

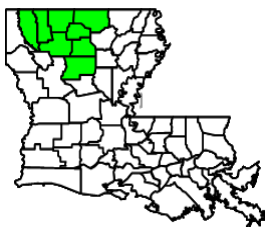
LOUISIANA



Trailblazer Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)

AREA PLAN

2010-2014



302 E Reynolds Drive

Ruston, LA 71270

www.trailblazer.org

318.255.3554/ fax 318.251.9199

**TRAILBLAZER
RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT
2010 – 2014 AREA PLAN**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Logo, Vision, & Mission	3
Introduction/What is Trailblazer RC&D?	4
History of Trailblazer RC&D	5
The 2010 Trailblazer Team	6
Guiding Principles of the Board	7
Trailblazer RC&D Area Council Appointments 2010	8
Overview of the Trailblazer RC&D Area	9
Demographics of the Eight (8) Parish Area	10
Agricultural Statistics	11
Issues List	13
Public Input Process	15
Survey Results	16
MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN	
Community Development	17
Natural Resource Issues	17
Energy Issues	18
Water Issues	18
GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES	
GOAL A: LAND MANAGEMENT	20
GOAL B: WATER QUALITY	21
GOAL C: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	22
GOAL D: LAND CONSERVATION	23
PARTNERS	25
LINKAGES TO THE NRCS STRATEGIC PLAN	27
DECLARATION OF ADOPTION & APPROVAL OF PLAN	30
SOURCES OF INFORMATION	31
EXAMPLE OF SURVEY FORM	32

TRAILBLAZER RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

LOGO

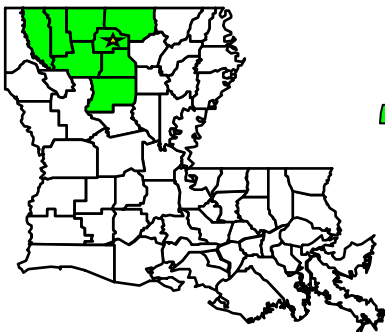


VISION

Trailblazer is recognized as a leader organization developing quality projects that meet the needs of the area residents. Trailblazer serves as a catalyst and assists local communities in solving resource, economic, environmental and social concerns.

MISSION

To improve the quality of life in our rural communities; to promote the wise use of our natural resources; and, to provide technical information and funds to rural and urban decision makers that will improve the economic, environmental and social needs in the Trailblazer parishes.



"Serving our Communities"

INTRODUCTION

The eight Trailblazer parishes located in North Central Louisiana encompass approximately 5,870 square miles. This includes 2,837,500 acres of forestland, 50,300 acres of cropland, 360,200 acres of pastureland, 92,500 acres of water and 108,400 acres of build up areas.

The Trailblazer RC&D is a locally sponsored and directed organization that provides assistance to the citizens of an eight-parish area located in North Central Louisiana. The purpose of Trailblazer is to improve the quality of life in local communities. It is a non-profit organization and is tax exempt (501c3) according to the Internal Revenue Service. Donations, loans, grants, special events and other fund raising activities are essential to meet goals.

Trailblazer is a participant in the USDA's Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program. RC&D was created by a provision of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962. The RC&D Program is based on the assumption that local citizens can develop and carry out an action-oriented plan for the social, economic and environmental enrichment of their communities. USDA provides assistance as needed to help facilitate the Council's goals and objectives.

Although RC&D is a program of the USDA, Trailblazer is not a federal or state agency but consists of volunteers who are appointed by sponsoring agencies to serve as the governing council. Success of the RC&D program is directly related to the interest and dedication of the appointed council members. The Council establishes goals, objectives and policies for the RC&D program in its area by organizing an Area Plan of Work.

Trailblazer leadership is challenged to develop quality projects that meet the needs of area residents. This is accomplished by encouraging local leadership and innovative thinking. Projects are carefully selected with emphasis on projects not being addressed by other groups.

HISTORY

The Trailblazer RC&D area was first organized in October of 1966 as the Bossier-Webster RC&D project. In February 1969, it was expanded to include Bienville and Claiborne Parishes and renamed the Trailblazer-4 RC&D Area. In December 1974, Lincoln Parish was approved for inclusion into the area and the name was shortened to Trailblazer. In April 1983, Union was added as the sixth parish. The Trailblazer area was again expanded to include Jackson and Winn Parishes in August 1989.

Bossier-Webster RC&D Project	October 1966	Bossier and Webster Parishes
Trailblazer-4 RC&D	February 1969	Added Bienville and Claiborne
Trailblazer RC&D	December 1974	Added Lincoln
	April 1983	Added Union
	August 1989	Added Jackson and Winn

In February of 1988, key community leaders participated in a Problem Identification Workshop. The participants were asked to identify major problems and issues that should be addressed by Trailblazer. The Council adopted improving rural fire protection and increasing employment opportunities as priority objectives.

Needs are continually being recognized or brought to the attention of the Board of Directors by other community leaders. As these needs are identified, projects are considered for approval based on five criteria:

- 1) Firmly established objectives
- 2) Interest and involvement of the Board of Directors
- 3) Interest and support of other groups
- 4) Potential for funding
- 5) Staff availability



302 Reynolds Drive
Ruston, Louisiana 71270
Ph 318 . 255. 3554
WEB: www.trailblazer.org

2010 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Gilbert Pickens
Representing Jackson Parish
PH 318.259.9140
Email: gpickens@suddenlinkmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Steve Ramsey
Representing Webster Parish
PH 318.393.5386
Email: sgrambo@bayou.com

SECRETARY:

Jim Marsalis
Representing Claiborne Parish
PH 318.258.5383
Email: athensfarmboy@aol.com

TREASURER:

Glen Benton
Representing Bossier Parish
PH 318.949.0851
Email: glenbenton@att.net

THE TEAM:

P. E. Simmons- Coordinator
Email: pesimmons@suddenlink.net

Kay Church- Financial Assistant
Email: kchurch@trailblazer.org

Nicole Jowers- Adm. Assistant
Email: nicole@trailblazer.org

Amanda Cartmill- Projects Assistant
Email: Jobs@trailblazer.org

Olivia Ward – Biologist
Email: Olivia@trailblazer.org

Kenny Ambrose – Recycling Technician

Scott O'Neal- Business Development
Email: soneal@onealmanagement.com



GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE BOARD

To reach our objectives and to encourage greater citizen participation in the program, the Council will establish various committees to expedite Council projects. The following are some guiding principles for Trailblazer operations:

1. The coordinator will provide daily direction for the implementation of the Area Plan and the Annual Plan of Work according to policies established by the Board of Directors.
2. Trailblazer and its committees will seek technical guidance from the appropriate USDA agency, such as the Forest Service, Rural Development, the Cooperative Extension Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to complete approved projects.
3. Trailblazer and its committees will encourage land use that will preserve agricultural lands, decrease pollution and protect environmentally sensitive areas.
4. Trailblazer and its committees will work in cooperation with federal, state, parish and municipal agencies to promote projects that benefit the citizens of the area.
5. The Trailblazer program will allow area citizens an opportunity to contribute information, express opinions, participate in project installation and discuss alternative proposals concerning Trailblazer activities.
6. The Council will review the Area Plan annually and revise it as needed to meet changing conditions, needs, concerns, opportunities and objectives.
7. The Council will maintain the www.trailblazer.org website to keep the general public informed of Trailblazer activities. Other informational activities will also be conducted.
8. The Council's program will be in compliance with all provisions as contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (PL 100-259); the Americans with Disabilities Act; and other nondiscrimination statutes: namely Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. It will also be in accordance with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR 15.1-15.12), which provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or family status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture or any agency thereof.

TRAILBLAZER 2010 AREA COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**Appointed By:****Bienville Parish**

Tony Lawson – 3046 Hwy 154, Ringgold, LA 71068 (318) 422-4145
 Greg Wilson – 1419 Pietsch Rd, Ringgold, LA 71068 (318) 894-5680
 * *George O. McConathy- 5905 Highway 516, Gibsland, LA 71028 (318) 843-6007*
 William M. “Bill” Conly – 133 Conly Road Ringgold, LA 71068 (318) 894-8539

Police Jury
 Police Jury
Saline SWCD
 Saline SWCD

Bossier Parish

* *Glenn Benton-2325 Hidden Cove, Haughton, LA 71037 (318) 949-0851*
 Winfred Johnston – 258 Highway 537, Plain Dealing, LA (318) 326-4279
 Elmore Morris- 4288 Highway 527, Haughton, LA 71037 (318) 987-3268
 Ronald A. Griggs – 616 E. Carolina St., Plain Dealing, LA 71064 (318) 326-4696

Police Jury
 Police Jury
 Bodcau SWCD
 Bodcau SWCD

Claiborne Parish

* *Jim Marsalis – 616 St. John Road Athens, LA 71003 (318)258-5383/(318)927-7515cell*
 Robert McDaniel – 281 McDaniel Road Haynesville, LA 71038 (318) 624-0634

Police Jury
 Police Jury

Jackson Parish

Rosie Price - 2492 Ed Barnes Road Jonesboro, LA 71251
 Thomas Goss – P.O. Box 341 Quitman, LA 71268 (318) 259-8091
 * *Gilbert Pickens – P.O. Box 93 Quitman, LA 71268 (318) 259-9140*
 Gail Barham – 968 Sweetwater Road Quitman, LA 71268 (318) 259-3265

Police Jury
 Police Jury
Dugdemona SWCD
 Dugdemona SWCD

Lincoln Parish

* *Theresa Wyatt-273 Houston Road, Ruston LA 71270 (318) 247-8117*
 Roy Glover – 200 Glover Road Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-6973

Police Jury
 Police Jury

Union Parish

* *Charles Sawyer – P. O. Box 673 Farmerville, LA 71241 (318) 368-2166*
 Jackie R. Perritt – 111 Bay Drive Farmerville, LA 71241 (318) 368-2507

Police Jury
 Police Jury

Webster Parish

* *Steve Ramsey – 633 Aubery Beatty Road Heflin, LA 71039 (318) 382-8060*
 Jim Bonsall – 1805 Old Arcadia Road Minden, LA 71055 (318) 371-0187
 David Lowe – 195 Wake Robin Road Minden, LA 71055 (318) 377-1525
 Leslie Hollis – 1555 Miller Road Minden LA 71055 (318) 371-0530

Police Jury
 Police Jury
 Dorcheat SWCD
 Dorcheat SWCD

Winn Parish

* *Willie Doherty – 6577 Hwy 84 East Winnfield, LA 71483 (318) 628-6155*
 Doris Leeper – 2960 Coldwater Rd. Winnfield, LA 71483 (318)628-5824
 Lamar Tarver – P.O. Box 964 Winnfield, LA 71483 (318) 628-5796
 Helene Walker – 131 Pine Ridge Drive Winnfield, LA 71483 (318) 628-2332

Police Jury
 Police Jury
 Dugdemona SWCD
 Dugdemona SWCD

- *Appointed*
- *New Appointments*

* *Board of Directors*

OVERVIEW OF THE AREA

The Trailblazer RC&D, Inc. area is located in North Central Louisiana and includes Bienville, Bossier, Claiborne, Jackson, Lincoln, Union, Webster and Winn Parishes. The Trailblazer office has been established in Lincoln Parish at 302 E. Reynolds Drive in Ruston, Louisiana.



DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE EIGHT PARISH AREA

Parish	Population as of April 1, 2000	Population as of 2007	2007 Urban Population percentage	2007 Rural Population percentage	2007 Population Density/ people per sq mi.	Est. Median Household Income 2005	Est. Median Household Income 2007
Bienville	15,752	14,907	20%	80%	18	\$26,687	\$29,737
Bossier	98,310	108,705	72%	28%	130	\$44,894	\$48,211
Claiborne	16,851	16,283	22%	78%	22	\$28,584	\$31,850
Jackson	15,397	15,139	32%	68%	27	\$31,976	\$35,630
Lincoln	42,509	42,562	63%	37%	90	\$30,426	\$33,902
Union	22,803	22,773	14%	86%	26	\$32,776	\$36,521
Webster	41,831	40,924	47%	53%	69	\$32,039	\$35,700
Winn	16,894	15,521	36%	64%	16	\$28,717	\$31,998

Sources: <http://www.prd.louisiana.gov/census/2000/2000countychange.htm>; LA Census Data Center; www.city-data.com, retrieved July 10, 2008; and www.city-data.com retrieved November 7, 2008.

