

A Louisiana Marsh Manager's Permitting Handbook

Produced by the Rainey Conservation Alliance
2014

Introduction

Landowner goals in south Louisiana often focus on maintaining marsh vegetation, maintaining water levels for waterfowl hunting and fishing, preventing saltwater intrusion, and providing stable habitats that support healthy estuarine fish and wildlife population. Luckily, all of these things work naturally together under the appropriate management.

Most successful wetland land managers have generations of experience on the land, and are intimately familiar with the ecological interconnection between land and water. However, as a whole, landowners are unfamiliar with the Louisiana Coastal Use Permit (CUP) application process. Many of these same landowner/managers are frustrated with the process because it can be expensive, time consuming, onerous, confusing, and in some cases, it is challenging to achieve management goals. As a result, many landowners have delayed or abandoned their efforts to protect and/or restore their lands.

Therefore, this *A Louisiana Marsh Manager's Permitting Handbook* (Handbook) was developed specifically to assist wetland landowners and managers in successfully securing permits for wetland protection and restoration projects that will meet their individual management program goals.

Who put this Handbook together?

The Rainey Conservation Alliance (RCA) is a consortium of landowners in Vermilion and Iberia Parishes, Louisiana. We, the RCA, collectively manage 185,000 acres of private coastal wetlands, and have experience pursuing and receiving permits for a wide variety of wetland protection and restoration projects on our properties. In an effort to document our experiences working within the permit system, we have developed this first edition, of *A Louisiana Marsh Manager's Permitting Handbook*, focused specifically on permitting for coastal wetlands protection and restoration.

What is the purpose of this Handbook?

This Handbook leverages our experiences to help landowners obtain federal, state, and parish permits for habitat protection and restoration within the Louisiana Coastal Zone (Figure 1). Easy access to important permit application information will help expedite the permit process, reducing time, effort and cost. This guide will also help jump-start the permit process by indicating application elements that can be most problematic and/or are overlooked during application preparation.

Preparation of permit plats or design project drawings are one of the most critical elements of the permit application. Examples of the various types of coastal wetland restoration projects successfully used by landowners can be a great help when trying to design your own. Since these examples are notoriously difficult to locate, this Handbook provides a link to an online Appendix B with representative examples of permits and their associated plats obtained for projects in our region. These examples can be emulated or modified for specific needs.

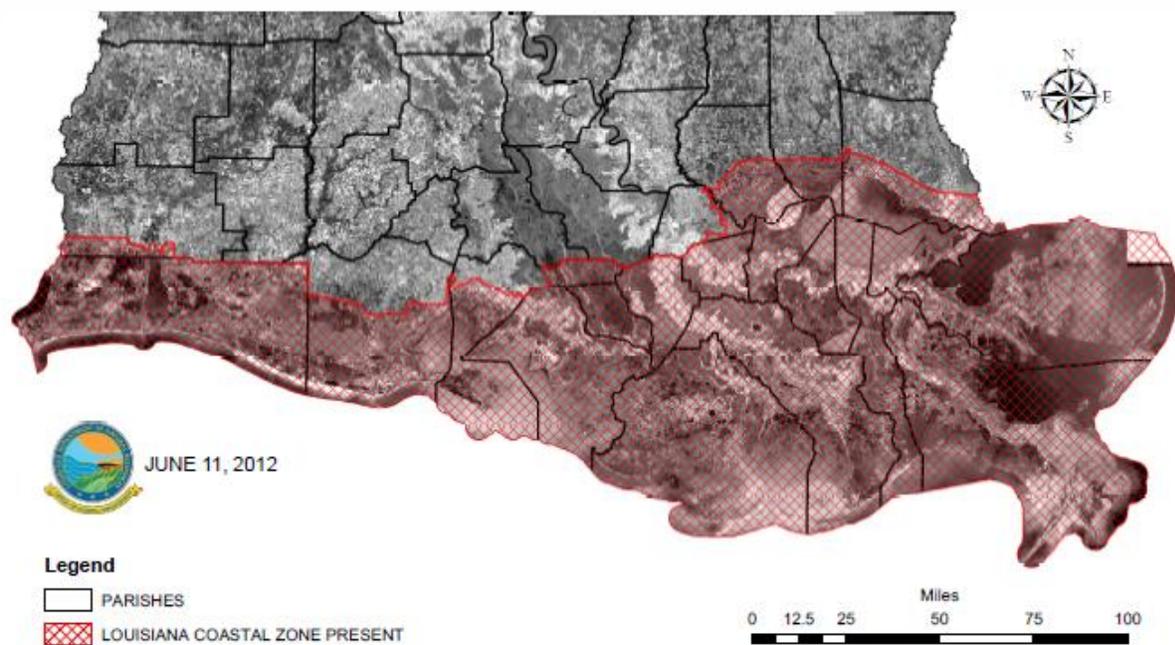


Figure 1. The Louisiana Coastal Zone (from the DNR OCM website).

