

1987 BEACH CLEANUP

COASTAL ZONE INFORMATION CENTER

> Dianne M. Lindstedt Joseph C. Holmes, Jr. Louisiana Geological Survey Baton Rouge, Louisiana 1988

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# STATE OF LOUISIANA

Buddy Roemer, Governor

# **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Raymond W. Stephens, Jr., Secretary

### LOUISIANA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

C. G. Groat, Director and State Geologist

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# SEPTEMBER SWEEP

# LOUISIANA'S 1987 BEACH CLEANUP

bу

Dianne M. Lindstedt Joseph C. Holmes, Jr. Louisiana Geological Survey

a report to the Coastal Management Division Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

under DNR Interagency Agreement no. 21912-88-15

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### **FOREWORD**

In 1982, people concerned about the degradation and destruction of coastal resources began what came to be known as the national Coastweek celebration. They set aside this time to learn about, and to educate others about, the nation's coastal areas and the many benefits and problems associated with these vanishing resources. The word of their good works spread across the nation, especially among environmental groups, and soon a number of other states had begun planning Coastweek activities of their own.

By 1984, Louisiana's environmental groups and state agencies, such as the Sierra Club and the Department of Natural Resources' coastal zone management program, had begun a series of educational programs and publications inspired by Coastweek. At a Sierra Club meeting in New Orleans in September 1985, with that year's official Coastweek activities about a month away, someone suggested, "We should do something to celebrate Coastweek! Let's have a beach cleanup at Grand Isle!"

Not expecting to get into any trouble, Margie Vicknair Shoenfeld, coordinator of the Louisiana Nature and Science Center's "Recycle New Orleans" program, heard the question and volunteered that she knew several people who would likely help in such an effort. The operative word here is *volunteered*--Margie was named to head the effort.

After calling upon the resources of Recycle New Orleans, Margie contacted Calvin Fair, Executive Director of the newly formed Clean Team. Calvin put the wheels in motion in Baton Rouge and a few weeks later, at 5:30 a.m., two buses rolled out of Baton Rouge onto the highway to Grand Isle, joining another bus and a number of cars from New Orleans.

That first year the cleanup included over 125 participants who picked up 22 dump truck loads of trash from 6 miles of Grand Isle's public beaches and then relaxed with picnic lunches at Grand Isle State Park. Tommy Marullo, then mayor of Grand Isle, was so impressed he invited the group back, promising a party for the next year's participants.

In September 1986, "Mayor Tommy" made good on his promise with a shrimp boil for the more than 350 volunteers who returned for Louisiana's second annual beach cleanup at Grand Isle. During the two-day event, participants enjoyed numerous activities including workshops about coastal erosion in Louisiana, barrier islands, beach litter, and plastics pollution in the Gulf of Mexico. Villere Reggio, Rigs to Reefs Coordinator for the U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service, and a volunteer from New Orleans, suggested that the activities be expanded to a statewide effort in 1987.

In April 1987, we accepted the challenge at the Louisiana Coastal Cleanup '87 organizational meeting. Over 60 participants gathered at the Rockefeller Refuge meeting, organized by Reggio and hosted by Cameron Parish officials. What followed, on September 19, 1987, was Louisiana's first statewide beach cleanup. Over 3,000 participants volunteered their time, effort, and services to make Louisiana's cleanup among the best in the nation and the only one we know of that was run by volunteers without direct state funding. Industries, including many oil and other offshore companies, donated staff, equipment, services, and cash to help with the massive project. Others donated food, drinks, and entertainment

as well, for the celebrations that followed all across the Louisiana Gulf Coast. We may not have the biggest cleanup in the Gulf Coast area (yet!), but we sure do throw the best parties!

This report records and analyzes the results of surveys taken during the 1987 cleanup. Although it is just a beginning, we hope it also brings an ending to the tons of trash and debris defacing our beautiful coasts and causing so much needless harm to marine life. We hope our efforts have brought more attention to the serious problems of coastal erosion; for, as we joked with some of the volunteers at the second cleanup on Grand Isle after Hurricane Juan had washed away areas we had cleaned only a year before, "If we don't work to stop coastal erosion, we won't have to drive very far to do beach cleanups!" A sad statement, that happens to be true. Help us help Louisiana. We love our state and we hope you do too--enough to do something for it.

Margie Vicknair Schwenfeld Colvin E. Fair

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-- Margie M. Vicknair Calvin E. Fair State Coordinators 1985, 1986, 1987

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The authors thank the Coastal Management Division of Louisiana's Department of Natural Resources for providing the funding to complete this publication. Special thanks go to all the volunteers who picked up trash at the cleanup and recorded information about it, and to the beach captains who kept them organized. We also thank Bo Blackmon and Mike Liffman for reviewing the manuscript; Dean Roome and Steve Rabalais for supplying us with some of the photos; Dolores Falcon for typing the report; Elizabeth Willis and Kristin Stegall for entering all the data; Ed Koch, Ed Babin, and Matthew Armand of the LGS Cartographic Section for producing the graphics; and Jacquelyn Monday for editing the report.

### Introduction

The September Sweep of the Beach, the first statewide Louisiana Coastal Cleanup, was held on September 19, 1987. Some 3300 volunteers helped "lend a hand in the sand" by removing about 200 tons of litter from beaches in Cameron, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Lafourche, Jefferson, and Plaquemines parishes.

Earlier recognition that Louisiana's beaches were littered with unsightly and often dangerous trash and debris had prompted local cleanup efforts at Grand Isle in 1985 and 1986. Texas' 1986 coastwide cleanup focused Gulfwide attention on the problem and inspired a larger project. Education efforts and an increase in public involvement resulted in Louisiana's expanded statewide effort in 1987. The cleanup, planned to coincide with the nationwide observance of "Coastweek" and on the same day as Texas' second statewide effort, afforded the opportunity to involve the public in gathering data on the composition, distribution, and hence, possible sources of litter on Louisiana's beaches (figure 1). Information gathered by the cleanup participants and compiled here provides the first statewide overview of coastal debris.

### The Litter Problem

Litter (defined as any discarded manufactured object of plastic, metal, wood, glass, paper, or natural fiber) on beaches worldwide is a relatively recent phenomenon. For centuries standard practice for merchant ships has been to dispose of wastes overboard. This caused few problems in the oceans or coastal areas because of the biodegradable nature of the wastes. During the 1960s and 1970s, however, plastics and polystyrene (widely known by a trade name, Styrofoam), which may take up to 500 years to decompose, replaced much of the glass, paper, and wood formerly used as packaging. Cotton and hemp ropes, fish nets, and fishing lines were replaced by polypropylene and other durable plastic-like materials. The continued practice of overboard waste disposal by ships, the loss or disposal of synthetic netting by fishing fleets, and improper trash disposal by recreational boaters and others have contributed to the ubiquitousness of plastic debris in the world's oceans and on beaches from Louisiana to Antarctica.

In addition to being aesthetically unpleasant on a beach, marine debris, particularly that made of plastic, has had serious impacts on marine life. Photographs of seals, seabirds, marine turtles, and fish entangled in discarded fishing nets, six-pack yokes, and rope have become common in newspapers and magazines. Less graphic but of equally serious proportions (because of its greater ecological significance) is the ingestion of plastic materials by sea life. Endangered and threatened whales, sea turtles, and seabirds have been known to ingest plastics—a practice which commonly results in death. While most of the publicized evidence of marine entanglement and ingestion of plastics has come from the northwest Pacific Ocean and the Hawaiian Islands, such incidents have also occurred in the Gulf of Mexico. Since 1976, there have been eleven documented cases of entanglement of sea turtles in the Gulf; in 1984 a pygmy sperm whale which had beached itself at Galveston died as a result of ingesting plastics; in 1988 a minke whale which stranded itself at Matagorda Beach in Texas died of starvation stemming from plastics accumulated in its digestive tract.



Figure 1. Volunteers cleaning Rutherford Beach.



Figure 2. Debris on typical Louisiana beach.

Photo by Dean Roome

The extent of marine litter worldwide is enormous. In 1985, Horsman estimated that at least 450,000 plastic containers were dumped daily by shipping fleets. Although this estimate is impressive, it still does not include plastic items such as packing pellets, bands, polystyrene, or six-pack rings. Horsman also estimated that commercial fishing fleets contribute about 23,000 tons of plastic packaging to worldwide litter annually.

Louisiana's coastal litter problem stems from debris washed ashore from several different sources, such as merchant ships, oil and gas platforms, fishing vessels, navy vessels, and river runoff; and from litter left on the beach by people engaged in such recreational activities as camping, fishing, and swimming. The Louisiana Geological Survey (LGS) has recently determined that from 5000 to 23,000 pieces of litter mar each mile of Louisiana beach (figure 2).

# Cleanup Organization

Louisiana's statewide cleanup in 1987 was mainly a private undertaking. The state coordinators, Calvin Fair and Margie Schoenfeld, donated their time to plan, coordinate, and carry out the project. Many people contributed services, money, and supplies. (See Appendix A for a list.) Several state- and federally funded organizations, such as the LGS, the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Coastal Management Division (CMD), Louisiana Sea Grant at Louisiana State University (LSU), and the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS), contributed employee time and other resources to make the cleanup a success.

The state was divided into two areas (east and west), and then into five zones, each with designated zone coordinators (listed in Appendix B) responsible for organizing cleanup operations in their zones. The zone coordinators recruited and organized beach captains and helped recruit other volunteers. They provided the beach captains with the materials needed for a successful cleanup and data collection. They arranged for the distribution of trash bags and pickup and disposal of the collected trash. They developed communications between state coordinators and beach captains; coordinated media coverage and press releases; arranged for buses, carpools, and discounts for local lodging; and coordinated and obtained funding for the post-cleanup celebrations.

The beach captains identified and marked segments of beaches for cleanup operations, coordinated with zone coordinators, and talked to local civic and sporting groups promoting the cleanup. They made sure that volunteers had data collection materials and trash bags. They also directed volunteers to cleanup sites and worked out transportation plans and arranged for trash pickup at the sites. Beach captains advised the zone coordinator of the number of bags collected, number of volunteers, and number of miles cleaned. They also collected completed data cards and photographed the event.