The following chart displays Census data regarding population and socioeconomic conditions of the Trailblazer eight-parish served area.

People QuickFacts	Bienville	Bossier	Claiborne	Jackson	Lincoln	Union	Webster	Winn
Population, 2006 Estimate	15,168	107,270	16,210	15,202	41,857	22,964	41,301	15,835
Population, percent change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2006	-3.7%	9.1%	-3.8%	-1.3%	-1.5%	0.7%	-1.3%	-6.3%
Persons 65 yrs old and over, percent, 2006	17.3%	11.3%	16.6%	16.3%	11.9%	15.7%	16.5%	14.1%
Female persons, percent, 2006	52.1%	50.7%	49.5%	52.2%	51.0%	51.4%	51.8%	47.2%
White persons, percent, 2006	56.4%	74.6%	50.7%	71.6%	56.8%	71.9%	64.8%	66.7%
Black persons, percent, 2006	42.4%	21.6%	48.4%	27.4%	40.8%	27.1%	33.6%	31.6%
American Indian & Alaskan Native persons, percent, 2006	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%
Asian persons, percent, 2006	0.2%	1.5%	0.1%	0.2%	1.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander, percent, 2006	0.0%	0.1%	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	0.1%
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2006	0.7%	1.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.8%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2006	1.3%	4.0%	0.9%	0.9%	1.7%	3.0%	1.2%	0.9%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2006	55.6%	70.9%	50.2%	70.8%	55.5%	69.2%	63.9%	65.9%
Persons with a disability, age 5+, 2000	3,649	17,196	3,891	3,545	6,339	4,826	8,785	3,512
Homeownership rate, 2000	77.9%	69.5%	75.8%	77.2%	60.0%	81.2%	74.5%	74.8%
Median household income, 2004	\$26,320	\$42,141	\$27,859	\$31,714	\$29,007	\$30,697	\$30,326	\$27,738
Per capita money income, 1999	\$12,471	\$18,119	\$13,825	\$15,354	\$14,313	\$14,819	\$15,203	\$11,794
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	22.5%	14.4%	23.9%	17.8%	22.6%	18.7%	19.0%	22.8%

Source: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/22/22013.html>, retrieved July 11, 2008.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

The eight Trailblazer parishes located in North Central Louisiana encompass approximately 5,870 square miles. This includes 2,837,500 acres of forestland, 50,300 acres of cropland, 360,200 acres of pastureland, 92,500 acres of water and 108,400 acres of developed area.

In 2005, Bienville Parish had 222 farms covering a total of 43,992 acres. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Bienville Parish farms was \$24 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$70,532 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$108,227 per farm.

Bossier Parish had 456 farms covering a total of 107,208 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Bossier Parish farms was \$9 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$22,290 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$19,938 per farm.

Claiborne Parish had 275 farms covering a total of 55,593 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Claiborne Parish farms was \$51.9 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$130,307 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$189,051 per farm.

Jackson Parish had 235 farms covering a total of 20,982 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Jackson Parish farms was \$32 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$93,287 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$136,464 per farm.

Lincoln Parish had 392 farms covering a total of 65,830 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Lincoln Parish farms was \$70.2 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$124,774 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$179,239 per farm.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Union Parish had 504 farms covering a total of 72,685 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Union Parish farms was \$120.7 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$161,032 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$239,568 per farm.

Webster Parish had 426 farms covering a total of 56,764 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Webster Parish farms was \$7.5 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$14,203 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$17,687 per farm.

Winn Parish had 130 farms covering a total of 20,659 acres in 2005. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agriculture products sold from Winn Parish farms was \$5 million. The average farm production expenses per farm in 2005 totaled \$35,661 with the value of agricultural products sold per farm averaging \$38,626 per farm.

Agricultural information sources: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census/Pull_Data_Census; www.city-data.com; retrieved July 11, 2008.

ISSUES LIST

Trailblazer RC&D

AGRICULTURE

- Promote strategies to strengthen the economics of our local agriculture
- Promote strategies to strengthen the economics of aquaculture
- Support funding for agricultural research especially in the areas of forestry and aquaculture
- Develop a seminar to help meet the needs of minority/limited resource farmers
- Promote alternative crops
- Promote USDA program delivery (such as EQIP)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Continue the Strengthening Rural Communities Workshops
- Continue Grant Writing Training Seminars
- Develop and initiate action items to involve USDA agencies in the RC&D Program
- Promote volunteer initiatives and community capacity building
- Implement leadership development programs
- Assist communities to develop links with Corporate Foundations
- Assist with the development of community foundations
- Assist communities with the development of joint venture projects
- Assist with the development of adequate water and sewer systems and fire protection
- Promote increased awareness of the potential for wildfire in at risk communities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Promote additional capital for business investment and development
- Encourage entrepreneurial enterprises through wood waste utilization ventures
- Cooperate with LA Tech University College of Administration and Business
- Promote value added processing activities
- Develop a Small Business Mentoring Program
- Assist with “home based business development”
- Assist communities with retirement development

ENVIRONMENT

- Promote environmentally sound projects
- Promote initiatives for awareness of a quality environment
- Develop a position for Environmental Education Liaison to serve communities and agencies
- Develop an Environmental Awareness Workshop
- Assist parishes with the reduction of demands on landfills
- Build upon 10 years of a successful Recycling Program
- Encourage and promote backyard composting
- Encourage and promote *Vision 2012*

ISSUES LIST

Trailblazer RC&D

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Develop initiatives to improve race relations
- Provide special assistance to address Native American issues
- Assist with initiatives to improve rural health care
- Develop improved jobs training programs
- Develop a community service teams program
- Work with local sponsors to improve racial representation on community boards