Permitting Basics

In order to conduct any work in the Louisiana Coastal Zone¹, permits are required from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). A local parish government permit or Letter of No Objection from the parish government and/or local levee board may also be required for work in your area. Overall, permits are needed for work below 5 feet in elevation, within a wetland, or within ¼ mile of sensitive habitats (as defined by DNR) that involves excavation or placement of material (“discharge”), that could disturb soil or alter water flow, or that involves building a structure. The COE further requires permits for anything that falls under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, i.e. affecting navigation, or under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, i.e. affecting wetlands or water of the U.S.

A Joint Permit Application (JPA) covers the need to apply for all state and federal permits simultaneously, and is found on the DNR Office of Coastal Management (OCM) website². Also on the DNR website, is an application checklist³ to assist in application preparation and “A Coastal User’s Guide to the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program”⁴ which is an in depth source of information for navigating through the permit process.

Once the JPA has been completed and submitted, the DNR OCM will assign a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) number that will be used in all future correspondence, and will forward the JPA to COE and other appropriate local, state and federal agencies. From that point on, DNR will be the primary agency that will review the application and plats for completeness. Once DNR has certified that the application is complete, and if a permit is deemed necessary after review, the permit will be put on a 25-day public notice and copies of the application will be distributed to other regulatory and commenting agencies. Only after the CUP and other associated permits are issued can the proposed activity begin.



Artificial oyster-reef in Southwest Pass.

¹ http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/CoastalZoneBoundary/CZB2012/maps/Outreach_Map.pdf

² <http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=93>

³ http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/permits/Application_Checklist.pdf

⁴ <http://data.dnr.louisiana.gov/ABP-GIS/ABPstatusreport/FinalUsersGuide.pdf>

Step by Step Permit Application Shortcuts and Resources

Figure 2 outlines the permitting process as a flow chart and is explained more in depth in the following steps.

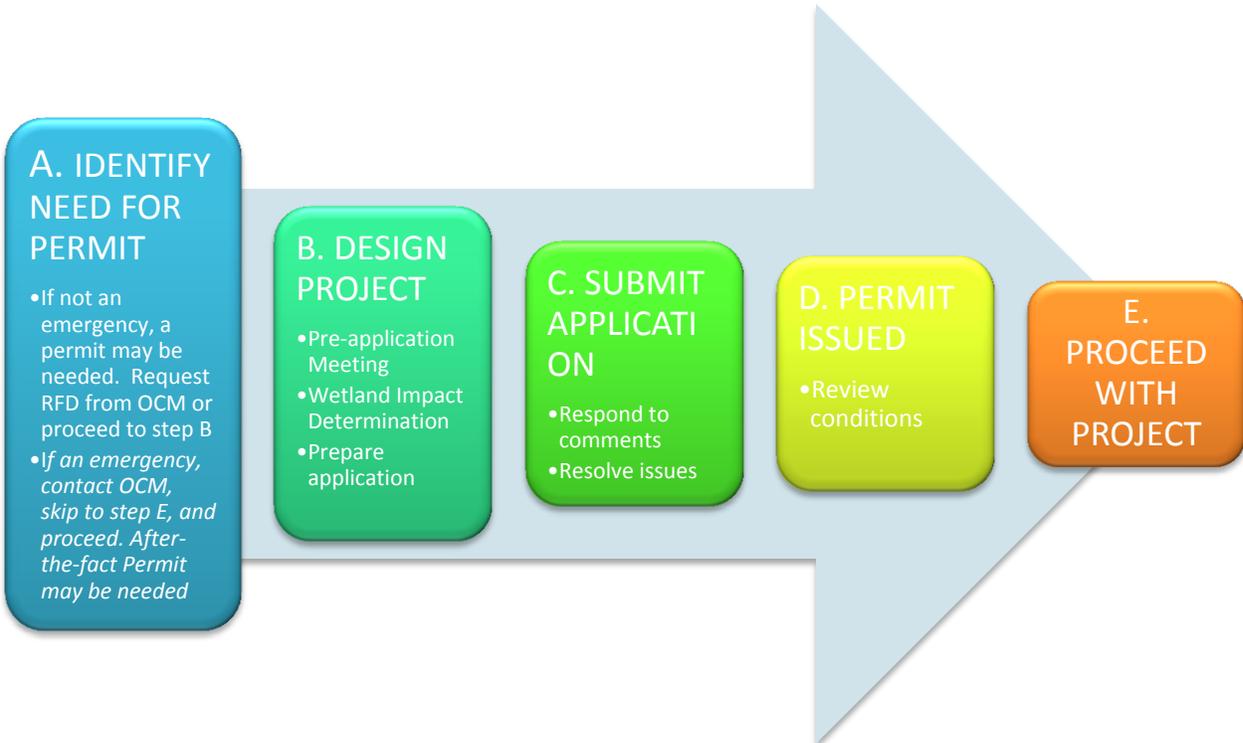


Figure 2. Flowchart for the coastal permit process.

A) Identify the need for a permit

Step 1. Identify the problem you wish to address, and conceptualize the solution; i.e., project.

