Table of the Five Pre-Screening Criteria used to Evaluate the Six Estuarine Zones along with Pre-Screening Recommendation by Designation Leadership Team (DLT).

Pre-Screening Criteria #1	Pre-Screening Criteria #2	Pre-Screening Criteria #3	Pre-Screening Criteria #4	Pre-Screening Criteria #5	Pre-Screening
Unique Coastal Setting	State-Owned Lands	Land Integrity	Change in Habitat Diversity	Hydrologic Manipulations	Recommendation by DLT
1. Are there potential core	2. Is there currently sufficient	3. Is the integrity of the	4. Do the wetlands that would serve as	5. Do existing or anticipated	The following columns
areas (state-owned lands and	area of state-owned lands	wetlands that may serve as	potential core (state-owned land) and	operations of water control	contain summary
waters) in this Estuarine Zone	within this Estuarine Zone	potential core (state-owned	buffer areas currently support a	structures and levees (including	statements and
that represent unique habitats,	conducive to developing	land) and buffer areas that	diversity of habitats along a salinity	marsh impoundments) by federal	recommendations for each
coastal processes and salinity	LaNERR Candidate Sites that	provide the unique features of	gradient representative of a delta	and state authorities with sole	Estuarine Zone prepared
gradients of a delta estuary in	meet National Estuarine	the NERR (see criterion #1)	estuary. Do these wetland areas	purpose of manipulating hydrology	by the Designation
comparison to the other NERR	Reserve System objectives?	maintained in perpetuity	maintain a diversity of habitats in	in coastal basins for either flood	Leadership Team.
sites in Louisianian		within this Estuarine Zone,	perpetuity (maintain integrity) within	control, marsh management, or	
Biogeographic Zone of NERR	Description: Majority of	which would allow for	this Estuarine Zone over the next 50	coastal restoration have the	
System (sections 11, 12, 13).	publicly-owned land used as	development of facilities and	years?	potential to impact the integrity of	
Unique environmental	core areas within a candidate	programs (research &		potential core or buffer areas thus	
representativeness is important	site cannot be federal lands.	education)?	Description: Changes that demonstrate	causing potential conflicts between	
to the research and education	Further, the state must		Significant Habitat Diversity change	LaNERR objectives (environmental	
mission of a NERR.	demonstrate adequate	Description: Land change was	represent conflict with foreseeable	representativeness, research &	
	management control for core	measured by comparing the	program development in research &	education)?	
Description: Current distribution	areas to be designated as a	2017 Coastal Master Plan initial	education to meet the mission of a		
of habitat types, based on 2017	NERR. NOAA requires that	condition vegetation to the	NERR. Change in habitat diversity was		
Coastal Master Plan initial	state lands be available in the	year 50 projected vegetation	measured by comparing the 2017		
condition vegetation, was used	initial designation of a NERR	under the medium scenario	Coastal Master Plan initial condition		
to define salinity zones in each	site since the agreement is a	with implementation of the	vegetation to the year 50 projected		
Estuarine Zone. Habitat types	NOAA-state MOU.	plan. A reduction of 50% in	vegetation under the medium scenario		
are shown in outlined areas of		wetland area from initial to	with implementation of the plan.		
state-owned land in red.		projected was considered			
		sufficient to question the	Insignificant change (fresh or saline		
		integrity of a zone.	habitat change <-25%).		
			Moderate change (fresh or saline		
			habitat change -25 to -65%).		
			Significant change (fresh or saline		
			habitat change > -65%.		

Criterion #1 and Evaluation of each Estuarine Zone.