MARKETING AND NETWORKING

- Promote the RC&D Awareness Program with national appeal
- Continue to plan and develop the Trailblazer Annual Meeting
- Develop a program for Trailblazer Associate Sponsors
- Develop internship programs with Louisiana Tech University and Grambling State University

NATURAL RESOURCES

- Assist with the protection and enhancement of remaining high quality wetlands
- Actively pursue and promote reduction of Sparta Aquifer withdrawal to the 1985 level
- Promote water conservation initiatives
- Assist with the education for owners of small woodland tracts toward high quality management
- Develop programs for quality wildlife management
- Promote reclamation of abandoned gravel pits
- Assist with development of alternative fuels
- Encourage tree-planting initiatives

TECHNOLOGY

- Promote programs to have internet access in all schools
- Promote distance learning initiatives
- Maintain the Trailblazer home page
- Promote Energy Conservation Programs
- Encourage development of web pages for organizations
- Provide quality educational publications on CD-ROM

TOURISM

- Promote tourism as a legitimate and vital tool in rural economic development
- Assist the Pine Country Foundation to develop a grants fund for tourism development
- Assist communities with tourism development activities
- Promote Nature Tourism in eight parishes
- Work to develop financial incentives for historic preservation
- Assist with the development and protection of historic site

PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

IN FEBRUARY 2007, TRAILBLAZER RC&D COUNCIL MEMBERS INITIATED THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS FOR REVISION OF THE AREA PLAN. THE COUNCIL DEVELOPED A SURVEY FOR SOLICITATION OF INPUT ON THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS AND CONCERNS.

THE SURVEY, WHICH WAS POSTED ON THE TRAILBLAZER WEBSITE (WWW.TRAILBLAZER.ORG), USED AN EASY-REPLY FORM WITH QUICK LINKS TO OUR PROJECT SPONSORS AND PARTNERS. IN ADDITION, MEMBERS OF THE STAFF AND COUNCIL SPREAD THE WORD CONCERNING THIS IMPORTANT LONG-RANGE PLAN THROUGH INTENSIVE OUTREACH. THIS EFFORT CONSISTED OF: NEWS RELEASES, RADIO BRIEFS, PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF HARD COPIES. THE SURVEY WAS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE WEBSITE, DURING PUBLIC EVENTS, FAXES TO PARTNERS, AND THROUGH FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS.

A SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2008. THE PURPOSE OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING WAS TO INTRODUCE THE TRAILBLAZER LONG RANGE PLAN FOR NORTH CENTRAL LOUISIANA TO CITY OFFICIALS, POLICE JURORS, SPONSORS, AND FRIENDS. THIS SPECIAL MEETING WAS ALSO ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO DISTRIBUTE THE SURVEY AND INFORM OFFICIALS OF ITS IMPORTANCE.



A TOTAL OF 262 SURVEYS WERE RECEIVED DURING THE EIGHT-MONTH PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD.

TRAILBLAZER STAFF RECORDED AND SUMMARIZED THE SURVEY RESULTS.

THE COMPILED RESPONSES ARE SHOWN IN THE "SURVEY RESULTS" TABLE (PAGE 15) OF THIS DOCUMENT.

SURVEY RESULTS

Topic of Concern	High	Medium	Low	Wt. Total	Percent
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	6788	3623	388	10799	48%
NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES	4573	2376	384	7333	34%
ENERGY ISSUES	1846	728	87	2661	9%
WATER ISSUES	2060	495	102	2657	9%

KEY:

Community Development:

Jobs, Economic Development, Business Development, Skills Training, Technology, Recreation Development, Recreation, Historic Preservation, Grants & Grants Training, Youth Programs, Community Facilities, Human Resources, and Tourism.

Natural Resource Issues:

Fire Protection, Natural Resource Protection, Agriculture, Forestry Issues, Environmental Education, Recycling, Litter Abatement, Wildlife Habitat Improvement, and Endangered Species.

Energy Issues:

Energy Conservation, Alternative Fuels, and Wood Waste Products.

Water Issues:

Groundwater Conservation – Sparta, Water Quality Issues, and Flood Control.

** **Land Conservation:** Soil Erosion was not indicated as a high priority item in our survey. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in our parishes are adequately addressing the issue, therefore it was not included here. Trailblazer RC&D will continue to be a strong supporter of our sponsoring SWCD's and Police Juries.*

The mission of Trailblazer RC&D is to improve the quality of life in our rural communities; to promote the wise use of our natural resources; and, to provide technical information and funds to rural and urban decision makers that will improve the economic, environmental and social needs in the Trailblazer parishes.

MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Like most of Louisiana, the Trailblazer parishes face the need for self-sustaining employment opportunities in their communities. Most recently recorded in 2007, unemployment rates in the Trailblazer parishes averaged 6.64%. In September 2008, the unemployment rate for the state of Louisiana was recorded at 5.2%. The current national average unemployment rate is 6.5%. The need for workers increases with the development of community projects and programs. Also, organizations and projects that stem from Trailblazer programs create job opportunities in small, rural communities.

NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES

Recycling continues to be an important issue because of current population growth and shrinking waste disposal areas. The Office of Research Services reports that the nation's overall recycling rate has grown from 11% to 27% in the past ten years. According to the *Environmental Defense Fund*, the average American uses 700 pounds of paper each year. Every ton of paper that is recycled saves enough energy to provide power for an average home for six months and 7,000 gallons of water. The mission of Trailblazer Recycling Program is to educate rural residents about recycling and litter prevention, provide waste disposal facilities, and reduce the amount of solid household waste going to the landfills. The program benefits residents in the targeted area (such as Bienville, Claiborne, Jackson, Lincoln, Union, Webster and Winn) with the potential for duplication in other areas.

According to the *Louisiana Agriculture in the Classroom* fact sheet: petrochemicals, agriculture, and tourism are Louisiana's top industries. Forestry is the leading agricultural industry in the state, making timber the most valued crop in the state. Private landowners hold a large portion of Louisiana's commercially available forestland. Of this forestland, individuals and families own approximately 63 percent. From 1997 to 2002, "an average of 27,780 acres of rural land was developed in Louisiana each year," according to various sources and the USDA Forest Service.

