

**LOUISIANA NRCS STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WETLANDS RESEARCH CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM**

**LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA**

**APRIL 10, 2013**

**AGENDA**

**9:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks.....Britt Paul  
NRCS, Acting State Conservationist**

**9:45 a.m. Locally Led-Priority Resource Concerns.....Scott Edwards  
NRCS, State Resource Conservationist**

*Each parish holds one or more public forum locally led meetings. Public forums may also include producer meetings / field days or any other opportunity to gather local input on local resource concerns. Local resource concerns that are identified at these meetings are documented by the District Conservationist and entered into a state database.*

*Following the public meetings, a list of all identified resource concerns within each Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is presented to the parish Local Work Group (LWG) for collaboration. After hearing the recommendations and comments of the LWG, the SWCD Board prioritizes the local resource concerns identified within the district.*

*The complete list of all resource concerns and the report of statewide SWCD prioritization is then presented to the State Technical Committee (STC) for state prioritization. Each represented group of the STC votes for the priority resources concerns for Louisiana.*

**10:15 a.m. NRCS Program Update.....Steve Cruse  
NRCS, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs**

*Funding levels for all farm bill programs will be discussed including special initiatives SPCC, GoMI, NWQI, MRBI and Working Lands for Wildlife.*

**10:30 a.m. USFWS Maps of ESA Listed and Candidates Species.....Andy Dolan  
USFWS, State Private Lands Coordinator**

*The USFWS has recently completed shapefiles on aerial imagery for the Endangered Species Act (Federally) listed species and candidate species found in the NRCS Section 7 Programmatic Consultation. These maps show areas known to be important as habitat for these species. The USFWS had previously provided similar maps for a listed species (the LA black bear) and these maps became important for planning and implementing a science-based protocol to aid in recovery efforts using Farm Bill Conservation Programs. These new maps will allow NRCS planners to use updated information for more comprehensive and effective planning for the remaining listed and candidate species.*

**11:00 a.m. Partner Updates of New Activities.....Group**

*Each participant will be given the opportunity to provide updates on recent activities or upcoming events.*

**11:45 a.m. Tri State WRP Restoration Decision Memo.....Steve Cruse  
NRCS, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs**

*A tri state decision memo for the Wetland Reserve Program will be discussed. This memo was developed to address changes in the recently revised 612 Tree and Shrub Establishment Conservation Practice Standard.*

**12:15 p.m. General Topics and Closing Comments.....Britt Paul  
NRCS, Acting State Conservationist**

**12:30 p.m. Adjourn**