1.1. **If the project is an emergency, proceed with activity, contacting OCM as soon as possible.** Emergencies are considered things that if not corrected immediately would result in hazard to life, loss of property, or damage to the environment. A determination will be made by OCM if an “after-the-fact” permit will be necessary.

Step 2. Submit a “Request For Determination” (RFD) from OCM. This step is optional and requires a fee that is equal to the permit processing fee. Should the determination be made that a permit is necessary, the RFD will be rolled into a JPA and all information will be required. If you skip this step, and submit a JPA, a determination will be made anyway. Alternatively, you can contact OCM and ask if an activity will require a permit, without a fee.

2.1. On the OCM website, follow the JPA, but under “Permit Type” in the JPA form, check the “Request for Determination” box. The online RFD application process will guide you through the appropriate steps.

2.2. You will need a vicinity map among other project details.

2.3. If a JPA is required upon review of the RFD by OCM, proceed to **Step 4**.

Step 3. After review of the RFD by OCM, if no JPA is required, proceed with project.

B) Design the Project



Christian Marsh terraces in Vermilion Parish.

Step 1. If a JPA is required, review the checklist⁵ and gain knowledge and understanding of the information to be furnished in the application form and for the drawings of the proposed project.

1.1. Prepare Vicinity and Location maps of the proposed work.

1.2. Inform neighboring landowners of proposed work.

Step 2. Develop the project design while giving priority consideration to:

2.1. designing within the guidelines of a general permit (Appendix A), as this will streamline the permit application, approval, and reporting processes

2.2. minimizing wetland impacts – such as destroying or converting wetlands to non-wetlands, including temporary impacts associated with construction

Project design priorities in descending order are:

2.2.1. Avoidance – produce no wetland impacts or design the project to be self-mitigating.

2.2.2. Minimize – reduce the footprint of the part of the project on wetland to the smallest area possible without compromising project functionality.

⁵ http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/permits/Application_Checklist.pdf

- 2.2.3. Mitigate – offset wetland impacts through the purchase of credits or creating/enhancing wetlands incidental to the construction to achieve zero net loss of wetland.
- 2.3. Costs – application fee, permit fee, LDWF wildlife impact fees, design cost, project/construction cost, mitigation cost, maintenance cost
 - 2.3.1. Request for Determination fee (to DNR, non-refundable) - \$20 for residential and \$100 for all other uses.
 - 2.3.2. Application fee (to DNR, non-refundable) – \$20 for residential uses and \$100 for all other uses.
 - 2.3.3. Permit processing fee – DNR receives a fee based on the volume of material moved, regardless of ownership. This pays for analyst effort: theoretically larger projects will require more of their time.
 - a. \$0.04 per cubic yard (cy) for residential use; with no charge for under 125cy to a maximum fee of \$2,000 for anything over 50,000cy.
 - b. \$0.05 per cubic yard for all other uses under 100,000cy; with a minimum charge of \$25 for less than 500cy to maximum of \$5,000 for excess of 100,000cy.
 - 2.3.4. Water Quality Certification fee (to DEQ) – \$350 (commercial) or \$33 (non-commercial). All Section 402 permit applications (related to discharge of pollutants) will be exempt from this fee since fees are already assessed as part of the state permit system.
 - 2.3.5. LDWF Permit fee - LDWF receives fees based on cubic yards of material moved from a state water-bottom to private property (\$0.25/cy). If the material is replaced, such as back-filling a pipeline or canal, this fee is not required. The fee is also not required if material is moved from a private canal to private property.
 - 2.3.6. Wetland mitigation costs – first, **avoid** or **minimize** if at all possible!! The cost varies by habitat affected and location. This can easily reach \$60,000 - \$80,000/acre or more for coastal marshes and \$6,000 - \$26,000/acre for bottomland hardwood and cypress tupelo habitat.
 - a. Compensatory mitigation processing fee (OCM) is based on acreage and can range from \$150 for half an acre to \$15,000 for anything over 100 acres.
 - b. Creating your own mitigation bank incurs other fees and is relatively uncommon and costly: mitigation bank initial evaluation fee, mitigation bank habitat evaluation fee, mitigation bank establishment fee, mitigation bank periodic review fee.
 - c. Advanced mitigation project fees, compensatory mitigation variance request fee.
 - d. Permittee can propose a mitigation plan within the same hydrologic unit (See 7.3 Option 3).

- 2.4. Complexity of project
 - 2.4.1. The more complex a project is, the greater the potential for delays in permit issuance and for design alterations due to regulatory requirements or policy.
 - 2.4.2. If possible, the permittee may want to exclude those project components that could potentially cause non-permit issuance if the overall project goals and function can still be achieved.
 - 2.4.3. Contentiousness of components with agencies and commenters can cause permit issuance delays and increase costs as resolutions and compromises are being negotiated.
- 2.5. Time Factor Considerations
 - 2.5.1. The permit processing time by OCM may take several months to a year or more depending on the complexity of the project, the type and number of objections filed against the project, the permit analyst, and agency workloads.
 - 2.5.2. After issuance of the CUP, the applicant has 2 years to commence the project and 5 years to complete the project. It is possible to request permit extensions (see **Step 20**), however, this will add costs, such as permit application fees, etc.