The collected litter was disposed of differently in each zone. For example, in the Chandeleur zone, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel collected the bags and transported the litter for disposal. At Grand Isle, the litter was gathered by Conoco and the town of Grand Isle and transported to a Jefferson Parish landfill. In the Fourchon zone, Solid Waste Contractors of LaRose picked up the trash bags and took them to a Raceland landfill. In the Timbalier zone litter was transported by boat to trash receptacles at the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON). The Office of State Parks picked up

the Acadiana zone bags and transported them to a landfill. In Cameron the litter was collected in dumpsters which were then transported to a landfill outside the parish.

Louisiana was unique in extending its cleanup to relatively inaccessible areas of the coast. Boy Scout Troop 107 from New Orleans, led by Villere Reggio, cleaned up North Breton Island with the assistance of Shell Offshore, Inc., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Kerr McGee, a week before the statewide cleanup. The Gulf Coast Conservation Association, aided by Mid-Continent Oil and Gas, Louisiana Land and Exploration, Tenneco LaTerre, Chevron, and Texaco, organized a "boat flotilla" to bring 350 volunteers to Timbalier Island and Isles Dernieres (figure 3).

Publicity was handled by the state coordinators, zone coordinators, and the beach captains. Several public service announcements on the radio, radio talk shows, newspaper stories, and television spots publicized the event a few weeks in advance. Statewide publicity was furthered by the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program and by the Coastal Management Division of DNR. They prepared and/or funded posters, flyers, public service announcements, educational materials, and workshops. Celebrations varied with zones and beaches, some with music, others with educational displays and talks. Sandwiches, crabs, shrimp, hot dogs, soft drinks, and beer were consumed statewide. Although the weather was stormy, rainy, and hot, the first statewide cleanup was a huge success. Overall 3300 volunteers cleaned about 60 miles of Louisiana beaches in two hours, filling about 16,000 bags which altogether weighed about 200 tons.



Figure 3. A boat flotilla transported cleanup volunteers to Timbalier Island and Isles Dernieres.

More important, many volunteers grew to appreciate the enormity of the problem of litter and trash disposal not only on the beaches but throughout the state. Many volunteers were amazed by what they found littering Louisiana beaches, and will think more about what happens to their own trash and make an effort to properly dispose of or recycle it.

### Data Collection

Data cards originally designed for the 1986 Texas cleanup by the Center for Environmental Education, a national environmental action group, were modified for the Louisiana cleanup. The changes were based on preliminary beach surveys conducted by the LGS as part of a year-long study of trash and debris on Louisiana beaches. This study, funded by the Coastal Management Division of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, provided additional information about the seasonality and geographical distribution of debris on Louisiana's beaches.

The data card lists 70 items grouped primarily by composition (plastic, rubber, glass, styrofoam, metal and paper). Figure 4 is a sample data card used during the cleanup. One category, fishing gear, contains items of various composition but with a common purpose. The "total number of bags filled" box was important in extrapolating data for the entire cleanup.

Data cards were distributed to volunteers on the day of the cleanup, along with pencils and instructions on recording data and litter recognition. The cards were collected by the beach captains at the end of the day. A few completed cards were mailed in late. Of the 485 cards returned to the LGS, 412 cards representing 14 beaches contained usable data, which the LGS evaluated and analyzed.

#### Statewide Results

The location of the beaches is shown in figure 5: eight were within the Cameron zone, one in the Acadiana zone, two in the Timbalier zone, one in the Fourchon zone, two in the Grand Isle zone, and one in the Chandeleur zone. Table 1 summarizes the distribution of volunteers, volume of litter collected, number of bags collected, and miles of beaches cleaned. Over 60 miles of beach were cleaned by about 3300 volunteers. About one-half of the litter was collected along Cameron beaches where about one-half of the volunteers were in action.

The number of data cards completed and returned by zone and beach is listed in table 2. The greatest response came from Fourchon Beach (152), Grand Isle (76), and Timbalier Island (83). Responses were greater there because several organized groups at those beaches, such as the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, LSU's Department of Geography and Anthropology and the Center for Wetland Resources, the U.S. Minerals Management Service, and the Sierra Club, had been briefed about the data cards before the cleanup. In addition, a morning rain in Cameron made data collection more difficult there.

Less than 1% of all the litter was of foreign origin, but this type of litter was more interesting to the volunteers and researchers because it is a

#### ITEMS COLLECTED

You may find it helpful to work with a buddy as you clean the beach, one picking up trash and the other taking notes. An easy way to keep track of the items you find is to make tick marks like this:

bags the THEE FII	TOTAL  /3 (Please n	ote foreign items by making an "F" as shown to t	he left.)
5080	TOTAL	and the second s	TOTAL
	NUMBER.		NUMBER
	OF ITEMS		OF ITEMS
PLASTIC		STYROFOAM	
bags		cups	
blue salt bags		food trays	
caps, lids		egg cartons	
6-pack holders		packing	
bottles:		pieces	
pop			
cleaners		METAL	
food		cans:	
rope		pop	
cups, utensils		beer	
milk, water jugs		food/juice	
large sheeting		aerosol cans	
strapping bands		bottle caps	
vegetable sacks		pull tabs	
straws		other cans	
		large containers	
gloves		drums: rusty new	
toys		wire	
buckets		pieces	
diapers		other (specify)	
lighters			
hardhats		FISHING GEAR	
tobacco "cans"		net fragments	
pipe thread protectors		fishing line	
baskets/crates		buoys	
filters		net floats	
other (specify)		light stick s	
DUDDED		crab traps	
RUBBER		other (specify)	
tires		PAPER	
other (specify)			
GLASS		bags	
		cups	
bottles/jars:		cartons	
pop		newspaper	
beer		pieces	
wine coolers		other (specify)	
food		WOOD (do not include driftwood, twigs, etc	١
light bulbs fluorescent light tubes		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	•
		pallets	
other (specify)		cratespieces	
conter (speemy)		other (specify)	
		const (specify)	

TOTAL NUMBER OF BAGS FILLED \_\_\_\_\_

Figure 4. Data card used during 1987 cleanup.

### BEACH CLEANUP DATA CARD

#### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. Complete the information below.
- 2. Open card to record items collected during cleanup.
- 3. After cleanup, answer the questions on the back of this card and return it to your Beach Captain or mail it to LGS at the address above.

Name	Affiliation	
Address	Zip	Phone
Occupation		M F Age
Today's Date: Month Day Year Nam	ne of your Beach Captain	
Location of beach cleaned	Nearest City	
How did you hear about the cleanup?		

#### SAFETY TIPS

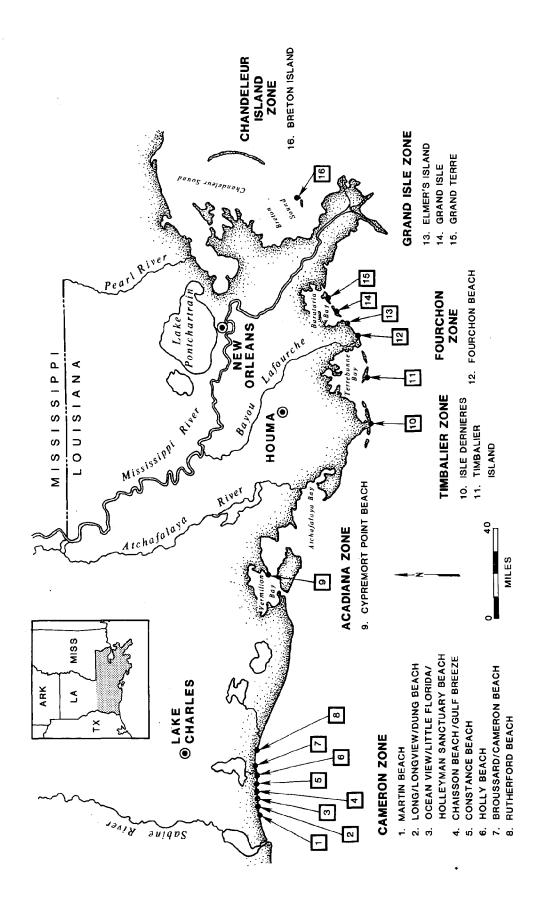
- 1. Do not go near any large drums; report their location to your beach captain.
- 2. Wear shoes and gloves.
- 3. Do not handle any marine mammals or sea turtles; report their location to your beach captain.
- 4. Stay out of dune areas.
- 5. Be careful with sharp objects.
- 6. Do not pick up dead fish.
- 7. Do not pick up trash that may be harmful.
- 8. Do not lift anything too heavy.

#### COMPLETE THIS PORTION AFTER CLEANUP

Estimated miles of beach cleaned	Number of bags filled
We are particularly interested in identifying the SOURCES	of marine debris. If possible,
please list all items that have labels or company names	. Indicate country of origin of
foreign items.	
EXAMPLE: Claracol (green plastic bott	<u> </u>
OBSERVATIONS OF STRANDED AND/OR ENTANGLED MAI	PINE MAMMAIS OR SEA TURTUES
OBSERVATIONS OF STRANDED AND/OR ENTANGLED MAI	RINE MAMMADS OR SEA TORTHES.
· ·	
What was the most peculiar item you collected?	
Comments	

PLEASE RETURN THIS CARD TO YOUR BEACH CAPTAIN OR MAIL IT TO:

Louisiana Geological Survey
P. O. Box G, University Station
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70893



(Elmer's Island targetted but not cleaned.) 5. Louisiana coastal cleanup areas. Figure

Table 1. Summary of 1987 cleanup, by zone.

<u>Zone</u>	Number of <u>Volunteers</u>	Weight <u>(Tons)</u>	Bags <u>(Number)</u>	Miles Cleaned	<u>Beaches</u>
Cameron	1500+	100+	8,000	40+	Martin Beach Long Beach Ocean View Chaisson Beach Constance Beach Holly Beach Broussard Rutherford Beach
Acadiana	200+	2+	210	1	Cypremort Point Beach
Timbalier	350+	22+	1,750	12+	Isles Dernieres Timbalier Island
Fourchon	575+	13+	1,000	6+	Fourchon Beach
Grand Isle	600+	56+	4,500	8+	Grand Isle Grand Terre
Chandeleur	26	2.5	110	2	North Breton Island
	3251+	195+	15,500	<del>59+</del>	15

Table 2. Number of completed data cards collected and used for data analysis, by beach.

