

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**BATON ROUGE**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 92 - 32**

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana loses an average of sixty square miles of coastal marshes and ninety square miles of forested wetlands each year; and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana originally had 15.3 million acres of wetlands which have been reduced to 7.8 million acres, (2.8 coastal, 5 forested wetlands); and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana contains 25% of the wetlands in the United States, and wetlands loss is widely recognized as a significant crisis that must be addressed; and

**WHEREAS,** the environmental quality of Louisiana's air and water, as well as the existence of countless wildlife, including migratory waterfowl, depend on Louisiana's coastal and forested wetlands; and

**WHEREAS,** the recreational and economic importance of both the coastal marshes and the forested wetlands of Louisiana cannot be replaced; and

**WHEREAS,** an important component of protection of the most critical wetlands will be direct acquisition by the state; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a need to identify funding sources for an active state land acquisition program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is the lead agency of the State of Louisiana for the state's wildlife and habitat protection program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism and the Department of Agriculture play important roles in the preservation and protection of important natural habitat in Louisiana;

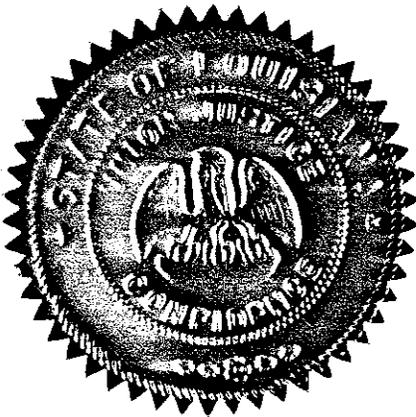
**NOW THEREFORE I, EDWIN W. EDWARDS,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby amend and supplement Executive Orders 92-9 and 92-31 and order and direct that a Land Acquisition Task Force be established as follows:

**SECTION 1:** The Land Acquisition Task Force shall be composed of the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Director of the Office of State Parks, a representative of the Louisiana Nature Conservancy, the Commissioner of Administration, a representative of the Louisiana Sierra Club, one

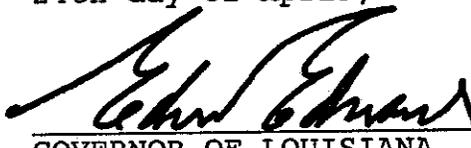
State Representative appointed by the Governor, one State Senator appointed by the Governor, two representatives of the Governor's office, two members of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission appointed by the Governor, or any of their designees. The Governor shall appoint the chairman and vice-chairman.

**SECTION 2:** The Land Acquisition Task Force shall convene and meet at the instance of the Chairman and shall make an initial report to the Governor by September 1, 1992.

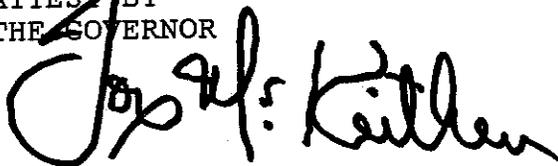
**SECTION 3:** The Land Acquisition Task Force shall be charged with developing a comprehensive plan for funding the acquisition of critical natural habitats preservation areas and parks that are identified as vital to the conservation of the state's precious plant and animal life and other natural resources. This plan may include any funding mechanisms appropriate to the achievement of this goal.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge on this 24th day of April, 1992.

  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE