


# Crab Lines



May 7, 2008

Vol. 43

## **BTNEP Announces Winners of 2008 Mini-Grants Program**

The Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program (BTNEP) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2008 Mini-Grants Program.

### **Grand Isle Maritime Forest Restoration Project**

The Nature Conservancy- Jean Landry, Project Manager

The Nature Conservancy will work with the BTNEP to continue vital community based conservation work on Grand Isle by establishing a native tree nursery and developing an education and community outreach program to raise awareness about the importance of planting native tree species on the island.

### **“Down the Bayou” Film Production**

Vision Communication- Andrew Elliott, Project Manager

Down the Bayou will be a 60-80 minute documentary focused on the shrimp and seafood industries within the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary System. A documentary crew will work with fishermen, economists and scientists in the field to tell the story of this Louisiana industry.

### **Wetlands Educational Theater Outreach**

Mindy Mayer, Project Manager

This theater production will introduce elementary students in the estuary to issues facing our coastal wetlands through a one hour presentation that will include a 10 minute theater production, photos by CC Lockwood, a 20 minute discussion of coastal wetland issues, and a short presentation of wetland animals from the Audubon Zoo’s Wetland Express.

### **A Silent Witness**

Terrance Howell, Project Manager

This multimedia art exhibit will employ the use of various materials including digital video projection, painting, drawing, mixed media, photo, sculpture and book works. The show will highlight and inform the public of environmental problems within the Barataria –Terrebonne Estuary System; mainly coastal land loss and salt water intrusion. It will also reflect the reality of those who have suffered the effects of such issues and identify existing plans and solutions for restoration and protection.

### **Bibliographic Instruction for Public Libraries**

Ellender Memorial Library – NSU Cynthia DuBois, Project Manager

With a basic understanding of how wetlands materials are organized, public librarians within the estuary will be given instructions on how to better assist patrons with using bibliographic resources related to wetlands and wetland issues. Each library will also be given printed and digital bibliographic information.

## **Promoting Awareness of Innovative Education Strategies and Published Research to Educators of the B.T.E.S.**

LUMCON- John Conover, Project Manager

Educators attending workshops, retreats, and visiting LUMCON on field trips will be exposed to educational research materials funded through this grant. Educators will be encouraged to use the materials to introduce innovative teaching approaches in their classrooms, and incorporate these strategies while developing curricula that focus on ecological issues within the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary System.

The BTNEP created the Mini-Grants Program in 2005 to support community-based restoration, outreach and education projects. Through the annual program, citizens gain a greater awareness and understanding of the issues facing the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary System (BTES) and join with BTNEP in creating effective solutions. The Mini-Grants Program also helps the BTNEP foster creative partnerships among community groups and broadens the Estuary Program's ability to connect with as many people as possible in preserving our homeland. Any schools, organizations, individuals, non-profits, government, churches, businesses, or other community groups may apply for Mini-Grant funding in 2009, provided that the project takes place within the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary System (BTES) and meets one or more goals of the BTNEP. To learn more about the Mini-Grant program visit the Web at <http://grant.btnep.org/>

“The Mini-Grants are an important step in executing the BTNEP Comprehensive Management Plan. Mini-Grant projects help create a citizenry that is actively aware of environmental issues of our area,” says Susan Testroet-Bergeron, BTNEP Outreach Coordinator.

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To learn more about the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program visit the Web at [www.btnep.org](http://www.btnep.org)