	Collected	<u>Used</u>
Cameron Zone Martin Beach Long Beach Ocean View Chaisson Beach Constance Beach Holly Beach Broussard Rutherford Beach Unidentified	3 2 6 16 12 55 23 14 131	3 2 6 16 12 33 23 14 109
Acadiana Zone Cypremort Point Beach	0	0
<u>Timbalier Zone</u> Isles Dernieres Timbalier Island Unidentified	23 83 4 110	19 59 4 82
<u>Fourchon Zone</u> Fourchon Beach	152	143
<u>Grand Isle Zone</u> Grand Isle Grand Terre	76 - <u>7</u> 83	62 <u>7</u> 69
<u>Chandeleur Zone</u> North Breton Island	9	9
TOTAL	485	412

novelty. Litter with foreign labels ranged from bathroom cleaners and detergent to aerosol cans and food bottles. Litter from these 17 countries was collected: Belgium, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Greece, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, the U.S.S.R., and Venezuela.

Virtually anything imaginable was collected during the cleanup, from air conditioning filters to Zatarain's spice bottles (see Appendix C). Some unusual items included a dog dish, hair curlers, deodorant, ear plugs, a dust pan, a flower pot, and makeup. Large objects included tires, crates, refrigerators, dryers, washing machines, a reclining chair, propane tanks, and boat hulls. Many items found were not listed on the data sheet. Some of the most common "write in" items were cigarette butts (166 recorded) and fishing tackle (137 recorded). Others were nails, cigarette packs, rubber work gloves, aluminum foil, pieces of plastic, paper plates, oil bottles, rubber hoses, and shotgun shells. Some people found useful items such as money, unopened beer and soft drinks, undamaged fishing lures, and popping corks. In addition, 42 medicine bottles and 35 syringes were recorded, along with medical vials, intravenous bags, and surgical masks. Such medical wastes have recently become a national concern.

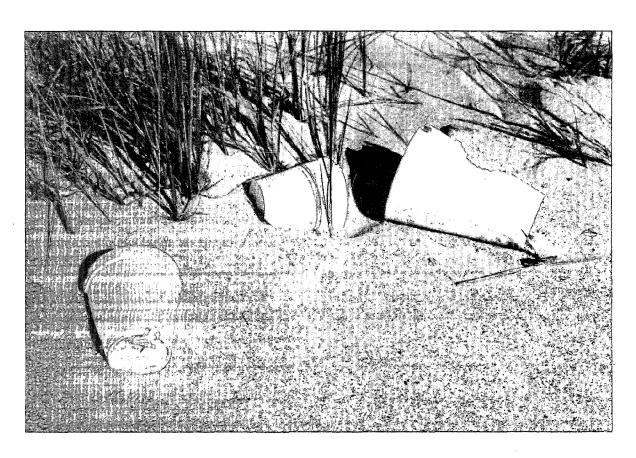


Figure 6. Polystyrene cups are the most common type of litter on Louisiana beaches.

The ten most common items found statewide were:

- 1) Polystyrene cups
- 2) Polystyrene pieces
- 3) Plastic caps and lids
- 4) Plastic bags
- 5) One-gallon milk jugs
- 6) Beer cans
- 7) Glass soft drink bottles
- 8) Rope
- 9) Soft drink cans
- 10) Polystyrene food trays

One-half of these items are beverage-related, indicating that much of the beach litter cannot be traced to a particular group of people. Polystyrene cups were the most common item found statewide (figure 6). Although this type of cup is widely used, many oil companies use large quantities of such containers on their rigs daily. During the cleanup, volunteers from Conoco Oil Company noticed the abundance of polystyrene cups and recommended to their company that it change to paper cups, which are more biodegradable.

Statewide, plastics were the most common type of litter, comprising 42% of all the items (figure 7). Polystyrene was second, comprising 23% of the litter, followed by metal (13%), glass (12%), paper (5%), and rubber (1%). More than one-half (65%) of the litter was made of plastic or polystyrene, which may take from 400 to 500 years to decompose (figure 8).

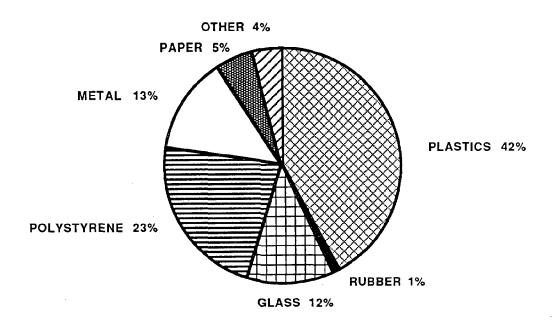


Figure 7. Material composition of litter, by number of items.

The abundant litter on Louisiana's beaches comes from many sources. Some items are attributable to specific user groups. For example, hard hats and pipe thread protectors come from the oil and gas industry; light sticks (plastic tubes containing luminescent chemicals, which are used to attract swordfish) and plastic 50-pound salt bags come from the commercial fishing industry; foreign cleaner bottles from foreign commercial fishing boats or the merchant shipping industry; beer cans and bottles from recreational fishermen and beach users. Many items, however, could originate from any or all of these sources. Placing items into categories yields an overview of litter types and identifies industries or activities which may be the sources. The categories of litter and the items included in each are listed in table 3.



Figure 8. Plastics may take 400-500 years to decompose.

# Table 3. Categories of litter and items included in each.

#### Beverage-Related

plastic soft drink bottles 6-pack holders straws polystyrene cups beer cans

one-gallon milk jugs glass soft drink bottles beer bottles wine cooler bottles food/juice cans bottle caps pull tabs paper cups

#### Fishing Gear

salt bags plastic gloves plastic baskets, crates light sticks crab traps

nets buoys fishing line floats

plastic cups

#### Cargo Wastes

sheeting strapping bands pallets wooden crates polystyrene packing

## Galley Wastes

plastic bags plastic caps and lids plastic food bottles vegetable sacks

polystyrene food trays egg cartons food and juice cans glass food bottles

## Operational Wastes

rope buckets filters fluorescent lights light bulbs aerosol cans

large metal containers drums wire rope cleaner bottles

#### Oil and Gas Industry

hard hats pipe thread protectors drums write-protect rings

#### <u>Personal</u>

tobacco cans diapers lighters

clothing newspaper toys

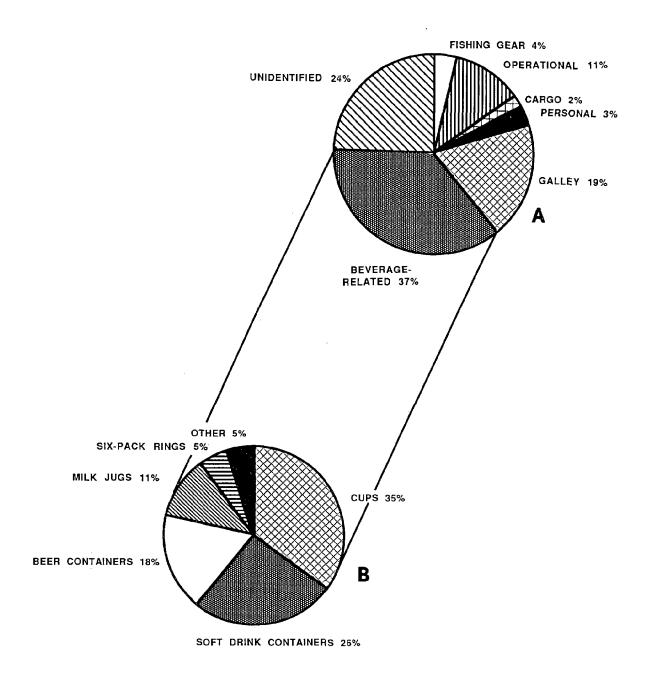


Figure 9. A. Categories of litter and their sizes, by number of items, statewide.

B. Composition of beverage-related litter, by number of items, statewide.

Statewide, beverage-related items were the most prevalent type of litter at 37%, followed by galley wastes (19%), operational wastes (11%), fishing gear (4%), personal (3%), and cargo wastes (2%) (figure 9). Oil and gas industry wastes were included in operational wastes (figure 10). Between 2% and 4% of all the litter collected could readily be assigned to the oil and gas category. Twenty-four percent could not be classified.

Beverage-related litter was broken down into separate categories. Thirty-five percent of the beverage-related wastes were cups, most of which were polystyrene. Soft drink containers made up 26%, beer containers 18%, and one-gallon milk jugs 11% of the beverage-related litter (see figure 9). About one-fourth of the beverage litter was cans; 18% was made up of bottles.

Estimates of the total amount of litter collected during the cleanup were made by extrapolating from the number of bags accounted for on the data sheets. The total number of items collected was estimated to be 800,173. Table 4 lists the estimates for each item. Almost 85,000 polystyrene cups; 41,000 plastic bags; 27,000 soft drink cans; 33,000 beer cans; and about 311,000 plastic objects were gathered during the cleanup.

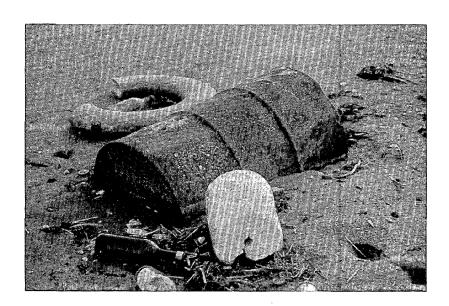
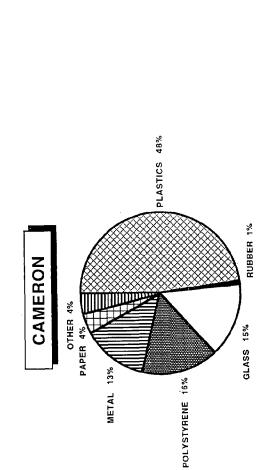


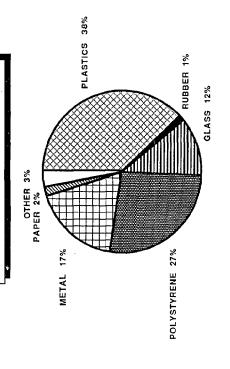
Figure 10. Operational wastes.