Land Conservation was not a specified area of concern for local area residents, as evident from survey responses, however it is being addressed by the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Louisiana's rural forest areas are economically and environmentally important, making deforestation a big concern. The LSU AgCenter reports, "As of 2003, Louisiana's forests store 268 million metric tons of carbon in all biomass components." As America learns to relinquish dependence on foreign oil, the benefits of utilizing bio-materials increases.

MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN

Alternative energy use and production has shown to be much more environmentally friendly than conventional energy sources. Production of alternative energy is of special interest to Louisiana's timber manufacturers. Louisiana is renowned for its forests. They provide beauty, economic value, outdoor recreation, and wildlife habitats. Deforestation in Louisiana affects not only the timber industry, but also the 31 federally endangered and threatened wildlife species that reside here. Nineteen of these species rely on intact forests, woodlands and savannas. The black bear, bald eagle, red-cockaded woodpecker and American chaff seed are forest-dependent species that are at risk. More research is needed to determine the best plan for the future of Louisiana's forestland, and how it would impact local residents, as well as the wildlife presiding here.

ENERGY ISSUES

Energy conservation is a vital practice for many reasons. Cost for energy has been increasing. Implementation of efficient energy saving practices will cut down on costs for the short and long term. The continuous use of energy is also hazardous to the environment. Energy use produces toxins that get into our air and produce environmental and physical risks. In the May 2008 U. S. Energy Consumption by Energy Source Report release, Americans used more total energy and non-renewable energy in 2007 than in the previous 4 years. This was a 2% increase from the 2006 energy usage (Source: http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/alternate/page/renew_energy_consump/rea_prereport.html, retrieved on December 22, 2008).

WATER ISSUES

According to research by the *Alliance for the Future of Southern Forests*, 8,277 squares miles of Louisiana's 51,843 square miles is covered by open water. This is about 16% of the state of Louisiana covered by water. Water quality is a vital goal for environmental agencies of this region. "Protection of forestlands within the primary watershed of the lakes, bayous and rivers of Louisiana is critically important if water quality goals are to be achieved."

The only viable source for a safe, reliable water supply for 16 parishes in Louisiana is the Sparta aquifer. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Conservation has declared parts of the Sparta aquifer to be "areas of groundwater concern" in Order No. AGC-1-05. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the water level in portions of the Sparta aquifer is dropping by more than 2 feet per year. The EPA maximum safe drinking water standards are also being breached through the increase level of sodium found in water lying in the eastern parts of the aquifer.

MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN

The depletion of the Sparta aquifer is one of the most critical issues North Central Louisiana faces. While a significant source of water for industrial and agricultural use, the Sparta is also the principal source for most municipal and domestic users. The Sparta aquifer is used heavily for over 790,000 Louisiana residents. This usage places a great demand on the Sparta aquifer to provide plenty of water for present and future use.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL A: Assist sponsoring SWCD's and units of government to increase application of LAND MANAGEMENT practices by completing 10 natural resource related projects in eight Trailblazer parishes by December, 2014.

OBJECTIVE A1 Plan and conduct 3 special projects to encourage improved wildlife habitat by 2014.

Strategies:

- A1a Investigate the need for a special project to reduce the population of feral hogs by 2011.
- A1b Plan & conduct two workshops to encourage quality turkey habitat management by 2014.
- A1c Plan & conduct two workshops to encourage quality deer habitat management by 2014.

OBJECTIVE A2 Assist 8 parishes and 30 communities to work towards reduction of solid waste by 2014.

Strategies:

- A2a Design a campaign to enlist project partners by 2011.
- A2b Implement the campaign & enlist 500 project partners by 2014.

OBJECTIVE A3 Plan and conduct 3 special events per year to encourage recycling thru 2014.

Strategies:

- A3a Plan and conduct a special recycling event for Earth Day at Lincoln Parish Park which will provide educational information to 1,000 students per year 2011-2014.
- A3b Plan and conduct a contest for students soliciting ideas for the adoption of a mascot for the Trailblazer Recycling Program by 2012.
- A3c Utilizing a 3 member work team, research the potential for a Recycling Art Museum and produce a written report with recommendations by June, 2011.

OBJECTIVE A4 To further the goals of reduction of solid waste, work with the Lincoln Parish Police Jury and others to secure property for a "Green Enterprise Zone" Recycling and Environmental Education Center by 2012.

Strategies:

- A4a Utilize a 5 member work team in cooperation with the city and the parish to identify & secure new property for the center by March, 2011.

OBJECTIVE A5 To further the goals of reduction of solid waste, work with the Lincoln Parish Police Jury and others to secure funding for development of the "Green Enterprise Zone" Recycling and Environmental Education Center by 2013.

Strategies:

- A5a Utilize a 3 member work team in cooperation with the city and the parish to secure funding for development of the new property by March, 2011.



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL B: Assist sponsoring (4) SWCD's and (8) units of government to improve WATER QUALITY by completing 12 water quality projects in eight Trailblazer Parishes by December, 2014.

OBJECTIVE B1 Assist Bienville, Bossier and Webster Parish governments & 3 SWCD's to address the Giant Salvinia problem in Lake Bistineau by 2015.

Strategies:

- B1a Work with the sponsors to create a task force by December, 2010 of concerned citizens to address the Salvinia problem.
- B1b Assist the task force to build an action plan to address the problem and involve stakeholders by 2012.
- B1c Plan and conduct 15 special events to address or highlight the Salvinia problem on Lake Bistineau.

OBJECTIVE B2 Assist parish governments & 3 SWCD's to address water quality issues through exhibits, news items, newsletters, etc. in 8 rural Trailblazer Parishes by 2015.

