

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC MEETING SERIES

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Sea Grant Registry

ON GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN AND PRIORITY OF USES

AUGUST 16 - 19, 1976

Sponsored by

Mississippi - Alabama Sea Grant Consortium



MISSISSIPPI MARINE RESOURCES COUNCIL

PROCEEDINGS OF MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC MEETING SERIES
ON GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN
AND PRIORITY OF USES

August 16, 1976	Gulfport
August 17, 1976	Bay St. Louis
August 18, 1976	Pascagoula
August 19, 1976	Biloxi

Sponsored for the
Mississippi Marine Resources Council
by the
Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium

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MISSISSIPPI COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC MEETING SERIES ON
GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN AND
PRIORITY OF USES

AGENDA

- I. Opening Remarks
 - A. Review of Mississippi Marine Resources Council
 - B. Review of Coastal Zone Management
- II. Criteria for Designating Geographic Areas of Particular Concern
- III. Geographic Areas of Statewide Concern
- IV. Geographic Areas of Local Concern
- V. Questions and Answers Concerning Geographic Areas of Particular Concern
- COFFEE BREAK (15 minutes)
- VI. Nominations of Geographic Areas of Particular Concern
- VII. Priority of Uses Matrix
- VIII. Statements from Participants
 - A. Prepared Statements
 - B. General Statements
- IX. General Questions

REVIEW OF THE MISSISSIPPI MARINE RESOURCES COUNCIL

Gulfport--Dr. Robert A. Mitchell; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Bay St. Louis--Mr. Norton Haas; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Pascagoula--Mr. George Pitalo; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Biloxi--Ms. Dianne Jones; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council

Good evening and thank you for attending this meeting. I am a member of the Mississippi Marine Resources Council. I was appointed by the Governor and I serve without compensation.

Your presence tonight at this combination public presentation and public workshop has a two-fold benefit. It will benefit both you and us.

First, Mississippi's Coastal Zone Management Program is your program. It is being designed to benefit you and your children in much the same manner as the Declaration signed 200 years ago last month benefitted the first citizen of the new nation and their children. Although not as far reaching as that document was to become, Mississippi's coastal program is being designed to insure that there will be a future here on the Coast which everyone can enjoy. Among its goals are coordinated development of coastal resources as well as the opportunity for public access to an environmentally acceptable Coast. To achieve these goals, you need to know more about your program.

The second benefit from your presence at this workshop meeting will be derived by us. Since this is your program, we need to have your participation in developing it. We need to know your concerns, your desires, your needs. We can't guess what they are. You have to tell us. Your participation is needed to assure that the final coastal program for Mississippi will truly reflect your concerns.

The first series of public meetings on the CZM program was held this past winter on the topic of boundaries. We received a large number of comments regarding the area to be included in the coastal zone. Those comments are being evaluated and

will be of considerable assistance in drafting the coastal program to be presented at a later date in formal public hearings.

Tonight we are going to ask for your participation in nominating areas of particular concern--those geographic areas within the coastal zone which will require special attention under the program. After we have given you a little background on the Mississippi Marine Resources Council and the Coastal Zone Management Program, we will explain in greater detail what areas of particular concern are, how they will be designated and how you can have a part in that designation. Then we will take a coffee break, roll up our sleeves and get down to work. We will ask you to nominate those specific areas you feel should be given this designation. We will also ask you to help us in developing guidelines for priorities to be assigned for use of those areas. You don't have to turn your work in tonight if you would rather take it home with you and give more thought to it. We will ask that you get this material back to us by September 1 in order to be included in the transcript of these proceedings.

Now, before we go any further, let me tell you a little about what is contained in the information packets you received as you came in.

---This booklet, "Mississippi's Coastal Area: Its Future," discusses the purpose of Coastal Zone Management in Mississippi.

---The yellow brochure describes the program at the federal level.

---The green one tells about the Mississippi Marine Resources Council.

---The blue one goes into more detail about this state's CZM program.

---The pink one discusses the subject of boundaries for the coastal zone.

---Then we have copies of the various pieces of legislation under which this Council functions. There is the Council's enabling act, Chapter 15 of the Mississippi Code.

---There is the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act, a state law passed in 1973 to protect the water bottoms and marsh lands of the coastal area.

---And there is the CZM Act itself, created by Congress in 1972.

---We have also enclosed a list of the members who make up the Marine Resources Council.

---The other three items contained in your packets will be discussed and, we hope, used by all of you during the workshop portion of this meeting.

Let me introduce some of the other people who will be taking part in the program. Jerry Mitchell, Marine Programs Manager for the council, is in charge of the CZM development program. He will be talking to you in a few minutes. Other staff members who will be on hand to assist you during the workshop are Mrs. Sylvia Minor, Bill Lucas, Gary Cuevas, Richard Glaczier, all of the CZM staff; Dr. Cornell Ladner, staff scientist; and Joe Gill, Larry Lewis and Steve DeLappe of the Wetlands staff.

Now I am going to give you some background information to bring you up to date, then Mr. Mitchell will get down to the main topics of the meeting.

REVIEW OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Gulfport--Dr. Robert A. Mitchell; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Bay St. Louis--Mr. Norton Haas; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Pascagoula--Mr. George Pitalo; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council
Biloxi--Ms. Dianne Jones; Member, Mississippi Marine Resources Council

The Coastal Zone Management Act was adopted by Congress in 1972 to assist the coastal states in meeting the problems of growth along their shorelines. The demands being made for use of resources on the Mississippi Coast must be coordinated to insure the maximum utilization of those resources while still preserving our coastal heritage for future generations.

One important point I want to make before I go any further is that the Coastal Program itself will not be a federal program. It will be a Mississippi program, developed and implemented by Mississippians for Mississippians.

What the Coastal Zone Management Act does is to provide the money to develop and implement the program. Federal funding amounts to two-thirds of the cost and the remaining one-third is provided by the state.

But, unlike many other federally-assisted programs, coastal zone management does not have the tight strings attached to govern how we write the program and how we put it into practice.

One very unusual part of the CZM Act is that it actually turns the tables on the Federal Government to a certain degree. The Act contains a provision that once the local program is accepted and implemented, any activities within the coastal zone of Mississippi which are conducted or supported by federal agencies shall be consistent with the state's program to the maximum extent possible.

Development of the program is being coordinated with the public, as in this meeting tonight, and with other agencies from the local to the national level. All interested parties are being asked to comment on the program and its various parts

as they are developed. They are being asked to make suggestions on how the program could be altered to better meet their needs--your needs.

One of the first steps taken to begin developing this coastal program was to award contracts with various organizations, including universities, technical agencies and planning commissions. These contracts are providing our staff with a vast amount of necessary data to be used in writing the program. For example, one contract tells us the limits of tidal influence in coastal rivers; another tells us the quality of the air in specific locations along the Coast; another spells out the suitability of soils along the Coast for various types of land use, such as farming, road construction and industrial development.

As this information is compiled, our staff is evaluating it and using it to develop the coastal program. Additional contracts are being awarded to assist in developing individual parts of the program, such as the type of organizational structure needed to implement the program.

The first public meetings were held on the subject of boundaries. The comments and suggestions received at those meetings are still being evaluated along with data obtained through earlier contracts and will be considered in developing that portion of the program.

The comments received tonight and at other meetings in this series, along with those submitted by mail, will be used in designating the geographic areas toward which the major emphasis of the program will be directed. This will be discussed in a few minutes.

Broad guidelines will later be assigned as to the priorities for various land and water uses within these areas of concern.

As development of the coastal program proceeds, the council will conduct another series of public meetings on the topics of legal authorities and organizational structure. When the program has been put together in its preliminary draft form,

a formal public hearing will be conducted. The public will be allowed time in advance to examine the program draft and full opportunity at the hearing to make comments regarding the program. These will be considered and a revised draft will ultimately be submitted to the Governor, the Legislature and the Office of Coastal Zone Management for its approval.

There have been some comments in the past to the effect that this is just another form of big government with which the public has to contend. One possible result of this coastal program will be a "one-stop" permitting system. This would enable making application for a project permit to only one agency rather than the several applications which must be made under present regulations.

Now I would like to introduce Jerry Mitchell who will discuss in greater detail the geographic areas of particular concern, what they are, what their designation will mean and how they will be designated. Mr. Mitchell is the Marine Programs Manager for the Mississippi Marine Resources Council.

CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATING GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

Mr. Jerry Mitchell

The intent of the U.S. Congress in passing the Coastal Zone Management Act in 1972, using the words of the act, was "... to preserve, protect, develop and, where possible, to restore or enhance the resources of the nation's coastal zone for this and succeeding generations."

Land, itself, is a resource. But, at the same time, it is a commodity. It can be owned, bought and sold at will.

The uses we make of our resources can have a great impact on other resources. Our resources are also subject to depletion. By making the proper use of our resources, we can assure the maximum use of those resources "for this and succeeding generations."

The designation of an area as being of particular concern specifies that that area has certain resources which must first be identified and then, if necessary, be either preserved, protected, developed, or restored.

Before we can set about designating these areas of concern, we first must have certain criteria by which they can be identified.

The Gulf Regional Planning Commission developed the geographical area of concern criteria under contract with the Mississippi Research and Development Center. Gulf Regional compiled a list of 37 categories of potential areas of particular concern. These were divided into three major groups based on physical and geographical factors, geological factors, and social and economic factors. These are listed in the table contained in your packets.

Physiographic Areas of Particular Concern

Major Element - Hydrology

Sub-element - Coastal Wetlands

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 27, Coastal Wetlands Protection Law.

Purpose - It is declared that coastal wetlands within the state of Mississippi have been lost or despoiled by unregulated dredging, dumping, filling & like activities & that the remaining wetlands of this state are in jeopardy of being lost or despoiled by these activities, that such loss or despoilation will adversely affect, if not entirely eliminate, the value of such wetlands as sources of nutrients to finfish, crustacans & shell fish of significant economic value & that such loss or despoilation will destroy such wetlands as habitats for plants & animals or significant economic value & will substantially reduce marine commerce, recreation & aesthetic enjoyments & that such loss or despoilation will in most cases, disturb the natural ability of tidal wetlands to reduce flood damage & adversely affect the public health & welfare, that such loss or despoilation will substantially reduce the capacity of such wetlands to absorb salt & certain types of pollution & will thus result in the increased silting & pollution of channels & harbor areas to the detriment of free navigation & public health.

Definition - "Coastal Wetlands" means all publicly owned lands subject to the ebb & flow of the tide & which are below the watermark of ordinary high tide & all publicly owned accretions above the watermark of ordinary high tide.

"Coastal Wetlands" shall be interpreted to include all water bottoms from the watermark of ordinary high tide & extending to the seaward boundary of the state of Mississippi.

The term "Coastal Wetlands" shall be interpreted to include the flora & fauna on the wetlands and in the wetlands.

Criteria - Coastal wetlands in Mississippi have been delineated by the Mississippi Marine Resources Council

Sub-element - Estuary

Applicable Regulation - Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, U. S.

Purpose - Demands upon water resources of the Gulf Coast are rapidly producing damaging alterations in estuarine areas. Increased need for fresh water, much of it for human consumption, is hastening construction of dams and diversions and results in reduced flows to Gulf estuaries. Exploitation of mineral resources, provisions for water-borne commerce, and recreational facilities are altering circulation and interchange patterns in the estuaries by channel construction and spoil placement. Flood control and hurricane protection structures modify existing conditions. The effects of these modifications upon the estuarine biota are noticeable.

Definition - "Estuary" means that part of a river or stream or other body of water having unimpaired connection with the open sea, where the sea water is measurably diluted with fresh water derived from land drainage.

Sub-element - Estuarine Sanctuary

Applicable Regulation - Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, U. S.

Purpose - To provide scientists and students the opportunity to examine over a period of time the ecological relationship within the area.

Definition - "Estuarine Sanctuary" means a research area which may include any part of all of an estuary, adjoining, transitional areas and adjacent uplands, constituting to the extent feasible a natural unit.

Sub-element - Flood Hazard Area

Applicable Regulation - National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, U. S.

Purpose - Was enacted as a means of making flood insurance, which was previously

unavailable from the private insurance industry, available at reasonable rates through a joint government-industry program, within communities that meet eligibility requirements by adopting certain flood plain management regulations, consistent with federal criteria, to reduce or avoid flooding in connection with future construction in their flood plains.

Definition - Land within a community in the flood plain, which is subject to a one per-cent chance of flooding annually.

Criteria - Flood Hazard areas have been delineated by the Federal Insurance Administration.

Sub-element - Flood Plains

Applicable Regulation - National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, U. S.

Purpose - (Same as above.)

Definition - "Flood Plain" or Flood-Prone Area" means any normally dry land area that is susceptible to being inundated by water from any source.

"Flood Plain Area Having Special Flood Hazards" means that maximum area of flood plain that, on the average, is likely to be flooded once every 100 years (i.e., that has a one per-cent chance of flood occurrence in any given year).

Sub-element - Floodways

Applicable Regulation - National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, U. S.

Purpose - Floodways serve as the main channel for the passage of flood waters. Development within the floodway may increase the potential of flood damage & unreasonably endanger life & property.

Definition - "Floodway" means the channel of a river or other watercourse & the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the 100 year flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot at any point.

Sub-element - Selected Freshwater Swamps & Marshes

Purpose - Because of the ecological significance of these areas, their value for hydrologic purposes & their intrinsic unsuitability for intensive development, they should be preserved in essentially their natural state. The state & Federal governments presently have only limited authority to ensure this, except in wildlife refuges, state & national parks, state wilderness areas subject to flowage easements, or other areas in public ownership. The majority of fresh water swamps & marshes in the coastal zone are in private ownership with very few effective controls on their use. Development in swamp & marsh areas has a high initial cost & a high continuing cost that is often borne by government. Such problems as periodic flooding, poor stability of roads & streets, creation of health hazards, & subsequent expenditures of tax money for corrective measures are often encountered in such areas. Development in fresh water swamps & marshes, therefore, is likely to become an unnecessary tax burden.

Definition - These are areas having a high water table, predominantly internal drainage, & supporting extensive stands of water-tolerant vegetation. Such areas are unsuitable for intensive land uses without major alteration. They are usually of substantial ecological importance & serve as natural retaining mechanisms for surface water storage. Some swamps & marshes may also function as aquifer recharge areas.

Sub-element - Aquifer

Applicable Regulation - Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, U. S.

Purpose - Because of these three major functions - as a reservoir, as a filter, & as part of the hydrologic cycle, aquifers are important public resources.

(1) Aquifers are natural reservoirs for groundwater used for drinking and irrigation.

(2) Aquifers are natural filters for groundwater used for drinking and related purposes.

(3) Aquifers are interconnected with surface water systems in lakes, streams, and wetlands. Some aquifers depend for part or all of their recharge upon seepage from lakes & streams. Likewise, some streams and ponds, & many wetlands, depend upon flow from aquifer-fed springs or seeps for supplementary water during dry periods.

Definition - A body of rock or soil that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to conduct groundwater & to yield economically significant quantities of ground-water to wells and springs.

Criteria - It is necessary to know the type of aquifer & the particular hazards to it, the boundaries of the primary recharge area, and the amount and rate of infiltration necessary to maintain its water yield. Much of the technical information may already be available through the work of the soil conservation service or the U. S. Geological Survey.

Sub-element - Aquifer

Applicable regulation - Mississippi Code fo 1972, Title 51, Chapter 3, Surface Waters-Regulation and Control.

Purpose - The general welfare of the people of the state of Mississippi requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable, that the waste or unreasonable use, or unreasonable method of use, of water be prevented, that the conservation of such water be exercised with the view to the reasonable & beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people, and that the public & private funds for the promotion & expansion of the beneficial use of water resources shall be invested to the end that the best interests and welfare of the people are served.

Definition - Water occurring in any watercourse, lake, or other natural water body of the state is hereby declared to be among the basic resources of this state and subject to appropriation in accordance with the provisions of this chapter; & the control

& development & use of water for all beneficial purposes shall be in the state, which, in the exercise of its police powers, shall take such measures as shall effectuate full utilization & protection of the water resources of Mississippi.

Criteria - As delineated by the Board of Water Commissioners.

Sub-element - Watersheds of Municipal Water Supplies

Purpose - The quality of water which is used for human consumption is a major concern to towns everywhere. Improper siting of facilities & activities in the watershed areas of town or city supply ponds or rivers can contaminate water systems & threaten the health of hundreds of people. For this reason the watershed area of each water supply source should be outlined.

Criteria - Water supply sources & locations of intakes can possibly be obtained from town officials. Watershed boundaries may then be determined by following drainage patterns & ridgelines on U. S. Geological Survey 7.5 & 15 minute topographic maps. The watershed boundary therefore generally encloses all lands which drains into water supplies.

Sub-element - Water Quality Classifications

Applicable Regulation - State of Mississippi Water Quality Criteria for Intrastate, Interstate & Coastal Waters (Adopted November 12, 1974)

Purpose - To protect existing water quality or to upgrade or enhance water quality within the state of Mississippi.

Definition - Public water supply: Water in this classification is for use as a source of raw water supply for drinking & food processing purposes. The water treatment process shall be approved by the Mississippi State Board of Health. The raw water supply will be such that after approved treatment process it will meet the Public Health Service drinking water standards (latest edition).

Shellfish Harvesting Areas: Water classified for this use are for propagation & harvesting shellfish for sale or use as a food product. These waters will meet the requirements set forth in the latest edition of the National Shellfish Growing Areas, as published by the U. S. Public Health Service.

Recreation: Waters in this classification are to be used for recreational purposes, including such water contact activities as swimming & water skiing. The waters shall also be suitable for use for which waters of lower quality will be satisfactory.

Fish & Wildlife: Waters in this classification are intended for fishing & for propagation of fish, aquatic life, & wildlife.

Criteria - Standards are established by the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission.

Sub-element - Natural Rivers: Wild

Applicable Regulation - Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, U. S. (Mississippi Natural Streams Act, proposed at regular session 1976)

Purpose - That certain selected rivers of the nation which with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, & that they & their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit & enjoyment of present & future generations.

Definition - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments & generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive & waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

Criteria - A wild, scenic or recreational river area eligible to be included in the system is a free-flowing stream & the related adjacent land area. Every wild, scenic or recreational river in its free-flowing condition, or upon restoration to this condition, shall be considered eligible for inclusion in the national wild & scenic

rivers system &, if included, shall be classified, designated & administered as either wild, scenic or recreational.

