history of the area.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86706

Comment Text: Living on the coastal area with easy access to the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86826

Comment Text: Scenery, wildlife, fisheries - proximity

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88560

Comment Text: The wildlife, scenery and close proximity to my home make it an irreplaceable natural resource! I grew up hunting and fishing in the Basin!

Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99050

Comment Text: So many miles of wilderness is wonderful to have so close to towns and cities.

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99138

Comment Text: It is a natural wild refuge for plants and animals, its close proximity to my parish (St. Mary), good fishing areas.

Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

### **VV100 VALUES - Value the visitor opportunities (activities, programs, recreation)**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99276

Comment Text: The bedroom cities offer city services, shopping, antique and specialty boutiques, restaurants, museums, memorials, historic state park sites, historic monuments/buildings, and Cajun, Creole, Zydeco music and dancing created by the local musicians. There are B&Bs, hotels, camp and house boat rentals for tourists or locals who want to get near the sights and scents of the mighty natural water. These riverside hamlets make for a wondrous backdrop to the Atchafalaya River.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99257

Comment Text: The restaurants, dance halls, shops in the little communities, festivals, listening to the way people speak.

Correspondence Id: 161 Comment Id: 99189

Comment Text: Outdoor recreational activities.

Organization: City of Breaux Bridge

Correspondence Id: 158 Comment Id: 99176

Comment Text: The knowledge that this area can provide flood protection, a rich diversity of natural resources, and both economic and recreational opportunities for so many people.

Organization: Louisiana Audubon Council

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99169

Comment Text: Culture, food, recreation, scenery, Atchafalaya Basin.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99162

Comment Text: Recreational opportunities that exist in this area. The beauty of the area. Also, the remoteness of this area.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99146

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, frogging.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 147 Comment Id: 99108

Comment Text: Recreational opportunities & the commercial fishery. LCPA-West and all the commercial fishermen are fundamental to my enjoyment of the national heritage area.

Organization: Acadian Group/Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99083

Comment Text: 1) Birding Whiskey Bay Rd., seeing Bald Eagles Morgan City. 2) Fishing all over Basin. 3) Eating at local spots like Gracie's City Cafe Plaquemine, Love Pierre Part Store, Joe Dreyfuss, various places in Henderson.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99082

Comment Text: 1) Nature - its beauty and abundance. 2) Place to fish and paddle. 3) Place to get away from civilization. 4) Culture - unique and authentic, not dominated by chain stores and malls.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 130 Comment Id: 88711

Comment Text: History, enjoyment, beautiful trees and waterways.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.



Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88617  
Comment Text: Recreation and viewing of plants and animals; Fishing, hunting, paddling, and camping  
Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88610  
Comment Text: Fishing, boating, camping sites

Correspondence Id: 108 Comment Id: 88562  
Comment Text: A great place to enjoy the outdoors and to get away from the every day pressures of life.  
Organization: McIlhenny

Correspondence Id: 105 Comment Id: 88541  
Comment Text: The cultural and ecotourism potential of the area.  
Organization: Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Louisiana - Lafayette

Correspondence Id: 96 Comment Id: 88488  
Comment Text: A place to visit

Correspondence Id: 94 Comment Id: 88476  
Comment Text: The Basin provides a unique sanctuary for wildlife and provides many recreational opportunities.  
Organization: Pack and Paddle

Correspondence Id: 86 Comment Id: 88416  
Comment Text: Undeveloped wild area

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87011  
Comment Text: Canoeing and camping  
Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 82 Comment Id: 86994  
Comment Text: The recreation, the scenic outlooks and the food provided by the heritage area.  
Organization: Plaquemine Veterans Memorial

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86914  
Comment Text: Its beauty, the camping, the boating and recreation, fishing, hunting.  
Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86907

Comment Text: A place to bring your family, friends and for tourists to enjoy. For wild creatures to roam and live.

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86906

Comment Text: Its beautiful! Wildlife, birds, hunting, fishing, sports, forestry, swamps, river, water, levee.

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86881

Comment Text: The scenery, the serenity, recreational boating, fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86880

Comment Text: I have fished in the area many times and hunted on the edge of it too. It is a special recreation area that holds many memories.

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86875

Comment Text: Fishing and "just to be there."

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86863

Comment Text: I enjoy hunting and fishing in this area. It is also a nice place to get out and see the abundance and variety of wildlife.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86845

Comment Text: I enjoy the area for fishing, crawfishing, boating, canoeing and other outdoor activities in the Basin.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86833

Comment Text: Natural, scenic and recreational area. My sons and daughter and grandchildren love the Basin.

