

Creates the Office of Hurricane Protection and Coastal Restoration in the Office of the Governor. Consolidates functions relative to hurricane flood protection (formerly in the Dept. of Transportation and Development, office of public works, hurricane flood protection, and intermodal transportation) and coastal restoration (formerly in the Dept. of Natural Resources, office of coastal restoration and management) under the authority of that new office. Provides relative to the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of that office. Provides for the inter-relations between the governor's executive assistant for coastal activities, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Protection, Restoration, and Conservation, and the Office of Hurricane Protection and Coastal Restoration.

Defines "integrated coastal protection" as plans, projects, policies, and programs intended to provide hurricane protection or coastal conservation or restoration, and shall include but not be limited to coastal restoration; coastal protection; infrastructure; storm damage reduction; flood control; water resources development; erosion control measures; marsh management; diversions; saltwater intrusion prevention; wetlands and central wetlands conservation, enhancement, and restoration; barrier island and shoreline stabilization and preservation; coastal passes stabilization and restoration; mitigation; storm surge reduction; or beneficial use projects.

Authorizes the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with the La. universities or consortia of said universities, to provide the science and technology to enhance integrated coastal protection programs, projects, and activities.

Authorizes the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to enter into agreements with the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries for the utilization of department lands to satisfy wetlands mitigation requirements for state agencies or levee districts.

Specifies that the Dept. of Natural Resources, office of coastal management, shall receive funds allocated in the annual plan for coastal zone management.

Specifies that the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration has the oversight over the administration of all matters related to the study, planning, engineering, design, construction, extension, improvement, repair, and regulations of integrated coastal protection.

Provides that the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration will utilize the services of the Dept. of Natural Resources for accounting and budgetary control, procurement, and contractual management, data processing, management and program analysis, personnel management, and grants management.

Provides for the transfer of employees, movable property, obligation and responsibilities, legal responsibilities, etc. from the plans, projects, policies, and programs formerly in DOTD and DNR to the new Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

Requires that when the chairman of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority or the executive director of the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration have been delegated signing authority by the CPRA, if they designate a person to sign on their behalf, such designation must be by authentic act.

Provides that the exemption from the Public Records Act that is applicable to the Office of the Governor shall not be applicable to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority or the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration.

Authorizes the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration to enter into contracts for consulting and professional services contracts. Authorizes the office to enter into contracts for engineering and construction services or agreements with the federal government, political subdivisions, and other public and private entities for administration, implementation, or enforcement of integrated coastal protection projects at the direction of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

Allows the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to enter into certain cooperative endeavor agreements with the authority or a levee district.

Effective upon signature of governor (July 10, 2009).

(Amends R.S. 36:4(Z), 351(C)(1), 358(B), 501(B) and (C)(1), 502(A) and (B), and 508.3(A), (B), (C), (F), and (G), R.S. 38:81, 100(intro. para.), 101(A) and (B), 102, 103(A) and (B), 106(A)(1) and (2)(intro. para.) and (B), 107(A), 108, and 109, R.S. 49:214.1 and 214.2, R.S. 56:421(B)(intro. para.) and (1), (C), and (E)(4), 424(H), 425(E), 427.1(C), 432.1(A), (B)(intro. para.) and (1)(a), (2), (3), and (4), (C)(intro. para.) and (1), (D)(1), and 432.2; Adds R.S. 35:410, R.S. 49:214.3.1, 214.4.1 and 214.4.2, 214.5.1-214.5.8, 214.6.1-214.6.10 and R.S. 56:421(B)(13); Repeals R.S. 36:4(J), Chapter 3-A of Title 38 of the L.R.S. of 1950, comprised of R.S. 38:241-251, and Subpart A of Part II of Chapter 2 of Title 49 of the L.R.S. of 1950, comprised of R.S. 49:213.1-213.12, and 214.3-214.16)