

Susan Hill

From: Susan Hill
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2008 11:31 AM
To: David Fruge; Karim Belhadjeli
Subject: (1) Response to the attached letter of counseling and (2) Response to the attached pre-deprivation notice

Response to the letter of counseling: I disagree with the contents of this letter and the action taken.

Response to the pre-deprivation notice: I disagree with the contents of this letter and the action taken.

Susan Hill
Coastal Resources Scientist Supervisor
Ecological Review Unit
Restoration Technology Section
Coastal Restoration Division
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
susan.hill@la.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Hill
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2008 9:35 AM
To: Karim Belhadjali
Cc: Mandy Green; David Lindquist; Summer Martin; Christopher Robertson; Stephanie Zumo
Subject: FW: Plant Identification Course

Karim,

Please see the attached information concerning a native plant identification and distinguishing characteristics course that was held last week (April 8-11, 2008) in Lafayette.

It would have been very beneficial for ER unit staff to have been able to attend this training course, as the material taught is highly relevant and necessary knowledge for performance of our ER job duties. In particular, to the detriment of our other job duties, we have been trying to determine the desirable elevation for the construction of the marsh platform for the East Marsh Island project. For the past several weeks we have had great difficulty and have spent an inordinate amount of time singly-focused on plants and deeply enmeshed in attempting to understand and salvage results from a twice-conducted marsh elevation survey which seems to have been performed each time without an understandable or reliable methodology/protocol.

Multiple CRD/Planning staff members attended this course last week; however, I only became aware of this accidentally and after-the-fact. I was told that Ron Boustany and Troy Mallach, very knowledgeable biologist-types and counterparts at NRCS, have taken the same class 3 times and find it very beneficial to attend the same course repeatedly.

I would like to request that when CRD administrative approval is granted for CRD staff members to attend training opportunities, that any CRD unit and staff members for whom the training is duty-specific, directly related, and imparts knowledge necessary for proper performance of their job-duties, be informed that such training is available and allowed to attend.

Thank you.

Susan Hill
Coastal Resources Scientist Supervisor
Ecological Review Unit
Restoration Technology Section
Coastal Restoration Division
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
susan.hill@la.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelley Templet
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2008 10:13 AM
To: Susan Hill
Subject: FW: Plant Identification Course

Susan,

This is the information I saved on the class that we took last week. It was wonderful and as stated below, no botany experience is required.

Kelley Templet
Coastal Resources Scientist

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Restoration Division
617 North 3rd Street, Suite 1078
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Email: kelley.templet@la.gov
Phone: (225) 342-1592
Fax: (225) 342-9417

-----Original Message-----

From: Stemmans, Charles - New Iberia, LA
[mailto:Charles.Stemmans@la.usda.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2008 4:01 PM
To: john.foret@noaa.gov; Ken W Krauss; had2299@louisiana.edu;
andrew_dolan@fws.gov; dauterive@cox.net; bviator@charter.net;
bhebert@agctr.lsu.edu; cheryl.brodnax@noaa.gov; davidc@dnr.state.la.us;
Gary.M.Couret@mvn02.usace.army.mil; johnpaul@chitimacha.gov;
vermilioncorporation@connections-lct.com; Kelley Templet;
ken.j.naquin@monsanto.com; kswalden@chitimacha.gov;
rmoertle@bellsouth.net; rwalters@jchance.com
Cc: Edwards, Scott - Carencro, LA
Subject: FW: Plant Identification Course

I attended this course last year and the amount of info that was presented in a short period of time is amazing. The Plant ID techniques that you are shown will help seasoned specialist as well as those of us that struggle to remember differences in the plants that you encounter on a regular basis. Bring your camera, plenty of note paper and enjoy plant ID.

D. Charles Stemmans II
District Conservationist
Franklin & New Iberia Field Offices
USDA NRCS

Subject: Plant Identification Course

Can You Please Help Us Get the Word Out About This Course? Forward this email to colleagues and or print the informational flyer and post on community bulletin boards.

The Acadiana RC&D Council, Inc. will host a native plant identification course April 8 - 11, 2008 in and around the Lafayette, Louisiana area. Dr. Robert H. Mohlenbrock of Biotic Consultants, Inc. will be teaching this intensive hands-on field course where the distinguishing characteristics of every plant encountered will be discussed along with habitat requirements. The official Fish and Wildlife Service wetland designation is also given for each plant.

The class will visit bottomland hardwood, fresh and saline marsh, gulf coast prairie and other wetland plant systems. The course is designed for environmental specialists, wetland scientists, agriculture consultants and other professionals, but is open to anyone interested in identifying plants native to this area.

No prior botany experience is required.

Registration has begun, and class size is limited. Please call the Acadiana RC&D Council for registration information: 377-896-0362 Ext. 3.

Thanks,

Scott D. Edwards
Coordinator
Acadiana RC&D Council, Inc
3419 NW Evangeline Thruway, Suite B-9
Carencro, LA 70520

Phone - 337-896-0362 ext 3
Cell - 337-704-1120
Fax - 337-896-1204
www.acadianarcd.com

Native Plant Identification

Instructor: Dr. Bob Mohlenbrock

April 8-11, 2008

Lafayette, Louisiana Area

Class Limited to 25 Participants

Only \$600.00 per person

For more information call 337-896-0362 ext. 3



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About the Instructor

Dr. Robert H. Mohlenbrock has been studying plants since his junior year in high school, a total of 58 years. He taught plant taxonomy for 34 years at Southern Illinois University where he was major professor for 90 graduate students at both the masters and doctoral level.

Since 1990, Dr. Mohlenbrock has taught over 200 week-long wetland plant identification courses in 29 states. He has authored over 50 books and 500 other publications and is a columnist for Natural History magazine "This Land".

Student Responses from 2007

"This was the most informative and useful Plant ID course I have ever taken in my 25 year career."

"In my opinion, the classes were even more enjoyable the second time around. I would recommend repeating the class to all first timers."

For more information call:
337-896-0362 ext 3

Registration Deadline
March 01, 2008

Fax Completed Form to 337-896-1204
or mail: 3419 NW Evangeline Thruway, Suite B-9, Carencro, LA 70520

Name _____				Payment Info: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Check	
Address _____		City _____	State _____	Zip Code _____	
Email Address _____		Card Number _____		Exp. date _____	
Phone _____		Signature _____			



The Acadiana Resource Conservation and Development Council is a non-profit organization that addresses the social, environmental and economical concerns of south central Louisiana. Our primary focus is on the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources in Acadia, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion Parishes.
www.acadianarcd.com

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News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Scott Edwards
Coordinator Acadiana RC&D Council, Inc.
3419 NW Evangeline Thruway, Suite B-9
Carencro, LA 70520
Office: 337-896-0362 ext 3

NATIVE PLANT ID COURSE

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-----Original Message-----

From: Diane Smith
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2008 3:01 PM
To: Ed Haywood; Susan Hill
Cc: Karim Belhadjali; Kirk Rhinehart; Diane Smith
Subject: RE: TV-14-01 Monitoring Station

Susan,

All emails and other correspondence regarding East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21) project are to be sent directly to me and not distributed beyond copying only Karim and Kirk. Please do not contact other staff in OCRM regarding this project until we can meet to discuss sometime next week with Kirk.

-----Message-----

From: Ed Haywood
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2008 2:41 PM
To: Susan Hill
Cc: Karim Belhadjali; Diane Smith
Subject: FW: TV-14-01 Monitoring Station

Susan,

Please route any future correspondence that needs to be directed to Monitoring Section staff through the appropriate field office supervisor first and copy me. Also, if you have any additional questions concerning the procedures we follow to obtain marsh elevations, please direct them to me.

Thanks,

Ed

Ed Haywood
Coastal Resources Scientist Manager
Coastal Restoration Division
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 44027
Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027

Phone: 225-342-9428
Fax: 225-242-3506
E-mail: ed.haywood@la.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Summer Martin
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2008 11:46 AM
To: Troy Barrilleaux; Christine Thibodeaux
Cc: Susan Hill; Karim Belhadjali; Brad Miller; Dain Gillen; Lejeune, Cassidy R.; Carloss, Michael
Subject: TV-14-01 Monitoring Station

Troy,

I am the Ecological Review team member for the East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21) project and I have been working with the project engineer (Dain Gillen) in estimating inundation frequency and calculating tidal datums for the TV-21 project using water level data from the TV-14-01 monitoring station. I was informed that you are the assigned monitoring manager for the TV-14 project. I see a column labeled "Adjusted Water Elevation to Datum" in the Excel spreadsheet of the data. Does this mean that the water level gage was surveyed in (tied to NAVD 88)?

We have recently been questioning the validity of the results of the marsh elevation survey conducted for the TV-21 project and hope to utilize the inundation and mean high water (MHW) calculations to help us determine the target design elevation that is best for healthy marsh on Marsh Island. Before we rely too much on the water level data in designing this project, do you know of any reason to question the accuracy of the TV-14-01 water level data? Can you make any recommendation as to a healthy marsh elevation for the island?

Thank you,

Summer Martin
Coastal Resources Scientist
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Restoration Division

Restoration Technology Section
Ecological Review Unit
summer.martin@la.gov

Phone: (225) 342-1594; Fax: (225) 242-3337