Snow Geese at the Paul J Rainey Wildlife Sanctuary in Vermilion Parish.

- 2.6. Seasonal Considerations – various outside factors may influence when projects can be constructed.
 - 2.6.1. Waterfowl Hunting Season (mid-September – mid-January), Many projects require use of airboats and heavy equipment. Equipment noise may chase off migratory waterfowl and diminish the hunting experience. Landowners will often not allow equipment operations on their property during the waterfowl hunting season. This must be coordinated with the landowner manager prior to construction of the project. Certain activities are often allowed a week or two in advance

of the start of a hunting season or when the season is closed during hunting season splits.

- 2.6.2. Hurricane Season (June 1 – November 1). Mobilization and demobilization of equipment in response to hurricane threats can be extremely costly and can cause project construction delays.
- 2.6.3. Bird Nesting Season. Nesting periods for sensitive (e.g., eagle) or colonially nesting (e.g., heron rookeries) bird species of conservation concern (February 15 – Aug 15) can effect placement of project components and effect project construction scheduling. Failure to understand the bird population and the effect of project construction on habitats within or adjacent to the project area can cause construction delays and/or non-issuance of permits.
- 2.7. Endangered Species and Sensitive Habitats. If the project could harm or adversely affect endangered species habitat, the project may not be authorized. Again, it is important to know the endangered species that occur in the proposed project area and if there are any sensitive habitats that may be impacted. The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program⁶ provides a list of endangered species and sensitive habitats.
- 2.8. Adjacent Landowners - Consideration of the effect a project might have on adjacent landowners is essential during project design. In some instances, sharing of resources and collaboration with adjoining landowners could help reduce overall project costs. It is especially important to coordinate any project construction activities that may be near or effect State or Federal lands.
- 2.9. Louisiana State Master Plan 2012 (Master Plan). The OCM will coordinate with the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) to ensure project consistency with the Master Plan. Inconsistency may result in permit non-issuance.

Step 3. Set up pre-application meeting with OCM, COE, and federal and state resource agencies. This step is not required but is highly recommended for any complex projects as it will allow the permit applicant to address concerns and issues before the permit application has been filed.

- 3.1. The OCM permit analyst will usually coordinate the meeting.
- 3.2. Be sure to include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and LDWF in the pre-application meeting as they can influence whether or not a permit will be issued.
- 3.3. In rare circumstances, a site visit to determine if there are any issues which may delay and/or prevent permit issuance may occur; this is more likely to occur after the JPA is submitted.

Step 4. Determine Wetland Impacts - Plan to avoid or minimize wetland impacts to the greatest extent possible!!! Reduction of wetland impacts cannot be stressed enough. In some instances, excessive wetland impacts can result in compensatory mitigation costs so high a planned project becomes cost prohibitive. Make sure you

⁶ <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program>

explore and document all of the options possible to avoid or minimize impacts; OCM will assist in recommending options.

4.1. If there are NO wetland impacts, proceed to next **Step 9**

4.2. If there ARE unavoidable wetland impacts, the OCM or COE will determine the highest “in-kind” (same habitat type as impacted) compensatory mitigation requirement.

4.2.1. COE will run the Modified Charleston Method (MCM) to calculate compensatory mitigation requirements for a 404 Permit. The MCM generally produces the highest compensatory mitigation requirements between the OCM and COE.

4.3. Upon receipt of the compensatory mitigation requirement, the permittee is required to develop a mitigation plan to offset wetland impacts. There are three options to satisfy these requirements, as follows:

Option 1) Mitigation in-kind credits can be purchased from an approved (by COE and OCM) Mitigation Bank (MB). COE will always recommend that the permittee buy credits if they are available, rather than allowing self-mitigation. However, the landowner, by law, has first right of refusal and can have mitigation placed on his property before going to a mitigation bank.

a. Marsh mitigation costs can be over \$60K/acre (Chef Menteur MB).

b. Bottomland Hardwood & Cypress Tupelo mitigation costs can range from \$6K-26K/acre.

c. MB must be within the same [USGS hydrologic unit](#)⁷; usually starts with nearest unit, and expands out until closest MB is found.

d. No requirement to maintain the mitigation if purchased; this is done by the MB.

Option 2) In-Lieu Fee (ILF) Program⁸ – usually for minimal impacts (only for marsh for the COE; will not accept in-lieu payment for forested wetlands or bottomland forests).

Option 3) Develop an on-site mitigation plan and submit to OCM & COE for consideration. The COE will likely require a perpetual conservation easement; OCM will require 20-yr maintenance.

a. It has been our experience that OCM & COE will not develop a plan or provide assistance, but only accept or reject the plan submitted by the permittee.

b. Discuss obligation for maintenance of on-site mitigation plans with OCM and COE (there could be 20-year to perpetual obligations for maintaining on-site mitigation areas).

