NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

# Foundation Document

## Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

Louisiana

April 2015

F9 Signatures
3-27-2015

Eunice
Prairie Acadian Cultural Center
Opelousas
Crowley
Lafayette
Acadian Cultural Center
Baton Rouge
Plaquemine
Donaldsonville
Mississippi River
Amite River
Tangipahoa River
Hammond
Covington
Picayune
Pearl River
Mandeville
Slidell
LAKE MAUREPAS
LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN
French Quarter Visitor Center
New Orleans
Chalmette Battlefield
LAKE BORGNE
LAC DES ALLEMANDS
Barataria Preserve
New Iberia
Bayou Teche
Atchafalaya River
LAKE VERRET
Bayou Lafourche
Thibodaux
Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center
Franklin
Morgan City
Raceland
LAKE SALVADOR
Lafitte
WHITE LAKE
VERMILION BAY
WEST COTE BLANCHE BAY
EAST COTE BLANCHE BAY
Houma
Pointe a la Hache
LITTLE LAKE
Golden Meadow
BARATARIA BAY
Atchafalaya delta
ATCHAFALAYA BAY
Atchafalaya River sediment plume
North
0 25 Kilometers
0 25 Miles
Cities and towns
Agriculture (formerly prairie and forest)
Forest
Swamp forest
Marsh
Grand Isle
CAILLOU BAY
TERREBONNE BAY
TIMBALIER BAY
Gulf of Mexico

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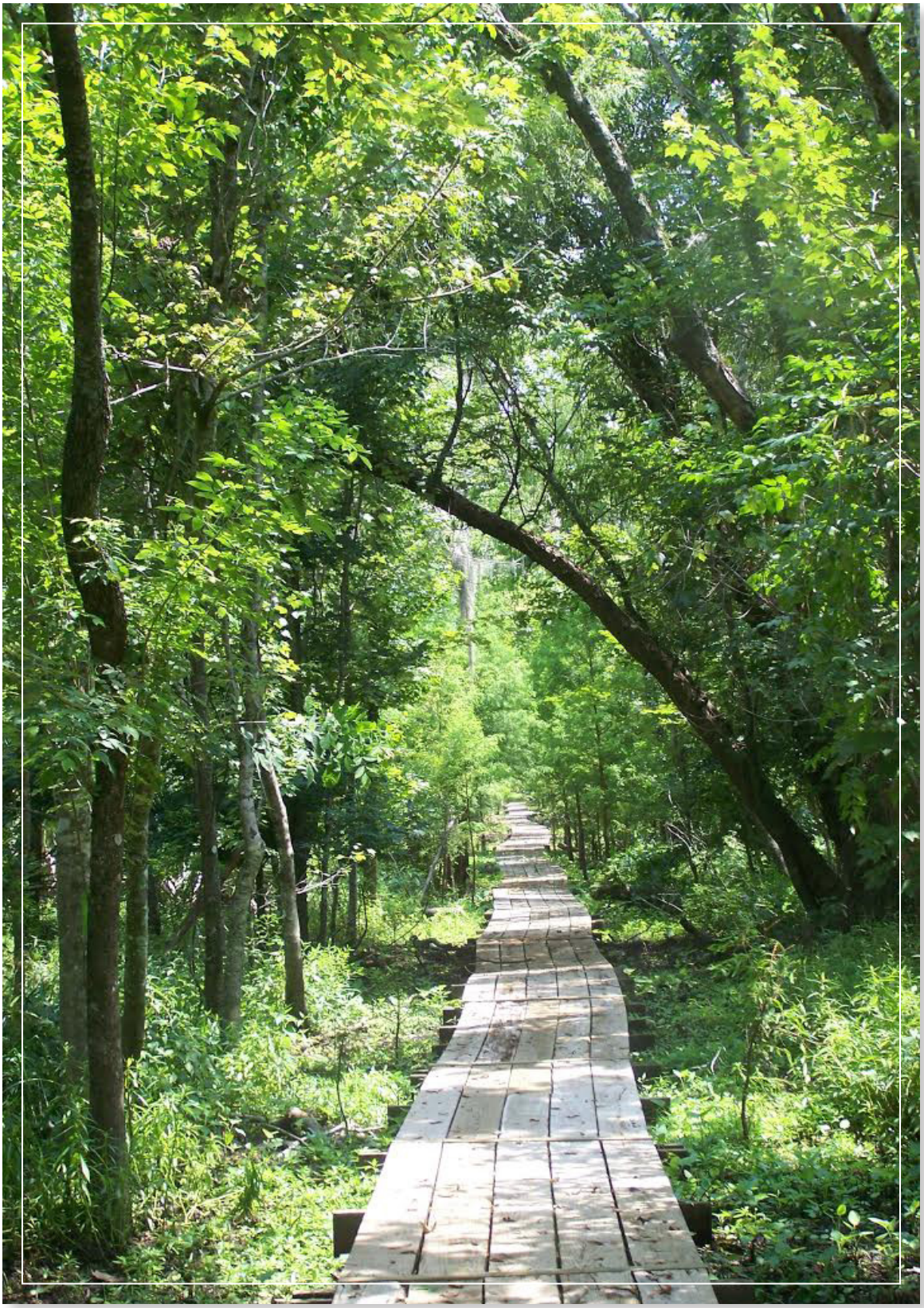

# Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship**: We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence**: We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity**: We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition**: We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect**: We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises more than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.

*The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.*

# Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve can be accessed online at: http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/.

# Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

## Brief Description of the Park

In creating Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in 1978, Congress recognized the Mississippi Delta region as an area of national significance, in terms of its natural, cultural, and historical resources. At the mouth of the Mississippi River and the gateway to the interior of the North American continent, the region has long been a focus of economic, political, and cultural activities. The region contains the largest and most productive estuarine and wetland system on the continent, and the wetlands of the Delta are among the most extensive and productive in the United States.

In 1939, Chalmette National Historical Park, the first unit of the national park system in Louisiana, was established on the east bank of the Mississippi River below New Orleans to preserve a portion of the site of the 1815 Battle of New Orleans. In 1966, Louisiana proposed a state park named for Jean Lafitte, a French pirate and privateer, to be established at the present site of the Barataria Preserve. Although advocates of the state park concept emphasized wetlands preservation and recreational needs in the Jefferson and Orleans Parish areas, no funds for land acquisition or lease of property for such a park was authorized by the state. Eventually, the supporters of expansion of Chalmette National Historical Park and state park proponents found a champion in Senator J. Bennett Johnston, and their efforts culminated in the establishment of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in 1978. The enabling legislation was amended in 1988 by Public Law 100-250 to authorize the establishment of folklife centers in the Acadian region. This expanded the park into six geographically separate units in south Louisiana that are managed as three administrative units: the Crescent City Unit (including the French Quarter site in New Orleans, and in neighboring Chalmette, Louisiana, the Chalmette Battlefield and Chalmette National Cemetery), the Barataria Preserve Unit, and the Acadian Unit (the Prairie Acadian Cultural Center in Eunice, Louisiana, the Acadian Cultural Center in Lafayette, Louisiana, and the Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center in Thibodaux, Louisiana). The historical figure Jean Lafitte was associated with the three original sites of the park: he roamed the streets of New Orleans' French Quarter, he navigated the swamps of the Barataria Preserve for smuggling contraband and slaves, and he helped the Americans win the Battle of New Orleans at Chalmette Battlefield.

Laid out in 1722 on the bank of the Mississippi River as the colony's principal settlement, the French Quarter is the cultural heart of present day New Orleans. It is a historic/cultural area of local, regional, state, national, and international significance and tourist interest, and it is listed as the Vieux Carré National Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places. The French Quarter unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve houses the Laura C. Hudson Visitor Center and the park headquarters.

The Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery is located in Chalmette, Louisiana, approximately six miles southeast of downtown New Orleans in a highly industrialized corridor along the east bank of the Mississippi River. The battlefield preserves a portion of the former agricultural landscape on which the January 8, 1815, Battle of New Orleans was fought. Non-battle-related features such as the Malus-Beauregard House (c. 1833) or the trace of the Fazendeville community (c. 1867–1964) emphasize the multiple layers of Chalmette's history. These features hold historical, cultural, and ethnographic significance in their own right. The land acquisition of the Fazendeville community was instrumental in the expansion of the battlefield as we know it today. The Chalmette National Cemetery holds graves of American veterans from the Revolutionary War to the Vietnam War.

Barataria Preserve is located in southeastern Louisiana approximately 15 miles from downtown New Orleans in the upper freshwater zone of the Barataria Basin. The 20,000-acre preserve houses numerous facilities including the Barataria Visitor Center, the Environmental Education Center, and numerous hiking and canoeing trails. The visitor center exhibits exceptional examples of natural and cultural resources reflective of the Mississippi River Delta.

The Acadian units interpret the Acadian culture of the Mississippi Delta region at each of the park's three cultural centers. Located in contrasting ecological and economic zones, the three centers demonstrate the variation of cultural and economic outputs that have evolved in relationship to the natural environment. The Acadian Cultural Center in Lafayette presents the history of the Acadian (Cajun) people who settled southeast Louisiana, and it offers a museum, bayou boat tours, music, and cultural folklife programs. The Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center in Thibodaux offers a museum, jam sessions with local musicians, French Cajun language instruction workshops, and history walks that focus on the story of Louisiana's bayou country. The Prairie Acadian Cultural Center in Eunice focuses on prairie lifeways of Cajun culture told through museum exhibits, music, dancing, craft demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, and the Saturday night "Rendez-vous-Des Cajuns" where traditional and contemporary Cajun and Creole Zydeco music in the Grand Ole Opry style is played at the historic Liberty Theater.

## Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. Chalmette National Historical Park, first established as a unit of the National Park Service in 1939, was geographically and thematically expanded to become Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve by an act of Congress signed into law on November 10, 1978 (see appendix A for enabling legislation). The following purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

*Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve protects and interprets significant examples of the Louisiana Mississippi River Delta's rich cultural and natural resources that demonstrate the interaction of this region's distinctive environment, complex history, and diverse communities, lifeways, and traditions.*

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## Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. The park's Acadian cultural centers trace the transformation of Canada's Acadians to Louisiana's Cajuns, descendants of Acadian exiles, as they adapted to their new home's physical and cultural environments.

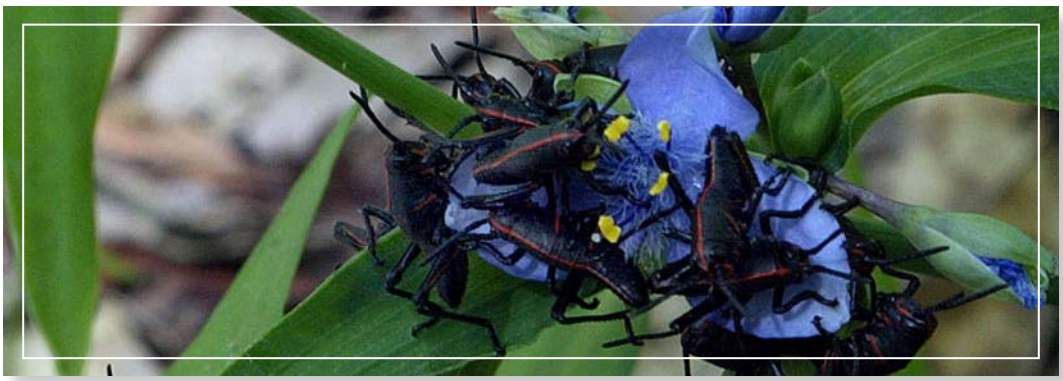
2. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve connects people to places to experience the living legacy of south Louisiana's blend of diaspora cultures from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Together with the indigenous American Indian cultures that have thrived in this dynamic natural environment, their stories and lifeway are shared with park visitors.

3. Chalmette Battlefield commemorates the 1815 Battle of New Orleans and those soldiers who died during this last major engagement of the War of 1812. The American victory shaped new ideas of American identity, encouraged American expansionism, began an era of national pride, and had broad and lasting consequences on the American Indian population and homelands.

4. The Chalmette National Cemetery is a commemorative site established as a Civil War cemetery in 1864. It is the final resting place for more than 15,000 interments from every major U.S. conflict between the American Revolution and Vietnam.

5. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve tells the story of New Orleans, a cultural crossroads for more than 300 years. A colonial French African population and culture helped shape the city by preserving the city's Creole culture, which produced distinctive architecture, food, music, legal framework, and customs.

6. The Barataria Preserve provides a glimpse of the Mississippi River Delta's natural world, and its interactions with humans from pre-European contact to the present, a "cumulatively man-altered landscape" that has changed over time. The river's creation of the land over thousands of years, the wide biodiversity of plants and wildlife, ecosystems from bottomland hardwood forest to deepwater swamp to one of the world's largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh, and evidence of human occupation, reveal a complex interrelationship between natural and human history in the Mississippi River Delta.



## Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve:

- **Cultural Lifeways of the Lower Mississippi River Delta –** The park interprets and perpetuates cultural lifeways of Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River Delta Region. Such lifeways include language, food, music, art, and customs. Traditions such as ceremonial practices and cultural organizations are also highlighted. In accordance with the park's establishing legislation, traditional uses such as hunting, trapping, and fishing continue to be practiced in the Barataria Preserve as a continuation of the relationship between human communities and the delta landscape.

- **Dynamic Delta Landscape –** The Mississippi River Delta, created by the interaction of one of the world's great rivers with the Gulf of Mexico, has created a dynamic landscape shaped by complex geologic processes and climate influences on both local and continental scales that give rise to diverse and highly productive wetlands. This low gradient landscape is experiencing rapid change including the highest rate of relative sea level rise and land loss in North America, providing a living laboratory for understanding consequences of climate change and human engineering, impacts of hydrologic modifications, and opportunities for adaptation.

- **Barataria Cultural Landscape –** The fertile estuaries of the Lower Mississippi River Delta have provided a rich matrix for human beings throughout its short geologic existence, and the cultural landscape at the Barataria Preserve includes a nearly complete chronology of human habitation in the area as exemplified by prehistoric shell midden complexes; legacies of colonial, plantation, and 20th century agriculture; and the physical imprints of land uses including navigation, logging, hunting, trapping, fishing, and oil and gas exploration, development, and transportation, some of which continue today.

- **Barataria Wetlands Ecosystems –** The Barataria Preserve protects representative samples of a highly productive delta landscape including a significant remnant bottomland hardwood forest, deepwater swamps, and the eastern edge of one of the largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh in the world. As part of a large coastal wetland ecosystem, these wetlands provide habitat for diverse and abundant plants and animals. Among other services, they help support one of the most productive seafood harvests in the United States, and they buffer major concentrations of development from the effects of climate change and storm events.

- **Chalmette National Cemetery –** The Chalmette National Cemetery is a contemplative landscape that commemorates the military service of more than 10 generations of Americans. It includes more than 15,000 interments spanning the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Vietnam War. The cemetery is also a noteworthy final resting place for approximately 700 United States Colored Troops and 100 Buffalo Soldiers. Cultural landscape features include post-and-panel brick walls, an iron entrance gate, the Superintendent's Lodge complex, the Grand Army of the Republic Monument, the gridded organization of grave markers, and relic allées of trees that line the main drive. The cemetery was closed to further interments in 1945 except for exceptional cases, such as the Vietnam burials.

- **Chalmette Battlefield –** The Chalmette Battlefield contains archeological and landscape elements of the most significant land battle of the War of 1812. Landscape elements include the battlefield, trees, levees, rampart, and the Rodriguez Canal. The battlefield also contains commemorative memorials, including the historic Chalmette Monument and Spotts Marker, as well as the proposed site of the "Passage to Unity" commemorative work that recognizes fallen British soldiers.

- **Museum Collections and Archives –** The park museum collection supports research and scholarship on a wide variety of topics: natural history specimens with associated field records; archeological objects systematically recovered from within the park's boundaries with associated field records; historic objects; tools and equipment; furnishings and household items related to the Barataria Preserve and the Acadian Culture; and various military implements and materials related to the Battle of New Orleans. The archives consist primarily of resource management and administrative documentation.

- **Cultural Connections –** Community collaborations are needed to carry out the park's mission related to its diverse cultures and the tangible and intangible expressions of the culture and heritage of living communities. Working with a broad range of formal and informal organizations, the park facilitates connections to present and past cultures of Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River Delta Region. These collaborations increase cross-cultural appreciation for the cultural traditions of others.

## Other Important Resources and Values

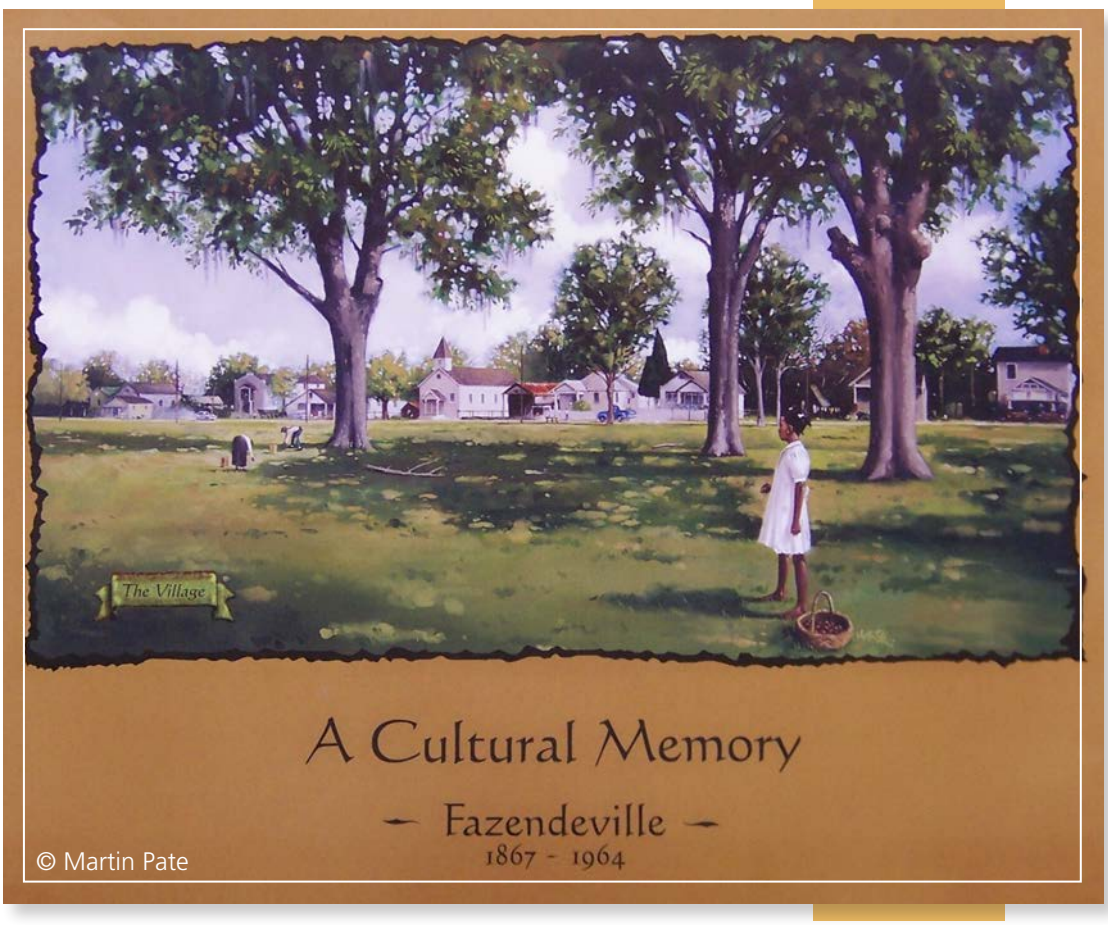
Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve contains other resources and values that are not fundamental to the purpose of the park and may be unrelated to its significance, but are important to consider in planning processes. These are referred to as "other important resources and values" (OIRV). These resources and values have been selected because they are important in the operation and management of the park and warrant special consideration in park planning.

Other important resources and values for the park include but are not limited to the following:

- **El Camino Real de Barataria (the royal road of Barataria) –** The Spanish named it "El Camino Real de Barataria," for it was owned by their king. It now exists only as a remnant of the public road built by the Spanish colonial government (1763–1803). It was known in French as "Le Chemin de Barataria" and in English as "Barataria Road." Some of the Isleños settled in houses along this road located in the Pecan Grove area of the Barataria Preserve. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

- **Malus-Beauregard House (c. 1833) –** This historic building is an excellent example of French-Louisiana architecture and was built after the Battle of New Orleans, c. 1833. It is a summer home that was built on Chalmette Battlefield and never associated with a plantation. It served as a country residence for a succession of people in the 19th century, and is named for René Beauregard, its last owner, the son of the Civil War Confederate General, P. G. T. Beauregard.

- **Fazendeville (1867–1964) –** Fazendeville is the site of an African American community once located on the Chalmette Battlefield site. Referred to as "the Village" by many of its residents, Fazendeville now constitutes only their memories of a once thriving and vibrant community during its almost 100-year existence as a river settlement.



## Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental and other important resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve:

- For centuries, the transformative currents of the Mississippi River have altered southeast Louisiana's landscape and influenced the peoples who have made the delta their home, providing land for communities, plentiful food sources, and acting as conduit for cultural exchange.
- The War of 1812 and the American victory at the Battle of New Orleans fueled national pride, catapulted Andrew Jackson into national prominence and the presidency, and led to a watershed moment in the shaping of the national identity of the United States.
- The Battle of New Orleans drew together people of different races, ethnicities, religions, social classes, and cultures to win the last major battle of the War of 1812, and this cultural interchange continues to play a vital role in the identity of southern Louisiana today.
- Southeast Louisiana's natural history is shaped by the unending conversation between the Mississippi River, the Gulf of Mexico, and the consequences of human activities.
- Cajun culture began with the Acadian exile from Canada and resettlement in Louisiana, and it survived due to complex interactions with other cultures and a fertile and dynamic landscape.
- Creoles in Louisiana—those who are "native-born," descended from the colonial settlers in Louisiana, especially those of French, Spanish, and African descent, as well as American Indian ancestry—have had a major impact on Louisiana's culture, particularly in shaping the distinct cuisine, music, and language found across the state.
- South Louisiana's culture is best experienced personally—through dances, live music, the smell and taste of traditional foods, the unique Cajun language, the oral story traditions, family stories—all of which animate and give deeper meaning to everyday life.
- From the colonial Code Noir and Governor Alejandro Conde de O'Reilly's ban of the American Indian slave trade, to the 1896 Supreme Court ruling codifying "separate but equal" practices, to the 1960 integration of its public schools, to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans has played a critical role in the social and legal civil rights struggle of Americans.
- The park's six sites reflect a broad range of the Gulf Coast's human and natural history: the beauty of the Louisiana wetlands, centuries of human activity interacting with natural forces, the consequences of climate change and rising sea levels, the problems of invasive species and wetlands loss, and the opportunity to learn from the past and take action for the future.

# Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental and other important resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

## Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.

For more information about the existing special mandates and administrative commitments for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, please see appendix B.

## Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

### Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value. Please see appendix C for the fundamental resources and values analysis tables.

## Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental and other important resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental or other important resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

- **Partnerships and Community Outreach –** Partners and partnerships are a critical element in the park's programming and resources and in building and maintaining strong community connections at the park overall and at each of the six individual park units. The park needs to specifically identify meaningful formal and informal partnerships and projects that complement its highest priority goals and then appropriately fund and build capacity to effectively support and manage these relationships.

- **Climate Change, Relative Sea Level Rising, and Associated Implications –** Park managers anticipate significant climate change-driven impacts on resources that are substantially more rapid than those experienced during the 20th century. As with many other NPS units, climate change predictions for the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve area include higher temperatures, reduced annual precipitation, increased rainfall intensity, increased drought frequency and length and eustatic sea level rise. Distinct from other parks, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve's units are distributed across southeastern Louisiana on land in the current and recently active Mississippi River Delta. Driven by natural geological subsidence processes—which are exceptionally high in large river deltas—and by human alteration of the coastal wetland landscape, Mississippi River hydrology, and Earth's climate, parts of this area experience the highest rates of relative sea level rise in North America. Because of the area's low topographic relief, the spatial extent and temporal duration of flooding both are increasing across the park's landscape. In the park's Barataria Preserve, scientists and resource managers already have documented species loss from natural levee ridges (high elevation locations), increased flooding, and land loss. Simultaneously, the global warming-induced increase in ocean heat content is predicted to increase the frequency of strong tropical storms. Impacts from a recent series of hurricanes lead park managers to expect intensive, extensive, and rapid shifts in natural resource distribution, condition, composition, and function, plus similar impacts on cultural artifacts and lifeways and on the integrity of park infrastructure. In sum, the climate change-driven increase in ocean influence on this deltaic landscape and its inhabitants—including the exceptional rate of relative sea level rise and the predicted increase in strong tropical storms—is the park's major cross-cutting concern. A climate change vulnerability assessment and climate change adaptation plan are needed to aid the park in responding to the realized and predicted impacts of climate change and relative sea level rise.

- **Hydrological Change in the Louisiana Mississippi Delta.** The Mississippi River is largely channelized today by human manipulation. The river still floods and is occasionally directed to side channels and spillways near the Delta, but the intermediate and larger seasonal floods that deposited rich sediments over vast areas no longer occurs and subsidence is exacerbated. Oil and gas exploration and other navigation canals have been dredged and the dredged material was deposited next to the canals forming small scale earthen levees that either facilitate or obstruct the flow of water (both salt and fresh water) across the landscape. Additionally, large flood protection features in the form of earthen levees and concrete floodwalls have been constructed to both hold water into certain areas and keep it out of others. In particular, the hydrology (amount, flow, and movement of water) in both the Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery and Barataria Preserve are highly affected by these developments and the results of this disfigurement of the landscape are continually playing out and must be

factored into long-term management goals and objectives. As the altered hydrology exacerbates many realized and predicted impacts of climate change and relative sea level rise, a climate change vulnerability assessment and climate change adaptation plan are needed to guide park response. In addition, the hydrologic alterations extend far beyond park boundaries and thus the park needs to work collaboratively with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, local parishes and municipalities, and stakeholder groups to address the landscape-scale impacts of hydrological change.

