

2024

ANNUAL
REPORT



CTAC
COASTAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE CENTER

Keeping Coastal Investment Local.



ABOUT CTAC

Coastal Technical Assistance Center (CTAC) is a program generated and funded through Louisiana Economic Development (LED) and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) in order to assist Louisiana-based businesses in obtaining contracts with entities involved in the restoration and recovery efforts of coastal Louisiana. CTAC is facilitated through the South Louisiana Economic Council (SLEC).

CTAC operates with the following focuses in mind:

- Serve as a Technical Assistance Center to Louisiana businesses seeking opportunities in the Coastal Restoration and Recovery efforts of Louisiana.
- Assist businesses in obtaining contracts with prime contractors related to Coastal Restoration and Recovery efforts of Louisiana.
- Provide opportunity to Louisiana-based businesses, allowing coastal dollars to remain in Louisiana while creating jobs.
- Provide training and assistance to businesses in preparation to be contractor and project ready relative to business organization, promotion, certification, insurances, etc.
- Help develop an increased workforce demand while qualifying needed workforce through a technical community college-based Workforce Initiative.
- Serve as a command resource during coastal disasters to align local businesses with contractors and opportunities during recovery efforts.

FROM OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

As we begin to reflect, I'm excited to continue CTAC's mission of empowering Louisiana businesses to play a critical role in coastal restoration and protection. Over the past year, I've seen firsthand the dedication and innovation our clients bring to building a more resilient future for our coast and communities.

I look forward to strengthening partnerships, celebrating successes, and continuing to support the incredible work happening across our state in 2025. Together, I know we'll rise to meet the challenges ahead and make meaningful strides for Louisiana's future.

Here's to an inspiring and impactful year ahead!

— Paige Gisclair



Paige Gisclair
CTAC Program Director

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Each of the representatives on CTAC's advisory committee serve to provide expertise toward our program goals to support business and industry, workforce development, education and training, and procurement opportunities for coastal protection and restoration projects throughout the state.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE

CHRISTY ZERINGUE, President/CEO, South Louisiana Economic Council

PROCUREMENT REPRESENTATIVE

CYNTHIA CARRIER, Program Manager, LA APEX Accelerator

INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE

JACQUES BOUDREAUX, Staff Engineer, CPRA

HIGHER EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE

LACI MELANCON, Executive Director, Coastal Center at Nicholls State University

NON-PROFIT REPRESENTATIVE

JOSEPH ORGERON, Executive Director, Restore or Retreat

PARTNERS



**THE WATER INSTITUTE
OF THE GULF®**



Nicholls State University



South Louisiana Economic Council
Assumption • Lafourche • St. Mary • Terrebonne

EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS



EVENTS

With so many coastal initiatives happening throughout the state, it is important for CTAC to attend events to expand our outreach alongside partner organizations.

These events allow for us to network and ally with organizations that can support our program and increase our knowledge of the resources available throughout the state.

IN 2024, WE ATTENDED...

- Coastal Day at the State Legislature
- CTAC/CPRA Coastal Business Networking and Matchmaking Event
- 19th Annual Business and Procurement Conference 2024
- SLEC Emerging Energies Task Force Energy Talks Roundtable
- Coastal Master Plan 2029 Community Conversations
- Tunica-Biloxi Procurement Conference
- Restore or Retreat Annual Meeting
- Morganza Action Coalition Public Scoping Meeting
- Mississippi River Commission's Low Water Tour Public Meeting
- CDI Louisiana: Session One, Session Two, Session Three
- Coastal Project Open House with Ducks Unlimited
- SAME Federal Small Business Conference
- Atchafalaya Master Plan Meeting
- Draft Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Plan Public Meeting
- Coastal Leadership Institute: Ecology of the Coast, Part 1&2
- Louisiana Watershed Initiative: Coastal Resiliency Lab Strategic Planning Sessions
- 2024 Fletcher Technical Community College Chancellor's Breakfast

Site Visits & Groundbreakings

- LUMCON Open House
- CWPPRA's LaBranche East Marsh Creation Celebration
- Davis Pond Diversion Mississippi River Site Tour
- Coastal Center Tour
- Bucktown Living Shoreline Project Construction Site Visit
- CRCL Grand Bayou Community Oyster Reef Build
- Neptune Pass Site Visit

PRESENTATIONS

CTAC conducts presentations to support our continued outreach to businesses throughout Louisiana. Presentations with our partner organizations are conducted to increase awareness of CTAC's programmatic benefits. We also conduct recruitment presentations to those interested in learning about our services.

IN 2024, WE PRESENTED...