Step 5. OCM & COE will make determination if mitigation plan is acceptable

5.1 If accepted go to **Step 9**.

5.2 If rejected go back to **Step 2**.

⁷ <http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html>

⁸ http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/permits/FINAL_ILF_INSTRUMENT_1_16_14.pdf

Step 6. Prepare drawings and details of the proposed project in 8 ½ x 11” format that provides information needed to answer questions in the JPA. Provide details of proposed mitigation if applicable.

- 6.1. All of the information needed to fill out the JPA should be included and detailed on permit drawings.
- 6.2. Examples of permit drawings are provided online in the [Appendix B](#) provided with this Handbook and may be used for GUIDANCE ONLY as templates or models.

Step 7. Fill out the JPA form on the OCM website, referring to permit drawings that you have prepared.

- 7.1. Follow instructions and complete the JPA, making sure that the information in the application and that on the drawings are the same.



Healthy marsh and submerged aquatics of a managed marsh in Vermilion Parish.

C) Application Submittal and Public Notice

Step 8. Submit complete JPA to OCM and pay application fee.

Step 9. Alternatively, if the parish in which the project is being constructed has an approved coastal management plan, the JPA can be submitted there. Within 2 days, the parish forwards the JPA to OCM for confirmation of state or local jurisdiction. The same processing fees will be required.

- 9.1. A Letter of No Objection (LNO) from a parish with no approved coastal management plan is required and is usually generated through the JPA. In some cases, a separate request is necessary.
- 9.2. The Parish in which the project is being constructed has the right to reject a permit application even if the applicant has all other permits necessary to construct his project. The applicant can then attend the OCM meeting to appeal a rejection.

Step 10. OCM receives JPA

- 10.1. If the application is deemed complete, OCM will forward copies of the JPA to regulators (COE and DEQ)

10.2. If incomplete, OCM will return it to the applicant with an itemized list of incomplete and/or missing information. When corrected, go to **Step 11**.

10.2.1. Applicant will be required to make the necessary corrections until the JPA is deemed complete

Step 11. Public Notice Period – all apparently complete applications for coastal use permits are put on public notice to allow for comments from anyone with concerns about the activity. Comments received are considered by OCM in its subsequent actions on the permit application.

11.1. OCM – 25 day public notice for receipt of public comments.

11.2. DEQ – 10 day public notice for receipt of public comments .

11.3. COE – 15-(extended to 30 if requested) day public notice for receipt of public comments.

Step 12. The applicant has 30 days to respond to all comments received and resolve any issues.

12.1. The regulators (OCM, COE, DEQ) typically require that the applicant arbitrate and resolve issues directly with the commenter and/or objector.

12.2. LDWF and State Land Office will usually comment.

12.3. Some fees associated with royalties (e.g., taking dredge material from state-owned water bottoms) or other licensing fees, if applicable, will be requested at this point; LDWF permit fee based on the cubic yards of water bottom material used for private purposes.



Installing a flap-gate culvert.

D) Permit Issuance

Step 13. A draft permit will be issued by OCM, which should be carefully reviewed by the applicant. The permittee has 5 days to contest conditions in the permit agreement, after which the permit will be final, upon payment of fees.

13.1. It is important that the applicant fully understand all conditions of the permit, especially any reporting and notification requirements (See Steps 21-26).

- 13.2. Non-compliance with permit conditions can lead to enforcement action and/or revocation of permit until compliance conditions are met.
- 13.3. Issuance of a CUP by itself does not allow project commencement.
- Step 14. Upon issuance of a CUP, it will be forwarded by OCM to COE as required for issuance of a 404 Permit; and to DEQ for a Water Quality Certification (WQC).**
- Step 15. DEQ sends applicant a letter with a WQC number and will request payment of fees.**
 - 15.1. Upon payment of fees, the WQC will be issued and forwarded by DEQ to COE as required for issuance of a 404 Permit
 - 15.2. The letter of certification will include any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure compliance with state Water Quality Standards, approved Water Quality Management Plans, or applicable state water laws, rules, or regulations.
- Step 16. Upon receipt of the CUP and WQC by COE, the COE will issue a draft 404 Permit.**
 - 16.1. Upon acceptance of conditions in permit and payment of permit fee by applicant, the permit will be issued.
- Step 17. Check with local Parish for any other required actions.**
- Step 18. Upon receipt of all local, State, and federal permits, the applicant can begin construction of the project.**
 - 18.1. Construction for a CUP must commence within 2 years of permit issuance, otherwise the permit expires and must be resubmitted.
 - a. If construction is started, the CUP is good for 5 years.
 - b. Permittee can ask for an extension to a non-constructed permit if the request is at least 180 days prior to the expiration.
 - c. A 3-year extension can be added to the end of a permit if the work was not completed within the 5 years.
 - 18.2. Construction for a 404 Permit must be started and completed within 5 years.



Coastal work is often done by barge.