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86822

Comment Text: The great opportunities for fishing, hunting and general sightseeing.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86784  
Comment Text: Fishing, camping

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86783  
Comment Text: It's one of the few places in America for public hunting, fishing, camping. (Stress public access)

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755  
Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching  
Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 43 Comment Id: 86742  
Comment Text: Because of tourism promotion

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86735  
Comment Text: The outdoor activities it presents. I fish and hunt in this area at least 30 days of the year. Its undeveloped natural beauty is also distinct and important.  
Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86689  
Comment Text: Interpretive themes

Correspondence Id: 34 Comment Id: 86688  
Comment Text: Promotes my culture and heritage, as well as preserving areas for future generations to enjoy. Promotes tourism for any state.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86681  
Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, sightseeing

Correspondence Id: 28 Comment Id: 86653  
Comment Text: Wildlife, recreation, timber  
Organization: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86617  
Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin offers many types of enjoyment.  
Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 16 Comment Id: 86578  
Comment Text: Recreation and education opportunities, along with improvements made by the Atchafalaya Basin Program have enhanced our Area.  
Organization: Promotion and Preservation of Iberville, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 10 Comment Id: 86546

Comment Text: OAS members appreciate the historical and cultural importance of preserving the two forts and also the importance of this area to viewing local wildlife, especially birds. We also have a special love for the scenic tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the ANHA.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 9 Comment Id: 86528

Comment Text: The availability of undeveloped hardwoods and swamps for recreation.

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86510

Comment Text: The unique culture and the recreational resources.

## VV101 Fishing

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99273

Comment Text: It is the inheritance of all that live in Louisiana and the greater United States of America. The great Atchafalaya, named by the local native American Indians, means "long river." This magnificent body of water, alive and bursting with life has been a relaxing and peaceful recreation for my family most of my adult life. Great memories

of camping, boating, fishing, watching beautiful scenes of the sunrise and sunsets and just being still in the most scenic water lands in Louisiana and the United States.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99182

Comment Text: It is where my family and I spent many hours fishing and boat riding.

Organization: City of Scott

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99146

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, frogging.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86517

Comment Text: Hunting and Fishing- Natural Beauty

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86618

Comment Text: Also, the surrounding communities offer many recreational events and also plenty area accessible by automobile to go hunting and fishing. Plenty of festivals to attend.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86646

Comment Text: The opportunity to hunt and fish at a location which is in close proximity and relatively easy to access.

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86659

Comment Text: As a hunter and fisherman, owning a campsite, it is so conducive to hunting and fishing, but not always accessible.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86679

Comment Text: The ability to hunt and fish in this wild area.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86681

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, sightseeing

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86716

Comment Text: Hunting! Fishing! What I enjoy most is freedom, I thank God for being born in America! I enjoy the bayous and lakes near my area.

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 86732

Comment Text: The hunting and fishing.

Organization: Village of Moreauville

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86735

Comment Text: The outdoor activities it presents. I fish and hunt in this area at least 30 days of the year. Its undeveloped natural beauty is also distinct and important.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86736

Comment Text: Fishing and its undeveloped beauty.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86776

Comment Text: Fishing and crawfishing

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86783

Comment Text: It's one of the few places in America for public hunting, fishing, camping. (Stress public access)

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86784

Comment Text: Fishing, camping

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86822

Comment Text: The great opportunities for fishing, hunting and general sightseeing.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88482

Comment Text: I was raised in this area, hunting and fishing in this area for 50 years. This area has a history all of its own. It is one of the best places in the world to enjoy our hunting and fishing, it holds a special place in my heart.

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88507

Comment Text: I hunt and fish in it.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88533

Comment Text: Boating, fishing, camping, and of course, crawfishing

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88610

Comment Text: Fishing, boating, camping sites

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88617

Comment Text: Recreation and viewing of plants and animals; Fishing, hunting, paddling, and camping

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88623

Comment Text: I enjoy fishing and bird watching. We also take our friends to see the Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88628

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88649

Comment Text: My family and I have been fishing, birding, etc. in the Basin for many years and hope to do the same for many more years to come.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86906

Comment Text: Its beautiful! Wildlife, birds, hunting, fishing, sports, forestry, swamps, river, water, levee.