- **Invasive Species –** The management of invasive species involves a high level of understanding of complex biological systems that are also affected by climate and hydrological changes occurring in the Delta region. Feral pigs, nutria, suites of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant species, snails, clams, etc., are resulting in relatively large and rapid changes in many resources and their condition or even their state. Management of established invasive species, often accompanied by an incomplete understanding of invasive species issues, can be expensive and lacking in positive results. Known management programs and solutions need to be supported completely and followed through with monitoring and prevention programs or they too can be ineffectual long term.

- **Chalmette National Cemetery –** The condition of the grave markers in some sections of the cemetery is compromised by subsidence and bioturbation, and thus the markers fail to meet the standards for a national cemetery. Recent NPS cemetery policy, *Reference Manual 61: National Cemetery Operations*, November 2011, does not require but strongly suggests that an individual cemetery management plan indicate management methods and maintenance schedules specific to particular environmental conditions found at each cemetery.

- **Reconsider Fazendeville Pump Station –** The Fazendeville Pump Station is owned by the St. Bernard Parish, but the structure is located within the boundary of the Chalmette Battlefield unit. The 2011 general management plan for Chalmette Battlefield identifies adaptive reuse of this facility for park use. Since then, the pump station was decommissioned in 2013. The park needs to identify alternatives for the ownership and remediation and management of this site.

- **Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center –** The Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center has a complex relationship with the community, serving as both a national park visitor center and a local community resource as it is co-located with the Thibodaux Playhouse and an extension of the public library. With a robust and active theatre program, bi-monthly art exhibit openings, weekly music programming, and an adjacent seasonal farmers market, this center represents the cultural hub of Thibodaux. Community collaborations could be further enhanced through modest infrastructural improvements for a wider variety of user groups to better use the park's bayou frontage along Bayou Lafourche as part of a community greenbelt concept. Modest investment in digital integrative educational tools could better maximize the relationships among library staff, park management, local artists, and the vast resources each offers.

## Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

| Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or Parkwide?** | **Planning Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Partnership/community collaboration strategy | H | This strategy would investigate the possibility of establishing friends groups (possibly securing additional revenue streams), connecting outside groups with the park, identifying ways to engage underserved communities, and generating broader awareness of and support for stewardship of park resources. This strategy is also an important step in getting consensus as a staff in terms of how best to use outside partners. A formal strategy is also needed to guide park actions and priorities for engaging specific cultural communities to fulfill the park's enabling legislation. |
| FRV | Vegetation management plan for Barataria Preserve and Chalmette units | H | This plan would develop an integrated approach to determine desired future conditions (e.g., vegetation cover types) and actions needed. For the Chalmette Unit, the plan would also consider alternative turf management. |
| FRV | Climate change adaptation plan | H | Climate change planning is relevant at all park units, but is most urgent for Barataria Preserve due to higher vulnerability of this unit. |
| FRV | Resource stewardship strategy | H | A resource stewardship strategy is needed to provide comprehensive, integrated guidance for natural and cultural resource stewardship investments. |
| FRV | Plan to reconsider Chalmette sewage treatment plant | H | The 2011 general management plan amendment for the Chalmette Battlefield calls for adaptive use of the sewage treatment plant facility, so a new plan would be required to reconsider that new alternatives management direction for this site in light of new information, park needs, and agency considerations on facility acquisition or construction. |
| FRV | Long-range interpretive plan | H | A comprehensive, long-term plan is needed to guide interpretation at all the park units. |
| FRV | Feral pig management plan (underway) | M | A plan is needed to control invasive pigs and their damage at the Barataria Preserve. The planning effort is currently underway and should be sustained until the plan is completed. |
| FRV | Cemetery management plan for Chalmette unit | M | This plan is needed to meet policy requirements of reference manual 61 for maintenance of a national cemetery. |
| FRV | Trail management plan for Barataria Preserve | M | A trail management plan is needed to establish desired conditions and trail standards, identify necessary trail improvements and rerouting, and to determine the feasibility and need for new trails. This plan will include both footpath and water trails. This is also an ideal planning effort to engage new partners and foster community stewardship of park resources and assets. |
| FRV | Commercial services strategy | M | A strategy is needed to transport visitors to and from the park via commercial services, as well as to provide in-park support for visitor activities. This is primarily a need for the Chalmette Battlefield and Barataria Preserve. Some aspects are interrelated with transportation planning. |

| Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or Parkwide?** | **Planning Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Cultural landscape report for Barataria Preserve | M | Aspects of a cultural landscape report have been completed, but a comprehensive cultural landscape report as required by the NPS policy is needed as the primary document for guiding management and preservation of the Barataria cultural landscape. A cultural landscape report will provide an understanding of the complex history, evolution, and significance of the Barataria Preserve's cultural landscape. This effort will include finalizing the Swanson study, which is a cultural landscape / historic resource study for the Barataria Preserve. A draft study report has been prepared but it needs to be reviewed and the information and data revised and integrated into the cultural landscape inventory. |
| FRV | Management plan for newly acquired lands at Barataria Preserve | M | The Barataria Preserve was expanded in 2009 to encompass 3,000 acres of additional land to the north and east of the preserve boundary. These expansion lands were not addressed in past planning efforts and need to be considered in new planning to determine appropriate uses, facilities, and resource conditions. |
| FRV | Land protection plan (update) | M | An updated land protection plan in needed to meet agency requirements, and to reprioritize land acquisition after the 2009 boundary expansion at the Barataria Preserve. |
| FRV | Strategic plan for cultural engagement | M | A written formal strategy is needed to guide NPS park actions and priorities and to engage cultural communities to help fulfill the park's enabling legislation. |
| FRV | Archeological overview and assessment | M | A plan is needed to identify gaps and provide a comprehensive overview of the park's archeological resources in order to facilitate protection of archeological sites and identify future study needs. |
| Parkwide | Park asset management plan (update) | M | An updated plan is needed to meet agency standards for the financial sustainability of park facilities. |
| Parkwide | Wayfinding/signage plan or strategy | M | A plan is needed to aid visitors in finding the park units, navigating within the Barataria Preserve and Chalmette Battlefield units, and to work with state cooperators on roadside signage needs. |
| FRV | Collection management plan (update) | M | The plan includes archives. The current plan is outdated and needs to be updated to meet current agency standards. |
| FRV | Collection preservation plan (update) | M | The current plan is outdated and needs to be updated to meet current agency standards. |
| FRV | Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act action plan | M | A plan is needed to guide consultation on the repatriation of sensitive tribal items in the park's collections. |
| Parkwide | Sustainability plan/climate leadership in parks plan | M | A plan or strategy is needed parkwide to help minimize the park's carbon footprint, including sustainability considerations for all of our facilities consistent with agency standards. |

| Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or Parkwide?** | **Planning Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Fire management plan (update) | L | This plan is required to understand fire regimes and effects in marsh, and to consider prescribed fire as a management tool. An updated plan is needed for both the Barataria Preserve and the Chalmette Battlefield. |
| FRV | Wilderness eligibility assessment for Barataria Preserve | L | The lands at the Barataria Preserve have never been considered in a wilderness eligibility assessment process, as required by NPS policies. This step needs to be completed to determine if any of the lands are eligible for further wilderness study. |
| FRV | Minerals management plan for Barataria Preserve | L | The Barataria Preserve includes nonfederal oil and gas rights, subject to the requirements of 36 CFR 9b. A plan is needed to anticipate future energy demands and to establish procedures by which nonfederal oil and gas rights are exercised to minimize impacts to critical park resources. |
| FRV | Security plan (update) | L | The current plan is outdated and does not meet agency standards. A new plan is also needed to fulfill agency responsibilities for museum collections. |
| FRV | Hunting management plan | L | Hunting is mandated in the park's enabling legislation at Barataria Preserve. A plan is needed to establish policy and practices for multiple species. |
| Parkwide | Transportation plan | L | A plan is needed to evaluate the transportation of visitors to the park's six geographically dispersed sites. This plan should consider multiple means for transporting people to and from park sites, such as bike or bus routes. The plan should include ways to engage local communities to help initiate this plan. |

| Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or OIRV?** | **Data and GIS Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Condition assessment of headstones at Chalmette unit | H | A detailed condition assessment of the cemetery headstones is needed for the cemetery management plan and to meet agency standards for national cemetery maintenance. |
| FRV | Elevation and hydrology dynamics data | H | Elevation and hydrology data, included in a climate change response plan, would guide park investments and inform realistic desired future conditions for park resource management. |
| FRV | Cultural landscape inventory for Barataria Preserve | H | A cultural resource inventory would provide a management inventory of evaluated cultural landscapes as per section 110(a)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS management policies, and the cultural resource management guidelines. Barataria Preserve is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district with historical significance. |
| FRV | Vegetation map (underway) | H | A map is needed to inform resource stewardship decisions. The vegetation map is in process as an effort of the NPS Gulf Coast Inventory & Monitoring program. |
| FRV | Remote sensing data of changing land/water boundaries | H | These data would inform property jurisdictions, the climate change response plan, and desired future conditions at the Barataria Preserve. |
| FRV | Burial records information and spatial location in cemetery | H | This information is needed to locate headstones, conduct research on burial information at the park and at the National Archives and Records Administration, and to prepare a searchable database containing this information, both for park management and for public use. |
| FRV | Mississippi River Delta ethnographic overview (update) | H | The park's existing ethnographic overview needs to be expanded to include Spanish ethnohistorical data in view of the major changes in the region that have occurred since Hurricane Katrina. An updated overview will help park staff to understand the demographic changes in light of Katrina, as well as the changing cultural heritage of the area and to improve community connections. |
| FRV | Cultural landscape map(s) | H | This map is needed for the cultural landscape report particularly at Barataria Preserve and Chalmette Battlefield and Cemetery. |
| FRV | Research and archaeological documentation of Freedmen's Cemetery at the Chalmette Battlefield | H | The disinterment and relocation of the Freedmen's Cemetery c.1867 from the national cemetery to the Chalmette Battlefield is an important part of the Chalmette National Cemetery history. An in-depth study based on archival sources, as well as an intensive archeological search for the actual relocation site, is needed to thoroughly understand the general history and customs of the time period during the Freedmen's Cemetery existence. |
| FRV | Cadastral survey | H | A legally defensible cadastral survey is needed to resolve boundary disputes with landowners near Barataria Preserve. |
| FRV | Climate change vulnerability assessment | H | These data would inform a climate adaptation plan. |

| Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or OIRV?** | **Data and GIS Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Feral pig study/data gathering | M | Baseline research and data needed to inform feral pig management planning. |
| FRV | Research the role(s) of invasive floating aquatic vegetation in floating peat marsh | M | Additional research is needed to understand the dynamics of the floating marsh at the Barataria Preserve and the role that invasive plants play in that process. This information is needed to inform the vegetation management plan. |
| Parkwide | Air quality study and monitoring | M | Air quality data are needed to understand trends and sources of pollution, and dose-response relationships in sensitive park ecosystems. |
| FRV | Hydrologic monitoring | M | Landscape-wide surface hydrology dynamics monitoring (initial phase being implemented; more needed) is needed to inform ecosystem and landscape adaptive management of biological and biogeochemical properties and processes. |
| FRV | Study to integrate existing hydrologic models | M | Numerous and sometimes conflicting models of the park's complex hydrology at the Barataria Preserve currently exist. These models need to be integrated and reconciled in order to be useful to park managers to inform multiple projects and investments. |
| FRV | Deer population study / data gathering | M | Collaboration study with Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries on deer herd health, feeding conditions, and population. |
| FRV | History of the Chalmette National Historical Park and Cemetery | M | In-depth research on the history of Chalmette National Historical Park, a battlefield park originally established and administered by the War Department, before transfer to the National Park Service (c. 1920–1933). |
| FRV | Archeological site condition assessments | M | Archeological assessments are needed to update the Archeological Sites Management Information System, per NPS policy. |
| FRV | Vegetation dynamics assessment | M | These data would inform the vegetation management plan and climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan. |
| FRV | Fire effects monitoring | M | A fire effects monitoring strategy and associated data are needed to understand the effects of wildland fire on park ecosystems and to inform decisions regarding the use of fire and fuel management tools. |
| FRV | Complete museum collections and archives inventory | M | The current inventory is incomplete and should be completed to be consistent with NPS policy. A full inventory is needed for property management and to reconcile any missing artifacts or inconsistencies with existing accession and catalogue records. |
| FRV | Dendrochronology of oak trees at Chalmette | M | A dendrochronology study is needed to understand the vegetation patterns that existed at the time of the Battle of New Orleans in order to aid in management of the cultural landscape. The oak tree grove is an important part of the cultural landscape and verification is needed to ascertain if these majestic oaks were there at the time of the battle. |
| FRV | Consolidate colonial history | M | A consolidated history, included languages, is needed to inform park educational and interpretive programs about this important time period in Louisiana history. |

| Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or OIRV?** | **Data and GIS Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| FRV | Study post-Katrina population shifts | M | Understanding major shifts in the region's post-Katrina population are important to understand in terms of the park's services to the public. Data analyzed would include visitor age, geography, education, etc. |
| FRV | Sustainability study to include greenhouse gas emissions/carbon footprint | M | This information is needed to improve park operations and help the park achieve "Climate Friendly Park" status. |
| FRV | Document the rights-of-way at the Barataria Preserve and Chalmette units | M | There are numerous rights-of-way for the Chalmette Unit and Barataria Unit. This information needs to be compiled for use in park planning and management. |
| Parkwide | Historic resource study for Chalmette Battlefield (update) | L | This study needs to be updated to be more inclusive of the people engaged in the conflict. An in-depth treatment of the participation of British activities on the Chalmette Battlefield and the participation of the Choctaw Indians in the New Orleans campaign is needed. |
| FRV | Historical research on Chalmette battle participants | L | Research is needed to illuminate who fought in the Battle of New Orleans, on muster rolls including Choctaw participants, and bibliographic participation data including both American and British participants. |
| FRV | Complete bibliography related to battlefield | L | Compile relevant literature into one comprehensive bibliography. |
| FRV | Develop Staff Ride | L | A Staff Ride is a document that lists and maps the movements and patterns of the military units at the Chalmette battlefield. If this document is not available from the US Military Academy at West Point, it needs be developed for the park's information. |
| FRV | Research on the connection with the battle on the west bank | L | Research has been done but the information needs to be analyzed. |
| FRV | Archival research project on the Kaiser Aluminum property | L | Archival research on this property may include information on Chalmette Battlefield's history. Questions on the location of British burials as well as archival and oral histories surrounding the Kaiser Aluminum Plant (1951–1980) are important to the overall understanding of the site. |
| FRV | Comprehensive archeological survey | L | This is needed for the whole of the Barataria Preserve to piece together the focused inventories that already exist into a comprehensive understanding of the park's complex archeological resources. This task should follow and be informed by the archeological overview and assessment. |
| FRV | Focused archeological survey | L | This survey would focus on newly acquired lands at the Barataria Preserve in fulfillment of National Historic Preservation Act section 110 responsibilities for stewardship of park resources. |
| FRV | Analysis of cultural landscape LIDAR imagery | L | Analysis of LIDAR imagery would identify and map cultural landscape features (including plant features and elevation). This information is primarily applicable to the Barataria Preserve. |

| Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Related to an FRV or OIRV?** | **Data and GIS Needs** | **Priority (H, M, L)** | **Rationale/Notes** |
| Parkwide | Acoustic resources inventory | L | Baseline data for acoustic resources are needed in order to understand the acoustic environment of the park and to inform future planning efforts including a resource stewardship strategy, wilderness eligibility, and cultural landscape inventory. The park could partner with the NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Program in this effort. |
| FRV | Compilation of park's fire history | L | Fire history information is needed to inform the park's fire management plan and fire effects monitoring efforts by helping to determine fire return intervals on the lands that became the park during different periods, and the effects of fire on park vegetation communities during those times. This information is needed for the safety and protection of park resources. |
| FRV | Catalog backlog accessioned archives | L | The park needs to complete archival cataloging consistent with NPS policy, as a mandate to complete all backlog accessioned items, At present time, approximately 80% is completed. |
| FRV | Archeological GIS | L | Archeological GIS information needs to be finalized. The use of GIS in archeology is a powerful tool for synthesizing, analyzing, and integrating information. This technology will easily display patterns of information and illustrate geographic relationships between sets of data on Barataria Preserve and the Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery maps. |
| FRV | Historic mapping project (ongoing) | L | The park would continue historic mapping of Chalmette and Barataria to understand the geospatial relationships of park natural and cultural resources. The park would create a version of the map (without sensitive data) available to the public as a tool to learn about the park's complex human history. |
| FRV | Study of acid deposition trends and sources, and pollution dose-response relationships | L | Study of acid deposition trends and sources as well as special studies to examine pollution dose-response relationships in sensitive park ecosystems is needed to protect air quality related values. This study would include monitoring of air quality parameters (e.g., visibility, wet deposition) to better understand potential threats from nearby development. |
| FRV | Preliminary data study with GIS components on ethnolinguistics / sociolinguistics of region from colonial to present day | L | This study would support the cultural connections of the park, and would include tracking changes since Hurricane Katrina diaspora. This would be a contracted study. |

# Part 3: Contributors

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# Appendixes

## Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

**Public Law 640, establishing Chalmette National Historical Park, August 10, 1939**

1342 PUBLIC LAWS—CHS. 639, 640—AUG. 10, 1939 [53 STAT.

[CHAPTER 640]

AN ACT

August 10, 1939
[H. R. 4742]
[Public, No. 368]

To provide for the establishment of the Chalmette National Historical Park in the State of Louisiana, and for other purposes.

Chalmette National Historical Park, La. Establishment of.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the lands in Federal ownership located in Chalmette, Louisiana, in sections 10 and 21, township 13 south, range 12 east, Saint Helena meridian, on which there has been erected a monument pursuant to the provisions of the Act of Congress approved March 4, 1907 (34 Stat. 1411), as amended by the Act of June 2, 1930 (46 Stat. 489), to the memory of the soldiers who fell in the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812, including the national cemetery at Chalmette, Louisiana, are hereby designated as the Chalmette National Historical Park.

34 Stat. 1411; 46 Stat. 489.
16 U. S. C. § 450a.

Additional lands.

SEC. 2. That upon the vesting of title in the United States to such additional lands as may be designated by the Secretary of the Interior as necessary and desirable for the purposes of the Chalmette National Historical Park, such lands shall become a part of the said park and shall be subject to all laws, rules, and regulations applicable thereto: *Provided, however*, That the total area included within the said park and any enlargement thereof shall not exceed five hundred acres.

*Proviso.*
Limitation.

Acquisition of property located within Park.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his discretion, to acquire in behalf of the United States, through donations or by purchase at prices deemed by him reasonable, or by condemnation in accordance with the Act of August 1, 1888 (25 Stat. 357), lands, buildings, structures, and other property, or interests therein, located within the boundaries of the Chalmette National Park as fixed and determined hereunder, the title to such property and interests to be satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, and to accept donations of funds for the acquisition and maintenance thereof: *Provided*, That payment for such property or interests shall be made solely from donated funds.

25 Stat. 357.
40 U. S. C. §§ 257, 258.

*Proviso.*
Payment from donated funds.

Administration.

SEC. 4. The administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid national historical park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes."

39 Stat. 535.
16 U. S. C. §§ 1-4; Supp. IV, § 2.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

SEC. 5. All Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Approved, August 10, 1939.

## Congressional Report for establishing the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, 1978

### TITLE IX—JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

SEC. 901. In order to preserve for the education, inspiration, and benefit of present and future generations significant examples of natural and historical resources of the Mississippi Delta region and to provide for their interpretation in such manner as to portray the development of cultural diversity in the region, there is authorized to be established in the State of Louisiana the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve (hereinafter referred to as the "park"). The park shall consist of (1) the area of approximately twenty thousand acres generally depicted on the map entitled "Barataria Marsh Unit-Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve" numbered 90,000B and dated April 1978, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior; (2) the area known as Big Oak Island; (3) an area or areas within the French Quarter section of the city of New Orleans as may be designated by the Secretary of the Interior for an interpretive and administrative facility; (4) the Chalmette National Historical Park; and (5) such additional natural, cultural, and historical resources in the French Quarter and Garden District of New Orleans, forts in the delta region, plantations, and Acadian towns and villages in the Saint Martinville area and such other areas and sites as are subject to cooperative agreements in accordance with the provisions of this title.

**Lands, waters and interests, acquisition. 16 USC 230a.**

SEC. 902. (a) Within the Barataria Marsh Unit the Secretary is authorized to acquire not to exceed eight thousand acres of lands, waters, and interests therein (hereinafter referred to as the "core area"), as depicted on the map referred to in the first section of this title, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. The Secretary may also acquire by any of the foregoing methods such lands and interests therein, including leasehold interests, as he may designate in the French Quarter of New Orleans for development and operation as an interpretive and administrative facility. Lands, waters, and interests therein owned by the State of Louisiana or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired only by donation. In acquiring property pursuant to this title, the Secretary may not acquire rights to oil and gas without the consent of the owner, but the exercise of such rights shall be subject to such regulations as the Secretary may promulgate in furtherance of the purposes of this title.

**Guidelines or criteria, consultation.**

(b) With respect to the lands, waters, and interests therein generally depicted as the "park protection zone" on the map referred to in the first section of this title, the Secretary shall, no later than six months from the date of enactment of this Act, in consultation with the affected State and local units of government, develop a set of guidelines or criteria applicable to the use and development of properties within the park protection zone to be enacted and enforced by the State or local units of government.

**Values, preservation and protection.**

(c) The purpose of any gnideline developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be to preserve and protect the following values within the core area:

(1) fresh water drainage patterns from the park protection zone into the core area;
(2) vegetative cover;
(3) integrity of ecological and biological systems; and
(4) water and air quality.

**Authority, ceding.**

(d) Where the State or local units of government deem it appropriate, they may cede to the Secretary, and the Secretary is authorized to accept, the power and authority to confect and enforce a program or set of rules pursuant to the guidelines established under subsection (b) of this section for the purpose of protecting the values described in subsection (c) of this section.

**Acquisitions.**

(e) The Secretary, upon the failure of the State or local units of government to enact rules pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or enforce such rules so as to protect the values enumerated in subsection (c) of this section, may acquire such lands, servitudes, or interests in lands within the park protection zone as he deems necessary to protect the values enumerated in subsection (c) of this section.

**Boundaries, revision.**

(f) The Secretary may revise the boundaries of the park protection zone, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to include or exclude properties, but only with the consent of Jefferson Parish.

Use and occupancy right, retention. 16 USC 230b.

SEC. 903. Within the Barataria Marsh Unit, the owner or owners of improved property used for noncommercial residential purposes on a year-round basis may, as a condition of the acquisition of such property by the Secretary, elect to retain a right of use and occupancy of such property for noncommercial residential purposes if, in the judgment of the Secretary, the continued use of such property for a limited period would not unduly interfere with the development or management of the park. Such right of use and occupancy may be either a period ending on the death of the owner or his spouse, whichever occurs last, or a term of not more than twenty-five years, at the election of the owner. Unless the property is donated, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property less the fair market value of the right retained by the owner. Such right may be transferred or assigned and may be terminated by the Secretary, if he finds that the property is not used for noncommercial residential purposes, upon tender to the holder of the right an amount equal to the fair market value of the unexpired term. As used in this section, the term "improved property" means a single-family, year-round dwelling, the construction of which was begun before January 1, 1977, which serves as the owner's permanent place of abode at the time of its acquisition by the United States, together with not more than three acres of land on which the dwelling and appurtenant buildings are located which the Secretary finds is reasonably necessary for the owner's continued use and occupancy of the dwelling.

"Improved property."

Cooperative agreements. 16 USC 230c.

SEC. 904. In furtherance of the purposes of this title, and after consultation with the Commission created by section 7 of this title, the Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the owners of properties of natural, historical, or cultural significance, including but not limited to the resources described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of the first section of this title, pursuant to which the Secretary may mark, interpret, restore and/or provide technical assistance for the preservation and interpretation of such properties, and pursuant to which the Secretary may provide assistance including management services, program implementation, and incremental financial assistance in furtherance of the standards for administration of the park pursuant to section 906 of this title. Such agreements shall contain, but need not be limited to, provisions that the Secretary, through the National Park Service, shall have the right of access at all reasonable times to all public portions of the property covered by such agreement for the purpose of conducting visitors through such properties and interpreting them to the public, and that no changes or alterations shall be made in such properties except by mutual agreement between the Secretary and the other parties to such agreements. The agreements may contain specific provisions which outline in detail the extent of the participation by the Secretary in the restoration, preservation, interpretation, and maintenance of such properties.

Hunting, fishing, and trapping. 16 USC 230d.

SEC. 905. Within the Barataria Marsh Unit, the Secretary shall permit hunting, fishing (including commercial fishing), and trapping in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, except that within the core area and on those lands acquired by the Secretary pursuant to section 902(c) of this title, he may designate zones where and establish periods when no hunting, fishing, or trapping shall be permitted for reasons of public safety. Except in emergencies, any regulations of the Secretary promulgated under this section shall be put into effect only after consultation with the appropriate fish and game agency of Louisiana.

Consultation.