Sub-element - Natural Rivers: Scenic

Applicable Regulation - (same as above)

Purpose - (same as above)

Definition - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive & shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

Criteria - (same as above)

Sub-element - Natural Rivers: Recreational

Applicable Regulation - (same as above)

Purpose - (same as above)

Definition - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, & that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Criteria - (same as above)

Major Element - Pedology

Sub-element - Excessive Erosion Areas

Purpose - The principle of soil loss prediction gives the conservationist and landowner or operator a means for precisely evaluating the effectiveness of conservation treatments on the land.

Definition - Areas where geological & soil conditions are such that there is substantial possibility of excessive erosion or seismic activity, as identified by the State Geologist & Soil Conservation Service.

Criteria - It is possible to make reasonable estimates of erosion losses under many conditions.

The Soil Loss Prediction for Mississippi manual presents principals of soil loss prediction & contains information to be used.

Sub-element - A.) Coastal Inlet Lands

Purpose - The particular location of the inlet channel is a temporary one, as such channels are subject to extensive migration. Coastal inlet lands are extremely dynamic land areas that are highly susceptible to becoming completely displaced by water.

Definition - Defined as the natural zone of migration of coastal inlets, such a zone covers all areas that are expected to be eroded by future inlets & inlet migration.

Criteria - As identified by the State Geologist based on scientific determinations using the best available studies, including relevant historical photography & survey maps.

Sub-element - B.) Ocean Erodible Areas

Purpose - Ocean erodible areas are extremely dynamic lands highly susceptible to becoming completely displaced by water.

Definition - Defined as the area bounded by mean high water & a recession line within which area excessive erosion has a high probability of occurring.

Criteria - Such a recession line shall be located by the State Geologist in incremental steps of 25, 50 and 100 years.

Sub-element - C.) Estuarine & Sound & River Erodible Areas

Purpose - The estuarine & sound & river erodible areas are natural hazard areas especially vulnerable to erosion. Development within this type area of environmental concern is subjected to the damaging process of erosion unless special development standards and preventive measures are employed.

Definition - Defined as the land area extending from the mainland-water interface landward to a prediction line indicating the probably shoreline location 100 years hence.

Criteria - As identified by the State Geologist.

Major Element - Geology

Sub-element - Unique Geological Formations

Purpose - Unique geological areas provide surface or near surface exposures of unique geologic formations or processes of the coastal area. They are important educational, scientific, or scenic resources that would be jeopardized by uncontrolled or incompatible development.

Definition - These places contain surface or near surface formations that are either themselves unique or are especially unusual or notable examples of geological formations or processes in the coastal area.

Criteria - Areas containing unique geological formations will be identified by the State Geologist.

Sub-element - Significant Beaches

Purpose - Sand deposits of ocean beaches & shorelines represent a dynamic zone which does not afford long term protection for development. The nature of tidal action & the force of storms is such that they cause the beach areas to constantly shift. Littoral drift is a natural phenomenon whereby sand is removed from beaches by wave action & littoral currents & is deposited upon a different stretch of the beach. The action also shifts the line of high tide & low tide. Ocean beaches & shorelines are valuable for public & private recreation & are located within a natural hazard area. Development within this dynamic zone may result in loss of property & possible loss of life.

Definition - These are defined as land areas without vegetation covering, consisting of unconsolidated soil material that extends landward from the mean low tide to a point where any one or combination of the following occur: (1) vegetation or (2) a distinct change in predominant soil particle size or (3) a change in slope or elevation

which alters the physiographic land form, & this constitutes the transition into dunes or wetlands.

Criteria - In addition to being extremely vulnerable to physical changes, beaches offer obvious attractions for recreation. All sand beach areas do not offer similar values for recreation. The size of a given beach, quality of scenery viewed from the beach, ownership & accessibility all affect its direct value as a recreation resource.

Sub-element - Spoil Islands

Purpose - Such areas often become covered with mangroves & other salt-tolerant vegetation & serve as bird resting & feeding areas. They may also serve as water-oriented recreation areas.

Definition - These are artificial islands created with material dredged from state-owned lands to create or deepen channels.

Criteria - Being developed under the Corps of Engineers' dredged material research program.

Major Element - Minerology

Sub-element - Minerals

Purpose - In considering the value of minerals it should be borne in mind that the value of certain minerals can change very drastically & very suddenly. New technology can create a tremendous market for materials which were otherwise worthless. Technological advances can also increase the efficiency of extracting low grade ores in cases where mining would not otherwise be economically feasible. Therefore, the pattern of areas which offer valuable minerals can change quickly as market conditions & technology change.

Definition - Mineral resources are considered to be areas where the deposit is of sufficient size or significance to be of more than just local importance, where the

mineral is apt to be exploited in the near future and where mining or excavation operations would cause disruption of land use of activities at the site.

Criteria - Based on market value and demand.

Biologic Areas of Particular Concern

Major Element - Habitats of Major Fisheries

Sub-element - Shellfish

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 15, Seafood.

Purpose - The public policy of this state shall be to recognize the need for a concerted effort to work toward the protection, propagation and conservation of its seafood and aquatic life in connection with the revitalization of the seafood industry of the state of Mississippi.

Definition - 1) "Natural reefs" shall be defined as any bottom of one or more acres on which oysters grow naturally, or have grown naturally, in a quantity sufficient to warrant commercial fishing.

2) "Tonging reefs" are defined as any bottom of one or more acres on which oysters grow naturally, and where they have been taken by the use of hand tongs in commercial quantities for a period to ten years next preceding the time at which such bottoms may come up for determination by the Mississippi Marine Conservation Commission.

Criteria - As designated by the Mississippi Marine Conservation Commission.

Sub-element - Saltwater Fish

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 15, Seafood

Purpose - The legislature hereby finds and declares: The fish indigenous to the state constitutes a vital segment of the natural resources available in Mississippi, and that the economic progress of Mississippi depends in large measure upon the development and use of the natural resources of the state.

Definition - Freshwater fish are those regulated by the Mississippi State Game & Fish Commission. (not those regulated by Mississippi Marine Conservation Commission or the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory.)

Criteria - As designated by the Mississippi State Game and Fish Commission.

Major Element - Wildlife Habitats

Sub-element - Game & Fish Management Areas

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 3, Fisheries and Wildlife Research

Purpose - It has been and continues to be the public policy of this state to preserve and insure for all times adequate habitats for wildlife. Such lands are of value to the citizens of the state as sources of recreation & solitude, as reminders of our natural & cultural heritage, as sources of beauty & aesthetic pleasure & as locations where natural processes of production may be maintained.

Definition - "Game & fish management areas" are those lands purchased or leased by the Mississippi Game & Fish Commission for the purpose of game & fish management projects or game & fish hunting & fishing refuges.

Criteria - As designated by the Mississippi State Game and Fish Commission.

Sub-element - Wildlife refuges

Applicable Regulation - (same as above)

Purpose - (same as above)

Definition - "Wildlife refuges" are those lands purchased or leased by the Mississippi Game & Fish Commission for the purpose of game and fish management projects, wherein no hunting is allowed.

Criteria - As designated by the Mississippi State Game and Fish Commission.

Sub-element - Areas That Sustain Remnant Species

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 5, Fish, Game & Bird Protection Refuges

Purpose - It is the policy of the state to manage certain nongame wildlife for human enjoyment, for scientific purposes, & to insure their perpetuation as members of ecosystems.

The continued survival of certain animals in the coastal area that are now rare or endangered cannot be assured under the relatively few areas providing necessary habitat conditions or protected from development or land uses that might alter these conditions.

Definition - These are areas where species or sub-species of wildlife indigenous to this state which may be found to be endangered within the state should be accorded protection in order to maintain and to the extent possible enhance their numbers.

Criteria - As designated by the State Game & Fish Commission.

Major Element - Significant Flora

Sub-element - Champion Big Trees

Applicable Regulation - "Champion Big Tree Listing" of the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Purpose - The purpose of the big tree program is to encourage the protection of the largest trees of various species now growing in Mississippi against unnecessary destruction or damage by the owners or the general public.

Definition - Champion big trees are trees that have the largest combined total points on the basis of girth, height, and crown spread by species.

Criteria - Champion big trees are determined on the basis of points awarded in the following manner:

- A. One (1) point for each inch in circumference at a point $4\frac{1}{2}$ above the ground.

B. One (1) point for each foot in height (measured to the nearest foot.

C. One-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) point for each foot in average crown spread.

Mississippi champion big trees which score total points in excess of those currently listed in the American Forestry Association's Registry of Big Trees in the United States are forwarded to the AFA for consideration by the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Sub-element - Other Trees

Applicable Regulation - Society of Trees, Ocean Springs, Mississippi

Purpose - (1) To preserve trees of all species which possess a living association with historic events of the area;

(2) To conserve & protect trees & groups of trees which by their existence enhance the aesthetic & environmental values of the area;

(3) To promote the culture, distribution & appreciation of trees;

(4) To promote interest in the conservation & preservation of trees.

Definition - These are trees contained in Official and Permanent Registry of the Society of Trees maintained in the Archives of the Garden Club of Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

Criteria - As delineated by the Society of Trees. Establishing agency of the society is the Ocean Springs Garden Club, Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

Applicable Regulation - Live Oak Society, New Orleans, Louisiana

Purpose - To promote the culture, distribution, and appreciation of the live oak.

Definition - Live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*).

Criteria - Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) one hundred years old or older.

Sub-element - Unique Flora

Purpose - Unique flora provides a valuable natural, educational, and scientific resource. However, its existence cannot be assured unless the relatively few

areas in existence are protected from destruction by development or non-conforming land uses.

Definition - These are areas that support native plants and provide habitat conditions conducive to the survival of existing populations of unique, rare, and endangered species within the coastal zone.

Criteria - Areas primarily determined by natural landmark studies either conducted by universities or state and Federal service personnel.

Socio-Economic Areas of Particular Concern

Major Element - Historic Preservation

Sub-element - Historical & Archaeological Sites

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 39, Chapter 7, Antiquities.

Purpose - It is hereby declared to be the public policy & in the public interest of the state of Mississippi to locate, protect & preserve all sites, objects, buildings, shipwrecks, & locations of historical, archeological, educational or a scientific interest.

Definition - Includes, but not limited to, prehistoric & historical American Indian or aboriginal campsites, dwellings, and habitation sites, archeological sites of every character, treasure imbedded in the earth, sunken or abandoned ships & wrecks of the sea.

Criteria - As designated by the State Department of Archives & History.

Major Element - Recreational Areas

Sub-element - State Parks

Applicable Regulation - Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 55, Chapter 3, State Parks & Forests

Purpose - State parks are operated for the purpose of providing outdoor recreational activities of various types to enhance the recreation & conservation interests of the state.

Criteria - Existing sites that have been dedicated or projected for use as state parks by the Mississippi Park Commission and other special recreation districts.

Sub-element - Local Public Parks

Applicable Regulation - City/County Ordinances

Purpose - To provide outdoor recreational activities and enjoyment primarily for the citizens of the community.

Definition - These are areas devoted to outdoor recreational activities of various types to enhance the recreation & conservation interests of the community

Criteria - Existing sites that have been dedicated for use as community parks & maintained by cities or counties.

Major Element - Growth Areas

Sub-element - Demographic

Purpose - To assist in the identification of areas of urban development where potential conflict might occur with physiographic or biologic areas of particular concern.

Definition - Low Population Density: Areas containing 0-500 persons per square mile.

Medium-Low Population Density: Areas containing 500-1000 persons per square mile.

Moderate Population Density: Areas containing 1000-2500 persons per square mile.

Medium-High Population Density: Areas containing 2500-5000 persons per square mile.

High Population Density: Areas containing over 5000 persons per square mile.

Criteria - Existing 1975 and projected year 2000 population densities provided by Mississippi Marine Resources Council.

Sub-element - Water Related Activities

Purpose - To assist in the identification of areas of commercial & industrial development with access to & the need of access to coastal waters where potential conflict might occur with physiographic or biologic areas of particular concern.

Definition - Commercial Development: Those uses which are involved in wholesale or retail trade, services or other business activities. Such activities are generally intensive use of space & usually require extensive service facilities such as parking to accommodate customers.

Industrial Development: Those uses which are involved in the manufacturing, processing,

or assembling of any agricultural or manufactured products and any storing or warehousing of products derived from agriculture, mining, and manufacturing sources.

Criteria - Commercial & industrial activities can be identified by using the Standard Land Use Coding Manual issued by the U. S. Department of Transportation.

Major Element - Rural Areas

Sub-element - Agricultural Lands

Purpose - To identify lands that will insure the continued production of food and fiber.

Definition - 1. Prime Farmland (Agricultural Land) - "Prime farmland is important to the nation because it is the base from which present and future supply of food will come. It is in limited supply.- - -. Prime farmland is land used for the production of food and fiber, or available for these uses. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed with modern farming methods."

Prime farmland has all of the following characteristics:

A. An adequate moisture supply. The supply is from stored moisture plus either precipitation or a supplemental water supply of adequate quality that is developed to permit irrigation.

B. A mean annual soil temperature at a depth of 20 inches (50 C M) of more than 32° F (0° C) and a mean summer temperature greater than 47° F (8° C) with an O horizon and greater than 59° F (15° C) without an O horizon.

C. A pH between 4.5 and 8.4 in all horizons within 40 inches (1 meter) or in the root zone if the root zone is less than 40 inches.

D. No water table, or a water table that can be maintained below 1.5 feet (46 CM) during the cropping season.

E. Soils that are not frequently flooded during the growing season (less often than once in 2 years).

F. A product of K (erodibility factor) X percent slope of less than 2.0
(note - slopes delineated generally 0-2% and 2-5%)

G. A permeability of at least 0.06 inches (0.15 CM) per hour in the upper
20 inches (50 CM)."

Criteria - Information source USDA Soil Conservation Service, and Office of the
State (MS) Soil Scientist.

Major Element - Scenic Areas

Sub-elements - Significant Scenic Vistas and Areas

Purpose - The intangible & sometimes tangible values to be realized from preserving the
character of these areas is becoming increasingly evident, especially in areas
undergoing rapid urbanization. Unfortunately, as urbanization occurs, the long-term
intangible values of scenic vistas and areas generally are sacrificed for immediate
economic interests unless these areas are in public ownership or are subject to
scenic easements.

Definition - These are peripheral parcels of land and/or water having exceptional
scenic or aesthetic values. Such areas may include bluffs, hills or other vantage
points that offer a unique scenic perspective.

Criteria - Areas of scenic significance, either in their natural state or man-made,
can include the following: coastal wetlands, estuaries, freshwater swamps and
marshes, natural rivers, unique geological formations, significant beaches, islands,
wildlife habitats, significant flora, historical and archaeological sites, recreational
areas, scenic roads and unique structures.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF STATEWIDE CONCERN

Many of the catagories in this list are what we refer to as statewide areas of concern. These include such catagories as ground water aquifers, the state's public trust wetlands, wildlife management areas, oyster reefs, and submarine grass beds. Most of these are already defined and designated under existing laws. The criteria for these areas are pretty well spelled out in those laws.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF LOCAL CONCERN

Another type of category in this list is what we refer to as localized areas of particular concern. We have contracted planning commissions and agencies to develop lists of areas within these catagories. Later in tonight's program, in the workshop, we will ask you to develop your own lists of areas you feel should be designated for concern. Some examples of the catagories we will cover are historic sites, wild and scenic catagories we will cover are historic sites, wild and scenic rivers, and water-related housing, commercial and industrial areas.

WORKSHOP SESSION

Mr. Jerry Mitchell

Introduction

In the first part of tonight's program, we gave you a general description of what geographic areas of particular concern are and the need for designating them. Now it is time to get down to work and make suggestions of some of the areas you feel should be given this designation.

As we discussed earlier, many areas of concern are already covered under state law and, as such, will be included within the proposed coastal program. Other statewide areas of concern are being recommended by scientific and technical agencies under contract.

Contracts have also been let for planning agencies to list localized areas of concern within the cities and counties along the coast. There is always the possibility of leaving out, either through error or lack of information, some areas which should be included. For this reason we want and need your suggestions for areas to be considered for designation.

When we have received all of the recommendations for areas of particular concern, both from contractors' and from the public, they will be tabulated by our staff, reviewed against the appropriate criteria, and evaluated. No more weight or importance will be given to the contractors recommendations than to your suggestions. The 16 members of the Mississippi Marine Resources Council will then have the responsibility of making the preliminary designations of areas to be included in the draft coastal program.

Remember, this listing we are about to ask you to submit is not a popularity vote. It will make no difference whether a particular area is suggested by one of

you or by all of you. Each area suggested will be considered individually against the criteria for that type of area.

Now, contained in your packets are two items you will need during the first part of this workshop. The first is a table showing the major categories of areas of particular concern for each of the categories which are listed at the top as "sub-elements", there is listed the appropriate local, state or federal regulations, if any; the purpose for which designation in this category should be made; a definition of the category; and the criteria for designating that area.

You also have a form which lists certain categories of areas of particular concern. This form only includes those categories which would be appropriate for public nominations. As we mentioned, many of the categories are already designated by existing laws and others require scientific or technical consideration beyond the means of most citizens. If you do have suggestions in these other categories, however, we will be happy to receive them and give them the appropriate consideration. You could list these on the back of your forms or submit them later. Your form also contains a space for your name and address, but this is optional.

I will list each of the categories on this form in turn. I will give you some brief information about the definition and criteria for that category. Then I will ask that you list as many specific areas within that category as you feel should be included. These forms can then be turned in at the door as you leave or, if you feel you would like to give more time to these suggestions, you can take the form home with you and return it by mail. Please have these back to us by September 1 so they can be included in the transcript of these meetings.

Staff members will be circulating among you if you need any assistance.