Strategies:

- B2a Develop and publish a Water quality brochure to encourage water quality awareness by 2013.
- B2b Develop, publish, and distribute 150 copies of a Water quality handbook (teachers guide) by 2012.
- B2c Work with LA DEQ to Identify an impaired water body by 2011 to work toward removal from the EPA 303 list.
- B2d Work with project sponsors to plan and conduct 4 water body clean up days by 2014.
- B2e Plan and conduct 10 special events to promote water quality awareness by 2015.
- B2f Publish 40 news items to educate public officials and land users about the need for water quality by June 2014

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL C Assist 15 towns to complete 20 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT projects and/or activities by 2014.

OBJECTIVE C1 Provide technical assistance for business development to 240 entrepreneurs in 7 rural Trailblazer parishes by 2014.

Strategies:

- C1a Plan & conduct a survey of (business) needs for 240 entrepreneurs by 2012.
- C1b Plan & conduct 12 entrepreneurial training workshops in 7 rural parishes by 2012.
- C1c Publish an Entrepreneur handbook and distribute 50 copies by 2011.
- C1d Publish 12 newsletter articles per year to provide business development updates to area entrepreneurs by 2013.
- C1e Enlist 6 business development mentors & provide mentoring sessions to 50 businesses by 2012.
- C1f Develop and implement a minority outreach plan to help meet the needs of the underserved entrepreneurs in all 7-parishes by February 2011.

OBJECTIVE C2 Assist 50 individuals to develop comprehensive business plans in 7 rural Trailblazer parishes by 2013.

Strategies:

- C2a Identify 50 individuals desiring assistance to develop a business plan by 2012.
- C2b Enlist 4 paid & volunteer staff members to provide business plan development by 2012.
- C2c Enlist the technical assistance of 6 local banks/ credit unions by July 2010.

OBJECTIVE C3 Plan and conduct 12 entrepreneurial workshops in 12 rural communities to encourage the development of business plans by 12-31-13.

Strategies:

- C3a Identify 15 targeted communities & key contacts by December 2010.
- C3b Schedule workshops by January 2011.
- C3c Announce workshops through 30 newspaper and radio Public Service Announcements by 2014.
- C3d Provide evaluations of each event via written (12 each) report by 2014.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL D: Assist sponsoring (4 each) SWCD's and (8 each) units of government to increase application of LAND CONSERVATION practices by completing 10 natural resource related projects in eight Trailblazer parishes by 2015.

OBJECTIVE D1 Assist 4 SWCDs to promote quality forestry practices on private lands thru 2014.

Strategies:

D1a With available funding, organize 3 workshops to encourage quality forest management practices targeting underserved landowners in 8 Trailblazer Parishes by 2015.

OBJECTIVE D2 Partner with sponsors and agencies, and organizations to hold 7 natural resource related educational workshops/events for students by 2015.

Strategies:

D2a Query needs of sponsors and other partners in writing annually by October 1, 2011 through 2014

D2b Schedule and conduct 2 events annually, 2010-2014

D2c Conduct and record post event written evaluations, 2010-2014

OBJECTIVE D3 Plan and conduct a tree seedling initiative annually, 2011 through 2014.

Strategies:

D3a Assign staff responsibilities by July 15 annually, 2010 through 2013.

D3b Evaluate opportunities available by August 1 annually and make recommendation to the Board of Directors 2010 through 2013.

D3c Develop a budget request for the Board of Directors approval by September 1 annually.

D3d Research sources and establish inventory of seedlings by December 1 annually.

D3e Advertise through 1 direct mail out, 1- email, web site, and 4 psa's annually.

D3f Establish location and enlist staff and volunteers by February 1 annually.

D3g Conduct tree initiative by April 30 annually.

D3h Conduct evaluation of each annual event by June 1.

D3i Report findings to the Board of Directors by July 1 annually.

OBJECTIVE D4 Provide 5 environmental education opportunities to educate 200 area students and other citizens on the importance of natural resource preservation and conservation by 2015.

Strategies:

D4a Assist 5 public schools and communities with developing and improving environmental education outdoor classrooms by 2014.

D4b Work toward the development of the Trailblazer "GREEN ZONE", environmental education and recycling center by 2015.

D4c Seek funding opportunities to assist with implementing and improving 5 environmental education projects in the Council Area by 2015.

D4d Assist in the promotion of 10 environmental education projects hosted in the Council Area by 2014.

OBJECTIVE D5 Improve Leadership / Organizational Development Skills of at Least 300 Local Organization / Agency Members by 2015.

Strategies:

D5a Provide 3 or more grant writing or project development training activities to targeted organizations and agencies by 2014 .

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE D6: Increase capacity of at least 4 local community organizations and at least 100 local organization / agency members by 2013.

Strategies:

- D6a: Provide access to and assistance with grants management including grants searches, grant writing and grant management materials to a minimum of 2 local organizations/agencies by 2013.
- D6b: Provide access to and assistance with financial and / or organizational management materials to at least 4 local organizations/agencies by 2015.

OBJECTIVE D7 Optimize Council effectiveness by implementing quality business practices annually through 2014.

Strategies:

- D7a Utilize 30 mail outs, 30 bimonthly meetings, and email to keep sponsors informed of progress toward the area plan 2010 through 2014.
- D7b Incorporate a council/member development topic in each (30 total) full board meeting through 2014 covering board member responsibilities and nonprofit management.
- D7c Provide financial oversight of all activities through the Officers of the Board and CPA 2010-2014.
- D7d Produce and publish an annual Council Member Handbook including all pertinent information regarding Trailblazer operations by March, annually through 2014.

OBJECTIVE D8 Develop a comprehensive 5 year (area) plan by 2015 to guide future Council Activities.

Strategies:

- D8a Organize, seek and document public input for future priorities by March, 2014.
- D8b Research required resource data and demographics to complete the revision by June, 2014.
- D8c Working through a committee of the Board of Directors complete draft plan and distribute for local review by September, 2014.
- D8d Complete final draft and submit by January, 2015.