92 STAT. 3538 PUBLIC LAW 95-625—NOV. 10, 1978

Water Conservation Fund for acquisition of lands, waters, and interests therein and such sums as necessary for the development of essential facilities.

General management plan, submittal to congressional committees.

(b) Within three years from the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary, after consultation with the Commission, shall submit to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a general management plan for the park indicating—

(1) transportation alternatives for public access to the park;

(2) the number of visitors and types of public use within the park which can be accommodated in accordance with the protection of its resources;

(3) the location and estimated cost of facilities deemed necessary to accommodate such visitors and uses; and

(4) a statement setting forth the actions which have been and should be taken to assure appropriate protection, interpretation, and management of the areas known as Big Oak Island and Couba Island.

Chalmette Unit, redesignation. 16 USC 230h.

SEC. 909. The area described in the Act of October 9, 1962 (76 Stat. 755), as the "Chalmette National Historical Park" is hereby redesignated as the Chalmette Unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park. Any references to the Chalmette National Historical Park shall be deemed to be references to said Chalmette Unit.

Report to congressional committees. 16 USC 230i.

SEC. 910. By no later than the end of the first full fiscal year following the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, a comprehensive report with recommendations as to sites within the Mississippi River Delta Region which constitute nationally significant examples of natural resources within that region.

102 STAT. 16 PUBLIC LAW 100-250—FEB. 16, 1988

## Public Law 100-250
## 100th Congress

### An Act

Feb. 16, 1988
[H.R. 2566]

To amend the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, as amended, to extend the term of the Delta Region Preservation Commission, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That title IX of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 230), is further amended as follows:

16 USC 230.

(a) In section 901 by adding the following new phrase and renumbering subsequent phrases accordingly:

"(4) folk life centers to be established in the Acadian region;".

Cultural programs. 16 USC 230a. Public lands. Gifts and property.

(b) In section 902 by adding the following new subsection:

"(g) The Secretary is authorized to acquire lands or interests in lands by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds or exchange, not to exceed approximately 20 acres, in Acadian villages and towns. Any lands so acquired shall be developed, maintained and operated as part of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park.".

16 USC 230f.

(c) In section 907(e) by striking out "ten years" and inserting in lieu thereof "twenty years".

Approved February 16, 1988.

**SEC. 7105. JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND PRESERVE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 901 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230) is amended in the second sentence by striking "of approximately twenty thousand acres generally depicted on the map entitled 'Barataria Marsh Unit-Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve' numbered 90,000B and dated April 1978," and inserting "generally depicted on the map entitled 'Boundary Map, Barataria Preserve Unit, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve', numbered 467/80100A, and dated December 2007,".

(b) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—Section 902 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "(a) Within the" and all that follows through the first sentence and inserting the following:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—

"(1) BARATARIA PRESERVE UNIT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire any land, water, and interests in land and water within the Barataria Preserve Unit by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, transfer from any other Federal agency, or exchange.

"(B) LIMITATIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Any non-Federal land depicted on the map described in section 901 as 'Lands Proposed for Addition' may be acquired by the Secretary only with the consent of the owner of the land.

"(ii) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—On the date on which the Secretary acquires a parcel of land described in clause (i), the boundary of the Barataria Preserve Unit shall be adjusted to reflect the acquisition.

"(iii) EASEMENTS.—To ensure adequate hurricane protection of the communities located in the area, any land identified on the map described in section 901 that is acquired or transferred shall be subject to any easements that have been agreed to by the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army.

"(C) TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATION JURISDICTION.—Effective on the date of enactment of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, administrative jurisdiction over any Federal land within the areas depicted on the map described in section 901 as 'Lands Proposed for Addition' is transferred, without consideration, to the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service, to be administered as part of the Barataria Preserve Unit.";

(B) in the second sentence, by striking "The Secretary may also acquire by any of the foregoing methods" and inserting the following:

"(2) FRENCH QUARTER.—The Secretary may acquire by any of the methods referred to in paragraph (1)(A)";

(C) in the third sentence, by striking "Lands, waters, and interests therein" and inserting the following:

"(3) ACQUISITION OF STATE LAND.—Land, water, and interests in land and water"; and

(D) in the fourth sentence, by striking "In acquiring" and inserting the following:

"(4) ACQUISITION OF OIL AND GAS RIGHTS.—In acquiring";

(2) by striking subsections (b) through (f) and inserting the following:

"(b) RESOURCE PROTECTION.—With respect to the land, water, and interests in land and water of the Barataria Preserve Unit, the Secretary shall preserve and protect—

"(1) fresh water drainage patterns;

"(2) vegetative cover;

"(3) the integrity of ecological and biological systems; and

"(4) water and air quality.

"(c) ADJACENT LAND.—With the consent of the owner and the parish governing authority, the Secretary may—

"(1) acquire land, water, and interests in land and water, by any of the methods referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A) (including use of appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund); and

"(2) revise the boundaries of the Barataria Preserve Unit to include adjacent land and water."; and

(3) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (d).

(c) DEFINITION OF IMPROVED PROPERTY.—Section 903 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230b) is amended in the fifth sentence by inserting "(or January 1, 2007, for areas added to the park after that date)" after "January 1, 1977".

(d) HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING.—Section 905 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230d) is amended in the first sentence by striking ", except that within the core area and on those lands acquired by the Secretary pursuant to section 902(c) of this title, he" and inserting "on land, and interests in land and water managed by the Secretary, except that the Secretary".

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 906 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230e) is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking "Pending such establishment and thereafter the" and inserting "The".

(f) REFERENCES IN LAW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any reference in a law (including regulations), map, document, paper, or other record of the United States—

(A) to the Barataria Marsh Unit shall be considered to be a reference to the Barataria Preserve Unit; or

(B) to the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park shall be considered to be a reference to the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title IX of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 230 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by striking "Barataria Marsh Unit" each place it appears and inserting "Barataria Preserve Unit"; and

(B) by striking "Jean Lafitte National Historical Park" each place it appears and inserting "Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve".

## Appendix B: Inventory of Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

| Name | Agreement Type | Start Date | Expiration Date | Stakeholders | Purpose |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Bernard Parish Sewerage District #1, Fazendeville Plant | | | Decommis-sioned in 2012 | N/A | Parish sewage plant |
| Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection East (Lake Bourne Basin Levee Board authorization and by-laws) | State laws | January 1, 2007 | N/A | Public | Flood protection authority – article VI, sections 38 and 38.1 of the constitution of Louisiana and acts 2006, first extraordinary session of the Louisiana Legislature |
| Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection West (West Jefferson Levee Board authorization and by-laws) | State laws | January 1, 2007 | N/A | Public | Flood protection authority - article VI, sections 38 and 38.1 of the constitution of Louisiana and acts 2006, first extraordinary session of the Louisiana Legislature |
| Thibodaux Playhouse, Inc. | Special use permit | October 12, 2013 | July 30, 2014 | Thibodaux community | Conducting stage productions at Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center Theatre |
| US Environmental Protection Agency | Bayou aux Carpes – Clean Water Act 404c designation | November 15, 1985 as amended, April 2009 | N/A | Public | Wetlands protected area |
| Eastern National | Contract | January 1, 2010 | December 31, 2019 | Park Visitors | Interpretive merchandise sales |
| Hunting, trapping, fishing, commercial fishing, etc. | Public Law 95-625 as amended | November 10, 1978 | N/A – park issues special use permits on public request | Individual public | Park enabling legislation |
| City of Thibodaux | Act of lease between Friends of the Library, Inc. and Lafourche Parish Council | November 3, 1988 | November 3, 2038 | NPS, Community of Thibodaux, Lafourche Parish Library | Percy Lobdell Building Operation – Note: this lease assigns to the Lafourche Parish Library the second floor space of the Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center; the National Park Service oversees historic protection but does not own or maintain this space. |
| City of Eunice | Memorandum of agreement | 1985, as amended in 2011 | December 16, 2016 | NPS, City of Eunice, park visitors, Community of Eunice | Liberty Theatre and Prairie Acadian Cultural Center operation and maintenance |

| Name | Agreement Type | Start Date | Expiration Date | Stakeholders | Purpose |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| University of New Orleans (UNO) | Memorandum of understanding | July 31, 2012 | July 31, 2017 (with an option to extend until July 31, 2022 | UNO, NPS | Collaboration on mutual projects, oral histories, cultural studies, anthropology |
| Historic New Orleans Collections (HNOC) | Cooperative agreement | 2013 | No termination date in agreement | NPS | Curatorial collections |
| Swamp tours | Commercial use authorization | Annual renewal at park discretion | Annual | Tour operator, NPS, park visitors | Note: Park plans to convert to a concession contract |
| Paddlewheel | Commercial use authorization | Annual renewal at park discretion | Annual | Tour operator, NPS, park visitors | Note: Park plans to convert to a concession contract |
| Law enforcement | Memorandum of understanding<br>Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office<br>Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office<br>St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office<br>St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office<br>Thibodaux Police Department<br>Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office | May 10, 2011<br>June 5, 2010<br>April 4, 2011<br>July 16, 2010<br>July 12, 2010<br>September 27, 2010 | May 10, 2016<br>June 5, 2015<br>April 4, 2016<br>July 16, 2015<br>July 12, 2015<br>September 27, 2015 | NPS law enforcement, park visitors, public safety | Public safety collaboration, resource coordination, law enforcement support |
| Fire Departments | General Agreements<br>St. Bernard Parish Fire Dept.<br>Barataria/Crown Point Fire Dept.<br>Thibodaux Fire Dept. | June 2013<br>June 2013<br>June 2013 | June 2018<br>June 2018<br>June 2018 | NPS law enforcement, park visitors, public safety | Public safety collaboration, resource coordination, law enforcement support |
| Retained rights – estate camps, minerals, etc. | Various | Various; established in enabling legislation | Various– life estates, mineral reservations – oil and gas leases | Individuals, commercial interests | |
| Rights-of-way – pipelines, powerlines | Various | Various | Renewed in 5-year terms, special use permit | Commercial interests, public utilities | |