SUGGESTIONS FOR GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN

Suggested Physiographic Areas Of Particular Concern

Estuarine Sanctuary

All of Bay St. Louis north of railroad bridge
Jourdan River
Bayou La Croix
Rotten Bayou
Bayou Cadet
Heron Bay
Bay of St. Louis where Dupont plans to dump effluent (a study needs to be done so that there will be a basis for comparison after Dupont dumps)
Bayou Bernard (S 24, T 7 S, R 11 W lying east of bayou and following the meanderings of the stream)
All marshes
Three counties on coast, Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson, plus a three mile wide area on each bank of major streams north of these counties, which run south through said counties
Graveline Bayou in Gautier
All marsh areas in Bawgs Lake
All marsh areas in Grand Batture area
All marsh areas in Heron Bay area
All marsh areas in Pascagoula River
All marsh areas in Pearl River
All marsh areas in Back Bay Biloxi
All marsh areas in Wolf River
All marsh areas in Jourdan River

Freshwater Swamps And Marshes

Area around Dupont plant
Bayou Bernard (S 24, T 7 S, R 11 W)
All freshwater swamps and marshes
Big Lake marsh
Upper Devil's Swamp
Lower Devil's Swamp
Black Creek Swamp
Turkey Creek
Bayou Bernard
Dean Tiger Creek
All remaining freshwater swamps and marshes are of vital concern and should be protected and preserved. There should be some requirements precluding dumping or filling low areas, even though they may not be affected by tides.
All freshwater swamps and marshes should be protected from land-fill activities

Natural Rivers (Wild, Scenic, Recreational)

Jourdan River
Rotten Bayou

Biloxi River
 One percent area
 Wolf River
 Big Biloxi River
 Black Creek
 Red Creek
 Bluff Creek at Vancleave
 Escatawpa River (Dog River) in Jackson and George Counties, excellent canoe river,
 needs pollution and litter control
 Escatawpa River
 Wolf River
 Escatawpa River
 Black Creek
 Wolf River
 Jourdan River
 Catahoula Creek
 Tchoutacabouffa River
 Tuxachanie Creek
 Big Biloxi River
 Pearl River
 Pearl River
 Wolfe River
 Jourdan River
 Pascagoula-Leaf Rivers system
 Black Creek system
 Red Creek system
 Wolf River
 Jourdan River
 Pearl River and Pascagoula-Leaf Rivers system
 Black Creek system
 Red Creek system
 Pascagoula River from west bank of West River to east bank of East River

Erosion Areas

All county dirt and gravel roads
 Banks of rivers, etc. from boating
 Industrial Seaway banks
 Washing away of Grand Bature Islands, result: sanding of mud oyster areas in
 Bayou Cumbest area
 Harrison County beach
 Bay St. Louis-Waveland Beach
 Ocean Springs Beach
 Barrier islands
 Bellefontaine Point
 River banks
 Deer Island
 Prevent clean cutting practices along waterways
 Prevent erosion from private building sites, industrial and residential
 Prevent channelization of streams and resulting erosion
 Deer Island
 Channelization of streams prohibited
 Deer Island

No clear cutting of timber on rivers and bayous
Channelization of rivers
Beach erosion is destroying property at Belle Fountain Beach (Jackson County)
at rate of 5 feet per year

Significant Beaches

One percent area
Horn, Ship, Cat Islands
There is a nice stretch of beach south of Standard Oil that could be developed
for wilderness camping
Harrison County Beach
Bay-Waveland Beach
Ocean Springs Beach
Bellefontain Beach
Various river beaches
Cat Island Beach
Pascagoula Beach
Follow Supervisor Robinson's protected inexpensive method of planting vegetation
to develop dunes and prevent wind erosion of the sand beaches
Replant with vegetation. Why don't they keep the pogyboats outside the three
mile limit? They ruin the fishing from the docks and shore. How much was spent
cleaning up the beaches after they dumped?
Ship Island has been cut in two. The east end is eroding and will follow the Isle
of Caprice if actions aren't taken to stop it

Biologic Areas of Particular Concern

Habitats of Major Fisheries

Oyster fisheries
Protect and expand if possible
We agree with the purpose of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 15,
Seafood and it should be enforced
Mississippi Sound area
Jourdan marsh
Cat Island marsh
Davis Bayou marsh
Heron Bay marsh
Fort Bayou marsh
Graveline Lake marsh
Pascagoula River marsh
Bay St. Louis marsh
Wolf River marsh
Jose Bay
Middle Bay of Jackson County. This area is located just to the north of
Point Aux Chenes Bay and has excellent potential for oyster production
All salt water
Bayou Bernard
The Dupont area in the Bay of St. Louis

Wildlife Habitats

Increase acreage under public ownership

All low population densities, excludes cities and unincorporated towns

We agree with the purpose of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Title 49, Chapter 3, Fisheries and Wildlife Research: Provisions should be made to include areas of protection within the area. As the population increases, more public owned are needed to insure the survival of animals in a nearby area for the public to use

Red Creek

Little Biloxi River Management Areas

NSTL Site - all river marshes

Lower Hancock County

Spoil Islands areas north of Gautier

Bayou Bernard

Southern bald eagle nesting in vicinity of Shore Crest

Significant Flora

People who visit here from other places particularly enjoy the oleanders and palms.

They grow exceptionally well in our area and become very "ordinary" to us, but not to the people who can't grow them

Hammock north of Big Lake

Native azaleas, dogwoods, live oaks

Provisions be made to include areas of protection within the coastal zone management area. More public owned areas are needed, i.e. Pitcher plant habitat within a reasonable driving distance for the public to enjoy

Various stands of trees registered by the Society of Trees

Areas occupied by pitcher plants, large hardwoods

Increase acreage under public ownership

Champion Big Trees

Zoning and ordinances to prevent further destruction of the oak trees

Friendship Oak and any other trees designated by the Mississippi Forestry Commission

Friendship Oak at Gulf Park, of course, and many, many other old, large live oaks in our area. Live oaks also grow only in certain parts of our country

Old live oaks and cedars on Pass Road in Handsboro area in peril due to widening of road. Some other route is necessary.

Controls on removal of ancient trees

Socio-economic Areas of Particular Concern

Historic Sites

Oyster shell mounds

Call island in the Bayou Heron area and Cadet Bay area

Beauvoir and other historical sites designated by the State Archives

Fort Massachusetts
Various Indian digs
Fort Maurepas
Shipwreck in Biloxi Bay
An Indian site developed in such a way as to be educational in nature, not touristy

Recreational Areas

One acre per/100 population
Bert Jones Park in Gulfport has already been allocated funds for development, and it should be done at once. Rest rooms, picnic tables and benches, grills, and amusement equipment for children.
These areas should be zoned. Certain areas for skiers and speed boats, certain areas for quiet fishing.
Buffer zone of the National Aeronautic and Space Administration Site made more accessible to hunting, camping public.
Buccaneer State Park
Gulf Islands National Seashore
DeSoto National Park
Deer Island
Cat Island
Various city parks
Spoil islands
Significant beaches
Tuxachanie Trail
Trail along Big Biloxi River

Residential Areas (water-related)

Please help us keep the area south of the railroad between Camp Ave., Gulfport, and Mississippi Southern University (Gulf Park) strictly residential, as well as other present residential areas. The homes, lawns, trees, and flowers in these areas make ours the most beautiful driveway in the world
Stop any further intrusion of residential areas on East and West Beach by commercial zoning in Gulfport. If they don't, it won't take long for it to deteriorate into another honky tonk strip. As a scenic drive there is nothing more depressing than the commercial drive in Biloxi
Belle Fountain Beach
Design cluster type development
Zoned and regulated to prevent water pollution from sewage and erosion of the banks into the water
Bayou Bernard should be zoned East of Handsboro bridge for speed boats. West and north of the bridge for fishing. The speed boats are washing away the banks where the bayou is narrow
Zoned in such a way as to prevent building in flood prone areas and on higher ground to prevent deterioration of habitat
All residential development that contains dredged canals or uses ground water or surface water such as Shoreline Park, Timber Ridge, Pass Christian Isles, etc.

Commercial Areas (water-related)

That area west of and adjacent to the Pass Christian Industrial Development and

north of the NW/SE extension of Clark St. to Bayou Bridge and back along shoreline east to development

Gulf Coast Fisheries

Quaker Oats

That area west of and adjacent to the Pass Christian Industrial Development and north of the NW/SE extension of Clark St. to Bayou Bridge and back along shoreline east to Development Commission property. This area includes park area dedicated to public use and is ideally situated for commercial, recreational area such as marina, etc.

Nuclear power plants excluded. Sewage and industrial waste oils and oil spills controlled and cleaned up.

Power plants' heated water discharges prevented

At best depth for transportation property

God forbid that we should have to surrender our homes and every beautiful spot we have so somebody can make a few dollars by putting up some hamburger stand or service station and destroy our flowers, trees, and all of our natural beauty. The gorgeous beaches on the Gulf around Destin, Fla., have all been destroyed by the erection of motels, hotels, etc.

Prevent water pollution

Prevent air pollution

All commercial areas that are in close proximity to water masses such as hotels, restaurants, commercial harbors and marinas

Industrial Areas (water-related)

No nuclear power plants

Dredge Bayou Cumbest for area similar to Bayou La Batre

Erosion of banks of Industrial Seaway

All industrial sites that need surface or ground water such as Bayou Casotte, Harrison County Seaway, Ingalls, Port Bienville, Long Beach and Pass Christian Industrial Parks

Prevent water pollution

Prevent air pollution

Nuclear power plants excluded. Sewage and industrial wasted oil and oil spills controlled and cleaned up.

Power plants' heated water discharges prevented

Ingalls Shipyard - East and West Banks of Pascagoula River

Bayou Cassotte - Deep Water Port

Halter Marine

Walker Shipbuilding

Prime Agricultural Areas

All farmland suited for growth of food or food products and their by-products.
Most upland rural areas.

Scenic Areas

Oil derricks rising in the Gulf would not enhance the view and the threat of oil spills would be difficult to live with

A well managed CZM plan will prevent further deterioration of the natural beauty of the area

No oil wells in Mississippi Sound! This area is naturally scenic and abounds in natural beauty. Further deterioration should be prevented through a well managed CZM plan.

Black Creek

Bluff Creek

Escatawpa River

Red Creek

Most of the Mississippi coastal zone is a scenic area

Areas with best vistas

Unique structures and scenic areas such as Mississippi Power Company Building,

Beauvoir, Fort Bayou Marsh, Deer Island and the barrier islands, Harrison County

Beach Parkway

Other marsh or forested areas

Unique landscaped areas

PRIORITY OF USES EVALUATION MATRIX

Six major categories of land uses have been identified for the purposes of this study. They are domestic, food and fiber production, mining and energy, manufacturing, transportation, and recreation uses. Within each major category, subcategories have been established to further refine the levels of detail. All such uses then become functional uses that may or may not impact the area or region upon which applied.

In order to evaluate the desirability of specific uses in the various geographic areas of particular concern, a specified numeric grading system will be used. The rating values range from one (1) to five (5) with one being the least desirable and five the most desirable. The rating scale is shown below:

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>PRIORITY OF USE</u>
1 -----	Undesirable
2 -----	Low Desirability
3 -----	Moderate Desirability
4 -----	High Desirability
5 -----	Most Desirable
6 -----	Not Applicable

The two dimensional matrix containing 1,540 combinations (28 APC entries by 55 functional uses) is attached for the participant to fill out and return to the Mississippi Marine Resources Council.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

Gulfport Meeting
August 16, 1976

HARRIET K. KOHANEK: I'm Harriet Kohanek from Biloxi, a member of the Sierra Club. Your maps show sea grass as areas of particular concern. It looked to me as if they were the outlying islands. Is that true?

JERRY MITCHELL: These are primarily those areas.

KOHANEK: Ship Island and . . .

MITCHELL: Ship Island, Cat, and Petit Bois. These have been identified by Dr. Eleuterius of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory.

FRED KOHL: I'm Fred Kohl from Pass Christian. What is the 13.1 foot (tapes not understandable).

MITCHELL: I think it would be more applicable to the Jackson County areas. Some of the ordinances read 13.1. Some of them read 12.5. I think those that are 13.1 are Jackson County.

(Name not known): This is a personal question. I am a property owner on Bayou Bernard. You mentioned something about boat slips, building, and so forth. I have waterfront property. Does it come under this jurisdiction?

MITCHELL: I would like to hold this question for a little bit later tonight when we will be talking specifically about things like this.

TERRY A. SCARBOROUGH: I don't understand yet. Have we decided what areas are going to be covered in this coastal zone management? Has that been decided yet?

MITCHELL: No, it has not. The purpose of this meeting tonight is to attempt to identify some additional areas and have additional inputs to help us make a decision as to what the coastal zone is. Are there anymore questions?

VIRGINIA COCHRAN: I have a question. Does this mean that in these areas that are designated under coastal management that everything that goes on has to be approved by this coastal management council, management association, or whatever it is?

MITCHELL: I would hesitate. . .

COCHRAN: What is the purpose of this thing? That is what I'm trying to get at.

MITCHELL: The purpose to have it is to get public input to identify and isolate geographic areas of concern which will fit into the coastal zone management effort once these have been identified and isolated.

COCHRAN: That still doesn't answer me specifically, or else I just don't understand. Do people who have property in these zones have to come to this Council to get permission to do what they want to do?

MITCHELL: No, it has not been decided yet who you will have to go to to get permission, if you have to go at all.

RUSSELL GOULD: I am Russell Gould, and I have a piece of property that is right about here (pointing to map). We haven't done much with it. It is marsh, and we would like to get a place so that we could put our boat out there. What do you do about that? Who do you talk to?

MITCHELL: We have Mr. Joe Gill, who is in charge of our Wetlands Section. Joe, will you stand up? You could either talk to Mr. Gill during the coffee break or at your convenience after the meeting.

TERRY SCARBOROUGH: Generally, I think I'm kind of seeing what you want done now. What I was going to suggest was that we form some committees on the sixteen items here. These would be lay committees to write these up however you want it done. We could do it that way.

JOHN H. TOMLINSON: I want to explore a great deal of areas at this time that may help in some considerations. It is generally conceived that a man will sit and look like a fool, then get up, open his mouth, and prove it.

I am in a rather peculiar position, and I don't believe that there are too many that understand this thing much better than I do. I really have not come clearly to grips with the idea of what is taking place. In order for me to arrive at that, I am going to have to give you somewhat of a specific case, which is my case. Then I can see how it is dealt with in such a way that maybe I can begin to see some light of it or on it. I just mentioned to Bill Lucas a minute ago that it is all very nice for you people to gather around in your meetings and objectively consider what you would like to do.

Well, many of these people are like I was forty years ago. I objectively considered what I wanted to do. You ladies on the bayou, we objectively considered the things that we wanted for this land. We explored the means and procedures for acquiring it. We explored the limitations that were imposed on it by our purchase, and we felt secure in that purchase. Now we are having thrust upon us the threat of it being changed with some of the input from our positions but still not input that will make us feel secure at any time in the future over what we say we own. Honestly, I'm very disturbed over the posture of this type thing that can move in at a time when I have felt for many years that this is mine and I can do with it as I see fit. I'm going to go back a few years, Mr. Mitchell, if you will forgive me.

MITCHELL: I'm going to bear with you, Doctor, but we have a lot of work that we have to do. Generally, I prefer that statements be held until a little later on tonight.

TOMLINSON: If I may continue with this, you have a certain salary or job concern, but I have a long time living concern. I think these people here do also. It is more than just a job, routine, or schedule. I don't mean to (tapes not understandable). At that time, I didn't know there was a mineral trap in the United States. I later learned that there are. Nevertheless, I built one. I have it. I soon learned that if I used my mineral trap, I would destroy my duck weeds and many things. I operated a small

private fish hatchery. I had a great many wild birds that I was concerned with. I used it really to trap minerals and keep my fish and so on. Yet suddenly we are threatened with the idea to take this away.

We like it and we have ideas that are better than yours. If they want those things, they should have to come to me and say, "Look, we want this and we will not approach it on the basis of rationalization." Forgive me, gentlemen, I can be wrong in this but the rationalizations of a thief are as I see this. "I want this and I will take it by whatever means I can." This is wrong. You people are too big for that. You are finer than to be in that position. You possibly haven't really recognized yourselves even remotely. But you do not come to a man forthright and say, "Look, I would like what you have. Can we get together on terms and I will buy them from you." That is what I did when I got mine. I think the state should do the same, and I think the Federal Government should do the same. I think these are things that are beyond the National Government. It should be very coordinated with international activity, because if I am going to come back to my mineral trap and justify the reason for my building one, I'm going to go further into my foolish presentation of my delusion on actions, perhaps, but I had a lot of fun with them. I enjoyed them. They worked me like a slave. I built them bucketful by bucketful, but they are mine. I think they are mine.

In this sea water there are 166 million tons of minerals according to various authorities. 77.8 per cent of these minerals are salts. 10.9 per cent, I believe, is magnesium chloride; 4.7 percent, magnesium sulfate; 3.6 per cent, calcium sulfate; 2.5 per cent, potassium sulfate; and the 0.05 percent covers all other minerals. In that 0.5 per cent there is \$93 million in gold and \$8.5 in silver. Let's forget about the gold and silver a minute and go back to the salts. If you break it down, 77.8 per cent of 166 million tons gives you 129,148,000 tons of salt. This is a lot of it. If you sold it at 10 cents a pound, that gives you \$12,914,800. If you sold it

or reduced it to poundage and said 2,000 pounds times that much tonnage, this gives you over 200 billion pounds of salt. If you sold it at 1 cent a pound, you would have over \$2 billion. I think that it is wonderful to be able to sit and fantasize the feeling with this type thing. Some will say that this is not for the public. I feel differently. I still feel that the public is the government and should take its guidance from an informed people, not people who are kept down here in the dark and say, "Look, you haven't the competence. You don't even have the degrees or anything else to think about this." All you could do would be to get disillusioned, fantasize hypotheses, get hysterical, and demand unreasonable prices.

We don't want that truly, and we don't want massive inhibitions of the marshlands or people trying to make a gold mine out of them. This would be foolish. I recognize that. At the same time, I think I have the right to reject it or accept it. I bought that right. I worked for it, and I think every one of you people did.

Here we come into a fantastic amount of technical data that has been prepared through great expense, effort and knowledge. I respect that knowledge. I want that knowledge to be leadership. When knowledge is used in the manner that the caveman used his club, it is not leadership. Rather I overwhelm you with my knowledge rather than overwhelm you with a big club. Let's come back and put that information into the hands of the people, and let them decide whether it is foolish for them to go down to the marsh and think, "By golly, I wonder what I could get out of this thing or what I could do with it." Maybe you say as one young fellow said, "If some sixty or seventy year old man wants to make a lot of money out of that, it's alright." I believe in the capitalistic system. I believe that if you plant one pea, you should get several thousand peas back from it. Now if he wants to go plant one pea and get one pea back, let him go do that. I don't believe that should be the way. We would all starve to death right fast. One grain of corn for one grain of corn that we

planted--no, that is not the law of life.

Whether I am aimlessly rambling on here and boring you people or monopolizing the program unjustly, I don't know. I know I want to get this off of my spleen so that I can go back home and again feel secure and not wonder what they are going to do tomorrow that takes away my right to peace of mind, because we must all finish this with a sense of peace of mind.