E) Project Implementation

- Step 19.** Copies of the CUP and 404 Permit must be present at the construction site
- Step 20.** A construction commencement notification must be sent to OCM within 3 working-days of beginning construction or in accordance with permit specifications
- Step 21.** A construction completion notification must be sent to COE within 30 days after construction has ended or in accordance with permit specifications
- Step 22.** As-built drawings must be sent to OCM within 30 days after construction has ended or in accordance with permit specifications
- Step 23. Maintenance of Project**
- 23.1. Maintenance of project will be specified in the permit conditions.
 - 23.2. Normal maintenance or repair of an existing, authorized, currently serviceable, active structure does not need a permit⁹ as long as maintenance does not change the magnitude or function of the structure and do not involve dredge or fill activities.
 - 23.3. Any work outside of the scope of the permit will require a new permit application starting with Step 1.
- Step 24. Special condition Reporting**
- 24.1. In some instances, permit conditions may require annual reporting.
 - 24.2. Be sure to adhere to all permit conditions because an after-the-fact permit can be even more onerous.
- Step 25.** Each parish and zoning commission will issue permits with their own conditions and requirements.

Conclusion

Due the complexity of the permitting process, as demonstrated by the many steps outlined in this document, this Handbook does not make the claim to be a completely comprehensive guide covering every possible aspect of the permit process. Instead, this Handbook introduces Marsh Managers to the regulatory coastal permit process and to the permits needed to conduct work within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. In addition, it provides users with an understanding of the steps required for the planning, design, permitting, and construction of coastal protection and restoration projects. It is the intention of the RCA to improve this Handbook over time by soliciting input from users. Additional permit examples and recommendations with merit will be incorporated into future editions of the Handbook.

⁹ Title 43, Part I, Subchapter C, §723.B. Activities not requiring Permits; 4. Normal Maintenance and Repair

Links:

Louisiana Coastal Zone Map:

http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/CoastalZoneBoundary/CZB2012/maps/Outreach_Map.pdf

DNR OCM Joint Permit Application:

<http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=93>

Joint Permit Application Checklist:

http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/permits/Application_Checklist.pdf

LDNR – “A Coastal User’s Guide to the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program;” provides information on how to apply for a coastal use permit:

<http://data.dnr.louisiana.gov/ABP-GIS/ABPstatusreport/FinalUsersGuide.pdf>

“Alternatives and Justification Guidelines” – explains what information is required and why for permits in specific situations

http://data.dnr.louisiana.gov/ABP-GIS/ABPstatusreport/NAJ_Combined_Document_5_10_2013.pdf

General Permits

<http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=728>

Vicinity map example:

http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/coastal/cup/sampleplats/1vicinity_map.pdf

Water Quality Certification – Title 33, Environmental Quality, Part IX. Water Quality:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Portals/0/planning/regs/title33/33v09-201102.pdf>

Natural Heritage Program with information on endangered and threatened animals:

<http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program>

In-Lieu Fee Program:

http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/OCM/permits/FINAL_ILF_INSTRUMENT_1_16_14.pdf

USGS Hydrologic Units:

<http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html>

FWS publication – “Waterfowl Management Handbook 13.4.8. Options for Water-level Control in Developed Wetlands” provides examples of water control structures:

http://www.fws.gov/southeast/birds/waterfowl_management_handbook.pdf

Ducks Unlimited “Wetland Engineering Manual” provides examples of water control structures:

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_032744.pdf

Acronyms used in this document:

CMD	Coastal Management Division (under DNR)
COE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CPRA	Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
CUG	Coastal User's Guide to the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program
CUP	Coastal Use Permit
DEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
DNR	Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
DOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ILF	In-lieu Fee
JPA	Joint Permit Application
LDWF	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
LNO	Letter of No Objection
MB	Mitigation Bank
MCM	Modified Charleston Method
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
OCM	State of Louisiana Office of Coastal Management
RCA	Rainey Conservation Alliance
RFD	Request For Determination
WQC	Water Quality Certification



Constructing the terraces in Christian Marsh.

Appendix A –Office of Coastal Management - General Permits

<http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=728>

General permits are subject to the same application process as other permits, but approval is streamlined. However, if your application does not meet the requirements of a General Permit, it will be processed as a regular joint application.

General Permit No.	Description	Expiration Date
GP-5	Provides for the construction and maintenance of a ring levee and board road for the purpose of oil and gas exploration and production	2/05/2019
GP-6	Provides for the installation, replacement, maintenance, and removal of up to 10,000 linear feet of pipeline in vegetated wetlands, spoil banks, and open water areas	2/05/2019
GP-7	Provides for dredging to construct a parallel slip adjacent to an existing man-made canal or slip, for dredging to deepen an existing slip, and for dredging to construct an oil or gas access canal or slip. This general permit also authorizes the removal and replacement of existing plugs in oil and gas canals constructed under the authority of this general permit.	2/05/2019
GP-8	This General Permit provides for the construction of wave dampening fences in shallow water locations. Individual fence units may vary in overall dimensions with maximum segment length not to exceed 150 feet, width not to exceed 12 feet and height not to exceed 6 feet. Units to be constructed of treated lumber, galvanized fencing or other suitable, Office of Coastal Management approved materials. Christmas trees or other clean suitable brush may be used to fill fence units when design requires	7/16/2017
GP-10	This General Permit provides for the maintenance of existing channels, canals and slips that are used for access to oil, gas, and salt water disposal wells and production facilities within the Coastal Zone of Louisiana.	7/16/2017
GP-11	Provides for the implementation of individual compensatory mitigation projects and mitigation banks to offset unavoidable impacts to vegetated wetlands due to permitted activities.	3/24/2016
GP-12	This General Permit provides for a one-time mobilization for the maintenance of existing channels, canals and slips that are used for access to oil, gas and salt water disposal wells and production facilities within the Coastal Zone of Louisiana and that are located in fields in	7/16/2017