# Appendix C: Fundamental Resources and Values Analysis Tables

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Cultural Lifeways of the Lower Mississippi River Delta |
|---|---|
| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The park interprets and perpetuates cultural lifeways of Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River Delta Region. Such lifeways include language, food, music, art, and customs. Traditions such as ceremonial practices and cultural organizations are also highlighted. In accordance with the park's establishing legislation, traditional uses such as hunting, trapping, and fishing continue to be practiced in the Barataria Preserve as a continuation of the relationship between human communities and the delta landscape. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The park's Acadian cultural centers trace the transformation of Canada's Acadians into Louisiana's Cajuns, descendants of Acadian exiles, as they adapted to their new home's physical and cultural environments.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve connects people to places to experience the living legacy of south Louisiana's blend of diaspora cultures from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Together with the indigenous American Indian cultures that have thrived in this dynamic natural environment, their stories and lifeway are shared with park visitors.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve tells the story of New Orleans, a cultural crossroads for more than 300 years. A colonial French African population and culture helped shape the city by preserving the city's Creole culture, which produced distinctive architecture, food, music, legal framework, and customs. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• Overall, the condition of the park's conveyance of the cultural lifeways is good because the park continues to engage with various cultural groups in perpetuation and interpretation of their cultural lifeways at each of the park's sites.<br>• The park serves as a repository for cultural lifeways through ongoing documentation.<br>**Trends**<br>• Although the current condition is good, the park's ability to convey cultural lifeways is declining overall due to lack of organizational capacity, budget constraints, and the local loss of expertise due to the attrition of staff and the loss of traditional practitioners. For example, many folklife demonstrators were park employees and/or volunteers who worked during the early days of the park and are now retiring. Some positions are going unfilled and those that are being filled are often filled by people from outside of the area who do not necessarily provide an authentic first-person demonstration of traditional cultural lifeways. Likewise, some community cultural practices beyond the park are changing with emerging technologies. |
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Fluid population changes affect culture and lifeways that change language, tradition, and ceremonies.<br>• Attrition can lead to a loss of institutional knowledge of the lifeways.<br>• Difficult to engage in a fluid nontraditional NPS resource (e.g., living communities).<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Fluid population changes affect culture and lifeways that change language, tradition, and ceremonies.<br>• NPS programming involving the interpretation and demonstration of cultural lifeways facilitates knowledge sharing by greater engagement of community as a priority.<br>• The National Park Service can serve as a platform for supporting communities to sustain their cultural traditions; encourage an appreciation and understanding of these traditions and customs.<br>• Find ways to engage local community members and local artisans as park vendors and for park special events.<br>• The National Park Service has an opportunity to highlight and illustrate the relationship between cultures and natural systems, including a showcase for region-wide issues (e.g., sea level rise). |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Cultural Lifeways of the Lower Mississippi River Delta |
|---|---|
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • "Mississippi Delta Ethnographic Overview" (1979).<br>• *Black Social Aid and Pleasure Clubs: Marching Associations in New Orleans* (1988).<br>• New Orleans riverfront interpretive study (1988).<br>• Interpretive prospectus of the French Quarter (1989)<br>• "African Americans in New Orleans Before the Civil War" (1995).<br>• "Cultural Gumbo: An Ethnographic Overview of Louisiana's Mississippi River Delta" (1998).<br>• Traditional use study of the Barataria Preserve. |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Archeological GIS.<br>• Consolidate colonial history.<br>• Mississippi River Delta ethnographic overview (update).<br>• Study post-Katrina population shifts. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Long-range interpretive plan.<br>• Partnership/community collaboration strategy. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America"<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management"<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• Director's Order 75A: *Civic Engagement and Public Involvement* |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Dynamic Delta Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The Mississippi River Delta, created by the interaction of one of the world's great rivers with the Gulf of Mexico, has created a dynamic landscape shaped by complex geologic processes and climate influences on both local and continental scales that give rise to diverse and highly productive wetlands. This low gradient landscape is experiencing rapid change including the highest rate of relative sea level rise and land loss in North America, providing a living laboratory for understanding consequences of climate change and human engineering, impacts of hydrologic modifications, and opportunities for adaptation. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The Barataria Preserve provides a glimpse of the Mississippi River Delta's natural world, and its interactions with humans from pre-European contact to the present, a "cumulatively man-altered landscape" that has changed over time. The river's creation of the land over thousands of years, the wide biodiversity of plants and wildlife, ecosystems from bottomland hardwood forest to deepwater swamp to one of the world's largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh, and evidence of human occupation, reveal a complex interrelationship between natural and human history in the Mississippi River Delta. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• Considerably modified by humans since the early 1800s – especially hydrology and land cover (deforestation, type conversion to agricultural and urban development).<br>• Extreme rate of relative sea level rise where an historical average for 1947–2012 was 0.36 inches per year at Grand Isle, Louisiana, and current projections for 2100 range from 3.30 to 7.62 feet based on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration data.<br>• Extreme rate of land (wetland) loss due to subsidence, coastal erosion, and relative sea level rise.<br>• Recent strong hurricanes impact the delta landscape itself as well as the relationship between the land and the people. The human response post-hurricane (Hurricanes Andrew and Katrina changed park landscapes, for example, breaching Lake Salvador into Segnette Waterway at Barataria) changed public perspectives and enhanced appreciation of the delta wetlands and their role in improving the health of coastal systems. Such storms also change human demographics due to fewer people and more nonlocal people of different ethnicities who interact with the delta landscape in new and novel ways. There has also been a perceived shift in economic values from subsistence/extraction lifeways to other economies that are more resilient to future hurricanes.<br>**Trends**<br>• The trend is toward increasing alteration of delta processes (e.g., more and bigger storm protection levees, river diversion projects).<br>• The park has improved landscape-scale decision making with increased reliance on science (for example, in the Louisiana Coastal Area and 2012 master plans).<br>• The park has improved nongovernmental organization collaboration on coastal restoration in support of both on-the-ground projects and political action at local and national scales.<br>• The park engages in greater collaboration between government agencies.<br>• There is an improved public awareness of deltaic processes and increased action by local communities to take responsibility for protection of coastal wetlands. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Dynamic Delta Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Invasive species – plant and animals.<br>• Climate change – average annual temperature is projected to increase 2°F to 7°F by 2100 for the region, with sea level rise (and saltwater intrusion), increased storm frequency and intensity (winds and storm surge), and changes in precipitation also projected for the region.<br>• Continued land loss due to subsidence, coastal erosion, and relative sea level rise.<br>• Increasing influence from the Gulf of Mexico (e.g., increased salinity).<br>• Modified hydrology (persistent river modifications [dams, water control structures, levees], large navigational channels, flood protection levees, canals, etc.).<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Collaborations with new partners for large-scale restoration and protection efforts.<br>• Public education regarding delta processes.<br>• Because the park landscapes are a bellwether for climate change, the park can serve a unique role in growing scientific and public understanding of consequences of climate change and landscape modification (e.g., wetland loss, relative sea level rise).<br>• The park can continue to work to backfill canals to restore natural wetland hydrology and vegetation to improve resiliency of coastal landscape. |
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • "Mississippi Delta Ethnographic Overview" (1979).<br>• Historic land use study of a portion of the Barataria Unit (1988).<br>• "Ecological Characterization of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, Louisiana: Basis for a Management Plan" (1989).<br>• *Terre Haute de Barataria* (1991) and unpublished incomplete report: "Documenting the link between environment and culture: The Barataria National Historic District" (2007).<br>• Barataria Canal reclamation environmental assessment (2009). |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Elevation and hydrology dynamics data.<br>• Remote sensing data of changing land/water boundaries.<br>• Climate change vulnerability assessment.<br>• Weather monitoring – the collection of continuous weather data (temperature and precipitation at a minimum) from existing long-term stations (or evaluating weather summaries for the region from credible sources on a scheduled frequency) will assist in validating regional projections in climate change.<br>• Monitoring sea level rise to aid in evaluating credible sea level rise summaries for the region over time and to inform appropriate climate change adaptation strategies. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Climate change adaptation plan.<br>• Land protection plan update.<br>• Minerals management plan for nonfederal oil and gas rights.<br>• Cultural landscape report for Barataria Preserve. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Dynamic Delta Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management"<br>• Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources"<br><br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*<br>• Director's Order 18: *Wildland Fire Management*<br>• NPS *Reference Manual 18*: *Wildland Fire Management*<br>• *Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook*<br>• Director's Order 25: *Land Protection*<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• Director's Order 32: *Cooperating Associations*<br>• Director's Order 47: *Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management*<br>• *NPS-75 Natural Resources Inventory and Monitoring Guideline*<br>• Director's Order 77-1: *Wetland Protection*<br>• NPS *Procedural Manual 77-1: Wetland Protection*<br>• Director's Order 77-2: *Floodplain Management*<br>• Director's Order 77-7: *Integrated Pest Management* |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Cultural Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The fertile estuaries of the Lower Mississippi River Delta have provided a rich matrix for human beings throughout its short geologic existence, and the cultural landscape at the Barataria Preserve includes a nearly complete chronology of human habitation in the area as exemplified by prehistoric shell midden complexes; legacies of colonial, plantation, and 20th century agriculture; and the physical imprints of land uses including navigation, logging, hunting, trapping, fishing, and oil and gas exploration, development, and transportation, some of which continue today. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The park's Acadian cultural centers trace the transformation of Canada's Acadians into Louisiana's Cajuns, descendants of Acadian exiles, as they adapted to their new home's physical and cultural environments.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve connects people to places to experience the living legacy of south Louisiana's blend of diaspora cultures from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Together with the indigenous American Indian cultures that have thrived in this dynamic natural environment, their stories and lifeway are shared with park visitors.<br>• The Barataria Preserve provides a glimpse of the Mississippi River Delta's natural world, and its interactions with humans from pre-European contact to the present, a "cumulatively man-altered landscape" that has changed over time. The river's creation of the land over thousands of years, the wide biodiversity of plants and wildlife, ecosystems from bottomland hardwood forest to deepwater swamp to one of the world's largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh, and evidence of human occupation, reveal a complex interrelationship between natural and human history in the Mississippi River Delta.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve tells the story of New Orleans, a cultural crossroads for more than 300 years. A colonial French African population and culture helped shape the city by preserving the city's Creole culture, which produced distinctive architecture, food, music, legal framework, and customs. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• The condition of the cultural landscape overall is variable.<br>• Many threats are currently unaddressed or incompletely mitigated (e.g., rapid land loss is largely a landscape-level condition beyond the control of the National Park Service, invasive species, including feral pigs, are not well controlled, etc.)<br>• Coastal sites (prehistoric and historic) are poor due to erosion, climate change effects.<br>• Access to some cultural landscape features is poor due to deteriorated infrastructure (trails, boardwalk, and waterways), inundation, and invasive plant species.<br>• Some archeological sites on higher ground are in fair or good condition.<br>• Current vistas range from nearly pristine to somewhat modified by the existence of roads, utilities, and development visible from some viewpoints.<br>**Trends**<br>• Coastal sites are trending downward due to increasing impacts from natural processes exacerbated by climate change effects.<br>• The general trend of the cultural landscape in the higher elevations is unknown. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Cultural Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Changes to soil and sediments (bioturbation) by feral pigs.<br>• All-terrain vehicle use by NPS staff causes inadvertent impacts on historic roads, trails, etc.<br>• Natural processes, such as erosion, decomposition, subsidence, loss of cultural landscape elements (e.g., specific trees, plant species, etc.) contribute to the loss of cultural landscape elements.<br>• Climate change – average annual temperature is projected to increase 2°F to 7°F by 2100 for the region that includes Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, with sea level rise (and saltwater intrusion), increased storm frequency and intensity (winds and storm surge), and changes in precipitation also projected for the region.<br>• Aquatic invasive plants choking waterways and interrupting access and use (e.g., fishing, canoeing) by the community.<br>• Altered hydrology (e.g., persistent inundation, cut off from natural river flows, subsidence).<br>• Rapid land loss and erosion.<br>• Altered plant composition (e.g., changes in recruitment).<br>• Depreciative human use (e.g., illegal collecting, dumping and litter).<br>• Oil and gas in the region, including exploration, development, and production, as well as the construction of pipelines in and around the preserve; and potential for exploration and production in the preserve.<br>• Developments outside of park boundaries impinge on scenic vistas in some locations and airborne pollutants degrade visibility.<br><br>**Opportunities**<br>• Public education – opportunity to increase public awareness and appreciation of the landscape and its importance to human cultures throughout times; connecting increasingly urban people to natural landscapes.<br>• Partnerships – opportunities to cooperate with other resource agencies (e.g., US Geological Survey, state and parish agencies, Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program).<br>• Create a friends group – to foster public support for the park, augment staffing, fundraising (e.g., for special events and things the park can't use federal funds for).<br>• Host resident volunteers and researchers/experts at existing recreational vehicle sites.<br>• Expand education center to be a NPS "Research Learning Center" (need to add residential learning, maybe focus on climate change impacts and adaptation).<br>• Consider acquiring Fleming Plantation property to augment the Barataria cultural landscape to provide a more complete continuum of human use through history; the inclusion of plantations was in original park legislation.<br>• Expand opportunities for Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units research collaborations.<br>• Identify and periodically update and distribute a list of priority research needs through various mechanisms (Research Permit and Reporting System website, symposia). |
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • Archeological assessment of Barataria Unit (1986).<br>• Historic resources study of the Barataria Unit (1986).<br>• Historic land use study of the Barataria Unit (1988).<br>• National register nomination for the Barataria Unit (1989).<br>• *Terre Haute de Barataria* (1991).<br>• Barataria Canal reclamation environmental assessment (2009).<br>• Resource management plan (1997).<br>• "Cultural Gumbo: An Ethnographic Overview of Louisiana's Mississippi River Delta" (1998). |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Cultural Landscape |
|---|---|
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Comprehensive archeological survey.<br>• Focused archeological survey on newly acquired lands.<br>• Archeological site condition assessments.<br>• Cultural landscape map(s).<br>• Cultural landscape inventory.<br>• Analysis of cultural landscape LIDAR imagery.<br>• Weather monitoring – the collection of continuous weather data (temperature and precipitation at a minimum) from existing long-term stations (or evaluating weather summaries for the region from credible sources on a scheduled frequency) will assist in validating regional projections in climate change.<br>• Monitoring sea level rise to aid in evaluating credible sea level rise summaries for the region over time and to inform appropriate climate change adaptation strategies.<br>• Acoustic resources inventory. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Cultural landscape report for Barataria Preserve.<br>• Archeological overview and assessment.<br>• Hunting management plan. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321<br>• National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470)<br>• Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979<br>• Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.)<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management"<br>• Secretarial Order 3289: "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources"<br>• "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800)<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• Director's Order 25: *Land Protection*<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• Director's Order 32: *Cooperating Associations*<br>• Director's Order 47: *Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management*<br>• *NPS-75 Natural Resources Inventory and Monitoring*<br>• Director's Order 77-1: *Wetland Protection*<br>• Procedural Manual 77-1: *Wetland Protection*<br>• Director's Order 77-2: *Floodplain Management*<br>• Director's Order 77-7: *Integrated Pest Management*<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Wetlands Ecosystems |
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| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The Barataria Preserve protects representative samples of a highly productive delta landscape including a significant remnant bottomland hardwood forest, deepwater swamps, and the eastern edge of one of the largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh in the world. As part of a large coastal wetland ecosystem, these wetlands provide habitat for diverse and abundant plants and animals. Among other services, they help support one of the most productive seafood harvests in the United States, and they buffer major concentrations of development from the effects of climate change and storm events. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The Barataria Preserve provides a glimpse of the Mississippi River Delta's natural world, and its interactions with humans from pre-European contact to the present, a "cumulatively man-altered landscape" that has changed over time. The river's creation of the land over thousands of years, the wide biodiversity of plants and wildlife, ecosystems from bottomland hardwood forest to deepwater swamp to one of the world's largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh, and evidence of human occupation, reveal a complex interrelationship between natural and human history in the Mississippi River Delta. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• There has been significant modification of the Mississippi River watershed that has resulted in landscape-scale changes in hydrology of the region.<br>• Swamps are in fair condition but tupelo and cypress regeneration is poor.<br>• Bottomland hardwoods are currently in fair condition.<br>• Marsh – variable and unknown – apparently in good condition in some areas, eroding rapidly along unprotected shorelines and on the edges of interior ponds.<br>• Waterways (canals, bayous, water bodies) are in good to fair condition.<br>**Trends**<br>• The swamp is declining because of poor natural regeneration of tupelo and cypress, presumably because of persistent inundation due to altered hydrology.<br>• Bottomland hardwoods are declining because woody species recruitment is less than mortality probably due to altered hydrology, which will lead to shifts in species composition over time.<br>• The marsh is experiencing a total net loss as the marsh is being lost on lake shoreline and increasing pond size but may be gaining marsh in other areas due to type conversion of forested wetlands and waterways (including parks efforts to backfill canals).<br>• The waterways are experiencing an increase in invasive floating aquatic vegetation due to reduced management efforts focused on floating aquatic vegetation. The park currently uses biocontrol on giant salvinia and water hyacinth but does not use manual removal or herbicide. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Wetlands Ecosystems |
|---|---|
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Invasive species pose a very real and persistent threat to the park's wetland ecosystems: feral pigs are a problem in the in bottomland hardwood and marsh; Chinese tallow are invasive in the bottomland hardwoods; salvinia species, water hyacinth, and Cuban sedge choke waterways, and nutria impacts the marsh. Many other invasive species also exist or may reasonably be anticipated in the future.<br>• Heavy metals, such as mercury, and other toxic contaminants, such as pesticides, are found in Lake Salvador and may also affect wetland systems in Barataria in ways that are not fully known.<br>• Poor water quality in the parameters of turbidity and fecal coliform are reported in the Intracoastal Waterway near the park.<br>• Air pollution, including sulfur wet deposition and nitrogen wet deposition. Air pollution can degrade scenic views, impact human health, and affect air quality related values such as native plant communities, surface waters, and wildlife. In particular, certain wetland vegetation communities adapted to low nitrogen environments are particularly sensitive to the effects of nutrient nitrogen enrichment, including nitrogen deposition, which can shift species dynamics and reduce biodiversity.<br>• Town of Lafitte proposed ring levee would alter the natural hydrology in and near the park and may increase storm surge impacts on Barataria wetlands. It would directly impact tens, impound hundreds, and indirectly affect thousands of acres of park wetlands.<br>• Climate change – average annual temperature is projected to increase 2°F to 7°F by 2100 for the region that includes Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, with sea level rise (and saltwater intrusion), increased storm frequency and intensity (winds and storm surge), and changes in precipitation also projected for the region.<br>**Opportunities**<br>• There are ongoing opportunities through the regional haze and other air quality programs to work with state and federal air regulatory agencies and other stakeholders to address air quality impacts in parks from sources of air pollution.<br>• Participation in mercury bioassay project to use dragonfly larvae to provide baseline data on the spatial distribution of biologically available mercury.<br>• Mid-Barataria basin diversion being planned (i.e., fresh water diversion from Mississippi River to rebuild wetlands and control salinity).<br>• Continued work to backfill canals to restore natural wetland hydrology and vegetation to improve resiliency of coastal landscape.<br>• Shoreline protection projects along Lakes Cataouatche and Salvador. |
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • Historic land use study of a portion of the Barataria Unit (1988).<br>• "Ecological Characterization of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, Louisiana: Basis for a Management Plan" (1989).<br>• Barataria trapping management plan (1990).<br>• Resource management plan (1997).<br>• Fire management plan (2004).<br>• Barataria Canal reclamation environmental assessment (2009).<br>• NPS Air Resources Division recommendations for evaluating resource conditions, establishing benchmark conditions and interpolated air quality data are available at: http://www.nature.nps.gov/air/planning/index.cfm.<br>• Gulf Coast Network Inventory and Monitoring Program, numerous datasets, plans, and reports (ongoing). |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Wetlands Ecosystems |
|---|---|
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Monitoring of air quality and air quality resource values, including special studies to examine nitrogen pollution dose-response relationships in sensitive park ecosystems (e.g., wetland vegetation) and studies that measure the mechanistic effects of harmful contaminants such as mercury and pesticides.<br>• Vegetation map.<br>• Study to integrate existing hydrologic models.<br>• Elevation and hydrology dynamics data.<br>• Remote sensing data of changing land/water boundaries.<br>• Feral pig study / data gathering.<br>• Sustainability study to include greenhouse gas emissions/carbon footprint.<br>• Deer population study / data gathering"<br>• Research the role(s) of invasive floating aquatic vegetation in floating peat marsh.<br>• Hydrologic monitoring.<br>• Cadastral survey.<br>• Vegetation dynamics assessment.<br>• Fire effects monitoring.<br>• Compilation of park's fire history.<br>• Climate change vulnerability assessment.<br>• Weather monitoring – the collection of continuous weather data (temperature and precipitation at a minimum) from existing long-term stations (or evaluating weather summaries for the region from credible sources on a scheduled frequency) will assist in validating regional projections in climate change.<br>• Monitoring sea level rise to aid in evaluating credible sea level rise summaries for the region over time and to inform appropriate climate change adaptation strategies.<br>• Document the rights-of-way at the Barataria Preserve and the Chalmette units.<br>• Acoustic resources inventory.<br>• Study of acid deposition. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Vegetation management plan.<br>• Resource stewardship strategy.<br>• Feral pig management plan.<br>• Fire management plan update.<br>• Climate change adaptation plan.<br>• Wilderness eligibility assessment.<br>• Land protection plan update.<br>• Management plan for newly acquired lands at Barataria Preserve.<br>• Trail management plan for Barataria Preserve.<br>• Hunting management plan. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Barataria Wetlands Ecosystems |
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| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.)<br>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321<br>• National Invasive Species Act<br>• Migratory Bird Treaty Act; 16 U.S.C. 703-712<br>• Eagle Protection Act; 16 U.S.C. 668<br>• Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended<br>• Clean Water Act<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management"<br>• Executive Order 11990, "Protection of Wetlands"<br>• Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species"<br>• Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources"<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources"<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (§4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters"<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (§4.6.4) "Floodplains"<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (§4.8.1.1) "Shorelines and Barrier Islands"<br>• Director's Order 25: *Land Protection*<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• Director's Order 32: *Cooperating Associations*<br>• Director's Order 47: *Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management*<br>• *NPS-75 Natural Resources Inventory and Monitoring Guideline*<br>• Director's Order 77-1: *Wetland Protection*<br>• NPS *Procedural Manual 77-1: Wetland Protection*<br>• Director's Order 77-2: *Floodplain Management*<br>• Director's Order 77-7: *Integrated Pest Management*<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* |