Back to the minerals, if I may. Certainly, this is a consideration far beyond many of us I am sure. There are international concerns in there, and I think it must be dealt with on an international basis with tremendous sensitivity, not just an ordinary ecological concern but rather with the sensitivity that makes you recognize some of the hazards that can take place with the production of minerals out of the Gulf. We go out there and perhaps we evaporate one cubic mile of seawater and get the derivatives from it. We say, "Alright, we've turned loose steam. We've turned it back into the Gulf." That heat is bad because it elevates the temperature to where it is more vulnerable to further evaporation. Now maybe this is a lot of talk that is a little out of line. Nevertheless, that same one cubic mile of seawater is enough to put 59.5 inches of water over the entire State of Mississippi. This is a lot of water. Now we could get it all in one day or we could get flash floods of 16 inches of rain in two hours. We could get flash floods all over the country. What is going to happen to the continent of South America if we just abandon all concerns? What happens on the Venezuelan coast?

The February 1971 National Geographic carried an article on the fact that Pennsylvania companies are spending millions of dollars on a little island just off the Venezuelan coast. Large activities have been generally related out here in the Gulf. I won't call the names to identify them anymore than that. These activities will interfere with the normal humidity factor that drifts in over our nation and has the potential for fantastic harm, perhaps, more harm than I am doing tonight by opening

up some areas that I am sure would not otherwise have been opened. If I get penalized through one means or another for having opened them up, I'm sorry. I'll have to get it that way, because that is the only way that I feel I can get back to the point where I can go home and feel secure. If we could spend as much time tonight saying the government has as much intention to make us feel secure as it has spent to say what it is going to do, then I could feel secure.

I will back off at this time. If there are any questions, I will be glad to answer them. Let's all get this thing out in the open, and when we go home from our final assembly from all of this, let's come back with confidence in our government, confidence that the planning will be done as the result of an initiated effort to help us solve what we have found as a problem. I think Jerry Mitchell will tell me very readily that he doesn't have too much real success with a case unless that case identifies first its problems and then asks what to do about it. So let's find our problems. Mr. Mitchell, I won't apologize to you. You're just in a tough spot, and that is all there is to it. You might as well accept it, and so am I. I'm not going to accept it for you either.

MITCHELL: It's always a pleasure, as in the meetings last winter, for you to join us and give us your observations and comments. We can't give you the final solutions. For our situation here tonight, we need some additional inputs. We need some inputs from you people. We don't have the plan. We are working toward it. I think we will have ample opportunity to get back with you, so that you may feel secure or insecure, I don't know. We are still in the process of writing something or getting information so we can put it down. I appreciate the comments. We got off our program a little bit. Let's get back and start working in the workshops. If there are other comments, I would like to hold those. We are going to have time for them later on in the program.

At this time, we would like to have prepared statements from the participants. Please limit your statements to five minutes. We ask you to make your statement and

give a chance to other people. Then we will have an opportunity for questions and answers.

C. O. SPILLMAN: My name is Charles Spillman. I live in Pass Christian, and I am a member of a group called Responsible Management. The Responsible Management Group is an informal group of interested friends and neighbors of Mississippi who believe that the Coastal Zone Management Act can be either a matter supportive of responsible and effective management of valuable resources, or a terribly bad scheme for irresponsible management, wasteful of scarce resources, and damaging to all Mississippians' welfare and progress. We invite all to discuss and suggest the best means to secure responsible management for we hope to have a Mississippi Plan for Coastal Zone Management that everyone finds helpful, progressive, and contributing to everyone's well-being.

We submitted a Public Proposal in January of this year at the Gulfport Public Meeting of which you have just been mailed advice by the Council. The Public Proposal is of two parts: (1) A study to develop a public and private property management program and Census Survey of the public choice among all plans developed and (2) A Mississippi Plan.

We feel that the study should examine a responsible organization for coastal zone management in which public properties (described in Coastal Wetlands Legislation, amended 1974) and private property would be assured responsible and effective management by the most capable and appropriate parties.

It seems wholly proper that public property should be reliably and effectively managed, and that measures might be established to require and assure that these properties serve useful ends and contribute to the welfare and progress of Mississippi.

It would also seem proper that management standards and plans for private properties could be developed and offered to property owners at nominal charges. Such

planning might address itself to more efficient usage, reclamation, preservation, and long-range development. Such services to the public will establish the Coastal Zone Management Act relative to the value of the services offered. Where special interest may be indicated, particular needs met, or special costs encountered, management services can be offered on a negative price basis as might be required by the special case.

In conclusion, there is reason for a very real concern and a great danger: the South and West are the fastest growing regions of the country for many reasons. The static and declining areas are keenly aware of the consequences and already are retaliating with legislation to stop further progress. We are therefore anxious and concerned that the Coastal Zone Management Act does not inadvertently aid such negative efforts and will indeed contribute to Mississippi's share in this progress.

MECCOLENA HOLLIMAN: The first thing I would like to say is they haven't been able to tell us what is going to become of us citizens in Harrison County. I've listened to people from up in the northern and central part of the state. I've been wondering if it was going to happen here like it did in Florida. In Florida my grandson, who is a minister, bought his own travel trailer for himself, his wife and children. Of course, the beaches were controlled by the hotels and motels. Because they weren't registered in a motel, the children couldn't go on the beach. I have thought all the time that we mothers and wives should have some say through our sons who have fought to make this country what it is.

Now then, a lot of these people don't realize what a small amount of land is available to the general public of Harrison County. Going north, you have Turkey Creek there. That runs into Bayou Bernard and goes through there to Gulfport and on into Back Bay. Well, there is a small amount of land there you may say. It is cut up in lots. Back then the people wanted so much money out of it, and they cut it up in such little lots of 25 x 75, 25 x 85, 19 x 120 and such as that. They

charged anywhere from \$150 to \$800 each for them. The average person can't buy many of them if he has a family. Harrison County has been a pretty poor county is the real fact about it.

The next thing we have when we get past there is Bayou Bernard. There we have the industrial canal that goes through there and into the Back Bay. That is governed by heavy industry. We have the Three Rivers Road that runs from County Barn Number 2 north all the way to the Little Biloxi River. After you cross those rivers, you get over to the Big Biloxi River. Then you run into the Desoto Park. That pretty well goes all the way up to Stone County and partly into Forrest County. Well, you hit Highway 67 over on the highway about Saucier. The biggest portion of that land is in Township 4. Most of that land belongs either to the paper companies or the Federal Government, like Keesler Field and its outlying areas and the rifle range. You go on a little farther, and then the state has that portion of it. Then they run the taxes up. Now there is a whole pile of land that is not of any service to us. We can't use that. Still in all, we've got to eat. Somebody is going to go hungry if they get too tight on all this business. It's like a bird which may fly high but he has to come down to drink.

It won't hurt me much longer, because I'm 88 years old. It's not going to bother me too much, but anyway we are not going to die and take it with us. I think we ought to try to find out what is going to happen to us, what is going to happen to our children, and what kind of way are they going to have revenue to live by. They certainly can't use the beaches. They're not getting enough food out of that beach. If you want a mess of fish, you just as well go buy it. The water is so polluted, some of these fish aren't fit to eat. That's the truth about it.

I know you've listed all these things, and there is not one person in this audience, I believe, who could get up here and answer those questions, any of them,

to suit the people here or suit what you have asked for. For the first thing about it, they've got to take that home and make a mighty close study. They've got to know where these township lines are and the different rivers we've got that takes up all that boundary. You take Red Creek Management Area. Parts of that you can't go in at all. You take what is on the Three Rivers in there. These people bought that land, and you can't even go in there in a skiff. So what I'm thinking about is after we do all this talk and every bit of this work, what is going to become of the people who have bought this land? Lots of them are real wealthy. They inherited it. They appraise that land at such a high price, and those people have to pay from 70 to 90 per cent of the appraised value of whatever they want to appraise it at. They pay that and after they get through with all of that, they haven't got any say so. I've been wondering. I wouldn't begin to know how to answer this question altogether, because some of the paper mills don't pay much tax and get exempted for 10 years. Some of them don't pay but \$3 to \$10 per acre. We paid a big price for our land. We've just got a small amount, and we are holding the bag. Thank you.

MITCHELL: Thank you for the comments.

JOSEPH W. HOLLIMAN: One thing I would sort of like to know is to what extent does this coastal zone management plan overlap other laws that are already in effect in the state such as the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission and the Wetlands Protection Act that was passed two or three years ago. That is the question. In other words, if there is too much duplication, then would it be possible to amend some of these others to take care of it? As far as I can see, there is no question whatsoever but what we've got to preserve our water supply in the state. We know that the ground water level is dropping. We've got to do something either in watersheds or dams. I think that might be the answer to some of it. If we run out of water, that is a lot worse than running out of gasoline. You can get along without gasoline, but you've got to drink water. So I mean it really is something to think

about the future and certainly our resources. That is one side of the question.

Now then on the other side of the lecture, you've got to see two sides of a problem and then weigh all of the possibilities and reach some kind of a conclusion. The other side of the question is this. This gets into a point of American history in which I've done a pretty good bit of graduate work and have written some papers and have taught it some.

Before I get to that, I'll make this statement. A group about a year or two ago, when they came out on zoning, made the statement that a person who owns land or property never had the total use or exclusive right to use his land as he pleased. We'll grant that there is a certain amount of truth in that. It is the significant truth that the right to use his land or the degree to which he does have the right to use his land as he pleases, is one of the cornerstones of American democracy. Those are facts to be considered.

Another thing is this, and this is an historical fact. In 1973 the American Historical Society was called upon to select the greatest historian that we have had in the United States. This is historic background. They reached a unanimous conclusion--a man who is not really well known. I hadn't even heard of him until I got in graduate school. He was Frederick Jackson Turner, and he was the greatest historian that this country has ever produced and one of the greatest Americans who ever lived. If that is true, then what did he do that stamped himself as the outstanding historian of this country? Well, what he did was to write on two things. One of these was about sectionalism, and he said that we would iron out differences and each section was a fit room in a worthy house. Another thing that he said was that American democracy, contrary to what a lot of our history books have been saying and what we've been reading about, was not really imported. It didn't originate with the Magna Carta, although we might have copied certain of those documents, or in the enlightened French philosophers, or even in the experiments in democracy in

ancient times. In American democracy originated an American frontier. He made the statement that American democracy came from the forest. Of course, we don't have a frontier anymore as far as can be determined. Of course, there is no direct answer to that. American frontier passed off the scene in 1890. You can't pinpoint that. I mean those are vague statements. You can't say that it was any one date, but he assigned 1890. He said that if we don't have a frontier left, we do have a rural America left. We have a rural area left in America. He said that our democracy really originated on the American frontier. That has been affirmed by the Historical Society, which is contradictory to what we've usually been taught. American democracy is an expression of the freedom, or it grew out of the expression of the freedom from the restraints that we are forced to live under (tapes not understandable). If that is true and it originated out of rural America or the frontier, the closest thing we have to it is rural America. If that is true, one of the strongest ways to preserve the democratic form of government in America is to preserve the individualism of rural America.

That doesn't mean that I'm against any particular plan or that I am necessarily against this coastal plan that is being presented. Before I would make a statement on that, I would have to do a lot of studying. I think those things call for a lot of research. However, in all of the planning that we do, we do not want to do something to stifle the rural individualism of rural America which is the stronghold of our democratic government in this country. Certainly you do not have machine politics. You don't have the things that are happening in the big cities that rule America. We do not want to stifle or choke to death the rural individualism in America, which is the continuing inspiration for the development of our democratic system of America and which continues to produce a democratic system in America. What it means is this: Even though these things are true, even though they are true

and are pretty well established by the most able authority that this country has produced so far, and even if they are true, I do think that even the very author of this thing would say, "Well, let's have pure water." I would recommend that whatever is done, we must consider the necessity for a thing, and also weigh the balance of preserving along with as many of our individual freedoms as possible.

These are freedoms without stifling out or choking to death the very rural individualism which we are supposed to be dedicated to with all of our hearts, trying to preserve and to jealously guard. That doesn't mean that there won't be some kind of management zone. I would say to let's do the minimum thing and interfere with the rural life of the people just as little as possible in whatever is done.

As I said before, I think the champions of that would say we've got to have pure water. There are certain things that have got to be done. You've got to balance those two factors. You've got to balance your democratic system of government in America along with the necessity for certain changes that have to take place. We are living in a period where certain changes are taking place and almost have to take place. We have to adjust to it. But by and large, now there are certain areas of the country which will probably never be touched unless they become metropolitan, while preserving our water supply and doing what is necessary. It might not even be this plan. It might be just expanding those we've already got. As I understand it, this isn't mandatory. Whether or not this is done or whatever is done, we need to do whatever is necessary to keep clean water. At the same time, we must preserve the rural individualism of America.

I wonder if the EPA pretty well doesn't do that. That is the Environmental Protection Agency. I do not believe that it is the ordinary little country farmer that is polluting the country. I don't think it is the person that lives out in the hills or the "sticks" or something like that. I think it is probably our sewer systems, our heavy industry, and things like that which have to be regulated. Would

it be possible, for instance, for a permit to be granted for each one of these things before it would take place?

At any rate, you've got a democratic system of government to think of on one hand, and you've got to reconcile it with the environment on the other. At the very least, whatever is done, let it be the minimum thing that has to be done to preserve our water and preserve our democratic system of government. There are a lot of things I don't know about it. I don't know precisely what is intended to be done. I don't know to what extent they are going, what you can do on a river, or whether you can build a camp on a river. Those are the things I would like to know and would like answered--whether you can build your camp on Biloxi River if you've got a lot down there, how far you've got to back away from it, and to the extent that this will actually cover the land uses. There are really two sides of the question. I think you've got to see the two sides of the question, balance the two forces, and do what is actually necessary to preserve your water supply and those things. Tamper just as little as possible with the individualism of the rural area, which is one of the jewels of America, which is one of the cornerstones of our democratic system, and which has helped to generate our democratic system according to our greatest historian.

ALICE DANA: I'm Alice Dana. I live on Bayou Bernard, and I am interested in the program from three standpoints. First, I am a member of the League of Women Voters, and we are considering doing a study of the coastal zone management program this year. Second, I am a person who is interested in preserving and protecting our environment. Third, I am a personal property owner on the water.

I have seen what can be done to the environment. When I moved on Bayou Bernard about 20 years ago it was in the county and it was simply beautiful. It was an area that certainly should have been preserved. It has been greatly damaged by the industrial canal. The beauty of it was destroyed in some areas, and it was changed

a great deal. I have also witnessed what has happened to the beautiful oak trees. Camille destroyed many, but after Camille I think we destroyed even more. Then we gave out little slips of trees to start growing all over again. I really deplore what has been done to our natural beauty by ourselves since I have been living here. I am grateful for this management program, and I do hope that it is going to help preserve our coast and everything that is left that is still beautiful to preserve. Perhaps, we can rebuild and restore some of that which has been destroyed.

I'm also concerned that we, as others have said, do preserve our rights. At the present time, I don't know just what effect it would have on me, but I do know that when I moved to my present place I bought there because it was in the county and I wanted to live in the country. I have a nice well. I love well water, and I have a very good septic tank that doesn't pollute anything, and it is very inexpensive. I was taken into the city without having an opportunity to vote on whether or not I wished to be taken in. I have received only one benefit, and I don't even know if you could call it a benefit. They do pick up my garbage twice a week now. I had a man that used to pick it up for two dollars a month, and he came down to my backyard. Now I have to take it out front to the street. They also installed street lights, but I didn't really care if we had street lights since I wanted to live in the country. We may have police protection, but I don't often see a police car driving through there. We are now getting a benefit that I do not particularly want, and that is sewage facilities are being installed. I understand that I am going to have to hook up to it whether I want to or not. I guess next will be the water, and then I won't have my well water anymore.

So I just want to be sure that whatever you all do, it is going to be something that is beneficial and will be welcome. I want to be sure we will also have an opportunity, as we are having at these public meetings, to have an input into it and to speak up about it. I do think that is the most vital thing of all. I'm sorry we

don't have more of our citizens come to these meetings and actually give some input into the way we feel instead of complaining later because something is done that we don't like.

I also want you to know that it was not that I was not interested in filling out the forms and in what you had to say, but I did not feel that I knew enough to fill it out intelligently. I do have a son who has a Ph.D. in marine biology, who grew up in this area, and I think he will help me fill it out later. We will send it in to give you some input. Thank you.

RUSSELL GOULD: I am Russell Gould, and I hope that when you set this up that you can have constant review of what you do. The reason I say that is I doubt very much if there is much truth to the idea out here that the pogy boats don't hurt game fish. I think that you've got interests who keep things quiet. I do hope in this organization that you set up, you will have constant review of what you do. What appears to be truth at one time could be something that wouldn't be so good later.

TERRY SCARBOROUGH: I only have one thing to say. I am educated as a planner. I see the necessity of this. We are experiencing a tremendous growth here. Unless we plan for it, this will be a worse mess than it is now. We can definitely see that by the streets and highways we have now within the commercial areas, (tapes not understandable) on the residential areas, and the lack of recreational areas. I would hope that we could set this up to have a lay board to help develop a plan, qualified planners to help them, and finally to work it up correctly. Then I would like to see some way for the plan to have "teeth," whereby it could be operated effectively. I would also like to see some way that the people we have trusted by voting for them will have some input in it, too. Just remember that our democracy is as strong as our local governments.

MITCHELL: Anymore general statements? We will now answer questions. I would like to ask Mr. Joe Gill, Manager of our Wetlands Section, to join us. Any questions

pertaining to wetlands or some of the other operations could be directed to him.

If you do have a question, we will repeat the same pattern. Please come to the microphone in the center aisle here.

FRED KOHL: I'm speaking as an individual, although I have spent several years on the Planning Commission of Pass Christian. One area that particularly was of concern to us, always has been, and still is is the area which is somewhat between the wetlands area. I don't know what definitions apply to it, but about half of Pass Christian is below the 12.5 foot level. Shortly after Camille there was a planning project with professional planners, and they planned the whole town just as if it was 40 feet above sea level. It may be early in your planning program, but do you have any specific thoughts in mind as to what good uses can be put to land between the 4 and 12 foot level that would make it effectively used? We've got two or three developments down there such as Discovery Bay and Timber Ridge. Bay St. Louis has some of these areas over on the back side of the bay over on their side of the county line which are equally as poor as those developments. There is a lot of money already invested there, and there is going to be a lot of pressure put on to continue those kinds of developments. They are certainly properly done, and there needs to be a lot of attention in that particular area. I was wondering if you have come to any preliminary conclusions as to what good uses could be put to that land?