Table 4. Statewide estimates of litter.

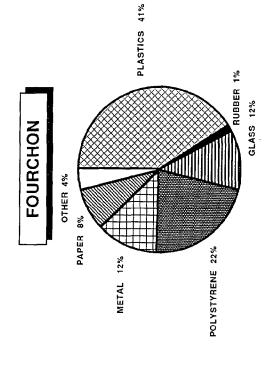
	TOTAL	FCTTMATE FOR
	TOTAL COUNTED	ESTIMATE FOR WHOLE STATE
FILLED BAGS	1,388	16,000
PLASTIC bags blue salt bags caps, lids 6-pack holders	3,536 196 4,044 1,172	40,761 2,259 46,617 13,510
bottles     miscellaneous     soft drink     cleaners     food     rope     cups, utensils     milk, water jugs     large sheeting     strapping bands     vegetable sacks     straws	85 1,469 1,896 1,073 2,103 1,716 2,689 387 439 114 288	980 16,934 21,856 12,369 24,242 19,781 30,997 4,461 5,061 1,314 3,320
write-protection rings gloves toys buckets diapers lighters hardhats tobacco "cans" pipe thread protectors baskets/crates filters pieces other TOTAL PLASTIC	130 339 193 213 151 337 27 530 93 104 147 1,261 2,236 26,968	1,499 3,908 2,225 2,455 1,741 3,885 311 6,110 1,072 1,199 1,695 14,536 25,775 310,870
RUBBER tires other TOTAL RUBBER	109 510 619	1,256 5,879 7,135
GLASS bottles/jars miscellaneous soft drink beer wine cooler food light bulbs fluorescent tubes pieces other TOTAL GLASS	101 2,374 1,414 408 1,000 726 220 1,210 288 7,741	1,164 27,366 16,300 4,703 11,527 8,369 2,536 13,948 3,320 89,233
POLYSTYRENE cups food trays egg cartons packing pieces TOTAL POLYSTYRENE	7,359 2,338 887 655 5,876 17,115	84,830 26,951 10,225 7,550 <u>67,735</u> 197,291

	TOTAL COUNTED	ESTIMATE FOR WHOLE STATE
METAL cans soft drink beer food/juice aerosol	2,341 2,891 476 832	26,986 33,326 5,487 9,591
bottle caps pull tabs other cans large containers drums	611 279 431 110	7,043 3,216 4,968 1,268
rusty new wire pieces other TOTAL METAL	72 5 220 430 <u>528</u> 9,226	830 58 2,536 4,957 <u>6,086</u> 106,352
FISHING GEAR net fragments fishing line buoys net floats light sticks crab traps other TOTAL FISHING GEAR	267 507 154 227 327 24 320 1,826	3,078 5,844 1,775 2,617 3,769 277 3,689 21,049
PAPER bags cups cartons newspaper pieces other TOTAL PAPER	395 506 648 137 1,096 822 3,604	4,553 5,833 7,470 1,579 12,634 9,476 41,545
WOOD  pallets crates pieces other TOTAL WOOD	42 52 1,396 <u>149</u> 1,639	484 599 16,092 1,718 18,893
CLOTHING shoes/sandals caps underwear shirts rags socks other TOTAL CLOTHING	254 11 10 12 147 21 82 537	2,928 127 115 138 1,695 242 945 6,190
OTHER	140	1,614
TOTAL	69,415	800,173





BARRIER ISLANDS



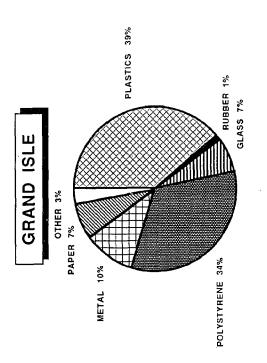


Figure 11. Material composition of litter, by number of items, in each area.

# Results by Area

The beaches in the cleanup can be meaningfully divided into four groups: the Cameron beaches in the southwestern part of the state; the barrier islands, which are inaccessible except by boat and therefore have few day users; the Grand Isle beach, which is an accessible barrier island; and the mainland Fourchon beach. Comparison of the amount of litter collected in these areas is difficult, but the material composition and categories are comparable.

Table 5 compares the items collected in each area. The Cameron beaches had the highest proportion of plastics (48%) and the barrier islands had the lowest (38%). Grand Isle had the most polystyrene (34%) and Cameron the least (16%). Cameron had the highest proportion of glass (15%) and Grand Isle the lowest (7%) (figure 11).

The proportion of beverage-related litter in each area ranged from 33% at Grand Isle to 40% along the barrier islands (see figure 12). The proportion of drinks may be lower at Grand Isle and Cameron because these beaches are cleaned regularly or because the recyclable aluminum is collected. Galley wastes were fairly stable among the areas, ranging from 18% to 20%, but operational wastes ranged from 7% on Grand Isle to twice that in Cameron (15%). This may be an indication that Grand Isle is regularly cleaned or that prevailing ocean currents move some of the material westward. The barrier islands also had a high proportion of operational wastes, indicating that the source of that category of litter is probably offshore. Most of the barrier islands are west of Fourchon and Grand Isle and may also be affected by the prevailing currents.

Fishing gear constituted from 3% to 6% of the litter collected. Cameron beaches had the highest proportion of fishing gear. About one-third of the fishing gear collected there was light sticks; over 2% of all the litter in this area was light sticks, compared to less than 1% of the litter in all the other areas (figure 13).

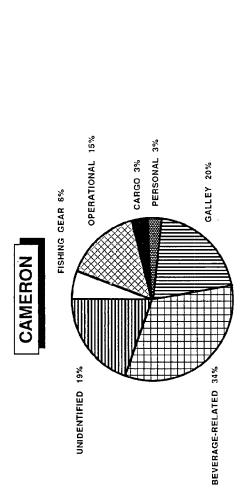


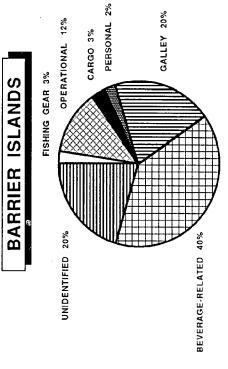
Figure 13. Wastes from commercial fishing.

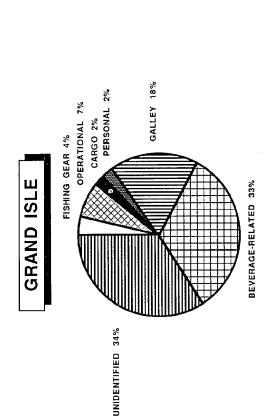
Table 5. Comparison of litter in each area.

	CAMERON BEACHES	BARRIER ISLANDS	GRAND ISLE BEACHES	FOURCHON BEACH	STATE TOTAL
PLASTIC bags blue salt bags caps, lids 6-pack holders bottles	1,334	544	521	2,209	4,608
	105	56	49	102	312
	1,429	1,358	1,286	970	5,043
	777	207	248	493	1,725
miscellanous soft drink cleaners food rope cups, utensils milk, water jugs large sheeting strapping bands vegetable sacks straws write-protection	14 619 789 581 1,301 523 1,211 196 267 101 195	54 382 845 428 528 328 1,000 93 145 24	4 193 226 122 464 408 427 61 90 20	31 813 662 383 770 789 1,047 223 123 64	103 2,007 2,522 1,514 3,063 2,048 3,685 573 625 209 443
rings gloves toys buckets diapers lighters hardhats tobacco "cans" pipe thread	86 441 130 165 72 202 39 241	33 64 45 76 14 114 9	28 50 37 36 25 89 4 84	33 129 59 75 110 94 6 164	180 684 271 352 221 499 58 684
protector baskets/crates filters pieces other TOTAL PLASTIC	74	38	8	40	160
	49	53	9	40	151
	94	61	26	44	225
	420	287	631	348	1,686
	872	615	345	<u>842</u>	2,674
	12,327	7,634	5,571	10,793	36,325
RUBBER tires other TOTAL RUBBER	66 151 217	11 147 158	11 	81 <u>267</u> 348	169 <u>644</u> 813
GLASS  bottles/jars  miscellaneous  soft drink  beer  wine cooler  food  light bulbs  fluorescent tubes  pieces  other  TOTAL GLASS	28	74	1	29	132
	1,013	822	286	1,091	3,212
	553	211	268	838	1,870
	265	134	44	133	576
	582	470	71	253	1,376
	547	346	120	140	1,153
	229	69	24	36	358
	689	219	148	659	1,715
	100	117	51	81	349
	4,006	2,462	1,013	3,260	10,741
POLYSTYRENE cups food trays egg cartons packing pieces TOTAL POLYSTYRENE	1,719	2,505	1,824	2,946	8,994
	570	788	534	938	2,830
	638	303	111	279	1,331
	189	250	185	168	792
	1,067	1,627	2,438	1,755	<u>6,887</u>
	4,183	5,473	5,092	6,086	20,834

	CAMERON BEACHES	BARRIER ISLANDS	GRAND ISLE BEACHES	FOURCHON BEACH	STATE TOTAL
METAL					
cans soft drink beer food/juice aerosol bottle caps pull tabs other cans large containers drums	636 668 354 485 477 114 331	1,114 1,274 141 332 109 14 127 22	356 543 37 92 160 38 49	761 899 131 297 157 173 205	2,867 3,384 663 1,206 903 339 712 189
rusty new wire pieces other	44 1 132 143 <u>157</u> 3,645	22 4 17 143 <u>161</u> 3,480	11 29 30 104 1,457	38 1 156 255 246 3,376	115 7 334 571 <u>668</u> 11,958
FISHING GEAR net fragments fishing line buoys net floats light sticks crab traps other TOTAL FISHING GEAR	126 173 53 95 412 3 69	55 52 91 98 83 6 70	85 215 19 46 20 12 93	126 258 48 63 35 7 142	392 698 211 302 550 28 374 2,555
PAPER bags cups cartons newspaper pieces other TOTAL PAPER	269 219 213 28 222 123 1,074	39 97 91 4 138 <u>99</u>	59 112 75 48 351 437 1,082	257 330 481 89 673 282 2,112	624 758 860 169 1,384 941 4,736
WOOD pallets crates pieces other TOTAL WOOD	33 25 597 65 720	21 22 337 39 419	4 8 323 38 373	13 14 540 62 629	71 69 1,797 204 2,141
CLOTHING shoes/sandals caps underwear shirts rags socks other TOTAL CLOTHING	103 5 5 3 72 2 47 237	$   \begin{array}{r}     72 \\     1 \\     6 \\     4 \\     20 \\     6 \\     \hline     11 \\     \hline     120 \\   \end{array} $	45 2 1 2 17 1 15 83	135 6 5 6 87 13 41 293	355 14 17 15 196 22 114 733
OTHER .	51	32	23	57	163
TOTAL	27,391	20,701	15,274	27,633	90,999







**GALLEY 19%** 

CARGO 2% PERSONAL 3%

UNIDENTIFIED 25%

OPERATIONAL 9%

FISHING GEAR 3%

**FOURCHON** 

Figure 12. Proportion of items in each category of litter, by area.