PARTNERSHIPS

Trailblazer RC&D has invested in more than 300 valuable partnerships with agencies and groups throughout North central Louisiana. Partnerships with the USDA agencies, local police juries, and soil and water conservation districts are the foundation of the Trailblazer RC&D services benefiting local communities. Each year these partnerships produce more than \$3 million in volunteer, non-federal, assistance to Trailblazer projects. The following includes a partial listing of participating groups in their programs:

United States Dept. of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service Rural Utilities Services Business and Cooperative Programs	American National Insurance American Stat Care Clinic Argent Financial Beehive Retail Beehive Wholesale
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry Bienville Parish Police Jury Bossier Parish Police Jury Claiborne Parish Police Jury Jackson Parish Police Jury Lincoln Parish Police Jury Union Parish Police Jury Webster Parish Police Jury Winn Parish Police Jury	Bill's Appliance Service Biomedical Engineering & Rehab Bleich & Burnett Calhoun Research Station Crossroads Church D&H Wholesale Dubach Town Hall DSS/Office of Family Support Edwards Drive Edwards, Wade & Perry CPA
Bodcau Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Dorcheat Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Dugdemona Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Saline Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Arcadia Town Hall Bienville Democrat Bienville Parish Library Gibbsland Town Hall Weyerhaeuser - Arcadia OSB Saline SWCD	Emogen Marketing Federal Building-Lincoln Parish GIS Grambling Town Hall GSU - Adams Hall GSU - Carver Hall GSU - School of Nursing GSU- Woodson Hall Holiday Inn Express Hunt, Guillot & Associates IDEA Place LA Insurance Services LA Tech- BCM LA Tech- Biomed LA Tech- Bookstore
Bossier Parish Courthouse hub Athens Town Hall Claiborne Clerk of Court Claiborne Community Services Claiborne Parish Hwy Barn Claiborne Parish Library Claiborne PSB Special Services Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office Claiborne Parish Tax Assessor Emanuel Church Guardian Journal Haynesville News Haynesville Town Hall LSU Ag Center Hill Farm Res. Eros Satellite Hub Greater North Louisiana CDC Jackson Independent Jackson Parish Court House Jackson Parish Hospital Jackson Parish Police Jury Jimmie Davis State Park Jonesboro Wal-Mart Little Angels Day Care Town of Jonesboro/City Hall Weston Satellite Hub	LA Tech- (CAB) Dept of Business LA Tech- Carson Taylor Hall LA Tech- College of Engineering LA Tech- Comptroller's office LA Tech- Computing Center LA Tech- Dept of Social Science LA Tech- Football Office LA Tech- Hale Hall LA Tech- History Dept LA Tech- Humana Enterprise Center LA Tech- Joe Aillet Stadium (Tech) LA Tech- Keeny Hall LA Tech- Lady Techster Softball Complex LA Tech- Lambright Center LA Tech- Liberal Arts Dept LA Tech- Marbury Alumni Center LA Tech- Memorial Gym LA Tech- Office services LA Tech- Prescott Memorial Library LA Tech- Registrar's office LA Tech- School of Art
All Creatures Animal Hospital	

PARTNERSHIPS

LA Tech- Student Center
LA Tech- Spatial Data Lab
LA Tech- Express Office
LA Tech- Tech Talk
LA Tech- Theatre Department
LA Tech- Thomas Assembly Center
LA Tech- Tolliver Hall
LA Tech- Visual Arts Center
LA Tech- Wesley Foundation
LA Tech- Woodard Hall
Lincoln Jackson Medicaid
Lincoln Outpatient Therapy
Lincoln Parish Courthouse
Lincoln Parish Farm Bureau
Lincoln Parish Hwy Barn
Lincoln Parish Title I Media Center
Louisiana Technical College
Northeast Supports & Services Center
O'Neal Gas Company
Pet Star Animal Care
Quick Care of Ruston
Ruston Community Center
Ruston Parks and Recreation
Ruston Arbor & Terrace
Ruston City Hall
Ruston City Police Dept
Ruston City Public Works
Ruston Glass & Mirror
Ruston First Baptist Church
Ruston Inspection Dept.
Ruston NRCS Field Office
Sabine State Bank
Simsboro LVL - Weyerhaeuser
Simsboro Town Hall
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
Stone Trust
Storms Attorney's Office
TEAM Advertising
Temple Baptist Church
Tenmast Software
Trailblazer RC&D
Trinity United Methodist Church
Ruston Wal-Mart
Bernice Town Hall
Gazette -Farmerville
Hill Oil Company
Marion Town Hall
Farmerville Wal-Mart
Pilgrim's Pride
Welch's Grocery
Springhill Chamber of Commerce
Minden Press Herald
Minden Wal-Mart
Town of Sarepta
Springhill N Webster Chamber of Commerce
Town & Country Health & Rehab
Winnfield Wal-Mart

Weyerhaeuser Dodson Plywood
Winn Library
Winn Parish Health Unit
Winn Parish Police Jury Office
WP Enterprise
Bienville High School
Ringgold Elementary
Athens High School
Claiborne Academy
Quitman High School
A.E. Phillips School
A.J. Brown Elementary
Cedar Creek
Choudrant Elementary
Choudrant High School
Cypress Springs Elementary
Dubach High
Glenview Elementary
Hillcrest Elementary
I.A. Lewis
Ruston Elementary
Ruston High School
Wildflower Montessori
Farmerville Elementary
Farmerville Jr Sr High
Brown Upper Elementary
Central Elementary
Cotton Valley High
Doyline High School
E.S. Richardson Elementary
Glenbrook
J.A. Phillips Middle School
Lakeside Junior/Senior High
Minden High
Shongaloo School
Springhill Junior Senior High
Stewart Elementary
Union Elementary
Webster Parish Achievement Center
The Ruston Daily Leader
Bernice Banner
The Guardian Journal
Winn Enterprise
Jackson Independent
Farmerville Gazette
Haynesville Paper
Bienville Democrat
The Gramblinite
The Piney Woods Journal

LINKAGES TO THE NRCS STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL A: Increase application of Land Management	Cooperation Conservation	Watershed Approach	Market-based Approach
A1a Reduce the population of feral hogs by 2011	X	X	
A1b Two workshops_ turkey habitat management	X		
A1c Two workshops_deer habitat management	X		
A2a Reduction of solid waste_design an enlistment campaign			X
A2b Implement the campaign_enlist 500 project partners			X
A3a Annual Earth Day Event at Lincoln Parish Park			X
A3b Contest to identify a recycling mascot.			X
A3c Phase I- Recycling Art Museum	X		
A4a Identify & secure new property for the recycling center.	X		
A5a Secure funding for development of the new property	X		

GOAL B: Improve Water Quality	Cooperation Conservation	Watershed Approach	Market-based Approach
B1a Create a task force address the Giant Salvinia problem	X	X	
B1b Build an action plan to address the problem	X	X	
B1c Plan and conduct 15 special events the Salvinia problem	X		X
B2a Develop/publish a Water quality educational brochure.	X		X
B2b Develop/publish 150 copies of water quality handbook	X		X
B2c Identify an impaired water body as a focus project	X	X	X
B2d Plan and conduct 4 water body clean up days	X		X
B2e 10 special events to promote water quality awareness	X		X
B2f Educate public officials regarding water quality	X		

LINKAGES TO THE NRCS STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL C Complete 20 Community Development projects	Cooperation Conservation	Watershed Approach	Market-based Approach
C1a Survey 240 entrepreneurs			X
C1b Conduct 12 entrepreneurial training workshops			X
C1c Publish/Distribute Entrepreneur handbook			X
C1d Publish 12 newsletter articles			X
C1e Enlist mentors / provide mentoring sessions			X
C1f Minority outreach plan			X
C2a Identify 50 individuals desiring a business plan			X
C2b Enlist 4 staff members			X
C2c Enlist technical assistance from banks and credit unions			X
C3a Identify 15 targeted communities			X
C3b Schedule workshops			X
C3c Announce workshops through ads and PSA's			X
C3d Provide evaluations			X

LINKAGES TO THE NRCS STRATEGIC PLAN

GOAL D: Increase application of Land Conservation Practices	Cooperation Conservation	Watershed Approach	Market-based Approach
D1a Forestry Workshops	X		X
D2a Request sponsors needs in writing annually	X		
D2b Schedule/conduct 2 special events annually	X		
D2c Conduct/record evaluations	X		
D3a Tree Seedling Initiative(TSI)_ Assign staff responsibilities	X		
D3b (TSI)_ Evaluate opportunities/make recommendations	X		
D3c (TSI)_ Develop a budget request	X		
D3d (TSI)_ Research sources/ order seedlings	X		
D3e (TSI)_ Advertise	X		
D3f (TSI)_ Establish location	X		
D3g Conduct tree initiative by April 30 annually	X		
D3h Conduct evaluation of each annual event by June 1	X		
D3i Report findings to the Board by July 1 annually	X		
D4a Plan/conduct environmental education activities	X		
D4b Promote the Trailblazer "GREEN ZONE" center			X
D4c Seek funding opportunities_environmental ed. projects	X		
D4d Promote education projects			X
D5a Provide Grants/project development training	X		
D6a Assist with grants management	X		
D6b Assist local organizations/agencies	X		
D7a Report progress on area plan thru mail outs, etc			X
D7b Board Member responsibilities & nonprofit mgt. training			X
D7c Provide Financial oversight			X
D7d Publish an annual Council Member			X
D8a Seek public input			X
D8b Research demographics			X
D8c Complete draft plan and distribute for review			X
D8d Complete final draft			X

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

www.prd.doa.louisiana.gov/census/2000/2000countychange.htm

LA Census Data Center; www.city-data.com (Retrieved July 10, 2008) ; and www.city-data.com (Retrieved November 7, 2008)

www.nass.usda.gov/Census/Pull_Data_Census; www.city-data.com (Retrieved July 11, 2008)

Office of Research Services

http://news.mongabay.com/2008/1105-morgan_cypress.html (Retrieved December 15, 2008)

<http://www.laforestry.com/Default.aspx?tabid=509> (Retrieved December 15, 2008)

May 2008 *U. S. Energy Consumption by Energy Source Report release*; http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/alternate/page/renew_energy_consump/rea_prereport.html, retrieved on December 22, 2008

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Conservation; Order No. AGC-1-05

The Role of Louisiana's Forest Ecosystems in Carbon Sequestration; LSU AgCenter (retrieved March 26, 2009).

Louisiana Agriculture in the Classroom; www.agclassroom.org/la (retrieved March 25, 2009).

Forestry in the State of Louisiana; <http://www.safnet.org/policyandpress/documents/LAForestFacts.pdf> (retrieved March 25, 2009)

Environmental Defense Fund, Champion Paper Mills.

2008 TRAILBLAZER SURVEY OF NEEDS

Please rank the priority of issues in your community and return by October 1.

NOTE: Permission is granted to reproduce and distribute this form in your communities.

1. AGRICULTURE	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
2. ALTERNATIVE FUELS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
3. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
5. CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
7. ENDANGERED SPECIES	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
8. ENERGY CONSERVATION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
9. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
10. FIRE PROTECTION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
11. FLOOD CONTROL	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
12. FORESTRY ISSUES	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
13. GRANTS & GRANTS TRAINING	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
14. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
15. GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION-SPARTA	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
16. HISTORIC PRESERVATION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
17. HUMAN RESOURCES	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
18. JOBS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
19. LITTER ABATEMENT	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
20. NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
21. RECREATION DEVELOPMENT	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
22. SKILLS TRAINING	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
23. TECHNOLOGY	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
24. TOURISM	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
25. RECREATION	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
26. RECYCLING	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
27. WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
28. WATER QUALITY ISSUES	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
29. WOOD WASTE PRODUCTS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW
30. YOUTH PROGRAMS	___	HIGH	___	MEDIUM	___	LOW

EXAMPLE OF THE TRAILBALZER SURVEY FORM

TO SUBMIT THIS SURVEY: 1. email this form or your list to trailblazer@suddenlinkmail.com
 2. OR...Print the form and FAX to 318/ 251-9199
 3. All requested information must be provided.

Add other comments here: _____

*NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

* REQUIRED INFORMATION



WebPJ_080508