

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Assessment

Designated Uses and Criteria for Cypress Island Coulee Wetland
(LAC 33:IX.1123) (WQ059)

Under the authority of the Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., the secretary gives notice that rulemaking procedures have been initiated to amend the Water Quality regulations, LAC 33:IX.1123 (Log #WQ059).

The proposed rule establishes Cypress Island Coulee Wetland as subsegment 060806, located west of St. Martinville. Site-specific criteria and designated uses have been established for Cypress Island Coulee Wetland based on a scientific study conducted from February 2003 to August 2004. Results of the study are summarized in a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) report entitled "St. Martinville Wetland Wastewater Assimilation Use Attainability Analysis." LAC 33:IX.1123 contains numerical criteria and designated uses of water bodies and is being revised to include Cypress Island Coulee Wetland, subsegment 060806. A UAA with supportive technical rationale has been developed that supports the implementation of a wastewater discharge and assimilation in Cypress Island Coulee Wetland. This action is required to establish site-specific criteria and designated uses for Cypress Island Coulee Wetland in the Water Quality Standards. The UAA characterized the chemical, physical, and biological factors of Cypress Island Coulee Wetland. Also included in the UAA are water quality analysis, sediment characterization, vegetation composition, hydrology, and productivity analysis. This data establishes base conditions and criteria to support water uses in the Cypress Island Coulee Wetland.

According to the regulations, a UAA is defined as a structured scientific assessment of the factors (chemical, physical, biological, and economic) affecting the attainment of designated uses in a water body. [See 40 CFR 131.3(g) and LAC 33:IX.1105.] The UAA process is described in 40 CFR 131.10 and LAC 33:IX.1109.B.3. It entails the methodical collection of data that is then scientifically analyzed and summarized and used to establish site-specific uses and criteria. The basis and rationale for this proposed rule are to establish numerical criteria for the new Cypress Island Coulee Wetland, subsegment 060806, based on the Use Attainability Analysis.

This proposed rule meets an exception listed in R.S. 30:2019(D)(2) and R.S. 49:953(G)(3); therefore, no report regarding environmental/health benefits and social/economic costs is required. This proposed rule has no known impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

A public hearing will be held on February 24, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. in the Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Conference Room C111, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on the proposed amendments. Should individuals with a disability need an accommodation in order to participate, contact Judith A. Schuerman, Ph.D., at the address given below or at (225) 219-3550. Free parking is available across the street in the Galvez parking garage when the parking ticket is validated by department personnel at the hearing.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed regulation. Persons commenting should reference this proposed regulation by WQ059. Such comments must be received no later than March 3, 2005, at 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to Judith A. Schuerman, Ph.D., Office of Environmental Assessment, Regulation Development Section, Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314 or to FAX (225) 219-3582 or by e-mail to judith.schuerman@la.gov. Copies of this proposed regulation can be purchased by contacting the DEQ Public Records Center at (225) 219-3168. Check or money order is required in advance for each copy of WQ059. This regulation is available on the Internet at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/planning/regs/index.htm>.

This proposed regulation is available for inspection at the following DEQ office locations from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.: 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; 1823 Highway 546, West Monroe, LA 71292; State Office Building, 1525 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71101; 1301 Gadwall Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615; 201 Evans Road, Building 4, Suite 420, New Orleans, LA 70123; 111 New Center Drive, Lafayette, LA 70508; 110 Baratavia Street, Lockport, LA 70374.

Wilbert F. Jordan, Jr.
Assistant Secretary

Title 33
Environmental Quality
Part IX. Water Quality
Subpart 1. Water Pollution Control

Chapter 11. Surface Water Quality Standards

§1123. Numerical Criteria and Designated Uses

A. – C.2. ...

3. Designated Uses. The following are the category definitions of designated uses that are used in Table 3 under the subheading “Designated Uses.”

- A – Primary Contact Recreation
- B – Secondary Contact Recreation
- C – Fish and Wildlife Propagation
- L – Limited Aquatic Life and Wildlife Use
- D – Drinking Water Supply
- E – Oyster Propagation
- F – Agriculture
- G – Outstanding Natural Resource Waters

Numbers in brackets, e.g. [1], refer to endnotes listed at the end of the table.