BEVERAGE-RELATED 39%

Personal items, such as diapers, clothing, and tobacco cans, constituted 2%-3% of all the litter in each area. This is probably a low estimate because such objects as shampoo, deodorant, and toothpaste containers were included in other categories, such as "plastic bottles." Cargo wastes also ranged from 2% to 3% of all the litter collected.

Figure 14 illustrates the proportion of different beverage containers to all the beverage-related litter. Cups ranged from 47% of all the beverage litter at Grand Isle to 26% at Cameron. Most of these cups are polystyrene, and probably came from offshore facilities. The barrier islands had the second-highest proportion of cups (35%), further implicating an offshore source. Soft drinks were the second-most-abundant beverage container except at Cameron, where they were first. The proportions ranged from 29% at the barrier islands to 17% at Grand Isle. Beer containers ranged from 16% to 19%, while milk jugs ranged from 8% to 12%.

Table 6 lists the ten most common items in each area. Polystyrene pieces and cups followed by plastic bags and caps and lids were the most abundant items. Cameron beaches had a higher proportion of plastic cleaner bottles and a lower proportion of beer cans than the other areas. The data from each beach can be found in Appendix D.

Table 6. Ten most common items found, by area.

	Grand Isle	<u>Fourchon</u>	Barrier Islands	<u>Cameron</u>
1)	Polystyrene pieces	Polystyrene cups	Polystyrene cups	Polystyrene cups
2)	Polystyrene cups	Plastic bags	Polystyrene pieces	Plastic caps and lids
3)	Plastic caps and lids	Polystyrene pieces	Plastic caps and lids	Plastic bags
4)	Plastic pieces	Glass soft drink bottles	Beer cans	Rope
5)	Beer cans	One-gallon milk jugs	Soft drink cans	One-gallon milk jugs
6)	Polystyrene food trays	Plastic caps and lids	One-gallon milk jugs	Polystyrene pieces
7)	Plastic bags	Polystyrene food trays	Plastic cleaner bottles	Glass soft drink bottles
8)	Rope	Beer cans	Glass soft drink bottles	Other plastic
9)	Paper	Other plastic	Polystyrene food trays	Plastic cleaner bottles
10)	One-gallon milk jugs	Beer bottles	Other plastic	Six-pack holders

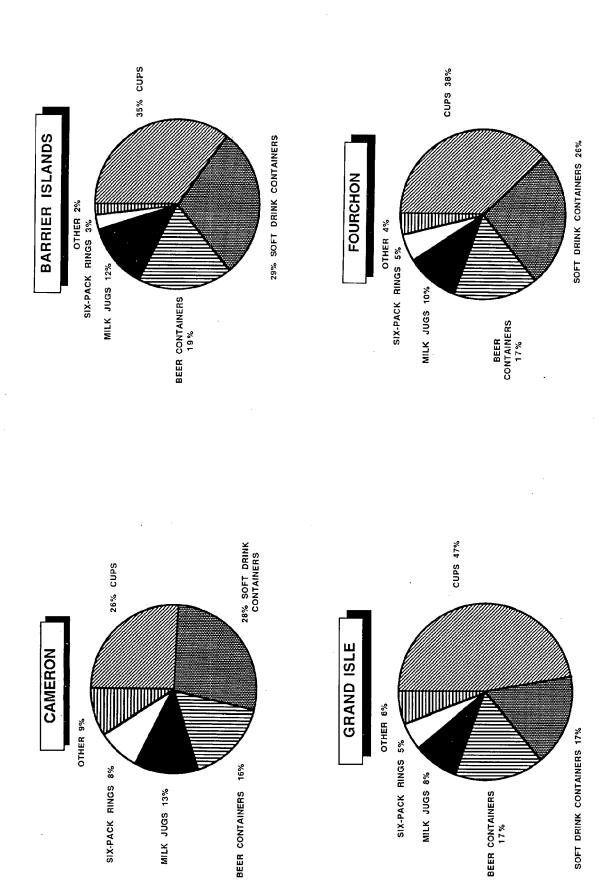


Figure 14. Composition of beverage-related litter in each area.

# Extended Data Collection

Exceptionally complete information about beach litter is available for Fourchon Beach. This is because, due to the support of the Lafourche Parish Council, CMD, and the U.S. Minerals Management Service (New Orleans office), a tremendous number of well-informed volunteers participated in the September cleanup at Fourchon Beach. About 1012 bags were filled from six miles of beach and almost half of it was recorded on the data sheets. Second, MMS personnel were the first group to "adopt" a portion of a Louisiana beach for periodic cleanup. In each of their subsequent visits to Fourchon Beach during 1987 and 1988, they recorded all of the items collected along "their" beach.

The MMS personnel cleaned the beach in December 1987, April 1988, and July 1988. Table 7 summarizes the numbers of items collected during the year (a complete list of data is in Appendix E). The number of bags filled remained around 200 except in December, when only 120 bags were filled. However, during the course of the year the total number of items decreased to about one-half of the original collection. In September, MMS collected 10,128 items along their section of beach and in July 1988 they found only 4,379.

Table 7. Summary of litter collected at MMS adopted beach at Fourthon, 1987-1988.

Category of litter	September 1987	December 1987	April 1988	July 1988
PLASTIC	3,886	2,072	2,160	1,611
RUBBER	119	24	50	21
GLASS	1,104	473	951	858
POLYSTYRENE	1,966	815	709	653
METAL	1,487	516	1,036	426
FISHING GEAR	330	114	131	63
PAPER	894	489	398	660
WOOD	169	42	191	39
CLOTHING	139	59	66	46
OTHER	34	6	52	2
TOTAL	10,128	4,610	5,744	4,379

The composition of the litter fluctuated during the year, but the proportion of polystyrene items decreased overall from 20% to 15% and glass and paper increased (from 11% to 20%, and from 9% to 15%, respectively) (table 8).

The proportion of waste types fluctuated also (table 9). During the winter and spring the proportion of drink containers decreased by almost 10%. This may be because recreational users and/or offshore workers are consuming fewer beverages then. In addition, the beach itself is probably used less by recreational users such as campers and surf fishermen during that part of the year. This last possibility is feasible because the volume of glass is low in the winter and increases in the spring and summer. Galley wastes varied from a high of 25% in December to a low in July (18%). Operational wastes were highest in the spring (11%) and lowest in the summer (5%).

Table 10 breaks down beverage-related litter for the year at the MMS-adopted beach. The proportion of polystyrene cups decreased from 23% to 13% during the year while the proportions of beer bottles, glass soft drink bottles, and plastic soft drink bottles increased. A decrease in the number of polystyrene cups could be a result of decreased use of them on platforms during the summer, or it may be that companies are switching to paper. If the latter is the case, an increase in paper cups can be anticipated.

Table 8. Material composition of litter on MMS adopted beach at Fourchon, 1987-1988.

47 40 47	September 1987	December 1987	April 1988	July 1988
Plastics	41%	47%	40%	38%
Polystyrene	20%	18%	13%	15%
Glass	11%	10%	17%	20%
Rubber	1%	1%	1%	<1%
Metal	15%	11%	18%	10%
Paper	9%	11%	7%	15%
Wood	2%	1%	3%	1%
Clothing	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%

Table 9. Categories of litter and their relative sizes, by number of items, on MMS adopted beach at Fourchon 1987-1988.

<u></u>	September 1987	December 1987	April 1988	July 1988
Beverage-related	40%	32%	34%	42%
Galley	20%	25%	19%	18%
Operational	7%	7%	11%	5%
Cargo	1%	2%	1%	1%
Personal	3%	4%	2%	3%
Fishing Gear	4%	4%	4%	3%
Unidentified	25%	26%	29%	28%

Table 10. Composition of beverage-related litter, by number of items, on MMS adopted beach at Fourchon, 1987-1988.

	September 1988	December 1987	April 1988	July 1988
Polystyrene cups	23%	21%	23%	13%
Beer cans	11%	12%	14%	9%
Glass soft drink bottles	9%	11%	10%	13%
Beer bottles	9%	9%	13%	18%
Plastic soft drink bottles	9%	7%	6%	12%
Six-pack rings	6%	6%	3%	6%
Plastic cups	9%	6%	6%	9%
One-gallon milk jug	js 7%	7%	8%	4%
Soft drink cans	6%	6%	6%	4%
Juice cans	1%	3%	2%	1%
Metal bottle tops	2%	2%	3%	2%
Pull tabs	3%	1%	1%	2%
Paper cups	3%	6%	3%	4%
Straws	1%	1%	1%	1%
Wine cooler bottles	1%	2%	1%	3%

### Litter Laws

Although litter along Louisiana's coast is extremely prevalent, international agreements, federal laws and regulations, and state and parish laws do exist to control this type of pollution and to promote proper disposal of trash and debris in and around marine activities.

Federal dumping laws were first established in the late 1890s to prevent obstruction of navigation channels, not necessarily to prevent deleterious effects on the environment. It was common practice and, in fact, legal for ocean-going vessels to dispose of trash at sea until 1972 when the Ocean Dumping Act was adopted by Congress. However, this legislation was aimed at purposeful transportation of wastes for disposal at sea. Normal ship-generated wastes were not affected.