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86914

Comment Text: Its beauty, the camping, the boating and recreation, fishing, hunting.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 72 Comment Id: 86936

Comment Text: Acadian heritage, Cajun heritage, wildlife, fishing

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86943

Comment Text: It has been part of Louisiana's heritage for as long as I can remember - its beauty, its availability for fishing and hunting.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87005

Comment Text: Because I like to fish and crawfish there.

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87006

Comment Text: Fishing and hunting

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88433

Comment Text: I have lived in this area my entire life of 51 years. This is a beautiful area and has good hunting and fishing. Most people who live in the area take it for granted. It is a paradise.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88439

Comment Text: We enjoy hunting, fishing, and just being outdoors in the spillway. Also we enjoy having a small state lease with a "camp" to stay in for up to 10 days at a time.

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86826

Comment Text: Scenery, wildlife, fisheries - proximity

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 56 Comment Id: 86827

Comment Text: Tranquility, fishing

Organization: Louisiana Division of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86832

Comment Text: Born and raised around the Basin - fish and crab and crawfish all my life in the Basin - love it; also hunting

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86845

Comment Text: I enjoy the area for fishing, crawfishing, boating, canoeing and other outdoor activities in the Basin.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86863

Comment Text: I enjoy hunting and fishing in this area. It is also a nice place to get out and see the abundance and variety of wildlife.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86874

Comment Text: The beauty, abundance of flora and fauna, fishing, and bragging rights.



Correspondence Id: 64 Comment Id: 86875  
Comment Text: Fishing and "just to be there."

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86880  
Comment Text: I have fished in the area many times and hunted on the edge of it too. It is a special recreation area that holds many memories.

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86881  
Comment Text: The scenery, the serenity, recreational boating, fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88705  
Comment Text: Close proximity to excellent fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99080  
Comment Text: Fishing, Hunting, Boating & It's Beauty.  
Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99082  
Comment Text: 1) Nature - its beauty and abundance. 2) Place to fish and paddle. 3) Place to get away from civilization. 4) Culture - unique and authentic, not dominated by chain stores and malls.  
Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99083  
Comment Text: 1) Birding Whiskey Bay Rd., seeing Bald Eagles Morgan City. 2) Fishing all over Basin. 3) Eating at local spots like Gracie's City Cafe Plaquemine, Love Pierre Part Store, Joe Dreyfuss, various places in Henderson.  
Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99116  
Comment Text: The seafood mostly, but hunting and fishing that is open to the public.

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99138  
Comment Text: It is a natural wild refuge for plants and animals, its close proximity to my parish (St. Mary), good fishing areas.  
Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 152 Comment Id: 99139  
Comment Text: Sights and fishing.  
Organization: St. Mary Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99145  
Comment Text: It is a beautiful natural area that I grew up in hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, etc.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99168

Comment Text: Recreation, hunting and fishing. Commercial fishing and crawfishing.  
Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99202

Comment Text: 1) Birding 2) Fishing 3) Eating & visiting the people & enjoying their outlook.

### **VV102 Crawfishing**

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99168

Comment Text: Recreation, hunting and fishing. Commercial fishing and crawfishing.  
Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88533

Comment Text: Boating, fishing, camping, and of course, crawfishing

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87005

Comment Text: Because I like to fish and crawfish there.

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86845

Comment Text: I enjoy the area for fishing, crawfishing, boating, canoeing and other outdoor activities in the Basin.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 48 Comment Id: 86776

Comment Text: Fishing and crawfishing

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86832

Comment Text: Born and raised around the Basin - fish and crab and crawfish all my life in the Basin - love it; also hunting

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

### **VV103 Hunting**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and

rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99145

Comment Text: It is a beautiful natural area that I grew up in hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, etc.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99146

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, frogging.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 157 Comment Id: 99168

Comment Text: Recreation, hunting and fishing. Commercial fishing and crawfishing.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council District 12

Correspondence Id: 148 Comment Id: 99116

Comment Text: The seafood mostly, but hunting and fishing that is open to the public.

Correspondence Id: 129 Comment Id: 88705

Comment Text: Close proximity to excellent fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 117 Comment Id: 88628

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing

Organization: NRA & Blue Goose Hunting Club

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86913

Comment Text: It is part of my home. Its beauty, uniqueness is unquestionable. The fishing, crawfishing, boating, camping, hunting, trapping. Provides our people with food

and money. It is a main part of who we are as Cajun/Creoles here in Acadiana. It is a big tourist attraction. It's the life of a lot of locals. It's how a lot of folks here make their income. It is a true swamp.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 70 Comment Id: 86914

Comment Text: Its beauty, the camping, the boating and recreation, fishing, hunting.