- CDI Louisiana Session Three: Class of 2024
- Securing Coastal Contracts Seminar with CPRA, CTAC, SBA, GNO, Inc., Louisiana APEX and New Corp, Inc.
- CTAC/CPRA Coastal Business Networking and Matchmaking Event
- USACE Small Business Industry Day
- 19th Annual Business Development and Procurement Conference 2024
- SLEC Bayou Region Board Meeting
- SLEC Bayou Business Summit
- Coastal Expo at WYES
- Rougarou Fest
- Society of American Military Engineers: Federal Small Business Conference



2024 MAJOR INITIATIVES

MAJOR INITIATIVES MET



Co-hosted 2nd Annual Business Networking and Matchmaking Event with CPRA

In partnership with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and Louisiana APEX Accelerators, CTAC co-hosted the 2nd Annual Business Networking and Matchmaking Event, expanding its reach and impact significantly compared to the inaugural year. This event, held as part of Coastal Day 2024 at the Center for River Studies in Baton Rouge, nearly doubled the number of client meetings and attendees, fostering greater collaboration and connection within the coastal and water management sector.

The event provided a dynamic platform for businesses to network and engage in targeted matchmaking sessions between prime contractors and subcontractors. Participants included companies specializing in construction, professional services, and consulting, all working toward advancing coastal restoration and resilience.

In addition to business-to-business networking, the event featured state organizations and partners offering valuable insights and resources to attendees. Participating organizations included Louisiana Economic Development, the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Small Business Office, and others. Their presence enriched the event by showcasing the wealth of resources available to support businesses in achieving their goals within the coastal sector.

MAJOR INITIATIVES MET

Launched a new suite of services to support Louisiana-based businesses

1 Business Counseling

Our personalized business counseling check-ins are designed to empower businesses by offering tailored guidance and resources. These one-on-one sessions provide an opportunity to dive deep into the unique challenges and opportunities our clients face. Through these updated check-ins, we help businesses navigate available resources, connect with support systems, and seize opportunities that drive growth.

2 Our Partners Page

This year, we proudly launched the Partners Page on our CTAC website, a dedicated space highlighting key players in the coastal arena. These organizations bring diverse expertise and innovative approaches to the table, advancing coastal restoration and economic resilience across Louisiana. By showcasing their efforts, we aim to educate and inspire businesses to learn about the transformative work being undertaken statewide. The page serves as a resource for fostering collaboration and understanding of the broader impact of coastal initiatives.

3 Client Spotlights

Our CTAC program thrives on the success and innovation of our clients. To celebrate these achievements, we've introduced Client Spotlights to digitally feature the incredible work they are doing to positively impact Louisiana's coast. These spotlights focus on showcasing each client's unique connection to the coast, coastal projects they have been awarded, and the potential partnerships they are seeking to expand their impact.

4 Coastal Awards Results & Updated Resources

In a continued effort to enhance transparency and awareness of coastal project opportunities, we have compiled and published a comprehensive record of coastal project award results. This centralized database highlights projects awarded both to CTAC clients and to businesses outside the program, offering insights into statewide opportunities and trends. Alongside this, we have completely revamped our Resources Page, now featuring updated educational materials, curated coastal YouTube channels, engaging podcasts, and more.

STATISTICS AND NUMBERS

Ascension	4	Plaquemines	2
Assumption	2	Rapides	2
Avoyelles	2	St. Bernard	3
Caddo	1	St. Charles	5
Calcasieu	8	St. John the Baptist	4
Cameron	1	St. Landry	4
Concordia	2	St. Martin	1
East Baton Rouge	33	St. Mary	4
Iberia	7	St. Tammany	14
Jefferson	23	Tangipahoa	6
Jefferson Davis	3	Terrebonne	10
Lafayette	18	Vermilion	3
Lafourche	10	Washington	1
Livingston	6	West Baton Rouge	3
Orleans	28	West Feliciana	1
Ouachita	2		

213

CLIENTS TOTAL

STATISTICS AND NUMBERS

Since CTAC's inception in 2019, our clients have been successful in obtaining **142** Contract Awards totaling **\$517,831,541**. Of those awards, 36 were obtained in 2024 alone. Contract award amounts include projects in the coastal and water management sectors and span across federal, state, and local opportunities within Louisiana.

\$281,716,986.84

PRIME CONTRACT AWARDS OBTAINED
IN 2024 THROUGH **22** CTAC CLIENTS

STATISTICS AND NUMBERS

↑
● Bossier City

● Marksville

● Baton Rouge

Metairie ●
Norco ●
Luling ●
New Orleans ●

Thibodaux ●
Morgan City ●
Schriever ●
Houma ●
Larose ●
Montegut ●
Cocodrie ●
Diamond ●
Buras ●

15

COMMUNITIES VISITED IN 2024

RESOURCES

CONTACT INFO

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HELPFUL LINKS

CTAC Website

louisianactac.org

CPRA Website

coastal.la.gov

LED Website

opportunitylouisiana.gov

Read other [CTAC Publications & Reports](#)

Read the [CRPA's Coastal Master Plan](#)

Read [A Community Guide to Coastal Restoration](#)