Disposal of trash in the ocean is a common practice worldwide. In 1975 the Center for Environmental Education estimated that 14 billion pounds of trash are disposed of at sea each year. The current practice of at-sea disposal will soon be prohibited worldwide. In November 1987, the United States ratified Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships Treaty. Commonly called MARPOL (for "marine pollution"), Annex V prohibits the disposal of plastics at sea, including wastes from ships and oil and gas platforms. It prohibits the disposal of certain types of floating garbage within 25 miles of the nearest coastline and food wastes, paper, glass, and metal refuse within 12 miles unless ground up, and then within 3 miles of shore. The treaty also provides for the establishment of special areas where no trash dumping will be allowed. The treaty will go into effect in late 1988.

In U.S. waters the oil and gas industry is regulated by OCS orders (issued by MMS) which prohibit the deliberate dumping of solid wastes into the marine environment (OCS Order No. 7). Another OCS Order (No. 1) requires identification numbers on materials weighing more than 40 pounds. In addition, oil companies have trained their personnel in the proper control and disposal of wastes.

While Louisiana law prohibits littering, the problem still remains. Louisiana has one of the strongest anti-litter laws in the country. Penalties can include fines up to \$3000, one-year suspension of driver's license, six months in prison, or a combination of these. Offenders may also be required to clean up sections of highways and streets as part of their penalties. State law also mandates the placement of litter receptacles at public places such as fast food restaurants, parking lots, shopping centers, beaches, service stations and numerous other locations. This law also makes it the responsibility of the owners of such public places to provide and maintain the receptacles.

Although the laws do exist, they are difficult to enforce. Periodic cleanups can only temporarily improve a locale. Awareness and changes in individual attitudes and behavior about litter are more permanent solutions. The Louisiana Litter Control and Recycling Commission has developed an Adopt A Road program and an Adopt A Beach program and has provided public information about litter and recycling. The CMD has been focusing on litter problems in the coastal zone, and developing a public campaign and information base to help curb litter along beaches, bayous, swamps, and marshes.

### Adopt A Beach Program

Louisiana's Adopt A Beach Program's goal is "to rid Louisiana beaches and barrier islands of debris and litter." The program invites corporations, civic organizations, local government agencies, and individuals to adopt a minimum of one mile of beach for regular litter patrols at least three times annually.

The employees of the New Orleans-based Gulf of Mexico Office of the Minerals Management Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, along with their families, adopted 2 miles of Fourchon Beach in Lafourche Parish--the first adoption of a Louisiana beach. They have conducted quarterly cleanups and recorded the type and amounts of litter gathered during 1987-1988 beginning with the September Sweep statewide cleanup. The information collected by the MMS provided a unique opportunity to monitor rates of litter accumulation and seasonal variations of types and amounts of beach litter.

To date, nine areas have been adopted, accounting for 16 miles of beach. The beaches and the adopting organizations and individuals are listed below.

Center for Wetland Resources, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; 1 mile of Rutherford Beach

Chevron USA employees, Lafayette; 1 mile of Fourchon Beach

Harry and Nadine Lancon, Sulphur; 1 mile of Chaisson Beach

Louisiana Land and Exploration Co., New Orleans; 3 miles on Timbalier Island

Louisiana Office of State Parks, Baton Rouge; 1 mile at Cypremort Point Beach and 1 mile on Grand Isle

Mobile Oil, Lake Charles; 1 mile at Martin Beach

Southeast Louisiana Girl Scout Council, New Orleans; 1 mile at Fourchon Beach

Texaco, New Orleans; 4 miles on Timbalier Island

U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, New Orleans; 2 miles at Fourchon Beach

### Sea Turtles

Another benefit of the 1987 beach cleanup was the unique opportunity it provided to have every stretch of Louisiana beach searched at the same time for stranded sea turtles. There has been an ongoing cooperative effort in Louisiana to determine the extent and density of several species of these endangered animals but, because they are rare, information about them is limited and it is difficult to survey the entire coast regularly.

The cleanup provided data about five stranded sea turtles: one unidentified turtle found in the Chandeleur zone; two Kemp's ridleys found on Grand Isle; one

hawksbill from Fourchon; and one loggerhead in the Cameron zone. Information researchers obtain from examining them will help in formulating federal and state policies for their continued protection. The cleanup also reminded many people of the rare and endangered animals that can be found in Louisiana.

### Conclusion

A cleaner beach is only the temporary result of beach cleanups; their real value lies in the public awareness they foster. Cleanups are a unique educational opportunity for both children and adults. For those who participated in the 1987 cleanup, seeing the quantity of litter collected was a staggering experience. Many said they had not realized how much litter accumulated along the beaches. Some questioned why "somebody doesn't DO something." And some found that they could do something by becoming more aware of the problems of solid waste disposal and learning about recycling.

The disposal of the beach litter collected during the cleanup only transferred the problem elsewhere, as some volunteers observed (figure 15). The routine disposal of solid wastes is not only a serious statewide concern but is a tremendous national problem as well. Increasing volumes of solid waste and decreasing sanitary landfill facilities have placed financial burdens on local governments. The problem is acute in coastal Louisiana where geological and hydrological conditions preclude most sanitary landfills. Many coastal parishes must transport solid wastes to inland parish landfills, and those landfills are filling up. Since 1979, 3,500 landfills have been closed nationwide. Of the 16,000 remaining, one-third will be filled in a few years. Alternative solid waste disposal measures must be addressed now.

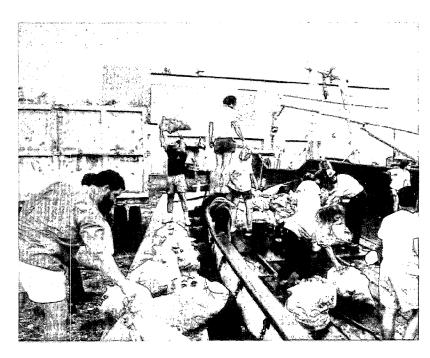


Figure 15. Once collected, beach litter must be transported for disposal.

Solutions to the problem of increasing volumes of garbage and decreasing disposal space must involve everyone. Recycling usable cans, glass, paper, and plastics and using biodegradable packaging will reduce the volumes of trash which must be disposed of and also conserve energy and natural resources. Incinerating trash at high temperatures and using this energy to generate electricity may be another way to use trash and garbage and conserve valuable landfill space. To reduce waste, some towns and counties in other states have banned the use of plastic grocery bags, while others have banned many plastic containers or require such containers to be biodegradable. Many states have passed "bottle bills" resurrecting the returnable bottle, thus reducing packaging, encouraging recycling, decreasing local litter, and decreasing solid waste.

While some of these solutions are up to local, state, and federal officials, individuals can take action to reduce the amount of trash they generate and thereby reduce litter in the local area. Some ideas include:

Use litter receptacles at public and private facilities. When there is none, carry your trash until you can properly dispose of it.

Form a group and adopt a beach; help with statewide and local cleanups.

Make the most of reusable containers; recycle when possible.

Reduce the amount of packaging you use.

Never throw anything from your car or boat onto the road or into the water.

When picnicking, camping, sunbathing, or fishing, leave the public area you have used cleaner than you found it.

Cast your line and not your litter.

Help make Louisiana a cleaner state.

Many of these suggestions may be followed with a little effort that soon becomes habit. If everyone learns to respect our natural areas, they will be clean and safe for everyone to enjoy.

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### APPENDIX A

### CONTRIBUTORS OF MAJOR SERVICES, FOOD, DRINKS, EQUIPMENT, and CASH FOR THE 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

### STATEWIDE CONTRIBUTORS FOR THE 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

Amoco Production Company Bobby Charles Guidry (theme song) Cities Service Oil and Gas Corp. Conoco, Inc. Dixie Printing and Supply Company Louisiana Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Management Division Louisiana Sea Grant College Program Louisiana State University Marathon Oil Maxus Energy Corp. Mobil Oil Exploration and Producing SE, Inc. Dr. Judith Patrick Rollins Environmental Services Shell Offshore, Inc. Sonat Exploration Tenneco US T-Shirts

### ZONE CONTRIBUTORS FOR THE 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

### Cameron Zone Cleanup

Alphagraphics American Red Cross Audubon Society, Baton Rouge BFI Waste Systems Billy Navarre Chevrolet Bolo Ice Company Boy Scouts of America Brown's Food Center Cameron 4-H Clubs Cameron Parish Assessor's Office Cameron Parish Police Jury Cameron Parish Recreation District #6 Cameron Parish Registrar of Voters Office Cameron Parish Sheriff's Department Orrie Canik Coastal Concern Association Creole K.C. Council Don's Auto Service Gulf Coast Conservation Association Holston's Ambulance Imperial Calcasieu Planning and Development District Johnson Bayou Volunteer Fire Department Jones, Jones and Alexander Kajon

Knights of Columbus Council 8323 Lagniappe Lake Charles Hi-Noon Lions Club Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Louisiana Sea Grant College Program Marathon Oil McDaniels Welding Service Mobil Oil Company Phillips Petroleum Pine Shadows Golf Course Southwest Daily News South Cameron Memorial Hospital Tidex Inc. Transco Exploration Company Waste Management West Cal-Cam Hospital

### Acadiana Zone

Acadiana Bottling Company, Inc.
Acadiana Sierra Club
Boy Scouts of America
Girl Scouts of America
Paul Hardy
Keep America Beautiful Systems
Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Louisiana Fishermen for Fair Laws
Louisiana Litter Control and Recycling Commission
Office of State Parks

### <u>Timbalier Zone</u>

Acadian Ambulance Service Black Guidry and The Emotionals Buquet Distributing Company Cenec Iswing Company Chevron USA Coca Cola Bottling Company Teddy Duhe Elwin Duplantis Luke Grezaffi Gulf Coast Construction Association Dr. Tommy Haydel Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Land and Exploration Company Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association Pumpkin Air Dr. Frederick Rau Renco Senator Leonard Chabert

Sun Oil Company
Tenneco Inc.
Tenneco La Terre
Tenneco Oil Company
Texaco
Two-R Drilling Company