JOE GILL: The Coastal Wetlands Protection Act only concerns the waters below the watermark of ordinary high tide. Therefore, we do not have jurisdiction of anything above that. However, the purpose of coastal zone management is to come to some good uses for this particular area. The Corps of Engineers do, however, have jurisdiction above the watermark of ordinary high tide. Therefore, they require permits for activities above that mark for whatever will affect the wetlands. At the present time under the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act, we have no jurisdiction.

KOHL: Let me just leave it then as an area which needs one hell of a lot of attention.

GILL: Right, sir, I agree with you.

TERRY SCARBOROUGH: I would like to ask another question. In other words, the way that it was answered to me was that coastal zone management is in a completely different light than what I've been looking at it. In other words, what you are saying is that the land below mean high tide is the only thing that this program is interested in.

MITCHELL: Right now we have the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act, which is concerned with areas below ordinary high tide. I have trouble with this. The upland areas are a primary concern of coastal zone management. These areas will be addressed probably by going back to the local entity, the local political entity, in the plan preparation and what we could do on the state level. Our primary interest right now rests with all coastal resources, not necessarily those of the individual areas. I think that what we are doing here is identifying one area that possibly we have overlooked in some of our thinking. It definitely will be expressed as an area of concern. Something should be addressed toward the utilization of this property based on all the front end money going into it. It is a very, very difficult solution. I think you could appreciate it.

JOHN TOMLINSON: I'm coming back for one more. This brings me right to one of those little sensitive points that bothers me. I own it or he owns it, whoever he represents. If I own it, then let him come to me and ask me what I want to do with it, but not just move in.

Chicago is full of management people. They can bomb it, drop a smoke bomb and knock out your windows, any sort of (tapes not understandable) insurance or protection of it. The mechanism gets down to where it is about the same thing as it takes away from you without your participation and the transfer of the right to say what

is done. True, some of this is done and it is legitimized in many areas. Nevertheless, I'm still for if a man owns it, he owns it. It doesn't make any difference what the dog's intent is. If you hold his tail tight enough, he has no freedom to exercise his intent.

The whole spirit of America was a sense of freedom, a sense of openness, a sense of unity, and a sense of conforming to the old ideas. Physiological facts where thine eyes (tapes not understandable) type thinking on property that is sitting there and wondering what can I do. Then you have a bunch of people that are useless. Moses recognized the law back there many years ago. He said live by these rules and one will chase ten, ten will chase a hundred, a hundred will chase a thousand, and so on. The guilty fleeth where no man pursueth, and so forth. He was working at a point where there was the clarity of mind, a unity of purpose, an integrated quality of people such as we have in this great country. We have had it, and I hope we keep it, because it is far more important that we have a unity of purpose, a conceptual goal, a great dream however fantastic or fantasized it is, but believe it. Now if you people get all of the management that you want done in the world and you leave us without a concrete belief, then you've shot it I'll tell you.

MRS. HOLLIMAN: I would suggest one thing. After we get through with all this talk and everything and haven't accomplished anything, what is the favor of the people that have owned all this land? You see, I came here in 1900. We didn't have hospitals and very few doctors. We had plenty of typhoid fever and yellow fever and small pox. I helped to nurse all that. (Tapes not understandable) get somebody out to help. We can't do it all by ourselves.

The thing about it here is this: We old people must stand up for what is right our leaders in Washington have failed us. I feel that our leadership, not all of them but a good many of them, have been governed by pressure. We older people

must stand up. We don't even have younger people who are interested in defending our country. They are all for a hand out and a free for all. Now, that is the truth. It is a shame. It looks to me like the ballot box is where that ought to be settled and not just by a handful of men that we put up there in the Legislature. (Tapes not understandable.)

HAROLD LEVRON: I believe I asked this question at the last meeting, and I still wonder if the situation remains the same as it was then. Once the priority of uses in the coastal zone management area are determined, will the voters and property owners have any vote on whether or not their property is included? Will the limitations on the use of their property come before them in some fashion to be voted on by the people who own the property?

MITCHELL: No, sir, a referendum is not in order.

_____: Why? Why could I not vote about being taken into the city? Why can I not vote on it? They didn't allow me to vote.

_____: Because you have city laws, county laws, state laws, and Federal laws, and you have to stay within the boundaries of all of them. You and I and everybody else doesn't have a whole lot to say about a lot of the laws that we have to live with.

J.M. BALCH: I just wanted to be sure that I heard right. Mr. Levron, if I understand him, asked a question that I think is pretty important to everybody on the coast. I heard this lady tonight who has talked several times. You say that when this plan is developed that affects commercial, conservational, and private property ownership interests, a referendum is not in order. Did you say that? I want to be sure you said it.

MITCHELL: I'm not sure whether I used the proper term saying "not in order." A referendum is not planned or is not so mandated in the designation.

BALCH: Let me make it real clear. Will these people have a chance to make an informed comment, either publicly, by the ballot box, or some other means, so that

whatever you come up with that will affect their private property, commercial interest, or conservational preservation interest, they can make their mind known about it. That is what the question was. Yes or no?

MITCHELL: Yes

BALCH: Alright, let me ask another question. When will this plan be presented to the Legislature of Mississippi?

MITCHELL: This plan right now has two factors. We anticipate some housekeeping functions.

BALCH: When is the schedule for this plan to go before the Legislature of Mississippi for consideration?

MITCHELL: The Session of 1978.

BALCH: A year from this coming January?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

BALCH: OK, so sometime between now and then (tapes not understandable)..

MITCHELL: (Tapes not understandable)... is what shall be done. What law? The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

BALCH: That is a Federal law. I am talking about a county right here where we operate under ordinances and resolutions of a city and a county and under state law. Do they forbid local ballot box consideration?

MITCHELL: I'm not an attorney. I can't answer that.

BALCH: Because we are not talking about a Federal law, we are talking about a state law, about state property under state laws.

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

_____: Speaking about voting (tapes not understandable). I think though that people should know the particulars of how each one will be affected in each (tapes not understandable). But I will say this, I just believe that Mississippi should

have what you call initiative referendum. The referendum is what we are concerned with right here. (Tapes not understandable)

VIRGINIA COCHRAN: I want to ask a hypothetical question. If a certain number of people would like my property made public property, is there any recourse I have to keep it from being used as such? What protection would I have? I have friends here in town who lived in a house for about 25 years. It was perfectly alright. They raised their children there, and urban renewal came in and said that it wasn't fit to live in and made them move. They had no recourse. They made them move. Under the same law or under the same procedure or the same democracy, if somebody decided they wanted my property for a recreational area, what recourse would I have?

MITCHELL: Again, this is a lawyer's type question or answer. I think, first of all, coastal zone management is not any attempt to usurp the normal police authorities within your counties or municipalities. I think this is vested with them by the State Legislature. There is nowhere that I could foresee the Council taking over authorities that are controlled by the local political entities.

COCHRAN: Then what is the purpose of all of this if you are not going to do anything with it?

MITCHELL: The recommendations are looking for overall state resources and utilization of these state resources. We have pretty well concluded that in the cities there are very few areas that are available for a wide range of uses.

COCHRAN: Well, the same thing would apply in the counties. If a group of people decided they wanted a recreational area or a game preservation area but somebody owned the property, what would they do?

MITCHELL: Well, I hope it is an attempt to make a recommendation and would be carried through.

MRS. CHARLES SPILLMAN: We have expressed our opinions tonight, yet when you have developed a law, we have no choice but to accept that. What is the purpose of

these meetings in the first place?

MITCHELL: The Marine Resources Council was mandated by state law to prepare this coastal zone management plan, which is absolutely necessary, and we are going to do this. You have, first of all, an opportunity in a formal public hearing not in a general public meeting like this, to let your ideas be known. In addition, when it goes to the State Legislature, you can express your opinion to your Legislator from your particular area whether you like or dislike this program.

_____: Is the Legislature going to vote on this thing? They will be the ones to decide?

MITCHELL: You have that recourse.

MRS. HOLLIMAN: I think we need to have a community meeting, and let's get together. Let's send somebody up there to represent us and see what's going on.

_____. I think we should have more public forums where people can go and get up and make speeches more often. I think this meeting tonight has brought some of that out.

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August 16, 1976

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

Bay St. Louis Meeting
August 17, 1976

JERRY MITCHELL: By looking at this map you can begin to see how much land we have that is under control just by the Wetlands Act.

Name not known: How far inshore do those go?

MITCHELL: To give you an idea, here is Highway 603 (pointing to map), and I'm not sure how far it may come up to Catahoula Creek.

_____: Will that conform with this Act of 1973 by the state where it describes what wetlands are?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir. This is the map. We do have more detailed maps than this.

_____: Let me ask you something. What identifies these areas:

MITCHELL: Let me back up by saying that the criteria we're working under right now has been identified. The criteria is not fully tested or refined, but we are using this to attempt to grasp these particular areas. You may ask what kind of problems we have had within these areas. As soon as we can get them isolated with your help, hopefully we begin to draw some conclusions. This will be included in the overall management program.

_____: Where did you get the areas of local concern?

MITCHELL: You could begin to look at your criteria.

_____: NO, just forget the criteria. Where did you get the areas? You named north Bay-Waveland and you named Pearlington. What about some places else in Hancock County?

MITCHELL: This is just to make an application of a criteria that was developed for the Council.

_____: Criteria is fine, but we are going to go into the next session to isolate and define other areas of local concern to this group of people?

MITCHELL: This is what we want to do in our workshop session. We hope that you, in addition to planners and our staff, may be able to identify some additional sites that we possibly overlooked. This is going to be extremely important that you people can play a role in identifying these.

_____: May I ask you a question? I attended the other meeting, and I still don't know at all what direction you people are going. Let's just pick out Diamondhead at random. You say that is a critical area. What are you going to do with Diamondhead? Personally as a fisherman, I think they are ruining my fishing in certain bayous. They are helping to ruin it. Are you going to make them have holding walls to keep the mud from lousing up my fishing, or are you going to keep them from silting up Jourdan River? What are you going to do? I mean I came here and sat down for three hours the other night, and I don't know a damn thing.

_____: I'm inclined to agree with him.

MITCHELL: Let's say that we do have a particular problem. We have Diamondhead. We begin to recognize that they have an extreme amount of siltation that is beginning to ruin our wetlands and our water bottoms, and that is eliminating our fish productivity.

_____: First it's the creeks, then it's the rivers, then it's going to be the bay.

MITCHELL: Then it is going to be the bay, and eventually it is going to wind up in the Sound out there, and we are going to have major problems. This is what we begin to talk about--what is going to insure us quality water or actually quality water as it comes into the Sound? What type of activities are going to impact the coastal waters? What is going to change the chemical composition to actually hurt these estuaries, the nursery areas of fin and shellfish?

_____: Well, you see what I am trying to get across is that if you all would come out and say what you are going to do, then I could say I'm all for you or the hell with you.

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

_____: Do you understand what I mean? I don't know which way to go.

MITCHELL: Let me say this. We are not ready right now to say what we are going to do.

_____: Well, then how can I go with you?

MITCHELL: Well, we are not asking you to go with us right now.

_____: They're going to tell you what to do, and they're not going to tell you where to go?

MITCHELL: Well, I don't think we want to tell you where to go. I think we have to base this thing correctly and build up our case for it and see where we can go. This does not mean that you, as an individual citizen, does not have any recourse. You always have resourse.

_____: With a brush off on everybody. That is the recourse.

_____: Mr. Mitchell, I've been to EPA, Air and Water Pollution Baord, Health Department, planning departments, Fish and Game Commission, and I'm still getting talked to. That is as far as I've gotten. I don't know how many miles we've been and we are just getting talk. This is a beautiful session, believe me, but you are not telling anybody anything.

_____: Maybe this is not critical, this is not this, this may be this, this may be the other. Let's have it. Put it on the line.

MITCHELL: This is what we want you to do, identify and isolate these problems so we can begin to . . .

_____: I would be awfully happy right now to get up and do it for you right now.

_____: I want to say one other thing, and then I am not going to say another thing tonight. I have read that you all have spent somewhere in the neighborhood of \$130,000. Now I'm just a retired chemist, and I'm not a fishery biologist. I don't propose to

know what the answers are. It would seem to me that with your financial resources that you all would come before a meeting like this and say, "Gentlemen, if we don't do this, you are not going to have any fishing. You are not going to have any swimming. You are not going to have this or that." But we don't know. I don't talk for all these other people, but for myself, I can't make a sensible recommendation. I know what I think should be done, but I don't think I'm qualified to make a recommendation.

_____: I do. I think you are as well qualified as anybody.

MITCHELL: This is exactly why we are going through this process right now. I think what we are doing with the Council's activities are completely above board. We are trying to keep you people up to date with this ongoing program. It would probably be very easy for us to go back to our office and develop and write the program, have public hearings, put it up before the State Legislature, send it to Washington, and then everything would be clean and sweet. Then we could come back and tell you what we have for you. Well, we are just not operating like that.

_____: Well, this green map you've got here, are you saying that all that is green is the high watermark.

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

_____: Mr. Mitchell, do you say that the state claims all that land showing this green?

MITCHELL: This is generally the claim in governmental activities that go on within these areas. Yes, they claim these areas.

_____: They claim the minerals? They claim everything?

MITCHELL: I would like to hold this question. You can talk to Mr. Joe Gill, head of our Wetlands Section. He can help you out. Let me see if I can restate this. Just a minute please. We have a great deal of work to do tonight. What I would like to do before we begin talking about the overall plan of the program is to have any questions concerning geographic areas of concern criteria. Then we will have a very

short break before we will get into our workshop session. If we don't do this, we can't get the information we need from you.

_____: How will your group deal with activities which you ultimately decide as dangerous to wetlands and the coastline?

MITCHELL: Again, this is going to be an activity of the future. We know right now that we have a number of Federal and state laws that are in place and are actually management by fragments. Hopefully, we can begin to join some of these together to come to a single permitting agency in lieu of the number of agencies (tapes not understandable).

_____: Assume, for example, that you found that Diamondhead's activities were affecting the fishing in the bayous. If you found that to be undesirable, would you have the power to compel Diamondhead to make whatever measures necessary to prevent this?

MITCHELL: I think we had dealings with the Diamondhead people (not to identify them in particular).

_____: I don't mean to be picking on them. It was just an example that was brought up.

MITCHELL: We did put a cease on certain operations over there that we felt were detrimental to the environment.

_____: And you have the authority to do that?

MITCHELL: Absolutely. This was just within the one law we have right now. Of course, this activity is coordinated with the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. Joe, do you want to add to that a little bit?

JOE GILL: Yes, there were numerous canals that had been dug prior to our law which was enacted July 1, 1973. However, after our law was enacted, we observed Diamondhead had dug other canals. At this time we put a cease and desist order out on Diamond-

head, and we are now working with the Corps of Engineers in coming up with a (tapes not understandable) plan for that canal.

_____: But the damage has been done?

_____: What anticipatory powers do you have? That is, do you have the power to anticipate a potential threat and stop that potential threat before it actually causes damage?

GILL: Sir, right now the only thing that we can do under our law is if someone should submit an application for a permit, then we have our staff biologist do a complete work-up along with the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory to see what types of damages would or could occur in this area. Then we can come up with our decision and make recommendations to the Council. The staff is only a recommending body to the sixteen member Council.

_____: But the Council has power, too?

GILL: Yes, sir. They have the power to grant a permit or deny a permit or to grant a permit with certain changes in it.

_____: Are your decisions made by the state courts?

MITCHELL: The decisions are made by the sixteen members of the Marine Resources Council and have never been brought before the court.

GILL: Within thirty days of a denial of an application, he can appeal to the Chancery Court.

_____: To what aerial extent does your authority cover?

GILL: Where there are wetlands and tidal effects.

_____: Is it specifically designated? I have your map.

GILL: Yes, sir.

_____: I have the outline of your map, but Mr. Lewis said that those lines were not necessarily hard and fast lines, because they were picked by vegetation rather

than by the mean high tide which I understand is over a period of 18½ years.

GILL: Right.

_____: When are you going to come out with a specific outline of what you do control, or is it going to be a flexible outline? I am particularly interested because of my activities with an oil company in getting leases and so on and so forth. I am sure that these other people in here are interested in what extent you all are going to claim land under the lands which we have leased from them, if that is not confusing.

GILL: There is a contract right now with the U.S. Geological Survey, and they are going further into these areas to find out exactly where we have tidal effects. This has been a two year, ongoing program and we realize the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act has only been in existence for three years. We just issued a contract, I think it was at the last Council meeting, to go on up further to search out these areas. If you have a certain request for a certain area, we make a field observation to determine whether we do have jurisdiction or whether we do not. If we do not, we will write you a letter telling you that we do not have jurisdiction at that particular area.

MITCHELL: Let me throw out one point of clarification. There is not just one resource, such as the wetlands, that the Coastal Zone Management Act is concerned with. Coastal zone management is concerned with all state resources.

_____: I don't mean to be the one asking all the questions, but I just have one more question. Suppose you have an activity which has all the necessary state or county permits. It was in effect and your group determined that it posed a threat to the safety of the wetlands. Would you have the authority to stop that activity?

GILL: Yes, sir. On any ongoing project which we permit, we pull an inspection during the progress of the project. Any time that if it does not meet with the specifications

of our permit which we issued or if it is detrimental to the ecosystem, (tapes not understandable).

_____: Suppose it was an activity and the permits were issued before your group began. It is operating under a county permit or a municipal permit. Could you then have the power to stop them

GILL: No, sir, we don't at that time. The only thing that we can do then is that our staff biologist can make an inspection, and we will report it to the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission which has been in existence since before our law.

_____: That means you don't have any authority to do any (tapes not understandable).

GILL: We do not. In other words, there is a "grandfather clause." We cannot recognize anything that was in existence prior to our law or that has been done prior to the life of the MMRC. We have no jurisdiction on it except if there is something that is going into the canal that is causing the water condition to deteriorate. Then we can go to the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission and ask their assistance to correct the matter.

_____: I don't know what an estuarine sanctuary is. As a sanctuary, would it be set aside?

MITCHELL: Well, it would be set aside. It should have the proper characteristics to be an estuarine sanctuary.

_____: Well, when you mean set aside, what are you talking about? That's what I'm trying to find out. I don't know where you all are heading. If its a sanctuary, are you going to eliminate all types of commercial fishing? Are you going to allow sport fishing, or is it just going to be a place where everybody keeps out. Just what are you going to do?