Organization: KBON 101.1 FM

Correspondence Id: 73 Comment Id: 86943

Comment Text: It has been part of Louisiana's heritage for as long as I can remember - its beauty, its availability for fishing and hunting.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 84 Comment Id: 87006

Comment Text: Fishing and hunting

Correspondence Id: 88 Comment Id: 88433

Comment Text: I have lived in this area my entire life of 51 years. This is a beautiful area and has good hunting and fishing. Most people who live in the area take it for granted. It is a paradise.

Correspondence Id: 89 Comment Id: 88439

Comment Text: We enjoy hunting, fishing, and just being outdoors in the spillway. Also we enjoy having a small state lease with a "camp" to stay in for up to 10 days at a time.

Correspondence Id: 95 Comment Id: 88482

Comment Text: I was raised in this area, hunting and fishing in this area for 50 years. This area has a history all of its own. It is one of the best places in the world to enjoy our hunting and fishing, it holds a special place in my heart.

Correspondence Id: 99 Comment Id: 88507

Comment Text: I hunt and fish in it.

Organization: Haik, Minviella & Grubbs, LLP

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88617

Comment Text: Recreation and viewing of plants and animals; Fishing, hunting, paddling, and camping

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 7 Comment Id: 86517

Comment Text: Hunting and Fishing- Natural Beauty

Organization: Louisiana Landowner's Assoc.

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86618

Comment Text: Also, the surrounding communities offer many recreational events and also plenty area accessible by automobile to go hunting and fishing. Plenty of festivals to attend.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86646

Comment Text: The opportunity to hunt and fish at a location which is in close proximity and relatively easy to access.

Correspondence Id: 29 Comment Id: 86659

Comment Text: As a hunter and fisherman, owning a campsite, it is so conducive to hunting and fishing, but not always accessible.

Organization: Marksville Chamber of Commerce

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86679

Comment Text: The ability to hunt and fish in this wild area.

Correspondence Id: 32 Comment Id: 86681

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, sightseeing

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86716

Comment Text: Hunting! Fishing! What I enjoy most is freedom, I thank God for being born in America! I enjoy the bayous and lakes near my area.

Correspondence Id: 41 Comment Id: 86732

Comment Text: The hunting and fishing.

Organization: Village of Moreauville

Correspondence Id: 42 Comment Id: 86735

Comment Text: The outdoor activities it presents. I fish and hunt in this area at least 30 days of the year. Its undeveloped natural beauty is also distinct and important.

Organization: David S. Motes, CPA

Correspondence Id: 49 Comment Id: 86783

Comment Text: It's one of the few places in America for public hunting, fishing, camping. (Stress public access)

Correspondence Id: 55 Comment Id: 86822

Comment Text: The great opportunities for fishing, hunting and general sightseeing.

Organization: Mayor of Loreauville

Correspondence Id: 57 Comment Id: 86832

Comment Text: Born and raised around the Basin - fish and crab and crawfish all my life in the Basin - love it; also hunting

Organization: City Councilman at Large; Port Allen, LA

Correspondence Id: 62 Comment Id: 86863

Comment Text: I enjoy hunting and fishing in this area. It is also a nice place to get out and see the abundance and variety of wildlife.

Organization: Iberville Parish Council

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86880

Comment Text: I have fished in the area many times and hunted on the edge of it too. It is a special recreation area that holds many memories.

Correspondence Id: 65 Comment Id: 86881

Comment Text: The scenery, the serenity, recreational boating, fishing and hunting.

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86906

Comment Text: Its beautiful! Wildlife, birds, hunting, fishing, sports, forestry, swamps, river, water, levee.

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99080

Comment Text: Fishing, Hunting, Boating & It's Beauty.

Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

## **VV104 Canoeing/Kayaking/Paddling/General Boating**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99275

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is the surrounding river side parish communities and cities that serve the "Atchafalaya" as the historic and cultural paradise for the inhabitants that live near and around the 800,000 acres of hardwood forest, marsh, cypress, and willow trees, and the lovely winding bayous. It is a draw for tourists, local sportsman and families alike. Many build homes, cottages and camp out in this area to enjoy fishing, hunting, and outdoor boating sports. The first settled Acadians and still today locals fish the seafood bounty of the Basin for their livelihood.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 175 Comment Id: 99273

Comment Text: It is the inheritance of all that live in Louisiana and the greater United States of America. The great Atchafalaya, named by the local native American Indians, means "long river." This magnificent body of water, alive and bursting with life has been a relaxing and peaceful recreation for my family most of my adult life. Great memories of camping, boating, fishing, watching beautiful scenes of the sunrise and sunsets and just being still in the most scenic water lands in Louisiana and the United States.