### Fourchon Beach Zone

American Legion Auxiliary American Waste/Port-O-Let Caillouet Land Corporation Chevron Chick's Bait Shop Cub Scouts of America Delgrandile Insurance Agency Delta Distributing Company Dow Chemical Edward Wisner Donation Advisory Committee Fourthon International Shipping Terminal, Inc. Frank's Supermarket Freeport McMoran Fry Diner and Bar G and P Service Station Galliano IGA Supermarket Gee Gee's Gulfside Restaurant Golden Meadow Rotary Club Greater Lafourche Port Commission Griffin Marina J. Wayne Plaisance, Inc. John Adam Supermarket Kentwood Water Lafourche Ambulance District #1 Lafourche Parish Council Lafourche Parish School Board Lafourche Parish Recreation District Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office Ledet Supermarket Leonard Miller Allstate Insurance Little Eagle Loop, Inc. Louisiana Coca Cola Bottling Co., Ltd. Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Louisiana Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Management Division Louisiana Geological Survey/Louisiana State University Martin Texaco Music Factory National Guard Nolty J. Theriot, Inc. Robie's Sporting Goods Shell Offshore, Inc. Solid Waste Disposal, Inc. Steve Shook Gulf Coast Fishing Charter Stone Motors Stuff Food Store

Superior Shipyard Thoma-Sea Ice and Fuel Valentine Paper Company

### Grand Isle Zone

Archbishop Blenk High School Joseph Arnona/Gulfstream Apartments BFI Waste Systems Boy Scouts of America Charles Chips Chevron USA Clean City Committee of New Orleans Conoco, Inc. Delta Transit Company Delta Distributing Company Duke and BB/WWOZ Radio Exxon Girl Scouts of America Hazleton Company Jefferson Parish Council Jefferson Parish Dept. of Public Works/Mr. Lavelle's office Jefferson Parish President Willie Hof Jefferson Parish School Board Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office John Curtis Christian School Kaiser Chemicals Key Clubs of the Greater New Orleans Area Louisiana Coca Cola Bottling Company Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Geological Survey/Louisiana State University Office of State Parks Orleans Audubon Society Orleans Parish School Board Parkview Baptist Church Red Cross of Louisiana Reynold's Aluminum Recycling Shell Offshore, Inc. Tenneco Oil Co. Town of Grand Isle and Mayor Tommy Marullo U.S. Senator J. Bennett Johnston U.S. Senator John Breaux Women for a Better Louisiana Zapp's Potato Chips

### Chandeleur Zone

Boy Scouts of America
Kerr McGee Oil and Gas
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Geological Survey/Louisiana State University
Minerals Management Service/U.S. Department of the Interior
Shell Offshore, Inc.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### APPENDIX B

### ORGANIZERS AND COORDINATORS OF 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

### STATE COORDINATORS FOR THE 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

Margie Vicknair Schoenfeld Coordinator Louisiana Nature and Science Center's "Recycle New Orleans" project New Orleans, LA

Calvin Fair Executive Director Louisiana Clean Team Baton Rouge, LA

### ORGANIZERS FOR THE 1987 LOUISIANA COASTAL CLEANUP

LSU Center for Wetland Resources/Office of Sea Grant Development Louisiana Clean Team Louisiana Nature and Science Center Minerals Management Service, U.S. Department of the Interior Sierra Club-Delta Chapter Louisiana Geological Survey/Louisiana State University Coastal Management Division/Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

### ZONE COORDINATORS AND BEACH CAPTAINS

### Cameron Zone

Coordinator: Ed Kelly

Chairman, Cameron Parish Tourist Sub-Committee

### Beach Captains:

Daniel Billiot Scott Henry Rodney Guilbeaux, Jr. Dean Roome Paul Hannen

Martin Beach Long Beach Constance Beach Rutherford Beach Little Florida/Oceanview Beach

Harry Lancon Chaisson Beach Gerald Touchet Holly Beach Clifton Cabell Holly Beach

Baton Rouge Audubon Society Hollyman Sanctuary Beach

### Acadiana Zone

Coordinator: Barbara Coltharp

Louisiana Litter and Recycling Commission

Beach Captains:

Randy Trahan

Cypremort Point Beach

### Timbalier Zone

Coordinator: Steve Rabalais

LUMCON

Beach Captain:

Mark Hilzim

Isles Dernieres/Timbalier Islands

Fourchon Zone

Coordinator and Beach Captain: Ed Fike

ike Fourchon Beach

Lafourche Parish Council

Grand Isle Zone

Coordinator: Lydia Guillot

Delta Chapter Sierra Club

Beach Captains:

John Johnston III

Elmer's Island

Martha Brown

Grand Isle Grand Terre

Mark Chatry

Grand

Chandeleur Zone

Coordinator and Beach Captain: Villere Reggio North Breton Island

Minerals Management Service U.S. Department of the Interior

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS:

Mike Liffmann/Elizabeth Coleman/Sandy Lewis-Ruckstuhl: Louisiana Sea Grant and

Louisiana State University Center for Wetland Resources

C.C. Lockwood/T.H. Casanova: Louisiana Clean Team

Wayne Kewley: Conoco, Inc.

James H. "Bo" Blackmon/Peggy E. Rooney: Coastal Management Division/Department

of Natural Resources

Dianne Lindstedt/Joe Holmes: Louisiana Geological Survey/Louisiana State

University

Bob Hanna/Dugan Sabin: Department of Environmental Quality

Geography Anthropology Society: Department of Geography and Anthropology/

Louisiana State University

### APPENDIX C

# MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS COLLECTED STATEWIDE

Air conditioner filter	Buoy	Cigarette lighter	01d Spice	Rod holder	Stir stick
Aerosol cans (F)*	Bolts	Cigarette pack	Packing material	Rollers	Stopper cap
After-shave lotion (F)	Bottles (F)	Clay pot	Paint bottle	Kooting	Strap
Air freshener	Bottle cap (F)	Cleaners (F)	Painturusii Osinthuish handle	Root ing satingle Rubber hand	String/twine
Alr mattress	Bowl no loer	Cleaning mask	Paint Can	Rug	Strips (rubber)
Aluminum luinture mame Alcohol hottle	Boxes	Clothes pin	Paint mask	Rubber stamp	Sun tan lotion
Aluminum foil	Bricks	Coaxial antenna	Paint pans	Sacks	Sun visor
Aluminum tape	Brochure	Coat	Paint roller	Sail piece	Surgical mask
Aluminum top	Broom	Coat hangers	Paneling	Salt barrel paddle	Surveyor's tape
Aluminum tubing	Broom handle	Coins	Paper towel holder	Sample vial	Swimming mask
Ammunition case	Brushes	Coleman lantern	רפה היים היים	Sand paper	Syl Inge
Ammonia bottle	Bubble level	Cologne bottle	Pen cap Bancil	Santtary Hapkins Scientific sample bottle	Sylup container
Antenna	Bucket cover	Comp	Donto Birmol hottilo	Scientillo sample poecie	Tally cards (pack)
Antenna Wire	Building reit	Compound	Peptu bismul buttle Deveonal supplies	Scissors Scoop	Tampon applicator
Antifreeze buttle	Burner Guard	Computer real	Ding oil	Scotch hottle (F)	Tabe
Aquarium plant (pidstic)	Burlen guard	Condoms	Ping pong hall	Scotch tane	Tar ball
Ashestos shingle	Butane tank	Cooking oil bottles	Pipe	Scotch tape dispenser	Tar paper
Asphalt niece	Butter dish	Cord	Pipe wrápping	Screen	Tarp
Auto parts	Cable	Cork	Pitcher	Screen tubing tarp	Teflon
Baby bottle	Cable spool	Cork rings	Plank	Screw	Telephone receiver
Baby doll arm	Cans (F)	Cosmetic bottles	Plate	Screwdriver	Tennis racket
Baby nipple	Candle	Cotton	Plotter pens	Scrub brush	Tent
Baby powder	Candy wrappers	Cough syrup	Plug	Sealer (rubber)	Jent lining
Bag (plastic) (F)	Caps, lids (F)	Cow horns	Plywood	Seasoning (F)	lent poles
Bag ties	Car belts (rubber)	Cup holder	Poison acid container	Seat	lent stake
Balls	Car mat	Cups, utensils (+)	Pole	Shampoo Dottle	(nermos jug
Balloon	Car seat	Curlers	Polyurethane	Shelf paper	11-e
Barbecue pit	Car shift	Curtain	Pop bottle/can (F)	Shingle	Tim Cin ton
Barbecue sauce bottle	Carbon dloxide cylinder	Cylinder (paper)	Pot (plastic)	Shift Steeves	Time part
Barrette	Carduretor Tilter holder	Dendorant Dendorizer	Potato cnip bay	Shot cup Shotain filter	Tires (F)
Darkots/contor(E)	Cardonald	Decado (25)	Pronane tank	Shotaun shell	Tissue
Bathroom cleaner (F)	_	Diaphragm (plastic)	Propane torch	Shove1	Tobacco paper
Batters (1)	Cartons (F)	Dish (metal)	Propeller	Shovel blade	Tobacco can
Battery Casing	Casing protector	Dishwashing liquid	Purox (F)	Shrimp culling box	Toilet paper
Battery cover	Cassette	Distress horn	PVC plug	Siding	Toilet tank
Battery parts (metal)	Caulking tubes	Dog collar	Radio	Sign	loo! box
Battery piece (plastic)	Cement pieces	Dog dish	Katt	Siphon	Toothkush Caso
Bay marker	Ceramic toilet piece	Douche dispenser	Rays	State Soft drink can (F)	Toothoaste tube
Beads (plastic)	Chain	Dropper	Razor	Sov drinks (F)	Torch pipe
Bed carios	Chair	Drums (plastic and	Recliner	Spare tire cover	Touch of Butter tub
Beer can and bottles (F)	Chair arm	metal)	Recorder pen	Spark pług	Towel
Boards	Chapstick	Drum liá	Reel	Spike	Trash can
Boat log (book)	Child's innertube	Duct tape	Refrigerator	Splash zone	fraw( boards
Boat paddle	Cigar tips	Dust pan	kerrigerator door Dibbon	Sponge	Trav (F)
	Ligarettes	rar plug	Dico had (E)	2000	Tilhs
Boat seat	Ungarette holder	Electric switch	Rice Day (1) Rim (metal)	Spotlight	Tube (F)
*F indicates that at least one foreign item was	e foreign item was collected		Ring	Spray top	Tube pieces
			Rod	Squirt	V + V + V + V + V + V + V + V + V + V +
			Rod and reel	Steel mat	IV antenna TV hack
			Kod nangle	Sticker backing	-V Dach