MITCHELL: Well, of course, an estuarine sanctuary can have a limited number of

activities in it. They can have some hunting, some fishing, some commercial activities. They can be set aside and judge the impacts on this particular system over a period of years. It's primarily for research or scientific investigation. In limited areas it's just going to be a preserve where no activities can occur. This is not saying that we'll have an estuarine sanctuary in the State of Mississippi. What I'm saying is these are potential sites that we have within the state.

_____: I would like to mention that what would happen would be that an area would be studied and evaluated very carefully if it is declared an estuarine sanctuary. I think that the area or the Bay of St. Louis where Dupont is planning to emit the (tapes not understandable) into the Bay so that a fair evaluation can be made. That has never been done yet--an evaluation of that part of the Bay where that (tapes not understandable) will be dumped. I think it's important on a comparative basis.

MITCHE:: That's very good. Just write it down, and we'll pick it up as you walk out the door. Now some of you people want to take this home and study it a little bit. You can mail it back to the MMRC.

_____: All you want us to do now instead of just saying that, I should have written it down on a piece of paper.

MITCHELL: That will be terrific. Just write it down. I think we're planning to include these in our transcripts of these meetings.

_____: What kind of verbal (I hate to use this word) input do you want from us? You want us to get up and say, "I think this area should be considered." Then you say, "Fine, write it down." What do you want to hear from us for if you don't want to hear that?

MITCHELL: Well, this is exactly what I want to hear. If you feel like the area around Dupont and the Bay of St. Louis should be nominated for an estuarine sanctuary, you write this down.

_____: You just told us you wanted to hear us say that. I said it, and now you say write it down.

_____: We don't have time to stay here all night. Write it down.

_____: If we write it down, you know where it's going to end up--in the waste basket.

MITCHELL: Bill, see if you can help the lady in the blue blouse. Let's go on.

GERALD KENNEDY: Can I ask you one question, and I'll keep my mouth shut. Just one question? You all gave Dupont a permit to dump into the Bay of St. Louis, am I correct?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

KENNEDY: Just one question. Why did Louisiana, Texas, Florida, and Georgia refuse this? I never got an answer to that.

MITCHELL: Joe Gill . . .

KENNEDY: I've written to you all. I've written to everybody, and I've never gotten an answer.

GILL: We didn't give a permit to dump into the bay. That was the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. What we gave a permit for was for a pipeline in the wetlands.

KENNEDY: Right, that is correct. Well, that is the equivalent of it. You coincided with what they are doing. How are they going to get it if you don't give them a permit to run it through your area? With that you are telling them what to do.

GILL: Any decision about anything being dumped into the water is the responsibility of the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. We have jurisdiction over the marshland and the water bayous and not whatever goes into it.

KENNEDY: I don't know how anybody could give any permit to dump anything into the Bay of St. Louis. It is beyond me. That is a seven square mile area where they dump 50,200,000 gallons of junk. I don't care what it is. In a small area like that, it's

got to pollute it. Dr. Patrick from Dupont writes a note in there that it may kill a few fish. Well, who's going to say what kills a few fish. I mean, really. I think it's disgusting. And I've yet to get an answer. Why did those states turn this down and why did Mississippi okay it? Can anybody answer that question for me? Okay, see what I mean? Don't they have the same facilities to examine what Dupont is doing as you did. They chose to turn them down and Mississippi wants it. I can't buy it. Would you care to comment on the pipe that goes underneath? You don't take the responsibility to evaluate what goes through the pipe?

GILL: That comes under the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission.

KENNEDY: So you grant a permit for just a blank pipe? Even if they're going to dump sewage wastes in there, you don't concern yourself with that? Is that right?

MITCHELL: Let me try to clarify a few things that are running through my mind. We are beginning to confuse the Wetlands Protection Act with the Coastal Zone Management Act. The CZM Act tends to look at all of these resources and just not one specific resource such as the wetlands. The primary purpose of this program tonight is coastal zone management. The Wetlands Act will play a vital role in it. We're simply drifting left and right of the actual purpose of what we're trying to do.

KENNEDY: (Tapes not understandable) but the role's played out. You've already given them permission to go ahead. I don't understand, I really don't.

MITCHELL: Let me throw this out. If we had a coastal zone management program in Mississippi, it possibly would have been a different story for Dupont.

KENNEDY: That's the same thing that Mr. Stennis, Mr. Eastland, and Mr. Lott have written me. Just what you told me. I don't appreciate it. It's a brush off, and I don't buy it.

_____. Make it an established sanctuary and later on they can prove who was right or wrong, whether you were right or Dupont was right.

KENNEDY: I'll tell you what. Let's find out whether we're right now and not wait

till they put that damn thing in there.

_____: No study has been done about the stuff they're going to dump in there. You don't even know what's going to happen ten years from now.

_____: I know what they're going to dump in there, and I think everybody knows.

_____: But you don't know the effect yet. It might not be killing all the fish.

MITCHELL: We are thinking about estuarine sanctuaries. Does everybody have those written down?

_____: I'll tell you where your erosion problem is. It's the entire county road system. That has been your problem. A Senator pointed it out and that was the problem in Chesapeake Bay. It was not pollution from the Potomac River, which is the dirtiest river in the United States as far as I know. But every beat in Hancock County has a motor grader that's tearing up the road and digging ditches and putting the mud in the middle of the road. If you want to talk about erosion, drive through the county and tell me why the roads are anywhere from a foot to six feet below the surrounding land. All of that erosion is down in the bottom of the Jourdan River and the bayous. That's your erosion problem. We have no other erosion problems in Hancock County. As soon as you get over into the western part of the county, that section where you don't have all these traveled roads and you have a marsh where you don't have the erosion problem, you have fish. If you don't believe me, ask anybody that fishes bass, and they'll tell you.

_____: Why don't you write that down?

_____: Everybody knows that, Mr. Harris.

_____: That's what we've got the blank for. That's what we asked you to do.

Write it down.

_____: Mr. Mitchell, I would like to pose a question. I don't know whether you can answer it or not at this time, but what bureaucratic agencies would you hope to eliminate by the instigation of coastal zone management?

MITCHELL: Well, it's very difficult to say what bureaucratic agencies we hope to eliminate. First of all, I'd say I would not want to eliminate ourselves. I don't think that under the present state system (of course, you've probably heard me say we have over 160 state agencies), each one of them has a particular function. This is a major problem--to eliminate any particular agency. I wouldn't recommend that because they might be out to eliminate my particular agency, and I don't want them to do that. But what I'm trying to say is that each one of them has a specific interest in the organization of the state's resources. These interests can be combined in a direction so that resources can be protected, enhanced, or utilized not only for the conservation and preservation of these areas of the state but also for the perpetuation of economic development. This is what we're talking about in coastal zone management--a balance between conservation, preservation, and economic development, not one way or the other. We have begun to identify 5 or 6 state agencies that have definite concerns within the coastal area. Now we can begin to see some type of way that we might be able to use the expertise from these other areas. Going back to the single permit theory; now the developer, builder, or homeowner has to come in for one permit from us, one from the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission, one from the Corps of Engineers, one from the Board of Water Commissioners, etc. If we could combine all of this permitting, I think we have done our job in coastal zone management without really adding any additional layers of bureaucracy or additional state agencies or structures.

_____: Well, that's what I wanted to know --if this is just going to be another agency that we were going to have to go through?

MITCHELL: No, sir, I hope it's not another agency.

_____: I want to make two points clear. When I mentioned Diamondhead, I only used Diamondhead as an example because somebody else pointed it out. First, I think

that the county roads are polluting by siltation far greater than Diamondhead is. Second, I don't understand why this coastal zone management commission or whatever it is is coming to us for recommendations when we have agencies who have the expertise (if that's the right word) and the financial capabilities to hire biologists and fishery men, such as the EPA, Air and Water Pollution Board, etc. I don't, for the life of me, understand why you people can't go to these men who are supposedly (I hope we're paying for something) on top of the problem and say, "Now look, this is wrong and this is right, and this is what you all should try to do." I mean you're coming to us, and the majority of us are just ordinary working citizens. We see things happen, but I would say the majority of us don't know why. However, these men are out in the field. You're paying them a salary, and you don't say we should do this or we should do that. I don't understand what these other agencies are doing.

MITCHELL: There are definitely specific, fragmented management structural agencies. We have a number of state agencies that have narrow management responsibilities. Now it's our intention to come to the general public. Public participation is a major portion of coastal zone management. I think we said this last winter in the same meeting. We don't want to close the doors on public input into the program. Like I said earlier tonight, we could very easily go back to Long Beach, write the program, and send it off. Then we could say, "Here it is, folks." Then you've got another bureaucratic structure crammed down your throats. This is not the intention of the Council. We want to try to keep you up to date as we're up to date, but still in all, we need input from you tonight. Let me say one other thing, addressing the utilization of the expertise of the other state and Federal agencies. We are doing this. We have a staff of three people who are directly connected with the coastal zone management program. We have Mr. Joe Gill who primarily works in the wetlands. He helped us out because we felt we were going to have some concern with the wetlands.

We are using the expertise of these other state agencies.

_____: As I understand it, the Game and Fish Commission in Mississippi has control of just the fresh water, and the Mississippi Marine Conservation Commission has control of the salt water. Well now, what does the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission consider as estuaries? That's what we're paying them their salaries to do.

MITCHELL: You are absolutely right. And we have gone to them. We have gone to these agencies essentially with the same criteria and the same nomination forms and said, "What do you nominate or what is your particular area of interest. What do you nominate for an estuarine sanctuary? A significant beach? Where do you feel you have significant erosion?"

_____: Am I to understand then that your function as an organization would be coordination? We could present our problems to you and you could satisfy our questions by contacting these various and sundry other agencies?

MITCHELL: Let me say this. Let's say that coastal zone management is in place. Some agency will be designated to carry this out. Like I said before, our mandate is actually to prepare the plan, not necessarily to administer it. Now somewhere down the line the decisions as to what actual functions the MMRC is going to have in management are going to be made. But we can begin to see that there are a number of other state agencies that have major responsibilities, more responsibilities in certain areas than we do. But we feel that through coastal zone management we could get one management group in lieu of the fragmented responsibilities of the various agencies in Mississippi.

_____: Well, I do, too. If we could come to you or come to whomever takes over this coordination, we could say, "Look, this is my property and can you help me?" rather than go to 15 or 20 different agencies.

MITCHELL: That's one objective.

_____: I have a question here, Mr. Mitchell. It probably pertains to Mr. Gill.

I don't think it would be coastal zone management. You had a map up there a while ago with the green area that was considered wetlands. Tonight is the first time I've heard of this, and I might be misinformed. I'd like to know. Mr Seal was here and was concerned about it, and this gentleman over here was talking about oil leases. He explained this to me a while ago, and I don't know whether he got this from you or not. The area that is in this green is considered state controlled land? Is that right? And that does pertain to all mineral rights?

GILL: Well, no, sir, that's not under our jurisdiction. That is under the Mississippi Mineral Lease Board. The only thing we do is assist the Mineral Lease Board in determining jurisdiction, because their jurisdiction is the same as ours. There can be no permit issued by our agency for drilling oil wells.

_____: OK, this is getting to the point that I was going to try to make. I know there's areas on there, privately owned areas, and I'm not talking about out in the Sound. I'm talking about high land. It might be below the mean level, but it's land that people own and are paying taxes on it. It is deeded to them, and you could go build on it or drive on it. Does this mean that the person who owns this particular piece of land is restricted to what he can do, or are you just concerned with pollution for drilling purposes, or...

GILL: We are concerned with what they do, sir. It depends on the elevation of this land that you are talking about. If it's above the watermark of ordinary high tide, then we do not have jurisdiction. But if it's below it, then we do have jurisdiction. If they're paying taxes on property that is below the watermark of ordinary high tide, there is a provision in the law that they can go to the county tax assessor or city tax assessor and have this removed from the tax roles.

_____: This has not been done, because I do know people, for instance, with marsh property where they do nothing but trap. In fact, they have a brother that buys fur,

and he has about 4,000 acres in the Heron Bay area. He pays 52 cents an acre in taxes. I think that's what the uncultivated land is an acre. And what you're saying here really is that there's nothing he can do with that land in the line of minerals, leasing it, or having wells drilled on it. He's just limited to what he can do with it?

GILL: As far as drilling wells, there again, we have no jurisdiction. That is the Mineral Lease Board. In other words, they have the same jurisdiction as we have, and they are the one that issues the permit for drilling the oil well or gas well or whatever.

_____: I have the same situation. I think what Mr. Curtis is trying to say is I own some land down in the Heron Bay section and it's just marshland. It's not navigable. You couldn't drive a sixteen foot hull through it. You can walk in it in hip boots and put muskrat traps on it. You pay taxes on it and you've got a deed on it, but you tell me I don't own it?

GILL: Sir, all I can say is we have jurisdiction over it. And according to the law, if it is below the watermark of ordinary high tide...

_____: Do you know what the mark is above sea level?

GILL: It's different in different areas. Right off hand, I don't know. I can check it for you.

_____: The reason I was concerned is I know people who have gone out in this area where it's green (pointing to map) and bought mineral rights. Just go and outright buy mineral rights in this marsh area, and it looks like to me it would be taking a terrible chance and then having to go to the state and they say you can't drill on it.

_____: I can verify that. The state has definitely claimed the minerals and the surface on anything that is below mean high tide. And that goes back to sovereignty with the exception of those kinds that were granted by foreign sovereignties before Mississippi became a state. And there are very few. Although there are quite a

few claims in the southern part of Hancock County, I don't know of one that came down through sovereignty of a foreign country even though this was Spanish West Florida at one time.

_____: I think the American Papers took care of that, didn't they?

GILL: Sir, we can't find anything in the American Papers.

_____: They've got copies in Washington.

RICHARD GLACZIER: Let me point out something about this map, if I may. It is very generalized. These lines are not exact. They were drawn on here to give you a general idea of the jurisdiction that we have under the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act. It is not exclusive and all of the areas that are shown green on this map may not be under the tidal influence. This is a very generalized map to give a very generalized idea of the area covered. It could be that there is some area down here that is four or five feet above sea level and above high tide. But it may be colored green on this map. If you have a specific area that you're curious about, Joe has the maps in the office that we can check for accurate recordings.

_____: Well, I was just concerned. Like I said, there are some areas that are shaded that I know would be fairly high land.

GILL: The contract that we have with the Geological Survey right now is to identify these areas for us.

_____: You did say that the area above mean tide would vary in different areas? Is that correct? You don't know what that is above or below sea level, let's say right here on the coast?

GILL: On the coast? That's why I'm hesitant to say anything, because in three different areas, there are three different water marks. In Pascagoula you have a different one from Biloxi, which is different from Bay St. Louis. This is by memory only, but I believe the watermark of ordinary high tide at Diamondhead is 1.8 feet. Anything above 1.8 feet above sea level is not in our jurisdiction.

_____: But it would be roughly in that range? That was what I was concerned about. Of course, on this coast the beach, I think, starts out about five feet above, doesn't it, Mr. Gill? I know we have some marshland that is above sea level, not like New Orleans though. I think their average mean is 5 below.

_____: Isn't mean high tide established over a period of 18½ years?

GILL: Yes, sir. You know yourself you have to get a benchmark. You have to have a survey done. When we receive an application and we see that we are going to run into this problem, then we do have this survey run.

_____: That answered my question. I appreciate it.

NORTON HAAS: I think that we have been here a good while, and I think you did really a good job tonight. I think they did better than Gulfport, didn't they? Of course, they were supposed to do better than Gulfport. I always tell them that if they come over in Hancock County, they can learn more than staying in Harrison County. We want to make these last observations.

I think tonight, among all of you, that the major part realize from your neighbor and from yourselves that there are a lot of areas in Hancock County of concern. I want to leave this with you. If I didn't believe that we need to do something about it, I wouldn't be here. I've been here a long time, and whenever it comes to doing something for the good of Hancock County, I try to do my part. Of course, I can make mistakes just like all the rest of you, but I want you to know that I'm going to travel with this thing as far as I can to find out all I can. In the meantime, I want your help. We need your support, because in the long run the State Legislature of Mississippi is the one who has to adopt all of these things we are doing. They are the ones who have got the understanding. They are the ones who have to hear from us. They have got to have your support. We need your support. We need your advice.

I'm sorry if my friend, Gus Elmer, didn't understand that we do need your advice in addition to the experts. The people that are out in the county and the

city, the ones that have got to live under that law we make, must be concerned and should stay with us until we can get this thing to be the best for the most people. Let's try to have a trust in the neighbor and in the people that are trying to help you. We will try to plan this thing to the best of your interest and to the interest of most of the people, because that is the reason we are here--in order to accept this trust for the future and future generations. As old as I am, it wouldn't hurt me nor help me, but there are people coming behind us. We want to let them all know that they are standing on the ground that grandpa passed over. I would hope that we would be able to leave it for the next generation in better shape than we found it. There have been so many things happen to us. In worrying about these things that have happened to us, we overlook all the good things and all the blessings that the good Lord has sent to us and all the good things that happened. We forget about it and we worry about the things that we think are hurt. I think that we need to look at the future with hope. The truth of it is, Hancock County is on the threshold of a great future. I have confidence in the officials and people of Hancock County that we are going to build it and it is going to be the best county and the biggest county in the State of Mississippi.

The golden opportunity lies between Texas and Florida, and we are in the middle. I think that if you will rally behind us, we can do these things to protect the future. We don't want to turn anything that we have over to everybody to do just as they please. You are going to find that the fellow above you or below you may do things that hurt you, and we are going to try to protect that. Give us a thought, fill out these papers, and put down anything that you think ought to be told. That is what we want. We want your idea. You out there, you see a thing that these experts don't see. I am pleading with you tonight. Try to give us your attention. Do a little homework on this thing. Support us. Is there anything else you need to say? I've

got to get these professors lined up.

KENNEDY: I would like to say one thing.

HAAS: Go ahead, Mr. Kennedy.

KENNEDY: Let Dupont come in and our grandchildren will swim in the cesspool of Bay St. Louis.

HAAS: Well, let's see about that. Let's wait for the time and see.

KENNEDY: No, your waiting is too late.

HAAS: You don't know what's late, because you're still living. After you are dead and gone you'll find out that there was a fellow behind you that knew more than you did, and you just wouldn't give him credit for it. I think that whatever happens in Bay St. Louis in the next ten or twenty years, they will be able to correct it if there is anything wrong. It's not nearly as bad as the Great Lakes, and I guess Mr. Kennedy left there..(tapes not understandable)

KENNEDY: I will not admit that.

HAAS: Well, it is a fact. I know that it would be hard for you to admit it.