Table 3. Numerical Criteria and Designated Uses									
A-Primary Contact Recreation; B-Secondary Contact Recreation; C-Fish and Wildlife Propagation; L-Limited Aquatic Life and Wildlife Use; D-Drinking Water Supply; E-Oyster Propagation; F-Agriculture; G-Outstanding Natural Resource Waters									
Code	Stream Description	Designated Uses	Numerical Criteria						
			CL	SO ₄	DO	pH	BAC	°C	TDS
* * *									
[See Prior Text in 010101 – 050901]									
Vermillion-Teche River Basin (06)									
* * *									
[See Prior Text in 060101 – 060805]									
060806	Cypress Island Coulee Wetland— Forested wetland located in St. Martin Parish, 2 miles west of St. Martinville, 0.5 mile north of La. Hwy. 96, west of Bayou Teche and east of the Vermilion River	BC	[23]	[23]	[23]	[23]	2	[23]	[23]
* * *									
[See Prior Text in 060901 – 120806]									

ENDNOTES:

[1] – [24] ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2074(B)(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources, LR 15:738 (September 1989), amended LR 17:264 (March 1991), LR 20:431 (April 1994), LR 20:883 (August 1994), LR 21:683 (July 1995), LR 22:1130 (November 1996), LR 24:1926 (October 1998), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:2405 (December 1999), LR 27:289 (March 2001), LR 28:462 (March 2002), LR 28:1762 (August 2002), LR 29:1814, 1817 (September 2003), LR 30:1474 (July 2004), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, LR 30:2468 (November 2004), LR 31:**.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**LOG #: WQ059

Person

Preparing

Statement: Kimberly M. Hamilton-DavisDept.: Environmental QualityPhone: (225) 219-3588Office: Environmental AssessmentReturn P.O. Box 4314

Rule

Address: Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314

Title:

Designated Uses and Criteria for
Cypress Island Coulee Wetland,
Subsegment 060806
(LAC 33:IX.1123.Table 3)

Date Rule

Takes Effect: upon promulgation**SUMMARY**

(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

This proposed rule is expected to have no significant effect on state or local governmental expenditures.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

No significant effect on state or local governmental revenue collections is anticipated.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

No significant costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons or non-governmental groups are anticipated.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

No significant effect on competition or employment is anticipated.

Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Wilbert F. Jordan, Jr., Assistant Secretary
Typed Name and Title of Agency Head
or Designee

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

Date of Signature

LFO 7/1/94

Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is requested in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule is to establish Cypress Island Coulee Wetland as subsegment 060806 located west of St. Martinville. Site-specific criteria and designated uses have been established for Cypress Island Coulee Wetland based on a scientific study conducted from February 2003 to August 2004. Results of the study are summarized in a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) report entitled "St. Martinville Wetland Wastewater Assimilation Use Attainability Analysis."

- B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

LAC 33:IX.1123 contains numerical criteria and designated uses of water bodies, and will be revised to include Cypress Island Coulee Wetland, subsegment 060806. A UAA with supportive technical rationale has been developed that supports the implementation of a wastewater discharge and assimilation project in Cypress Island Coulee Wetland. This action is required to establish site-specific criteria and designated uses for Cypress Island Coulee Wetland in the Water Quality Standards.

- C. Compliance with Act II of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The proposed rule will not result in any increase in the expenditure of funds by the state.

2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

This question is not applicable.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

No significant increase or decrease in costs to implement this rule is anticipated.

COSTS	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0
OPERATING EXPENSES	0	0	0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	0	0
OTHER CHARGES	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	0	0	0
POSITIONS (#)	0	0	0

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

This is not applicable.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

This is not applicable.

SOURCE	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
STATE GENERAL FUND	0	0	0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	0	0	0
DEDICATED	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0
OTHER (Specify)	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

The department currently has sufficient funds to implement the amendment.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

No significant impact is anticipated on local governments, including adjustments in workload or paperwork requirements.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

No significant effect on any sources of funding of local governmental units is anticipated to result from the implementation of the proposed rule.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

No significant increase or decrease in revenues is anticipated.

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
STATE GENERAL FUND	0	0	0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	0	0	0
RESTRICTED FUNDS*	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0
LOCAL FUNDS	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

This is not applicable.

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

No significant effect on directly affected persons or non-governmental groups is anticipated.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

No significant impact on receipts and/or income is anticipated.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

No significant impact is anticipated on competition or employment in the public or private sector.