Electrical cord Empty shell boxes Engine part Eyedrop bottle Eyedrop bottle Eyedlass frame Eye wash station Eyeball (plastic) Facial cleaner (F) Facial cleaner (F) Facial cleaner (F) Fine pasket Finer gasket Filter gasket Filter gasket Filter gasket Filter Filt	Grease tube Grill (plastic) Hair brush Hair net Hair spray can Hammer handle Hand lotion bottle (F) Hook retriever	Lipstick Liquor bottle Liquor bottle Lug wrench Lunch box Lure bags Lure holder Lure holder Lure/tack Magazine Magazine Magnetic tape Magnetic tape Magnetic top Makeup bottles Makeup bottles Makeup bottles Makeup bush Mass Makeup bush Mass Makeup bush Mass Mathers Matches Match	TV dinner tray TV tube Iwister seals Iwister seals Unbrella Vaccine vial Vain Vain Vain Vain Valley ball Washer/dryer Wath Washer/dryer Wath Washer/dryer Wath Wine box Whine box Whine coolers Wine bottle Wine bottle Wire brush Wood able
Flower (Plastic) Flower (Plastic) Foam mattress Foad mattress Food wrap Food wrap Froid (P) Food/juice (F) Food/juice (F) Fruit drink Fruit drink Fruit drink Gardage can Gas can cover Gas can cover Gas cylinder Gasoline jug Glass Glove Glove Glove Glove Glove Glove Glove Golf tee Graduated cyclinder Graduated cyclinder		Mineral oil (F) Mineral oil (F) Money Money Money Mud flaps Mud flaps Mustand container Mustand container Mustand container Mustand container Mustand container Mustand container Necklace Nores Spray Nut and bolt Nylon pieces O-ring O-rin	5-gallon can 5-gallon tops 6-pack holders (F)

## APPENDIX D LITTER COLLECTED AT EACH BEACH

Broussard	613 49 353 337	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200	27.	2 441 212 213 253 253 253 253 253 253 253 253 253 25	570 195 183 29 23 1,215
Rutherford Beach	300 22 346 157	13.4 90.7 13.7 13.7 13.7 13.7 13.7 13.7 14.1 14.1 12.6 13.7	51	11 199 98 98 59 78 60 49 123 700	372 102 124 56 202 856
Holly Beach	108 7 70 51	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	27	0 86 105 18 36 41 43 43 52	139 43 92 12 12 38
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Oceanview	23 32 22	13 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	٥٥١٥	112 2 4 5 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	38 13 22 23 112
Unidentified (Johnson)	23 0 17 18	0 4 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	9009	45 15 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16	38 16 25 5 5
Unidentified (Constance/ Oceanview)	60 12 155 23	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	17	57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 57 5	156 61 41 27 253 538
Constance	119 15 278 115	7 5 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	12 20 32	66 4 4 47 26 59 20 20 34 522	150 80 86 286 606
Chaisson	87 0 25 52	1,083 1,083	13 30	103 31 48 103 50 50 20 76 439	225 52 89 89 19 394
Unidentified (Barrier Island)	6 - 52 - 9	0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0 11 10	17 17 18 18 18 17 17 10	41 10 2 66 119
Isles Dernieres	134 22 281 41	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	42	25 251 844 846 175 833 24 54 54 54	575 175 77 15 187 1,029
Timbalier Island	208 11 725 116	13.3 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0 14.0	79	21 245 52 52 58 136 150 26 26 26 31 847	1,447 428 155 180 1,025 3,235
North Breton Island	137 12 80 24	28 647 647 641 81 81 81 81 81 81	100	25 163 36 17 104 84 12 6 6	234 65 18 22 22 155 596
Grand Terre	56 10 220 20 20	2 2 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	0 38 5	146 31 31 8 8 8 8 8 13 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	234 65 16 22 22 494
Grand Isle	521 49 1,286 248	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	11 79 90	286 268 44 44 71 71 120 24 24 146 151	1,824 534 111 185 2,438 5,092
Fourchon	2,209 102 970 493	813 865 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	81 348	29 1,091 1838 133 253 140 36 659 61 81 31,260	2,946 938 279 168 1,086 6,086
	PLASTIC Bags Blue salt bags Caps, lids 6-pak holders	miscel laneus soft drink cleaners food drink cleaners food miscellaners food miscellaners food miscellaners with each just large shoeting butters from the protect rings from miscellaners bloopers Lighters Hardhals Filters from the drawn of the protectors from the miscellaners from the	RUBBER Tires Other TOTAL RUBBER	GLASS GOLIEV/jars GOLIEV/jars GOLI CONK SOIT CONK SOIT CONK NATE COOLE TOOM LIGHT BUIDS Floorescent Lubes Pieces Other	POLYSTYRENE Cubs Foul trays Egg cartons Packing Preces TOTAL POLYSTYRENE

302 241 125 187 61 7 131	17 0 34 27 27 56 1,228	50 119 119 38 38 38 38 20 22 22 225	101 56 81 4 30 6	9 31 131	51 5 66 0 0 158	9,238
82 138 44 44 66 81 74	6 17 30 68 655	22	777 74 58 111 84 61	146 2 15	3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 3 2 3 2 3 3 3 3 3	5,716
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761 899 131 297 157 173 205 57	38 1 156 255 246 3,376	126 258 48 63 35 142 679	257 330 481 89 673 2,112	. 13 14 14 540 629	135 6 6 6 87 13 13	57 27,633
Soft drink Soft drink Deer food/juice aerosol Butile caps All tabs Other can	ordins rusty new Wire Pieces Other 101AL METAL	FISHING GEAR Net fragments Fishing line Buoys Net floats Light sticks Crab traps Other TOTAL FISHING GEAR	PAPER Bags Cups Cartons Newspaper Piccs Other	WOOD Pallets Crates Pieces Other TOTAL WOOD	CLOTHING Shoes/Sandals Caps Underwear Shirts Rags Rags Other TOTAL CLOTHING	01HER 101AL

### APPENDIX E LITTER COLLECTED AT MMS ADOPTED BEACH AT FOURCHON, 1987-1988

Litter Category	September 1987	December 1987	April 1988	July. 1988
PLASTIC				
bags	1,016	591	534	370
blue salt bags caps, lids	15 274	17 215	16 221	27 151
six-pack holders	227	92	63	102
bottles				
miscellaneous soft drink	17 364	0 109	0 109	0
cleaners	161	54	80	228 36
food	156	49	94	61
rope	217	104	260	96
cups, utensils milk, water jugs	372 266	93 107	123 151	160 82
large sheeting	67	54	14	12
strapping bands	25	22	19	15
vegetable sacks	23	23	7	. 8
straws write-protect rings	50 6	9 3	13 4	17 0
gloves	36	50	62	18
toys	15	15	14	15
buckets diapers	15 59	8 34	15 15	3 52
lighters	28	43	11	16
hardhats	2	1	i	0
tobacco "cans"	29	20	24	32
pipe thread prot. baskets/crates	1 17	5 9	5 6	0 6
filters	12	10	12	3
pieces	173	225	63	59
other	243	110	224	42
TOTAL PLASTIC (no. of items)	3,886	2,072	2,160	1,611
RUBBER				
tires	23	9	10	2
other TOTAL RUBBER (no. of items)	96 119	$\frac{15}{24}$	<u>40</u> 50	<u>19</u>
TOTAL ROBBER (NO. OT TECHS)	113	24	30	2.1
GLASS				
bottles/jars miscellaneous	6	4	40	7
soft drink	373	158	189	246
beer	369	132	264	321
wine cooler	38	23	23	48
food light bulbs	64 27	45 34	79 35	47 12
fluorescent tubes	3	2	10	1
pieces	222	75	283	166
other TOTAL GLASS (no. of items)	$\frac{2}{1,104}$	<u> 0</u>	<u>28</u> 951	<u>10</u> 858
TOTAL GLASS (No. Of Frems)	1,104	473	331	000
POLYSTYRENE	242	202	456	024
cups food trays	942 353	<b>303</b> 137	456 56	234 103
egg cartons	81	42	47	26
packing	50	17	15	9
pieces	540	-316 815	<u>135</u> 709	<u>281</u> 653
TOTAL POLYSTYRENE (no. of items)	1,966	013	103	0.33

	September 1987	December 1987	April 1988	July 1988
METAL	1507	130.	1775	
cans				
soft drink	240	82	119	82
beer	453	183	280	163
food/juice	58	43	39	18
aerosol	77	63	124	19
bottle caps	72	35	57	33
pull tabs	132 85	17 24	16 34	30 23
other cans large containers	22	24	5	3
drums	2.2	2	3	,
rusty	8	0	0	1
new	Ö	ŏ	ĭ	ō
wire	81	12	74	11
pieces	124	24	102	17
other	135	31	<u> 185</u>	26
TOTAL METAL (no. of items)	1,487	516	1,036	426
FISHING GEAR				
net fragments	71	11	26	2
fishing line	146	71	71	18
buoys	19	4	4	2
net floats	30	17	. 9	4
light sticks crab traps	10 4	4 2	14 3	2 1
other	50	5	4	34
TOTAL FISHING GEAR	330	<del>- 114</del>	131	63
(no. of items)	330	114	131	03
PAPER				
bags	118	74	58	118
CUDS	128	84	55	68
cartons	175	72	64	109
newspaper	39	10	11	13
pieces	264	165	172	172
other	<u> 170</u>	84	38	<u> 180</u>
TOTAL PAPER (no. of items)	894	489	398	660
WOOD				
pallets	1	1	5	0
crates	3	3	2	1
pieces	151	36	164	31
other	14	2		- 7
TOTAL WOOD (no. of items)	169	42	191	39
CLOTHING	47	21	10	10
shoes/sandals	47 0	21 2	18	10
caps underwear	3	1	0 2	1
shirts	4	3	4	2
rags	48	16	15	21
socks	5	7	11	4
other	32	ģ	16	8
TOTAL CLOTHING (no. of items)		59	66	46
OTHER	34	6	52	2
TOTAL	10,128	4,610	5,744	4,379

