Use of NASA Satellite Data to Improve Coastal Cypress Forest Management

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Project Introduction

• Problem
  – Information gaps exist regarding health status and location of cypress forests in coastal Louisiana (LA)
  – Such information is needed to aid coastal forest conservation and restoration programs

• Approach to Issue Mitigation
  – Use NASA data to revise cypress forest cover type maps
    • Landsat and ASTER data
  – Use NASA data to identify and track cypress forest change
    • Landsat, ASTER, and MODIS data
  – Work with partners and end-users to transfer useful products and technology
Relevant Decision Support Systems

- LA Coastal Forest Conservation Initiative
- LA Coast-wide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS)
- Northern Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Change and Hazard Susceptibility project
Project Partners and End-Users

• Implementation Team
  – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  – LA Department of Natural Resources (LDNR)
  – University of Maine School of Forest Resources

• End-Users
  – LDNR
  – USGS NWRC
  – Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program
  – LA Department of Environmental Quality

• Other Potential End Users
  – U.S. Mineral Management Service
  – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  – U.S. Forest Service
  – The Nature Conservancy
  – Louisiana State University
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