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| Fundamental Resource or Value | Chalmette National Cemetery |
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| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The Chalmette National Cemetery is a contemplative landscape that commemorates the military service of more than 10 generations of Americans. It includes more than 15,000 interments spanning the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Vietnam War. The cemetery is also a noteworthy final resting place for approximately 700 United States Colored Troops and 100 Buffalo Soldiers. Cultural landscape features include post-and-panel brick walls, an iron entrance gate, the Superintendent's Lodge complex, the Grand Army of the Republic Monument, the gridded organization of grave markers, and relic allées of trees that line the main drive. The cemetery was closed to further interments in 1945 except for exceptional cases, such as the Vietnam burials. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The Chalmette National Cemetery is a commemorative site established as a Civil War cemetery in 1864. It is the final resting place for more than 15,000 interments from every major U.S. conflict between the American Revolution and Vietnam." |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• The cemetery headstones are in poor condition. They are generally not to NPS standard alignment because of subsidence issues; there is also chemical and biological deposition, etc. There are missing headstones from previous hurricanes, storms, etc.<br>• The cemetery walls are in fair condition and parts have been recently repaired but additional work is needed. Portions of the walls no longer retain their original archeological/historic integrity.<br>• The Superintendent's Lodge is in good condition.<br>• The Carriage House is in good condition.<br>• The Grand Army of the Republic Memorial is in good condition.<br>• A marker inventory is currently underway.<br>**Trends**<br>• Headstones are deteriorating.<br>• The cultural landscape has recently been improving with implementation of new landscape management efforts[<br>• Buildings, walls, and the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial are stable. |
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Air pollution (e.g., soot) deteriorates and discolors the grave markers and other masonry features.<br>• Trees – while trees are a significant and historical resource in and of themselves, the roots of the trees can significantly impact structures, disfigure and dislodge walls and headstones, and in some cases consume headstones by completely growing around them.<br>• Crawfish are a pervasive and ubiquitous force in that they constantly dig deep burrows into the ground. These burrows are often located at the bases of headstones.<br>• The projected increase in storm frequency and intensity due to climate change will exacerbate landscape erosion, saturate the ground, resettle headstones, and contribute to new crayfish burrows after each heavy precipitation event.<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Stone cleaning and tree planting with volunteers and partners.<br>• Partner with veteran groups in commemoration events (Memorial Day, Veterans Day). |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Chalmette National Cemetery |
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| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • Condition assessment for Chalmette National Cemetery.<br>• Historic resource study Chalmette Unit Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve (1985).<br>• "Chalmette Battlefield and Chalmette National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report" (1999).<br>• "An Archeological Survey of the Chalmette Battlefield at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve" (2002).<br>• Historic structure report for Superintendent's Lodge (2006).<br>• "Historical and Archeological Investigations at the Chalmette Battlefield, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve" (2009).<br>• Chalmette Unit general management plan amendment (2011). |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Condition assessment of headstones.<br>• History of the Chalmette National Historical Park and Cemetery.<br>• Burial records information and spatial location in cemetery.<br>• Research and archaeological documentation of Freedmen's Cemetery at the Chalmette Battlefield. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Cemetery management plan. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321<br>• Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act<br>• National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470)<br>• Historic Sites Act of 1935<br>• Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America"<br>• "National Cemetery Regulations" (36 CFR 12)<br>• "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60)<br>• "National Historic Landmarks Program" (36 CFR 65)<br>• "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 68)<br>• "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800)<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management"<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• Director's Order 32: *Cooperating Associations*<br>• Director's Order 42: *Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services*<br>• Director's Order 47: *Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management*<br>• Director's Order 61: *National Cemetery Operations*<br>• NPS *Reference Manual 61: National Cemetery Operations*<br>• Director's Order 64: *Commemorative Works and Plaques*<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*<br>• "Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines; Outdoor Developed Areas" |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Chalmette Battlefield |
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| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The Chalmette Battlefield contains archeological and landscape elements of the most significant land battle of the War of 1812. Landscape elements include the battlefield, trees, levees, rampart, and the Rodriguez Canal. The battlefield also contains commemorative memorials, including the historic Chalmette Monument and Spotts Marker, as well as the proposed site of the "Passage to Unity" commemorative work that recognizes fallen British soldiers. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The Chalmette National Cemetery is a commemorative site established as a Civil War cemetery in 1864. It is the final resting place for more than 15,000 interments from every major U.S. conflict between the American Revolution and Vietnam.<br>• Chalmette Battlefield commemorates the 1815 Battle of New Orleans and those soldiers who died during this last major engagement of the War of 1812. The American victory shaped new ideas of American identity, encouraged American expansionism, began an era of national pride, and had broad and lasting consequences on the American Indian population and homelands. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• The historic battlefield landscape is in fair condition. Although the landscape has intrusive noncontributing features, it retains archeological integrity.<br>• Live oaks are in good condition.<br>• Loop road is in good condition.<br>• Chalmette Monument is in good condition.<br>• Spotts Monument is in good condition.<br>• Rodriguez Canal is in fair condition, but it is impacted by soil deposition and parts of the canal are no longer extant.<br>• The reconstructed American rampart is in poor condition. It was formed from compacted earth, mounded and edged with wooden palings along both the interior (western) and exterior (eastern) faces. Many of the wooden palings are no longer in place and/or are coming out of the position; nails are sticking out also. This is a safety hazard in addition to being a poor example of the American rampart in both profile and construction.<br>**Trends**<br>• The battlefield is in stable condition overall, and the landscape is maintained and preserved.<br>• Trees are stable; they are maintained and preserved.<br>• Chalmette Monument is static as a historic structure. It is maintained and preserved.<br>• Spotts Monument is static as a historic structure. It is maintained and preserved.<br>• The reconstructed American rampart is deteriorating due to age and weathering, and is in poor condition, as described above. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Chalmette Battlefield |
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| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Illegal collecting and looting of archeological artifacts are a significant threat to the archeological resources of the site.<br>• A projected increase in storm frequency and intensity due to climate change will exacerbate landscape erosion.<br>• Insects and pests (crawfish, fire ants) burrowing impacts the integrity of the landscape.<br>• Chemical deposition from air pollution.<br>• Neighboring industrial plant and the sewage treatment plant on adjacent properties impact the historic setting and viewshed.<br>• Illegal oil dumping at the park boundary.<br>• Social trailing by the bridge.<br>• Vandalism (graffiti, moving historic objects [cannon]).<br>• Inappropriate activities (golf driving).<br>• Climbing the live oaks threaten branches and can cause breaking.<br>• Lightening hitting trees and monuments.<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Using recent advances in remote sensing technology to locate battlefield features such as burials and gun positions.<br>• Two hundredth Commemoration of the Battle of New Orleans offers interpretive opportunities and an opportunity to learn about ancestry associated with the site and connections with the present-day community.<br>• Develop community involvement and ownership in being stewards of the green space.<br>• Planning for new commemorative works offers opportunities to better understand the area. |
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • "Special History Study: The Defense of New Orleans, 1718–1900" (1982).<br>• Historic resource study of Chalmette Unit (1985).<br>• National register nomination for Chalmette Unit (1987).<br>• "Chalmette Battlefield and Chalmette National Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report" (1999).<br>• Archeology survey of Chalmette Battlefield (2002).<br>• Chalmette administrative record (2002).<br>• "Life in the Village: A Cultural Memory of the Fazendeville Community" (2003).<br>• Replace Chalmette visitor center environmental assessment (2008).<br>• Chalmette Unit general management plan amendment (2011). |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Historic mapping project (ongoing).<br>• Historical research on Chalmette Battlefield participants.<br>• Develop a Staff Ride as a training opportunity for military and civilians to understand and learn from decision making, military tactics, and leadership as exhibited by the commanders at the Battle of New Orleans.<br>• Research on the connection with the battle on the west bank of the Mississippi River.<br>• Complete bibliography related to battlefield.<br>• Historic resource study for Chalmette Battlefield update.<br>• Archival research project on the Kaiser Aluminum property.<br>• Dendrochronology of oak trees at Chalmette.<br>• Document the rights-of-way at the Barataria Preserve and the Chalmette units. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Chalmette Battlefield |
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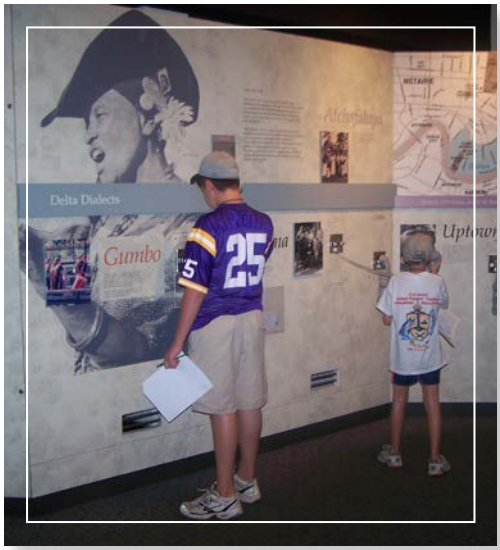
| **Planning Needs** | • Long-range interpretive plan.<br>• Vegetation management plan.<br>• Plan to reconsider Chalmette sewage treatment plant. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321<br>• Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979<br>• Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974<br>• Architectural Barriers Act<br>• National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470)<br>• Historic Sites Act of 1935<br>• Executive Order 13007, "Indian Sacred Sites"<br>• Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America"<br>• "American Battle Monuments Commission" (36 CFR chapter IV)<br>• "National Register of Historic Places" (36 CFR 60)<br>• "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800)<br><br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management"<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (8.2.4) "Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities"<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• Director's Order 28A: *Archeology*<br>• "NP-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*<br>• Director's Order 42: *Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services*<br>• Director's Order 47: *Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management*<br>• "Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines; Outdoor Developed Areas" |



