Louisiana Coastal Restoration Practice Test

Name _____

Score / 20

1. The 1927 Mississippi flood

   - ○ demonstrated Coolidge's lack of concern for people's problems.
   - ○ set a precedent for federal involvement in local affairs.
   - ○ destroyed homes, but stimulated an effort to improve housing for sharecroppers.
   - ○ caused extensive damage because nobody had taken any precautions against floods.

2. What is the process that leads to the formation of barrier islands according to coastal geology?

   - ○ Erosion of mainland coastlines.
   - ○ Accumulation of coral reefs.
   - ○ Active delta formation followed by abandonment and submergence.
   - ○ Sediment deposition from ocean currents.

3. If Louisiana implements a new freshwater diversion project, what potential outcome could this have on land loss?

   - ○ It would likely increase land loss due to more flooding.
   - ○ It would only benefit urban areas, not coastal ecosystems.
   - ○ It would have no effect on land loss.
   - ○ It could help mitigate land loss by restoring sediment flow to coastal areas.

4. What are the names of the two new delta lobes being formed along the Louisiana coast?

   - ○ Atchafalaya and Wax Lake
   - ○ Sabine and Calcasieu
   - ○ Pearl and Amite
   - ○ Mississippi and Red River

5. What is the primary environmental issue that Louisiana is facing according to the document?

   - ○ land loss
   - ○ sediment loss
   - ○ saltwater intrusion
   - ○ coastal erosion

6. Discuss the implications of losing 2,000 square miles of land in Louisiana over the last 80 years.

   - ○ The loss only affects wildlife, not human populations.
   - ○ The loss of 2,000 square miles of land in Louisiana has significant socio-economic impacts, affecting homes, jobs, and cultural heritage.
   - ○ The land loss is solely due to natural causes without human influence.
   - ○ The land loss has no impact on the economy or culture.

7. What are the two main steps involved in restoring a barrier island?

   - ○ Create artificial reefs, introduce new fish species.
   - ○ Pump sand to build up sand dune, pump sediment to create back marsh and then plant vegetation.

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- ○ Install levees to prevent flooding, plant trees to stabilize the soil.
- ○ Build seawalls, dredge waterways for better drainage.

8. Describe how freshwater diversion from the Mississippi River can impact coastal ecosystems in Louisiana.

- ○ Freshwater diversion has no significant impact on coastal ecosystems.
- ○ Freshwater diversion increases salinity, harming local wildlife.
- ○ Freshwater diversion only affects human activities, not ecosystems.
- ○ Freshwater diversion helps lower salinity levels, which supports the growth of freshwater species and restores habitats.

9. Describe the role of barrier islands in Louisiana's coastal restoration efforts.

- ○ Barrier islands serve as a protective barrier against storm surges and help maintain coastal ecosystems.
- ○ Barrier islands are primarily used for recreational purposes.
- ○ Barrier islands are areas for urban development.
- ○ Barrier islands do not play a significant role in coastal restoration.

10. What are the three key socio-economic aspects affected by land loss in Louisiana?

- ○ infrastructure, economy, and environment
- ○ wildlife, tourism, and agriculture
- ○ homes, jobs, and culture
- ○ education, healthcare, and transportation

11. Describe the conditions that define a wetland ecosystem.

- ○ Wetlands are regions with high salinity and no vegetation.
- ○ Wetlands are areas that are dry and support only terrestrial plants.
- ○ Wetlands are defined by being covered or saturated in water part of the year, having hydric soil, and supporting hydrophytic vegetation.
- ○ Wetlands are characterized by rocky soil and limited water presence.

12. What natural process is responsible for the formation of deltaic lobes in Louisiana?

- ○ Saltwater intrusion from the Gulf
- ○ Human construction of levees
- ○ The delivery of sediment deposited by the river
- ○ Erosion caused by ocean waves

13. Describe the role of levees in flood management and how they contribute to land loss in Louisiana.

- ○ Levees are solely responsible for increasing sediment in coastal areas.
- ○ Levees have no impact on land loss in Louisiana.
- ○ Levees only protect urban areas from flooding.
- ○ Levees help manage floodwaters but can contribute to land loss by preventing natural sediment deposition.

14. Describe the significance of the three areas of wetland productivity in relation to Louisiana's economy and environment.

- ○ The three areas of wetland productivity are crucial for Louisiana's economy as they provide seafood for the fishing industry, support migratory birds for ecological balance, and house oil and gas infrastructure that contributes to energy production.

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- ○ They highlight the need for conservation efforts, but do not significantly impact the economy.
- ○ They primarily focus on agricultural outputs, freshwater resources, and urban expansion.
- ○ They are important for recreational activities, tourism, and urban development.

15. What is the estimated area of land at risk of loss in Louisiana over the next 50 years?

- ○ up to 2,500 square miles
- ○ up to 5,500 square miles
- ○ up to 3,000 square miles
- ○ up to 4,100 square miles

16. Which of the following is a cause of land loss in Louisiana?

- ○ Levees (starves land of sediment)
- ○ Urban development
- ○ Increased rainfall
- ○ Reforestation

17. Describe the role of sediment deposition in the formation of a chenier and how it contributes to coastal land development.

- ○ Sediment deposition is a result of human activities that destroy natural land formations.
- ○ Sediment deposition is irrelevant to chenier formation as it primarily occurs due to volcanic activity.
- ○ Sediment deposition only affects the ocean floor and does not contribute to land formation.
- ○ Sediment deposition from rivers contributes to the formation of a chenier by building up land through the accumulation of materials along the shore.

18. What does CPRA stand for in the context of Louisiana coastal restoration?

- ○ Coastal Preservation and Restoration Alliance
- ○ Coastal Planning and Resource Agency
- ○ Coastal Project and Resource Authority
- ○ Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

19. What is the definition of a chenier in the context of coastal geography?

- ○ Freshwater diversion site
- ○ Low-lying marshland
- ○ Saltwater intrusion zone
- ○ Area of higher land

20. Which agency is responsible for overseeing the Louisiana Master Plan for a sustainable coast?

- ○ CPRA
- ○ EPA
- ○ NOAA
- ○ USGS

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