Organization: St. Martin Parish Commissioner

Correspondence Id: 172 Comment Id: 99256

Comment Text: It's so unique and wonderful; paddling amongst the cypress, meeting crawfishermen pulling in their traps, stopping for fabulous meals in little Mom and Pop places. It's like nowhere else!

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99146

Comment Text: Hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, frogging.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 150 Comment Id: 99130

Comment Text: Quiet canoe paddling on the natural bayous, observing wildlife in natural forest and wetlands.

Organization: Sierra Club Acadian Group

Correspondence Id: 21 Comment Id: 86611

Comment Text: Paddling the many bayous & bays at different times of the years.

Organization: Atchafalaya Paddle Trails Board Member

Correspondence Id: 31 Comment Id: 86672

Comment Text: Canoeing

Organization: "Canoe 2"

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 59 Comment Id: 86845

Comment Text: I enjoy the area for fishing, crawfishing, boating, canoeing and other outdoor activities in the Basin.

Organization: Camp Atchafalaya, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 85 Comment Id: 87011

Comment Text: Canoeing and camping

Organization: Enterprise - Journal

Correspondence Id: 90 Comment Id: 88447

Comment Text: What I enjoy most is to take my family for a shady boat ride down Bayou Grosse Tete and into the intercoastal waterway.

Organization: Bayou Grosse Tete Task Force

Correspondence Id: 104 Comment Id: 88533

Comment Text: Boating, fishing, camping, and of course, crawfishing

Correspondence Id: 114 Comment Id: 88610

Comment Text: Fishing, boating, camping sites

Correspondence Id: 115 Comment Id: 88617

Comment Text: Recreation and viewing of plants and animals; Fishing, hunting, paddling, and camping

Organization: Louisiana, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Correspondence Id: 124 Comment Id: 88674

Comment Text: The beauty and the nature of it, especially the wildlife. I have lived and played in the Atchafalaya area all my life, fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, camping, and socializing.

Correspondence Id: 136 Comment Id: 99061

Comment Text: Kayaking throughout the swamps.

Correspondence Id: 137 Comment Id: 99067

Comment Text: Natural remoteness for canoeing.

Organization: Canoe 2

Correspondence Id: 141 Comment Id: 99080

Comment Text: Fishing, Hunting, Boating & It's Beauty.



Organization: Save Vida Bridge Organization

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99082

Comment Text: 1) Nature - its beauty and abundance. 2) Place to fish and paddle. 3) Place to get away from civilization. 4) Culture - unique and authentic, not dominated by chain stores and malls.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 153 Comment Id: 99145

Comment Text: It is a beautiful natural area that I grew up in hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, etc.

Organization: Sierra Club

Correspondence Id: 159 Comment Id: 99182

Comment Text: It is where my family and I spent many hours fishing and boat riding.

Organization: City of Scott

### **VV105 Trails (hiking, biking, canoeing/kayaking)**

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

### **VV106 Birding**

Correspondence Id: 180 Comment Id: 99294

Comment Text: The AB [Atchafalaya Basin] is unique in North America with respect to the services it contributes to the citizens of Louisiana and the Nation. The combination of vast size, habitat variety, constant change, accessibility, ability to accommodate many users simultaneously without depreciating its capacity, floodwater conveyance, "and rich history of use and abundance make it a popular, even revered natural resource icon. Fishing, paddling, birding, hunting... even swimming, is an adventure in the AB. The landings may be packed with vehicles and trailers on a summer weekend, but the swamp soaks up anglers and boaters like a sponge soaks up water. Even with a crowd, you can almost always find fresh (unfished) water to drown a cricket, flip a jig or pitch a crankbait.

Organization: Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Correspondence Id: 163 Comment Id: 99202

Comment Text: 1) Birding 2) Fishing 3) Eating & visiting the people & enjoying their outlook.

Correspondence Id: 142 Comment Id: 99083

Comment Text: 1) Birding Whiskey Bay Rd., seeing Bald Eagles Morgan City. 2) Fishing all over Basin. 3) Eating at local spots like Gracie's City Cafe Plaquemine, Love Pierre Part Store, Joe Dreyfuss, various places in Henderson.

Organization: Friends of the Atchafalaya

Correspondence Id: 120 Comment Id: 88649

Comment Text: My family and I have been fishing, birding, etc. in the Basin for many years and hope to do the same for many more years to come.

Correspondence Id: 113 Comment Id: 88604

Comment Text: Birding and wildlife

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86557

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya National Heritage Area (ANHA) is located in the largest swamp in North America. Large expanses of the Atchafalaya basin remain forested and we would like to see it remain this way. The ANHA, specifically, is an area frequented by bird watchers from our organization. The Sherburne Complex and Indian Bayou Wildlife Management Area, in particular, have been birding and field trip destinations for the Orleans Audubon Society (OAS) and other local birding groups for many decades.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 11 Comment Id: 86558

Comment Text: OAS members appreciate the importance of this area for viewing local wildlife, especially birds. We also have a special love for the scenic tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the ANHA.

Organization: Orleans Audubon Society, Inc.

Correspondence Id: 17 Comment Id: 86586

Comment Text: Spring - return of the migratory birds as they build nests and the photos they provide - natural beauty of the place sprouts from everywhere.

Correspondence Id: 45 Comment Id: 86755

Comment Text: Wilderness, canoeing, fishing, cultural history, architecture, crafts, hiking, camping, bird watching

Organization: Environmental Design

Correspondence Id: 69 Comment Id: 86906

Comment Text: Its beautiful! Wildlife, birds, hunting, fishing, sports, forestry, swamps, river, water, levee.

Correspondence Id: 116 Comment Id: 88623

Comment Text: I enjoy fishing and bird watching. We also take our friends to see the Atchafalaya.

Correspondence Id: 135 Comment Id: 99051

Comment Text: Bird watching.

### **VV107 Events offered by surrounding communities**

Correspondence Id: 22 Comment Id: 86618

Comment Text: Also, the surrounding communities offer many recreational events and also plenty area accessible by automobile to go hunting and fishing. Plenty of festivals to attend.

Organization: Muddy Water Tours

### **VV108 Ease of access**

Correspondence Id: 178 Comment Id: 99288

Comment Text: That it is available.

Correspondence Id: 103 Comment Id: 88526

Comment Text: The Atchafalaya Basin is officially recognized as the largest wetlands in the U.S. and is presently accessible to over a million citizens. Let's expand accessibility facilities that will allow more people to enjoy.

Correspondence Id: 76 Comment Id: 86959

Comment Text: Family members and friends are allowed to visit these areas whenever possible.

Correspondence Id: 98 Comment Id: 88500

Comment Text: The beauty, the accessibility to it, the variety of wildlife. Most importantly - the general public has access and is able to enjoy the area.

Correspondence Id: 100 Comment Id: 88512

Comment Text: An easily accessible area, attractive to the many forms of wildlife, flora, etc. and consequently being completely worthy of protection by the federal government.

Correspondence Id: 67 Comment Id: 86893

Comment Text: The area is unique because of its size and nearness to large urban areas in Louisiana and other states.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86706

Comment Text: Living on the coastal area with easy access to the waterways.

Correspondence Id: 27 Comment Id: 86646

Comment Text: The opportunity to hunt and fish at a location which is in close proximity and relatively easy to access.

Correspondence Id: 37 Comment Id: 86705

Comment Text: 1) The abundance of wildlife. 2) Beauty of swampland and coastal marshland. 3) The easy of attainment of natural edibles (i.e., crawfish, fish, frogs, waterfowl. 4) The history of the area.

Correspondence Id: 39 Comment Id: 86716

Comment Text: Hunting! Fishing! What I enjoy most is freedom, I thank God for being born in America! I enjoy the bayous and lakes near my area.

#### **VV109 Limited encounters with other people; remoteness**

Correspondence Id: 156 Comment Id: 99162

Comment Text: Recreational opportunities that exist in this area. The beauty of the area. Also, the remoteness of this area.

Organization: LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86472

Comment Text: The lack of people, the wildness and the mystique.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

Correspondence Id: 143 Comment Id: 99090

Comment Text: The wildlife and privacy from the general public. No smog, no traffic and congestion, etc.

Organization: Atchafalaya Basin Committee. LA Forestry Association.

Correspondence Id: 2 Comment Id: 86473

Comment Text: Paddling and not seeing anyone except for the occasional fisherman.

Organization: Acadiana Park Nature Station

#### **VV110 Value swamp tours**

Correspondence Id: 14 Comment Id: 86511

Comment Text: Swamp tours and interpretive theme.