KENNEDY: I don't think I'm wrong, but I don't want to be proven wrong when it is too late.

HAAS: I'm just glad you came, because you are the very man that we need to get straight, so that you can keep on helping us.

KENNEDY: I'm going to help you, but I don't want Dupont in here. I'll tell you that.

HAAS: OK, well, listen. I am 100 per cent in favor of this law, and I am happy that we came here and we are going to prove that they are all good.

KENNEDY: Sacrifice the economy for about two years for the future benefits. That's what I'm looking for.

HAAS: We are glad you came, and we are glad to hear from Mr. Kennedy and anybody else who has anything to say against Dupont. We were glad to have you.

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Hancock County Courthouse
August 17, 1976

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

Pascagoula Meeting

August 18, 1976

JAMES H. WATSON: You stated that (tapes not understandable).. the plan that is presently under the program (tapes not understandable)...

JERRY MITCHELL: We are here to identify areas of primary concern. I said the entire coast is being looked at, but certain areas have to be raised above the rest of the coast.

WATSON: I'm talking about ..(tapes not understandable).

MITCHELL: No, Mr. Watson, it is not more of that. I think it is more aligning the fragmented activities that are taking place right now.

WATSON: Now, why is it that you are restricting (tapes not understandable)..

MITCHELL: That is always a very good question, and has been asked us a number of times. This is a coastal program and not a state-wide program. There are other areas that have been identified that are within the state or other state agencies or Federal agencies that have controls over the rest of the coast. In the past it is just a Federal right. They felt like this area would be impacted more than the remainder or the interior. First of all, let's look under the area where we feel we could plan and identify easily. When we come to management, let's look under an area that is capable of management. As you know, we've begun to look at six counties. We've refined our thinking down to three counties, and we may have to refine it down further as these things come to be identified. I think activities up on the Leaf River around Hattiesburg, which comes down the Pascagoula system, would definitely impact the coastal waters.

WATSON: Now are you, you say the permit (tapes not understandable).

MITCHELL: Again, this is something I failed to mention in the criteria. This is a responsibility of the Oil and Gas Board and the Mineral Lease Board. This is a resource of the State of Mississippi I think could be identified.

H. R. EVANS: Who leases the wetlands? I have knowledge of a violation in the wetlands.

MITCHELL: Mr. Evans, we have Joe Gill who is in charge of our Wetlands Section, and he will be available at break time.

T. J. WILLS: My name is T. J. Wills. I am here as sort of a conservationist, and also as a landowner. I have some formal education in wildlife and ecology, and I just wondered what you were going to do with this. How much weight is going to be given to this thing when it gets up to Jackson or wherever it is going? I am somewhat appalled that you would ask a bunch of laymen. There is some pretty technical stuff here.

MITCHELL: First off, it is very technical. That is why I say let us qualify our areas. We have expertise on that. Realize that not each and every individual could address specific areas on here.

WILLS: I've studied enough to know that I'm not qualified to answer hardly any of those questions. I have got the formal education in these subjects, and I know that I am not qualified to put a pencil to that piece of paper.

MITCHELL: If there are areas where you feel you are qualified, just get them back to us. If you feel like you are not qualified, don't worry about it. We felt we needed input from the general public to help formulate this coastal program. If there is a particular area that you feel qualified in, then go ahead and put some numbers in there for us.

JUANITA G. LARIMORE: I'm Juanita Larimore, an environmental specialist for Standard Oil Refinery here in Pascagoula, and I have a prepared statement. This statement is made on behalf of Standard Oil Company (KY). Standard Oil owns and operates a large petroleum refinery in the Bayou Casotte Industrial Park in Jackson County.

The Standard Oil Refinery and the Mississippi industrial community are concerned regarding the effect of the Coastal Zone Management Plan on the future growth of state industry. Industries throughout the state are affected by regulations administered through many land use control agencies. The intentions of all the agencies and regulations are good, but the results today are overlapping and burdensome and could ultimately have an adverse effect on the economic development of the entire state.

We urge the Council to reduce all coastal management plans, state or federal, to one unified, well-defined Coastal Zone Plan which can be understood by the general public, business and industry. A Coastal Zone Plan of this type will comply with the Coastal Zone Act and will not add another layer of administration or enforcement.

Area-wide wastewater management plans (208 plans) are also being developed for Mississippi. It is essential that area-wide wastewater management plans and Coastal Zone Management Plans be coordinated. If not, regulations could, again, become redundant and burdensome. As both plans are developed, we hope that the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission will retain sole state authority over the NPDES permit program.

The air and water contaminant discharges from industries are already carefully regulated by the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Coast Guard. We support eventually adding Coastal Zone Management to the Charter of the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. It will benefit not only industry, but the consumer/taxpayer as well, to keep the number of regulatory agencies to a minimum.

MITCHELL: Thank you, Ms. Larimore. Let me amplify a few points here. Water pollution is a step in coordinating with coastal zone management. There is a

degree of coordination between the two agencies on the federal level. When you are talking about Section 208, you are just dealing with one resource of the state of Mississippi. That is water resources. Coastal zone management is actually concerned with all of the resources within the state. The additional layer of government is definitely a concern of all individuals we have listened to and talked to. The direction of the Mississippi program is, like I said the other night, to coordinate some of the fragmented responsibilities of the various state agencies. Then we could possibly go to a one-step permitting system which would be a definite advantage to not only the industrial developer but other developers throughout the coastal area. We are concerned. We don't want to create another layer of bureaucracy that would have to be gone through in order to continue the economic develop. Let me close with that.

I.P. LARUE: My name is I. P. LaRue, and I'm with the Gulf Hills Development Corporation in Ocean Springs. I'm still a little lost. I understand that the exact purpose of the meeting tonight is that you are primarily concerned with setting up this management area in order to get matching federal funds.

MITCHELL: To set up the management area in order to qualify for Federal funds, is this what you are asking?

LARUE: Yes, is that the primary purpose?

MITCHELL: No, sir, the primary purpose is not to set up a management area to qualify for Federal funds. The primary purpose of coastal zone management is actually the proper utilization of the coastal resources and not necessarily to qualify for federal funds.

LARUE: I would like to ask one other question. As I understand the existing law, perhaps this term "management area" is misleading. The only property that you could have any management on at all would be public lands or lands that are under the Wetlands Act, which are still public lands. Even though an area is designated

as an area of interest or an area of concern, if it is privately owned, I don't see that you have any management of it. Is this correct?

MITCHELL: This is a very difficult question. First of all, to clarify the state owned water bottom wetlands, yes, we do have management functions. You have other management practices and techniques on certain lands and waters that possibly could not be managed under the management program. These are managed by various county or city ordinances. This does not preclude that of the state not having a particular interest in this area.

_____: Are you presently in charge of applications under the Wetlands Act?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir, we have Mr. Joe Gill with us tonight. If you have a specific question about the wetlands, he will be happy to help you.

_____: This is something of a new procedure to all of us. Do you have a good many pending applications under the Wetlands Act?

MITCHELL: I would like you to address this to Mr. Joe Gill

JOE GILL: At the present time, sir, I have six applications.

_____: Roughly what would be the average time it would take to get a permit?

GILL: Roughly, sir, it would be probably 35 to (tapes not understandable) days, that is if we receive no objections. If we receive objections, then we send out notices to your mayor, your supervisors, and people like this. If we receive any objections we must hold a public hearing. Then you are looking at somewhere around approximately 55 to 90 days, depending upon the magnitude of the public hearings.

_____: Under the present regulation before you can consider an application, it has to be approved by several other agencies?

GILL: No, sir. Once an application is approved by us, it has to be approved by other agencies such as the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. If the

Air and Water Pollution Control Commission does not give their okay, then our permit is not valid. The Corps of Engineers does have permitting authorities also. They too have to wait on the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission before they can issue a permit.

H. R. EVANS: I have a small item. I'm the Secretary for the Mississippi Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. We have a program underway identifying and marking (tapes not understandable) of the American Revolution combat soldiers.

MITCHELL: This is something that I appreciate. We didn't know this activity was going on. Is this just in Jackson County or throughout the area?

EVANS: Throughout the state.

MITCHELL: When will this information be available?

EVANS: It's underway.

JAMES H. WATSON: What is the big difference between what you are doing here tonight and nationalization?

MITCHELL: I'm not that qualified to speak on nationalization, if I may bow out to nationalization. I'm just not that historical or knowledgeable in that area. If you could explain it a little bit, I think that I could.

WATSON: I recall reading in the Herald where you said that (I don't know exactly what it was that you said) a fellow thinks that he owns what he has, and his neighbor has the right to share (tapes not understandable)... Remember that article in the Herald?

MITCHELL: Yes, that was in the newspaper supplement.

WATSON: Would you elaborate on that a little bit?

MITCHELL: We are concerned with each activity we do that is detrimental to the environment and can relate to our neighbors. An activity on the upland areas could contribute to some changes in the characteristic of the waters in the Mississippi Sound

Sound. This upland activity could affect that.

WATSON: Now, what particular (tapes not understandable... I didn't get that clear a while ago.

MITCHELL: We're not navigating on private property. Let me qualify this. Nothing more at this writing than the normal rules and regulations of other agencies in the counties and cities will be done than is already done.

WATSON: I feel that the areas of particular concern, looking on this white sheet here, (tapes not understandable..

MITCHELL: Again, we go off into two state agencies, Mr. Watson. The activities of the Mineral Lease Board, of course, are on state owned land and are primarily concerned with clam shells, (tapes not understandable), and sand. That is a Mineral Lease Board activity. Other activities would be from the Oil and Gas Board. They would actually govern (tapes not understandable).

_____: When you say management, do you mean control? When you say control, to what extent do you carry the ultimate desire that your group has in controlling the water, or the land in this particular area?

MITCHELL: I'm afraid we may use the words synonymously, but actually when you say control you have to recognize that individual pieces of property here in Jackson County are governed by either local or county ordinances. The major areas have been identified by either national or state laws.

_____: Why do we need this agency if it is already controlled?

MITCHELL: This is actually a real concern. A number of the resources were not controlled. Upon further investigation, particularly by the Council, we found that we have so many areas or so many different state laws which have fragmented interests in a particular thing. We are not talking about another one. If we could parallel and bring these agencies together, like I said earlier, to a possible one-step permitting system, I think this would be a great thing for the state.

_____: In other words, if this agency took over the control that you are advocating here, would we no longer have control by the Corps of Engineers and by the environmentalists?

MITCHELL: The Corps of Engineers' activities shall be consistent with this program. I am saying the Corps, in addition to other Federal agencies, shall be consistent with the Mississippi program.

GEORGE W. EBLE: Then why doesn't it take the place of the other? Why add another agency?

MITCHELL: No, it is not an attempt to add another agency. It is just an attempt to parallel activities or to mesh activities to eliminate a fragmented approach to a number of state resources.

JAMES H. WATSON: In these last meetings that you had up and down the coast, it is my understanding that the majority of the people in attendance were opposed to what you proposed.

MITCHELL: The Marine Resources Council was mandated by state law to prepare this program. You can refer to your copy of the Wetlands Protection Act. The Council shall prepare the coastal zone management plan for the State of Mississippi.

WATSON: Well, now wasn't that (tapes not understandable)..

MITCHELL: No, sir, it was not. The National Act was signed in 1972. Your state act, the Coastal Wetlands Protection Act, became effective July 1, 1973.

WATSON: (Tapes not understandable)...

MITCHELL: These were the meetings that were two-fold in nature. Number one was to bring about some discussion on these possible boundaries of a particular area. Secondly, there is no (tapes not understandable) coastal zone management.

WATSON: Wasn't all this that you are talking about called the enabling act?

MITCHELL: No, it was not necessarily an enabling act. It was just an act mandating

the Council to come up with a plan. The act is primarily a part of the functions of wetlands protection.

WATSON: This plan has not been accepted yet, has it?

MITCHELL: No, sir, they have not accepted it.

WATSON: Can it still be rejected?

MITCHELL: It still can be rejected by the state. Are there any more questions?

Ladies and gentlemen, we appreciate your time and patience. We hope that when you get home tonight you will think about what has been said to you, and tomorrow you can go with vigor and start working on these particular materials. Hopefully, you can get them back to us by September 1. Thank you again. Goodnight.

(The following is a letter to J. E. Thomas, Director of the Mississippi Marine Resources Council, received August 30, 1976.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Due to the unfortunate conflicts in my schedule, I was unable to attend the meeting held in Pascagoula relative to the czm discussion of areas of concern. Therefore, I would like this letter to be included in the public input of the development of a czm plan.

One of the most critical concerns, as I interpret it, in the development of a czm plan is the designation of areas that we wish to protect. It is my understanding that the whole thrust of czm is the balance of need between people and the survival of our environment.

In this regard I would recommend that Sections 8, 17, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, and 32 of Township 7 South, Range 4 West; Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Township 8 South, Range 5 West; Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 27, and 28 of Township 8 South, Range 5 West be set aside as an estuary system and maintained

in its present form. I believe that under the czm plan there is authority for the purchase of property to be set aside for this purpose. Further, if the title was checked on the majority of this land I believe it would reveal that the State of Mississippi now owns a large portion of it.

I would like to see the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory survey the property so that they could verify to the Council that this is the only region of unpolluted marsh area left in the State of Mississippi. We have several thousands of acres of marsh area in Mississippi, but none can approach this area in its purity. Dr. Howse and Bill Demoran are well familiar with this area because I have had them to survey the area on one other occasion.

It may be, that if the Council determines that this is a likely area to be set off for an estuary system, that a public hearing on that issue alone could be held in Jackson County. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warm personal regards I remain

Sincerely yours,

Earl L. Koskela
Attorney at Law
Pascagoula

Participants of Pascagoula Meeting
Jackson County Courthouse
August 18, 1976

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

Biloxi Meeting
August 19, 1976

JERRY MITCHELL: Do we have any questions up to this time dealing primarily with geographic areas of concern, either on a state wide or local area?

CLAUDE JOHNSON: I would like to ask a question. Every one of these things you've talked about here and everything showed here shows it's already got controls on it. Did you want to place more controls on it? We're controlled to death now.

MITCHELL: This is what we are finding out, Mr. Johnson. I think the real problem is we have fragmented control. Fragmented means that it is just very narrow. Each individual or each individual state agency has this very, very limited area of interest. I think we should go back to these areas that are combining these interests. We could go further toward the proper utilization of the resources we have available to us.

FRANK HAVILAND: I was present at the last meeting. My understanding at the last meeting was we did not get anything accomplished for the boundaries here that I saw. Most things were concerned with the whole situation. We talked about these controls, and we talked about this land. You are talking about my land. Is somebody going to compensate me for your controls? I understand that the state has already taken some, and I'm to get it off my tax roles. Now, I don't believe this is the way to go about something. Ms. Jones mentioned that the Federal Government wasn't going to be in this too much. Later on, I want to read you something about the Federal Government that has put up \$1.8 billion for something that we didn't even know at the last meeting was going to be approved or this coastal zone management was even going to be approved. It looks to me like we are getting the cart before the horse. How about compensation for this?

We have \$1.2 billion here from the government. The Federal Government is playing a mighty big part in this thing. I cannot see that when they put that much money in it, they are not going to have a pretty good bit to say about it. Thank you.

MITCHELL: Questions like this I wish you could hold until the end or the last part. The \$1.2 billion is supposedly utilized to offset the landside effects from the vital continental shelf development. This is quite common in states such as Louisiana and California. They have a tremendous impact from oil development in continental waters. This money will be utilized to offset this impact if we have an impact in Mississippi.

We will have to make the determination or the local units of government will have to make the determination within this area. I think there are some acquisition authorities or acquisition possibilities, such as for estuarine sanctuaries, which is in the original act. There are some other monies available for the purchase of beach access, which is really not a problem here in Harrison County.

_____: That will be the answer? Purchase this land?

MITCHELL: Then use them for beach access or recreational facilities. I think we are getting a little bit further away from the main topic of the areas of particular concern on a state wide or local level. Can we break right now and get some coffee?

_____: Let me ask one question before we break. Is coastal zone management connected in any way with regional planning?

MITCHELL: We are connected under contracts. We have contracts with the Gulf Regional Planning Commission, Jackson County Planning Commission, South Mississippi Planning and Development District, and with the Sea Grant people and some of the universities to supply us with technical information.

_____: Mr. Mitchell, aren't we getting the cart ahead of the horse again? What right does a person have to write down something that they want unless they own the property or the state or Federal Government owns the property. That is my idea of the whole thing. It is easy enough to come in here and say, "Yes,

we are going to have workshops." Somebody has got to pay for it. We are getting the cart ahead of the horse here with all that, the way I look at it. That is my opinion. I might be wrong.

_____: Are we still on the estuaries?

MITCHELL: We were, but we are starting to move to freshwater swamps.

PEARL A. GUTIERREZ: Well, then let me say something about that, may I? I went to a meeting with Regional Planning. Of course, you know that they have those seven plans for regional sewage and those seven plans emptied the so-called pure water into Back Bay. Back Bay is a natural estuary. Of course, it is polluted now, but I can remember the different types of sea grasses that grew in Back Bay, the river type and the fern type. I was just wondering if through this agency they were going to revitalize Back Bay instead of ruining it with regional sewage.

MITCHELL: The incorporation of sewage is definitely a need. It is going to try to improve most all water quality here on the coast. This is a primary undertaking of Section 201 here. Water quality is a responsibility of the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission.

_____: That doesn't answer my question at all.

MITCHELL: Well, this is what I'm saying then is an estuarine sanctuary. You feel that this should be considered, then please write it down. I'm not sure exactly how to answer your question, but I appreciate your concern. We would like to continue. Maybe we could discuss it after the meeting a little bit.

_____: Well, I think during the meeting is the time for discussion.

MITCHELL: Let us go ahead with the workshop program, then we will get back and have some questions on it.

_____: I'm kind of confused (Tapes not understandable) estuarine sanctuary we are talking about, but I'm not sure if I really know what we are doing. Maybe I could get straightened out before we proceed.

MITCHELL: Richard, could you spend a little time with the gentleman? We can continue on fresh water swamps and marshes.

_____: Where do you get that information?

MITCHELL: This is kind of a (tapes not understandable) of the criteria.

_____: It's hard to follow you.

MITCHELL: I'm sorry, I was going pretty fast.

_____: I attended the meeting here last winter, and one of my criticisms at that time was we had no organization here, no chart or anything to see what we are getting. This man over here brought up questions about people who own the land. We have seven controls, and that is too many. It does seem to me that we ought to explain our objectives. You talk about economics. I'm not criticizing you, but I'm trying to make this thing a little bit more digestable, so everybody can understand what you are talking about.

