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# Fifty Years to Restore Louisiana's Coastline

By David Kidd

A leading expert on coastal restoration efforts, Simone Maloz is a director of Restore the Mississippi River Delta, a coalition of five groups whose mission is to defend and restore the disappearing Louisiana coastline. Simone also serves on the Louisiana Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Protection, Restoration, and Conservation. She contributed to the most recent version of the state's Coastal Master Plan that seeks to achieve comprehensive coastal restoration.

Governing magazine recently spoke with Maloz about the problems facing coastal Louisiana and the long-term efforts underway to reverse the decades of damage caused by the changing climate and misguided human intervention. This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Governing: Why is the Coastal Master Plan important to Louisiana?

Simone Maloz: This is really our road map to a sustainable coastal Louisiana, striking a balance

clearly lays out our priorities for not just today or tomorrow, but fifty years into the future. We have to play the long game. We know there's not enough time. We know there's not enough resources. We can't take our foot off the gas, because here

we are fifteen years into it, and we're beginning to see the early investments pay off. We need [the time between updates] to analyze what has worked, what we need to change, and what we need to replicate. Every time we do a plan, we have so much

more data to work with. And as a result, we're more and more confident in our projections. The fifty years we projected in 2007 definitely do not look the same as what we predict today, because we know so much more. There is no status quo in coastal Louisiana.

We have to plan for something that's really dynamic. Just three years after the first plan in 2007, we had a devastating oil spill. So that had to be thought of. And then, of course, we've had several

destructive hurricanes. Some back to back.



Geological Survey] estimates that coastal Louisiana lost one hundred square miles, most of that in one basin. That is just unbelievable. And that happened in between plans.

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and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit https://www.eventbrite. com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947 Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar Thursday, August 17, 2023, 9:00 am-10:00 am CDT Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcometo-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537 Fee: Free; registration required Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least

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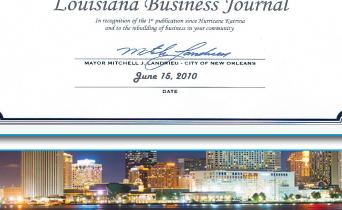
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