Estuarine Zone	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine	Mississippi River
					Zone	Estuarine Zone
Pre-Screening Criteria	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening
	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation		Recommendation	Recommendation
1. Are there potential core	Insignificant Unique Setting:	Significant Unique Setting:	Insignificant Unique Setting:	Significant Unique Setting: The	Significant Unique Setting:	Significant Unique
areas (state-owned lands and	The coastal setting	The coastal setting of this	The coastal setting of this	coastal setting of this Estuarine	The coastal setting of this	Setting: The coastal
waters) in this Estuarine Zone	represented by state-	Estuarine Zone is unique in	Estuarine Zone is not unique	Zone is unique in the Louisianian	Estuarine Zone is unique in	setting of this Estuarine
that represent unique habitats,	owned lands of this	the Louisianian	in the Louisianian	Biogeographic Zone of NERR	the Louisianian	Zone is unique in the
coastal processes and salinity	Estuarine Zone is not	Biogeographic Zone of NERR	Biogeographic Zone of NERR	System (sections 11, 12, 13)	Biogeographic Zone of	Louisianian
gradients of a delta estuary in	unique to other NERR sites	System (sections 11, 12, 13)	System (sections 11, 12, 13)	based on the objective to	NERR System (sections 11,	Biogeographic Zone of
comparison to the other NERR	in the Louisianian	based on the objective to	based on the objective to	represent delta estuary. The	12, 13) based on the	NERR System (sections
sites in Louisianian	Biogeographic Zone of	represent delta estuary. The	represent delta estuary. The	vegetation diversity	objective to represent delta	11, 12, 13) based on the
Biogeographic Zone of NERR	NERR System (sections 11,	vegetation diversity	vegetation diversity	demonstrates equal distribution	estuary. The vegetation	objective to represent
System (sections 11, 12, 13).	12, 13) based on the	demonstrates dominance by	demonstrates dominance by	by freshwater, brackish and	diversity demonstrates	delta estuary. The
Unique environmental	objective to represent delta	tidal freshwater but with	salt and brackish marsh with	saline zones. The development	equal distribution by	vegetation diversity
representativeness is	estuary. The vegetation	both forested wetlands and	little representation of other	of candidate sites for LaNERR in	freshwater, brackish and	demonstrates
important to the research and	diversity demonstrates	brackish marshes. The	salinity zones. The	this Estuarine Zone would	saline zones. The	dominance by
education mission of a NERR.	dominance by brackish and	development of candidate	development of candidate	provide unique habitats, coastal	development of candidate	intermediate salinity
	salt zones. The chenier	sites for LaNERR in this	sites for LaNERR in this	processes and salinity gradients	sites for LaNERR in this	zones but also has
Description: Current	ridges, if they can be	Estuarine Zone would	Estuarine Zone would not	that could be used for program	Estuarine Zone would	freshwater, brackish and
distribution of habitat types,	included in state-owned	provide unique habitats,	provide unique habitats,	development (research &	provide unique habitats,	saline zones. The
based on 2017 Coastal Master	lands, are considered a	coastal processes and salinity	coastal processes and salinity	education).	coastal processes and	development of
Plan initial condition	unique habitat of delta	gradients that could be used	gradients that could be used		salinity gradients that could	candidate sites for
vegetation, was used to define	estuary.	for program development	for program development		be used for program	LaNERR in this Estuarine
salinity zones in each Estuarine		(research & education).	(research & education).		development (research &	Zone would provide
Zone. Habitat types are shown					education).	unique habitats, coastal
in outlined areas of state-						processes and salinity
owned land in red.						gradients that could be
						used for program
						development (research
						& education).

Criterion #2 and Evaluation of each Estuarine Zone.

Estuarine Zone	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone	Mississippi River Estuarine Zone
Pre-Screening Criteria	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening	Pre-Screening
	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation
2. Is there currently sufficient area	Insufficient Core Areas:	Sufficient Core Areas: The	Sufficient Core Areas: The	Sufficient Core Areas: The	Sufficient Core Areas: The	Sufficient Core Areas: The
of state-owned lands within this	The current availability of	current availability of	current availability of state-	current availability of state-	current availability of state-	current availability of state-
Estuarine Zone conducive to	state-owned lands to	state-owned lands to	owned lands to establish	owned lands to establish core	owned lands to establish core	owned lands to establish core
developing LaNERR Candidate	establish core areas for	establish core areas for	core areas for candidate	areas for candidate LaNERR	areas for candidate LaNERR	areas for candidate LaNERR
Sites that meet National Estuarine	candidate LaNERR sites in	candidate LaNERR sites in	LaNERR sites in the	sites in the Barataria Estuarine	sites in the Pontchartrain	sites in the Mississippi River
Reserve System objectives?	the Calcasieu Estuarine	the Atchafalaya Estuarine	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Zone is sufficient. State-	Estuarine Zone is sufficient.	Estuarine Zone is sufficient.
	Zone is very limited. Most	Zone is sufficient.	is sufficient.	owned lands in this Estuarine		
Description: Majority of publicly-	of the public lands in this			Zone are slightly less	State Lands = 200,207 acres;	State Lands = 116,118 acres;
owned land used as core areas	Estuarine Zone are federal	State Lands = 347,945	State Lands = 44,203 acres;	compared to other public	Other Public Lands = 53,640	Other Public Lands = 49,048
within a candidate site cannot be	lands.	acres; Other Public Lands =	Other Public Lands = 15,260	lands.	acres	acres
federal lands. Further, the state		57,227 acres	acres			
must demonstrate adequate	State Lands = 3,046 acres;			State Lands = 40,185 acres;		
management control for core	Other Public Lands =			Other Public Lands = 49,913		
areas to be designated as a NERR.	152,585 acres			acres		
NOAA requires that state lands be						
available in the initial designation						
of a NERR site since the						
agreement is a NOAA-state MOU.						

Criterion #3 and Evaluation of each Estuarine Zone.

Estuarine Zone	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone	Mississippi River Estuarine Zone
Pre-Screening Criteria	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation
Pre-Screening Criteria 3. Is the integrity of the wetlands that may serve as potential core (state-owned land) and buffer areas that provide the unique features of the NERR (see criterion #1) maintained in perpetuity within this Estuarine Zone, which would allow for development of facilities and programs (research & education)? Description: Land change was measured by comparing the 2017	Pre-Screening Recommendation <u>Insignificant Area Change:</u> There is insignificant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR The Estuarine Zone has minimum potential level of conflict because of future land loss with respect to developing facilities and programs (research & education) of LaNERR.	Pre-Screening Recommendation <u>Insignificant Area Change:</u> There is insignificant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR. Potential core areas are sufficient, and the Estuarine Zone has minimum potential level of conflict because of future land loss with respect to developing facilities and programs (research &	Pre-Screening Recommendation Significant Area Change: There is significant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR. Potential core areas are sufficient at present (initial conditions), but the Estuarine Zone has significant level of conflict in the future because of land loss of core areas that would be used for developing	Pre-Screening Recommendation Insignificant Area Change: There is insignificant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR. Potential core areas are sufficient, and the Estuarine Zone has minimum potential level of conflict because of future land loss with respect to developing facilities and programs (research & education) of	Pre-Screening Recommendation Insignificant Area Change: There is insignificant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR. Potential core areas are sufficient, and the Estuarine Zone has minimum potential level of conflict because of future land loss with respect to developing facilities and programs (research & education) of	Pre-Screening Recommendation Significant Area Change: There is significant land loss in the potential core areas (state-owned lands) that could be used to develop candidate sites for LaNERR. Potential core areas are sufficient at present (initial conditions), but the Estuarine Zone has significant level of conflict in the future because of land loss of core areas that would be used for developing
Coastal Master Plan initial condition vegetation to the year 50 projected vegetation under the medium scenario with implementation of the plan. A reduction of 50% in wetland area from initial to projected was considered sufficient to question the integrity of a zone.	Initial Wetland Area = 237,001 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 194,655 acres. % Wetland Change = -18.1%	education) of LaNERR. Initial Wetland Area = 1,120,997 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 1,045,730 acres. Wetland Change = -6.7%	facilities and programs (research & education) of LaNERR. Initial Wetland Area = 115,007 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 33,573 acres. Wetland Change = -70.8%	LaNERR. Initial Wetland Area = 473,285 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 314,916 acres. Wetland Change = -33.5%	LaNERR. Initial Wetland Area = 597,075 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 484,214 acres. Wetland Change = -18.9%	facilities and programs (research & education) of LaNERR. Initial Wetland Area = 107,521 acres; Projected Wetland Area = 38,766 acres. Wetland Change = -69.9%

Estuarine Zone	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone	Mississippi River Estuarine Zone
Pre-Screening Criteria	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation
4. Do the wetlands that would	Significant Habitat Diversity	Moderate Habitat Diversity	Significant Habitat Diversity	Significant Habitat	Significant Habitat	Significant Habitat
serve as potential core (state-	Change: There is significant	Change: There is moderate	Change: There is significant	Diversity Change: There is	Diversity Change: There is	Diversity Change: There
owned land) and buffer areas	change in habitat types in	change in habitat types in	change in habitat types in	significant change in	significant change in	is significant change in
currently support a diversity of	the core areas that could be	the core areas that could be	the core areas that could be	habitat types in the core	habitat types in the core	habitat types in the core
habitats along a salinity gradient	used to develop candidate	used to develop candidate	used to develop candidate	areas that could be used to	areas that could be used to	areas that could be used
representative of a delta estuary.	sites for LaNERR. Potential	sites for LaNERR. Potential	sites for LaNERR and the	develop candidate sites for	develop candidate sites for	to develop candidate
Do these wetland areas maintain a	core areas in the Estuarine	core areas are sufficient and	diversity lacks tidal	LaNERR. Potential core	LaNERR. Potential core	sites for LaNERR.
diversity of habitats in perpetuity	Zone are insufficient in the	the Estuarine Zone has	freshwater habitats.	areas in the Estuarine Zone	areas in the Estuarine Zone	Potential core areas in
(maintain integrity) within this	future because of	moderate potential level of	Potential core areas in the	are insufficient in the	are insufficient in the	the Estuarine Zone are
Estuarine Zone over the next 50	significant habitat change to	conflict due to change in	Estuarine Zone are	future because of	future because of	insufficient in the future
years?	develop programs (research	habitat type that would	insufficient in the future	significant habitat change	significant habitat change	because of significant
	& education) of LaNERR.	impact future program	because of significant	to develop programs	to develop programs	habitat change to
Description: Changes that		development (research &	habitat change to develop	(research & education) of	(research & education) of	develop programs
demonstrate Significant Habitat	Percent change in Fresh	education) of LaNERR.	programs (research &	LaNERR.	LaNERR.	(research & education) of
Diversity change represent conflict	Wetland Area = -94.7%.		education) of LaNERR.			LaNERR.
with foreseeable program		Percent change in Fresh		Percent change in Fresh	Percent change in Fresh	
development in research &	Percent change in Saline	Wetland Area = +6.2%.	Percent change in Fresh	Wetland Area = +13.9%.	Wetland Area = +26.8%.	Percent change in Fresh
education to meet the mission of a	Wetland Area = -8.4%.		Wetland Area = +12.0%.			Wetland Area = +343.8%;
NERR. Change in habitat diversity		Percent change in Saline		Percent change in Saline	Percent change in Saline	Percent change in Saline
was measured by comparing the		Wetland Area = -48.6%.	Percent change in Saline	Wetland Area = -69.8%.	Wetland Area = -82.6%.	Wetland Area = -96.5%.
2017 Coastal Master Plan initial			Wetland Area = -73.8%.			
condition vegetation to the year						
50 projected vegetation under the						
medium scenario with						
implementation of the plan.						
Insignificant change (fresh or						
saline habitat change <-25%).						
Moderate change (fresh or saline						
habitat change -25 to -65%).						
Significant change (fresh or saline						
habitat change > -65%.						

Criterion #4 and Evaluation of each Estuarine Zone.

Criterion #5 and Evaluation of each Estuarine Zone.

Estuarine Zone	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone	Mississippi River Estuarine Zone
Pre-Screening Criteria	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation	Pre-Screening Recommendation
5. Do existing or anticipated operations of water control structures and levees (including marsh impoundments) by federal and state authorities with sole purpose of manipulating hydrology in coastal basins for either flood control, marsh management, or coastal restoration have the potential to impact the integrity of potential core or buffer areas thus causing potential conflicts between LaNERR objectives (environmental representativeness, research & education)?	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Potentially Interfere: The coastal setting of this Estuarine Zone presents future potential coastal management issues with planned construction of marsh management and salinity control structures associated with the Calcasieu Ship Channel. The planning of candidate sites in this Estuarine Zone will have to consider how to incorporate these manipulations in planning program development (research & education) that utilize these impacts.	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Insignificant: This Estuarine Zone is manipulated by the Old River Control Structure at the head of the Atchafalaya River Basin. This flood control structure operates on a fixed percentage (70/30% split) of flow from combined Red and Mississippi River discharge that is directed to the Mississippi and Atchafalaya River, respectively. Given the percentage of total flow represents seasonal flood- pulse of a major river basin, this is not considered an operation abnormal to seasonal river flood patterns.	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Potentially Interfere: This Estuarine Zone is impacted by water control structures (e.g., Pointe- aux-Chenes WMA) and the construction and operation of the Morganza to the Gulf flood control project that has water control structures and levees that may impact developing programs (research & education) in candidate sites for LaNERR.	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Potentially Interfere: The coastal setting of this Estuarine Zone presents future potential coastal management issues with operation of the Mid- Barataria diversion structure and Upper Barataria Risk Reduction Project. The planning of candidate sites in this Estuarine Zone will have to consider how to incorporate these manipulations in planning program development (research & education) that utilize these impacts.	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Potentially Interfere: The coastal setting of this Estuarine Zone presents future potential coastal management issues with operation of the Bonnet Carre flood control structure and West Shore Lake Pontchartrain flood protection project. In addition, there is the future construction of the Maurepas diversion structure. The planning of candidate sites in this Estuarine Zone will have to consider how to incorporate these manipulations in planning program development (research & education) that utilize these impacts.	Hydrologic Control Impacts - Insignificant: This Estuarine Zone does not have issues of impacts from water control structures and levees that would potentially impact developing programs (research & education) in candidate sites for LaNERR.

SUMMARY STATEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS	Calcasieu Estuarine Zone	Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone	Terrebonne Estuarine Zone	Barataria Estuarine Zone	Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone	Mississippi River Estuarine Z
The following columns contain summary statements and recommendations for each Estuarine Zone prepared by the Designation Leadership Team.	The Calcasieu Estuarine Zone has very limited state-owned lands that could be used as core areas to establish a LaNERR. The state- owned lands that are currently present do not represent the diverse unique habitats and processes of delta estuary. The changes in land area are not significant, but changes in habitat type are significant. Due to the lack of state-owned land, there is limited opportunity for establishing a LaNERR in this Estuarine Zone. Further, hydrologic manipulations potentially challenge the establishment of a NERR.	The Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone currently has significant state-owned lands that represent the unique habitats and processes of delta estuary. There are diverse habitat types and salinity zones representative of a delta estuary. The projected changes to both the land area and habitat types over the next 50-yrs are insignificant and moderate, respectively. This zone experiences the least future change when compared to the other zones. This Estuarine Zone represents a region sufficient to establish a LaNERR, and hydrologic manipulations will not challenge the establishment of a NERR.	The Terrebonne Estuarine Zone currently has state- owned lands that could serve as core areas. However, the zone does not have a diversity of habitat types or salinity gradients representative of a delta estuary. The projected changes to both the land area and habitat types over the next 50-yrs limit the potential of this zone for establishing a LaNERR. Further, hydrologic manipulations potentially challenge the establishment of a NERR.	The Barataria Estuarine Zone currently has significant state-owned lands that represent the diverse habitats and salinity gradients of a delta estuary. The projected changes in land area are not significant, but changes in habitat type over the next 50-yrs is significant. The more interior regions of this Estuarine Zone may represent a region sufficient to establish a LaNERR. Hydrologic manipulations will potentially challenge the establishment of a LaNERR.	The Pontchartrain Estuarine Zone currently has significant state-owned lands that represent the diversity habitats and salinity gradients of a delta estuary. The projected changes in land area are not significant, but changes in habitat type over the next 50-yrs is significant. The more interior regions of this Estuarine Zone may represent a region sufficient to establish a LaNERR. However, hydrologic manipulations will potentially challenge the establishment of a NERR.	The Mississippi River Estuarine Zone has current state-owned lands that represent the unique habitats, although dominated by intermediate marsh and salinity zone. There are both fresh and saline habitats in this Estuarine Zone. However, the projected loss of land area and changes to habitat types over the next 50-yrs limit the potential of this zone for establishing a LaNERR. Hydrologic manipulations will not challenge the establishment of a NERR.