You spoke about economics a while ago .. (tapes not understandable).. and no telling how many more millions of dollars have been spent by people. We are trying to coordinate the various controls, so we won't have these various conflicts that we have with the highway department and colleges. In my discussion, as I said in the winter time, people come here knowing this is our 200th anniversary of the whole country. We think that we can run things down here ourselves. In 200 years we have succeeded in polluting everything we have down here, cutting down these oak tress like they are going out of style, and that sort of thing. There is bound to be some conflict between the lines of authority. Isn't that what we are going about right now? Isn't that the reason for the appointment of this list of people you have here, the people on this Mississippi Marine Resources Council?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir.

_____: We are not going to get anywhere by reading something about this until we define what we are trying to do.

MITCHELL: As far as the overall program, of course, I said economic development, conservation, and preservation are really overriding issues of the program. How do we best achieve this?

_____: It seems to me you are wasting my time and everybody else's here, because we don't know what you are talking about.

MITCHELL: We would hope, sir, that your attempt to attend these meetings, plus a number of other presentations and the newspaper supplement which came out the first of August, would give you some orientation toward the total program. In our opening remarks, Ms. Jones and myself tried to re-emphasize really or explain this. As you can realize, it is a very difficult and complicated program. This is really the purpose of individual needs instead of really going out and (tapes not understandable).

_____: I think that is the first time I have heard you mention the Federal Act, and the the state act coming down. There really is an organization that comes down to something here. If you are trying to streamline something, why can't we talk about the various controls you already have and how you are trying to coordinate these things so that everybody will be concerned? I'm not quite in agreement with this gentleman over here. He talks about his property entirely. Just because you own a piece of property, it doesn't mean that you can violate everybody else's rights, too, if it is something involved. Yet he does have a strong point here talking about certain areas of control. Maybe we've got too many, and they ought to be coordinated?

MITCHELL: In my first statements I said there were seven elements of the Mississippi coastal program. The sixth and seventh elements were actually legal authority and organizational structure. This will be taken care of in the program development. Right now, we are working on areas of particular concern and priority of uses. What you are wanting us to do is to move into another area that is a little bit further down.

_____ : All I want you to do is to explain the objectives a little better. If there is a problem, what is the problem? If there are problems, then what is causing them? What are we trying to coordinate? What are we trying to do? Answer these instead of using all of these scientific terms. I guarantee you that 90% of us here don't know what is meant by all of these terms, such as the evaluation matrix.

MITCHELL: We will get down to the evaluation matrix a little bit later.

JIM HEAD: I don't want to go on record here either, but it seems to me by the schedule in this book that the purpose of this period of time is for the people here to list areas of particular concern. This gentleman mentioned the sandhill crane. That is definitely an area of particular concern. Had it been listed four years ago, the Highway Department could have planned around that area. This agency is in the process of trying to take care of areas of particular concern. What they want you to do now is put it on the paper.

MILO LARSON: Is it appropriate in this list that we are talking about to mention Ship Island as an area of particular concern. It has recently been cut in half and one portion is eroding away quite rapidly.

MITCHELL: Erosion areas of Ship, portions of Cat Island, and portions of Belle Fountain Point in Jackson County all show signs of erosion. We have some scientific investigations on some areas up in the rivers and streams where erosion is beginning to show up. This is a major concern.

LARSON: I am also concerned about the area of Belle Fountain Beach where I own property, and I can watch it disappear at a rate of five feet each year.

MITCHELL: Is it that severe? Let's continue on.

LLOYD VOGT: I have a basic question about the philosophy of what you are doing. I am a little confused. You certainly have objectives and goals which you are trying to achieve. Is the philosophy of your methodology quantitative or qualitative? Is this scientific information you are dealing within these objectives? This is a

very scientific matrix you have, and this can be filled out scientifically by the proper biologists, etc. Is the philosophy that you, as a group, are working on scientific or objective?

MITCHELL: Understandably, when you have areas of particular concern, you are going to have to deal with these on a one-on-one basis. What we are trying to do is just to come up with very broad guidelines within these areas, not necessarily specific uses but for possibly a range of uses within a particular area.

VOGT: Let me give you an example of what I mean. You talked earlier about estuarine sanctuaries, which should be considered. First of all, I think it has to be established whether or not you need one. This can be established scientifically. If then you need one, I think you should consider them all and then select the best based on biological and ecological concerns. I think you should be dealing with science here if you are really talking about ecological management. This is science.

_____: This is my opinion. If you are asking people to participate, and I appreciate the fact that you are, I think maybe you should be extracting the values of the people and not expecting laymen to contribute to whether or not this particular area can support wildlife habitat. I think this is the concern of ecologists.

MITCHELL: Of course, there is a different philosophy between you and us, and...

VOGT: Is your philosophy quantitative or qualitative, or does the information you are coming up with based on quantitative information or is it qualitative? In other words, is it subjective on your part or objective, based on recommendations of a number of scientists and ecologists?

MITCHELL: I think the purpose of the input is that we have similar types of research done by scientists and other investigators. We feel that in our scientific element, we may overlook certain areas that could be an estuarine sanctuary.

VOGT: Your philosophy then is a little of both?

MITCHELL: Let's be assured that we don't overlook or discount some areas that should be looked at. Definitely we are going to get some quantitative input. Hopefully, we can get them back and mass them together. We could then begin to make some judgements. This would be primarily a staff function. Will this particular area qualify for an estuarine sanctuary, based on some given scientific criteria? This is the approach that we felt like we should go with.

JIM CAGLE: In regards to the talk about purely scientific input and purely scientific approach to something like this, it neglects the important esthetic values, the human enjoyment values of these things. I think this approach is really pretty good. It gives you the (tapes not understandable) to vote.

_____: You want to relate this form to one specific place, is that right?

MITCHELL: No, sir, no specific place. That form right here the gentleman is talking about is the evaluation matrix. The first homework assignment was the specific place. I'm sorry I didn't make that clear.

PEARL A. GUTIERREZ: I've made this prepared statement, and I've changed it three or four times since I've been sitting here, because you have answered a lot of my questions. I know that planning is necessary. It just comes a little late, however. Worked right, it could be a great benefit for the future. At a recent roundtable discussion on the Humphrey-Hawkins bill for employment, Herbert Stein, who is a former Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, said and I quote because I think it is apropos at this time, "I think most of our difficulty has resulted from government inadequacy in managing the functions it has now." The impact of coastal management on such a broad scale almost surely will be to take American's freedom from the local government, and perhaps most importantly, from the taxpayers who foot the bills for the governmental bureaucracy. There are so many bureaucracies and agencies with never ceasing interactions, that it is almost impossible to communicate. Where does coastal zone management fit in? Just imagine

the difficulties of agencies to just talk to each other, much less to act together. You've named many agencies tonight. There was the Federal Government, the state, regional, county Air and Water Pollution Commissions, Marine Resources Council, Environmental Protection Agency, Coastal Zone Management, Coast Guard, and I think I've left a few out. There is hope in Mr. Mitchell's remarks that these could be streamlined in the future. Thank you.

MITCHELL: I think the Corps of Engineers is the one you left out. We are working toward some of this streamlining right now, particularly with the Corps of Engineers in our administration of the Wetlands Protection Act, of course. Coastal zone management right now is in the planning stages. The Council's ongoing activities under the Wetlands Protection Act have strong working relationships with the Corps of Engineers and the Air and Water Pollution Control Commission. Communication does exist between people working on the state level. On the national level, there is a grievance between the Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Coastal Zone Management. I think this is probably a little bit too simple to say it, but in the coordination of Section 201, which is your sewer planning, there is agreement on the national level between the Office of Coastal Zone Management and the Department of Housing and Urban Development as far as planning coordination is concerned. We are beginning to see the local efforts of our agency and other agencies working toward coordination of common objectives. Also, we have the coordination of activities coming down from the top level. Hopefully, this is going to begin to mesh further, and we appreciate it.

HARRIET KOHANEK: I have a simple idea as to how we could have more quantitative input into the geographic areas of particular concern and the priority of uses. Why don't we all here tonight, and there must be 30 or 40 of us, make a commitment to ourselves to mention this to say five other people. It could be a relative, friend, neighbor, your fellow employee, the postman, milkman, people who you meet, or the man on the street. After Monday night's meeting, I started to do this. I

found that each and everyone to whom I talked had no idea of what they wanted, what their areas of particular concern were. You may not get any input at all. I imagine, Mr. Mitchell, that any idea that a person has would be of help. Some of the ideas might be controversial. We all know that controversy leads to clarification, and when people are controversial, sometimes they are just looking for questions to be answered. This way we can educate a number of people to know the need for wide coastal zone management. I don't like the word management, but I do like wide coastal zoning. There will always be a need of this kind. We are getting shoulder-to-shoulder population, not pioneer population. If any of you are going to attend group meetings in the next few days, say your bridge club or your Lions Club, why not mention it? Get some input. It is our moral duty to do this, I think. Tomorrow night at the Sierra Club, we are going to mention this. I'm going to get some extra folders and have them make an input into this initial problem. I just thought I would suggest it. You are representatives to the people who are not here tonight. In this way, we can inform many people about the meeting and, at least, raise their consciousness even a little bit. Thank you.

MITCHELL: Our next item on the agenda is general questions. I am going to ask Joe Gill of our Wetlands Section to join us up here if there are any questions pertaining to the Wetlands Protection Act.

_____: Mr. Mitchell, does this mean that the discussion is over or that we could ask Mr. Gill questions? I would like to, as I said (tapes not understandable) he wants to be spent at some time.

MITCHELL: I think that now is a good time.

PEARL WALTERS: I agree with the gentleman. I am a resident of a subdivision in Biloxi. I wonder how many people in this room really know what the coastal management zone means. I think that you've got the cart before the horse. You should have explained your program before you started out having meetings.

FRANK HAVILAND: I'm not much of a speaker, Mr. Mitchell, but I'll read this.

First I want to say in all sincerity that I think Ms. Jones and everyone of you are very conscientious on this. I do not mean to be a thorn in your side. I am just against the whole program. I want to see the whole program, as far as this other bureaucratic agency, be stopped. Now I would like to read how the money is going to be (tapes not understandable) Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

President Ford signed into law a bill amending the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, administered by NOAA who oversees the Office of Coastal Zone Management. NOAA is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Presidential signing occurred shortly after Congress had passed the new coastal zone management amendments by overwhelming margins. Two consecutive sessions, the House and the Senate, agreed to accept a conference committee's report on slightly different coastal zone management bills originally passed by the legislative body in July of 1975 and March of 1976. This is lengthy. I hope you all will bear with me. I want to read the whole thing.

Final Congressional action on the report (tapes not understandable) nearly four months of conference committee deliberations and two years of work. The new legislation had two distinctive parts. It amends the basic authority of the Coastal Zone Management Act to \$464 million and established a \$1.2 billion, ten year coastal energy impact fund to help coastal states cope with the impacts of coastal energy activity including offshore oil and gas development. The fund authorizes \$800 million in loans and \$400 million in grants to help states and communities provide public facilities, schools, highways, and hospitals, for instance, needed to accommodate inflated coastal populations brought about by offshore drilling operations and certain other coastal entity activities. The funds also are to be used to plan for the economic and environmental consequences of increased energy activity. This, at the state and local level, is to prevent or reduce environmental

damages resulting from such activities and to guarantee state and local bonds issued for dealing with energy impact. The \$800 million would be allotted to states in the form of loans requiring repayment, while the \$400 million would be awarded in grants based on a formula including the number of offshore acres leased, the volume of oil and gas produced and landed, and the number of new persons employed in outer continental shelf related activities. The purpose for which the grant money may be used is carefully restricted. The legislation provides that if a state or community is unable to repay its loan through no fault of its own, the Secretary of Commerce may forgive the unpaid portion with a grant or permit, and this is refinance. (This is Federal control, ladies and gentlemen This is definitely Federal control.)

In terms of amending the Coastal Zone Management Act, the new bill extends basic funding authority through September 1980; allows states to receive a four year grant to develop their program; increases the federal (tapes not understandable) of program development grants from 2/3 to 80% with the state contributing to the boundaries; and provides an interim period before final approval during which states may receive an 80% grant to complete the development program. (This costs money, ladies and gentlemen. This is where our money is going right here. This article right here was in two Sunday papers. This thing failed, as far as I can see, last year at the last meetings. It is thrown at us again. The money is there. The money is there to keep it going. You can buy nearly anything with money. That is what the Federal Government is doing here in our particular area. (Tapes not understandable) one of the states like a couple of others to eliminate this one thing.

The bill also adds three new elements to state programs requiring planning processes for beach access, energy facility sites, and city and shoreline erosion control; requires state coastal zone management agencies to give local government thirty days to comment on decisions which affect local zones and actions; requires

that plans for offshore exploration development and production must be consistent with approved state management programs, establishes a mediation process for resolving federal-state agency disagreements; authorizes a \$5 million for four years, FY 77 to 80, but 90% Federal grants, to promote interstate and regional coordination in coastal planning and management; authorizes \$5 million annually for a national program of coastal research study; authorizes \$5 million for coastal research study and training; authorizes \$5 million annually for 80% federal grants to coastal states for the same purpose; provides \$6 million, 50% matching grants, for states to acquire, develop and operate estuarine sanctuaries; authorizes \$25 million, 50% matching grants, for states to acquire lands to provide access to public beaches and other public coastal areas and to preserve islands; increases funding authority of coastal program development, Section 305, grants from \$12 million to \$20 million annually; and increases funding authority for program administration grants \$30 million to \$50 million annually. The bill also authorizes \$2 million increasing to \$5 million a year for administrative expenses and staff operations.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to ask you how many people in this meeting tonight own property that is considered wetlands or beaches or something? Is this in order to ask them to stand up please?

MITCHELL: This is an open meeting. If you would like a show of hands, I think it would be in order.

HAVILAND: How many of you are for this program like it is now, under the circumstances now? Would you please hold up your hands?

J. B. KNIGHT: I don't think this is fair.

HAVILAND: Wait just a minute. Yes, sir, it is fair. I want to ask a question. You said just a minute ago, if you will please not interrupt me since I didn't interrupt you when you said something about me a little while ago, . . .

KNIGHT: I'm going to interrupt you before I vote. I'll tell you that.

HAVILAND: Well, that is alright. You have that right. We have one person here who has said that they own property and are for this thing. I believe you are a member of the Sierra Club. Is that right? That is fine. I just want to ask you one question. You want to go around and ask all these people to come in here to this meeting. I really didn't (tapes not understandable), and I showed enough interest. A lot of you don't agree with me. You have that right, but I want to see the interest in the coastal zone management at the local meetings when it is called for. I mean, I think that is fair enough. Am I right? No hard feelings? I want to ask you, you do not have any property, I don't believe?

KNIGHT: I held up my hand indicating I did own property.

HAVILAND: Oh, you did? Then you are for it?

KNIGHT: Now when you start asking me to vote whether or not I'm for it right now, I don't know. I'm not taking a stand either way. I think I would try to improve some of the things...

HAVILAND: Right, I know. I want to answer some of your questions. I mean some of the statements that you have made.

KNIGHT: I'm not asking you for answers.

HAVILAND: Alright, I've come to tell you what you've said that you don't agree with me on violating the law. Well, gentlemen, I'm not here to violate the law. I am going through every process with these people to do what I needed to do, and I got approval of it. Now what I am here for is to void laws from being on the books that we are going to have to violate. That is what I am here for. That is all.

MITCHELL: Mighty fine, Mr. Haviland. Thank you.

KNIGHT: May I make a little response?

MITCHELL: Yes, sir, we have kind of drifted off. I think the comments on the amendments were appreciated. You may comment briefly, sir.

KNIGHT: I think he may have misunderstood my objectives. I was speaking here as in support of some sort of organization, so that we know what we are talking about. I would like to comment on a thing or two. For instance, I think a quantitative thought of response might produce qualitative results. I think we all ought to talk about this thing whether we know we are providing any quality in this thing or not. You speak about Congress passing this amendment up there. I believe the word you used was "overwhelming majority." Somebody must be for this thing somewhere along the line, or that wouldn't have happened. I think we all ought to understand what all the controls are now that you were talking about a little while ago. Maybe the best suggestions we could make would be that coastal zone management sort of act as a liaison to coordinate efforts of these various controls, because somebody is not getting together on something, as I mentioned a while ago in the case of the highway and the sandhill crane property. You said that you were against this thing because it was more Federal control. Now I don't believe really you mean that as it sounds. I don't think most of us would agree with you. I certainly wouldn't. Federal controls aren't necessarily bad. Otherwise we wouldn't have any highways, and we wouldn't have had that much help down here when Camille came along. We wouldn't have that much help on the interstate highways, drug control, offshore fishing, oil production, and those sort of things. I don't see anything ugly or mean or bad about the Government trying to coordinate efforts down here to get something done.

As I mentioned a while ago about pollution, we've had 200 years to get it cleared up down here, and all we've done is talk about it. I don't see anything ugly or bad about the Government coming in here and helping us. If I had a piece of land out there on Back Bay, I don't think I would take a stand here that nobody ought to control it. If I'm polluting everybody else's habitat, why, I think

somebody has got to do something to keep the air clean so we can all breathe freely. I think you have a lot of good points. I just want you to know that I don't agree with all you say.

_____: That is what we are here for.

MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Knight. Do we have any other questions or comments?

HAVILAND: One other thing I would like to say to you, sir. If you will look up to those charts, it is already at the point where you can hardly do anything on your own property. I don't believe in violating the law, but like I said, I don't want the law made to where the people are going to have to violate it. We've got to live here, too. Somebody owns that land, and each one of these organizations are degrading the value of the property something terrible. Whenever you can't do what you want with your property, such as build, cut some trees down, or do something else with it, you've got property that you can't handle. I went through the process with doing a little thing with my property. I know what it is. They approved it. I got a letter to the effect that I didn't need a permit, but it took a little bit. Let me say we had a few problems.

MITCHELL: Thank you, sir. If there are no other questions, ladies and gentlemen, we appreciate your being with us tonight. The discussion was definitely appreciated. This is the first time we had the new bill read into the minutes of the program. This is our last night. We probably will have some other meetings a little bit later on down the line. Let us digest some of this information we have now. We still have roughly two years in the program, so you definitely will be hearing more about it. We are mandated by state law, and we are not ones to break the law by not doing the program. Thank you. Goodnight.

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Biloxi Community Center
August 19, 1976

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