



Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Louisiana Interchurch Conference and Coalition Invite Moral Responsibility and Cooperation on Coastal Restoration

(New Orleans 4/4/05) Members of Louisiana's Interchurch Conference (LIC) and the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) held a news conference Monday at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans to announce the passage of a resolution launching the Ezekiel 34 Initiative to support current and future efforts to fund and implement coastal restoration and water quality efforts. Several speakers took the podium to discuss the resolution and to remind citizens that for a wetlands and water restoration plan to be truly effective from a stewardship standpoint, the active engagement of the affected communities and particularly the communities of faith is a necessity.

The LIC resolution was unanimously passed by all 15 member congregations of the Louisiana Interchurch Conference and states that stewardship of our natural resources is a fundamental moral responsibility. The resolution urges Louisiana citizens to learn about wetlands and water restoration efforts and to advocate for their funding and implementation. Coalition Executive Director Mark Davis said, "At the end of the day, the future of our coast will depend more on the strength of our commitment to being good stewards than on technical issues of science or engineering. As

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important as our technical abilities are they only help us understand what we can do, it is our values that tell us what we must do.”

Other participants in the news conference included Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans); Bishop Thomas Hoyt (President National Council of Churches of Christ, Bishop Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Fourth Episcopal District); Bishop Michael Jarrell (Diocese of Lafayette, President LIC); Rev. Dana Krutz (Executive Director LIC); Fr. Roch Naquin (Resident Isle De Jean Charles Terrebonne Parish); Robert Gorman (Chair, LIC Commission on Stewardship of the Environment.)

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