| Fundamental Resource or Value | Museum Collections and Archives |
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| **Brief Description of the FRV** | The park museum collection supports research and scholarship on a wide variety of topics: natural history specimens with associated field records; archeological objects systematically recovered from within the park's boundaries with associated field records; historic objects; tools and equipment; furnishings and household items related to the Barataria Preserve and the Acadian Culture; and various military implements and materials related to the Battle of New Orleans. The archives consist primarily of resource management and administrative documentation. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve connects people to places to experience the living legacy of south Louisiana's blend of diaspora cultures from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Together with the indigenous American Indian cultures that have thrived in this dynamic natural environment, their stories and lifeway are shared with park visitors.<br>• Chalmette Battlefield commemorates the 1815 Battle of New Orleans and those soldiers who died during this last major engagement of the War of 1812. The American victory shaped new ideas of American identity, encouraged American expansionism, began an era of national pride, and had broad and lasting consequences on the American Indian population and homelands.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve tells the story of New Orleans, a cultural crossroads for more than 300 years. A colonial French African population and culture helped shape the city by preserving the city's Creole culture, which produced distinctive architecture, food, music, legal framework, and customs. |
| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• Museum collections conditions range from fair to good.<br>• Storage collection is in fair condition although suffering from overcrowded conditions. Items in Barataria do not have optimal environmental control and they are not secure at this location. The main storage area has environmental controls, but it often breaks down. Items on exhibit are overall not in a good environment and have security issues.<br>• Certain items are in good condition, depending on the material of the artifact.<br>• Cataloging of archives and some natural history objects is backlogged.<br>• Accessibility is fair due to limited staff and space. Researchers need to make requests to see objects a month in advance.<br>**Trends**<br>• The condition of the objects is slowly declining due to overcrowding while the number of objects in the collections continues to increase from inventory and monitoring projects and other recent projects.<br>• The status of the catalog is declining because the backlog is increasing.<br>• The environmental conditions are declining due to an increase in problems with the environmental systems, such as air conditioning. |
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• There are concerns related to the overcrowding in the storage of the collections.<br>• Environmental instability (often either too dry or too humid).<br>• Pests (cockroaches, rats, and mice are most common).<br>• A projected increase in storm frequency and intensity due to climate change will increase flooding threats to the museum collection and archives.<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Partner with university history departments to develop an internship program.<br>• Allow staff at New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park to share time with Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve for working with the latter park's archives.<br>• Involve local community organizations interested in conducting archival work in New Orleans.<br>• Explore hiring NPS seasonal staff for museum collections and archive work. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Museum Collections and Archives |
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| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • Scope of collection statement (2014).<br>• Integrated pest management plan (2010).<br>• Archival survey (1996).<br>• Collection condition survey (1994).<br>• Collection management plan (1992, 2005).<br>• Collection preservation guide (2004).<br>• Conservation management plan (1992, 2005).<br>• Fire and security survey (2004). |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Complete museum collections and archives inventory.<br>• Catalog backlog accessioned archives. |
| **Planning Needs** | • Collection management plan update.<br>• Collection preservation plan update.<br>• Security plan update.<br>• Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act action plan. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 U.S.C. 4321<br>• Archeological and Historic Preservation Act<br>• Museum Properties Management Act<br>• National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470)<br>• Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990<br>• National Parks Omnibus Management Act<br>• Historic Sites Act of 1935<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 13007, "American Indian Sacred Sites"<br>• "Preservation, Arrangement, Duplication, Exhibition of Records" (44 USC 2109)<br>• "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79)<br>• "Preservation of American Antiquities" (43 CFR Part 3)<br>• "Protection of Archeological Resources: Uniform Regulations" (43 CFR Part 7)<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• NPS *Management Policies 2006* (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities"<br>• Director's Order 24: *NPS Museum Collections Management*<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• NPS *Museum Handbook*, parts I, II, and III |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Cultural Connections |
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| **Brief Description of the FRV** | Community collaborations are needed to carry out the park's mission related to its diverse cultures and the tangible and intangible expressions of the culture and heritage of living communities. Working with a broad range of formal and informal organizations, the park facilitates connections to present and past cultures of Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River Delta Region. These collaborations increase cross-cultural appreciation for the cultural traditions of others. |
| **Related Significance Statements** | • The park's Acadian cultural centers trace the transformation of Canada's Acadians to Louisiana's Cajuns, descendants of Acadian exiles, as they adapted to their new home's physical and cultural environments.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve connects people to places to experience the living legacy of south Louisiana's blend of diaspora cultures from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Together with the indigenous American Indian cultures that have thrived in this dynamic natural environment, their stories and lifeway are shared with park visitors.<br>• Chalmette Battlefield commemorates the 1815 Battle of New Orleans and those soldiers who died during this last major engagement of the War of 1812. The American victory shaped new ideas of American identity, encouraged American expansionism, began an era of national pride, and had broad and lasting consequences on the American Indian population and homelands.<br>• The Chalmette National Cemetery is a commemorative site established as a Civil War cemetery in 1864. It is the final resting place for more than 15,000 interments from every major U.S. conflict between the American Revolution and Vietnam.<br>• Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve tells the story of New Orleans, a cultural crossroads for more than 300 years. A colonial French African population and culture helped shape the city by preserving the city's Creole culture, which produced distinctive architecture, food, music, legal framework, and customs.<br>• The Barataria Preserve provides a glimpse of the Mississippi River Delta's natural world, and its interactions with humans from pre-European contact to the present, a "cumulatively man-altered landscape" that has changed over time. The river's creation of the land over thousands of years, the wide biodiversity of plants and wildlife, ecosystems from bottomland hardwood forest to deepwater swamp to one of the world's largest expanses of rare, floating freshwater peat marsh, and evidence of human occupation, reveal a complex interrelationship between natural and human history in the Mississippi River Delta. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Cultural Connections |
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| **Current Conditions and Trends** | **Conditions**<br>• Some partnerships with specific communities are very good, particularly at the Acadian cultural centers.<br>• Informal partnerships with individuals for folklife demonstrations are good.<br>• The park's relationships with tribes that have historical associations with the park areas are good.<br>• The park's relationship with the Daughters of 1812 and other long-time partners continue to be good.<br>• City government relationships are generally good, especially in the rural communities.<br>**Trends**<br>• Partnerships that require the outlay of federal funds are generally trending downward due to lack of organizational capacity.<br>• Partnerships that require intensive staff time are generally trending downward due to lack of organizational capacity.<br>• Informal partnerships continue to be robust and continue to grow and evolve.<br>• Informal relationships with science and educational community continue to be robust and continue to grow and evolve.<br>• Tribal relationships are generally improving (e.g., Recognizing Our Roots living history program with Choctaw and the Battle of New Orleans Anniversary event).<br>• Relationships with some social aid and pleasure clubs are in their early stages and are expected to improve over time (e.g., Zulu).<br>• Park involvement with the Daughters of 1812 and other long-time partners is stable and ongoing. |
| **Threats and Opportunities** | **Threats**<br>• Cumbersome, layered, and complicated administrative processes to develop and formalize partnerships.<br>**Opportunities**<br>• Opportunities to explore heritage area designations (existing or new) to augment existing efforts to collaborate with local communities to portray the living cultural heritage of south Louisiana.<br>• Bicentennial of War of 1812 provides a catalyst for improving collaborations with the British consulate and organizations (e.g., British Monument at Chalmette).<br>• The tricentennial of the City of New Orleans in 2018 provides a catalyst for strengthening existing relationships with City of New Orleans and advancing new partnerships with a wide range of organizations.<br>• Centennial of the National Park Service in 2016 provides an opportunity to highlight our presence and our wide-ranging services to the American people and specifically the City of New Orleans, including the parks themselves as well as the various programs we administer (e.g., national historic landmarks, national register, historic preservation grants, rivers and trails, conservation assistance).<br>• Establish a formal friends group to serve as the administrative vehicle to foster and administer partnerships. |
| **Existing Data and/or Plans Related to the FRV** | • Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve Administrative History (2012).<br>• "Cultural Gumbo: An Ethnographic Overview of Louisiana's Mississippi River Delta" (1998).<br>• "Mississippi Delta Ethnographic Overview" (1979).<br>• Historic resource study, Chalmette Unit (1985). |
| **Data and/or GIS Needs** | • Preliminary data study with GIS components on ethnolinguistics/sociolinguistics of region from colonial to present day; tracking changes since Hurricane Katrina diaspora. This would be a contracted study. |

| Fundamental Resource or Value | Cultural Connections |
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| **Planning Needs** | • Partnership / community collaboration strategy.<br>• Strategic plan for cultural engagement.<br>• Commercial services strategy. |
| **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance** | **Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV**<br>• Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment"<br>• Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America"<br>**NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS *Management Policies 2006* and Director's Orders)**<br>• Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resource Management*<br>• "NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline"<br>• Director's Order 32: *Cooperating Associations*<br>• Director's Order 75A: *Civic Engagement and Public Involvement* |

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# Southeast Region Foundation Document Recommendation
# Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

**April 2015**

**This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Southeast Regional Director.**

**RECOMMENDED**
**Lance Hatten, Superintendent, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve** **Date**

**APPROVED**
**Stan Austin, Regional Director, Southeast Region** **Date**

As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

JELA 467/127539
April 2015

# Foundation Document • Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve

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