General Permit No.	Description	Expiration Date
	which the applicant has a valid Coastal Use Field-Wide Maintenance Dredging Strategy Permit.	
GP-13	This General Permit provides for a one-time mobilization for the maintenance dredging of existing channels, canals and ditches that are utilized for the management of surface water flow.	7/16/2017
GP-14	This General Permit provides for a one-time mobilization for the installation, maintenance, removal, and repair of utility lines, wires, cables, conduits, pipes for water pipelines and fiber optic bundles in new or existing corridors within the Louisiana Coastal Zone.	7/16/2017
GP-15	This General Permit provides for the maintenance dredging of existing channels, canals, ditches and slips that are utilized for commercial purposes or private navigation within the Louisiana Coastal Zone.	7/16/2017
GP-16	This General Permit provides a one-time mobilization for the construction of new channels and slips that are used for access to oil, gas, and salt water disposal wells and production facilities within the Coastal Zone of Louisiana and that are located in open water, excluding Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas.	7/16/2017
GP-17	This General Permit provides for dredging of waterbottoms in order to restore and stabilize shorelines and subsiding marsh and for the construction and maintenance of crevasses. This General Permit shall only apply to activities conducted by the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.	7/16/2017
GP-18	Placement of a maximum of 280 cubic yards of fill for the construction of a driveway up to 100 feet long and 10 feet wide; placement of up to 100 cubic yards of fill to construct a 12-foot x 40-foot parking area; placement of approximately 50 cubic yards of fill to construct a storage area up to 20 feet x 20 feet; dredging and/or filling of up to 100 cubic yards of material to construct a boat slip with a bulkhead up to 20 feet x 20 feet x 6 feet; and construction of up to 25 feet of bulkhead and fill on both sides of the boat slip on the waterway shoreline.	2/05/2019
GP-19	This General Permit provides for a one-time mobilization for minor oil and gas activities including but not limited to those caused by the construction and installation of platforms, towers, landing pads, structures used to support pipelines and cables, staging and work areas, and parking areas that have adverse impacts to 1.0 acre or less, with no more than 0.1 acre of vegetated wetland impacts, within the Coastal Zone of Louisiana.	7/16/2017
GP-20	Provides for oil field restoration activities including the construction and maintenance of ring levees, construction and maintenance of	2/05/2019

General Permit No.	Description	Expiration Date
	board roads, and dredging and maintenance dredging of access channels within the Coastal Zone of Louisiana.	
GP-21	This General Permit provides for the placement of up to 10,000 cubic yards of shell, crushed limestone, or other material approved by the Office of Coastal Management, in order to construct drilling and production facility (compressor barges, tank barges, and etc.) foundation pads with maximum dimensions of 250 feet in length and 225 feet in width.	7/16/2017
GP-22	Provides for operations for seismic surveys to include surveying locations, placement of bamboo poles, receiver lines, casings (pipes), buoys, stakes, detectors, etc. The pipes are to be marked with flags by day and yellow lights by night. Generation of seismic energy source may be drilling and detonation of shot points, discharge of air guns in water, and/or use of Vibraseis or other vibrating energy sources.	4/15/2016
GP-23	This General Permit provides for the maintenance of existing trenasses within the coastal zone of Louisiana. Trenasses may be maintenance dredged to a maximum of three (3) feet deep and to a maximum top width of six (6) feet. This General Permit does not authorize the construction of new trenasses or the extension of the linear dimensions of existing trenasses.	7/16/2017
GP-24	Installation, maintenance and/or removal of up to 1,000 linear feet of concrete mats and other hard-structure or engineered alternatives for pipeline protection.	8/16/2015
GP-25	Provides for the construction of a minimally-sized ring levee adjacent to an existing board road or ring levee.	2/05/2019
GP-26	Provides for dredging to construct a minimally-sized parallel slip adjacent to a man-made canal or slip.	2/05/2019
GP-27	Provides for maintenance activities for public port facilities within the Louisiana Coastal Zone.	1/09/2018
GP-28	This General Permit provides for the repair of breaches in existing spoil banks located wholly on privately owned lands; and for the repair/replacement of existing water control structures located wholly on privately owned lands.	

Appendix B: Sample Forms, Plats and Projects

The samples included in Appendix B are from actual permits that were approved, and provide a variety of drawings that were adequate for approval, from hand drawn to professionally prepared schematics. These examples are for guidance purposes only. They may be used to help design your own project, and can be modified or emulated for specific needs.

The table below lists the examples included in the online Appendix B. To access a specific permit or set of drawings (plats), a shortcut link is provided, in the online version, by clicking highlighted text or clicking within the two columns on the right side of the table. The bookmarks panel on the side of the pdf will help navigate through the document as well.

<p>1. Vicinity map – can be created by adding labels and information to a copy of a topographic or road map, by hand or digitally. They must include exact location of project site, name of all waterbodies and roads, north arrow and scale. DNR has a sample map that is included in this document, or at: http://dnr.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/coastal/cup/sampleplats/1vicinity_map.pdf</p>					
<p>2. General Permit – on DNR website: Office of Coastal Management. General Permits take less time, but still require the same Joint Application Form and complete application packet with forms and plats used for a CUP. Within 5 days, if your project is determined to be inconsistent with the General Permit, you will be notified that it will be processed as an individual CUP.</p>					
	Permit Type	Permit Name	CUP No.	Permit	Plats
	Oil & Gas canal maintenance	GP-10		Permit	
	Maintenance dredging for private navigation	GP-15		Permit	
	Trenasse maintenance	GP-23		Permit	
	Trenasse clearing	Vermilion Corporation Trenasse Clearing	P20120494	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Trenasse maintenance	EA McIlhenny Trenasse Maintenance	P20121559	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Repair breach in levee	GP-28		Permit	Plats/drawings
3a. Hydrologic Restoration - Canal/Channel					
	Construction	Canal to irrigate crawfish ponds	P20120450	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Maintenance Dredging	EA McIlhenny Canal Maintenance Dredging	P20051608	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Prop-washing	Lobo Operating, Inc. Wheelwashing of existing pipeline canal	P20140002	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Debris removal	Vermilion Corp hurricane debris removal from trenasses	P20121401	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Plug	EA McIlhenny Plug Construction	P20070855	Permit	Plats/drawings
3b. Hydrologic Restoration - Typical WCS					
	Culvert	Aurore Ranch culverts and gaps through levees to facilitate the introduction of tidal waters and encourage establishment of fresh/intermediate marsh vegetation	P20110210	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Stop-log flap-gate	Drainage improvements on Sagrera Estates	P20130869	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Variable crest weir	Aurore Ranch Project manage waterlevels for waterfowl	P20120181	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Boat-bay weir	NFWF-approved structure			Plats/drawings
3c. Hydrologic Restoration - Levee					
	Levee construction	Enable management of waterfowl pond	P20100736	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Levee reconstruction	Forked Is Sports Club levee reconstruction	P20110617	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Spoil bank refurbishment	Spoil Bank refurbishment on Audubon, McIlhenny, Vermilion and Sagrera Estates	NFWF		Plats/drawings
	Levee repair/maintenance	EA McIlhenny Washout Repair Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)	P20100408	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Levee repair	ExxonMobil Levee Repair	P20090136	Permit	Plats/drawings

4. Marsh Creation/restoration					
	Terrace construction	Christian Marsh Terraces	P20100795	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Terrace construction	Energy Offshore Pecan Is Terraces	P20110781	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Dredge/fill; small-scale	Audubon Marsh creation using a small dredge	P20090649	Permit	Plats/drawings
5. Marsh Management					
	Marsh management	Mcllhenny Resources Marsh Management	P20081541	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Marsh management	Chenier au Tigre Marsh Management (with stop-log culvert)	P20020507 (amended)	Permit	Plats/drawings
6. Bankline stabilization/ protection					
	Rock	Avoca Island bank line protection	P20120425	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Rock dike	FW Bayou Bank Stabilization (TV-11b)	P20100240	Permit	Plats/drawings
		Bayou Casmer bankline stabilization	P20111117	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Infill behind riprap	CHEVRON MIDSTREAM PIPELINES, LLC riprap, earthen fill, concrete mats erosion control	P20131514	Permit	Plats/drawings
7. Shoreline protection					
	Segmented Breakwater	Vermilion Parish Police Jury segmented oyster reef breakwaters	P20121454	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Oyster reef Breakwater	Vermilion Parish Police Jury Artificial oyster reef breakwater	P20101450	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Oyster reef	TNC artificial oyster reef breakwater	P20090622		Plats/drawings
	armoring	Broussard Bros, Inc riprap and fill along existing canal	P20110124	Permit	Plats/drawings
8. Structures					
	bulkhead	Avery Guard House bulkhead	P20031357	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Bulkhead with tiebacks	Broussard Bros bulkhead construction with tiebacks	P20111429	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Wharf/pier/boathouse	Camp and wharf on Boston Canal	P20121112	Permit	Plats/drawings
9. Oil & Gas					
	exploration	CGG Veritas Seismic Survey	P20111579	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Structure removal	Chevron O&G Structure Removal	P20090983	Permit	Plats/drawings
	Plug and abandonment	ExxonMobil P&A	P20090022	Permit	Plats/drawings

