



Re: response to oil disaster; spoil islands and Army Corps

Lyder, Jane t Haze, Pam K, Gould, Rowan , Ashe, Dan,
o Conklin, Meghan , Kimball, Suzette M
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05/14/2010 10:55 PM

History: This message has been forwarded.

I'm the right person. There is a great uSgs report coordinated by Dawn Lavoie that fws asked for after Katrina. Dawn cam to Houma on Tuesday to brief me and then returned on Thursday to brief Tom Strickland and attend a meeting with me, fws, the State of LA, and the dredging contractor.

The permit application as originally proposed would hurt the Chandeleur Islands because the borrow area for sediment was in the littoral area of the islands -- it would cause erosion and wouldn't stay because the sand content is very very poor. The usgs report points out where the best borrow areas are. After our mtg on Thurs the State agreed it would seek to amend its application to be consistent with the science and the needs of the refuge. It was very impressive to have the science, have Dawn with us, have fws personnel who understand that area so well and have the LA State govt Coastal folks all on the same page.

From: Haze, Pam K

To: Lyder, Jane; Gould, Rowan; Ashe, Dan; Conklin, Meghan; Kimball, Suzette M

Sent: Fri May 14 19:59:08 2010

Subject: FW: response to oil disaster; spoil islands and Army Corps

Not sure who to ask about this? It is a question from our appropriations staff.

I have been reading, and hearing about the Army Corps proposal to so some dredging and fortify the Chandeleur Islands or other areas in the oil impact zone.

On the national conference call today I asked what was going on, and what is the deal with the 24 hour public comment period. This seems like a way to sneak some procedure in, and folks are alarmed. On that call no one had any information; if the Army Corps is going to be a major player, they need to be included in the communication system.

I understand that the USGS did a detailed investigation of these areas after Katrina, and this study includes a pathway to restore some of these vital wetlands. And, it seems like some of the governors and army corps proposals may in fact make the islands much less safe, and if the wrong areas are dredged, may be a disaster to the very same resources we want to protect from the oil.

Can you please find out what the DOI involvement is in this proposal by the Army Corps. Are any folks from the USGS being consulted as these kind of ideas are discussed? What is the role of the technical experts at the refuges who have extensive experience on these matters.