



Unit 4 Resources and Resource Management

High School Environmental Science

Unit Length and Description:

7 Instructional Weeks

Students will interpret how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in atmosphere and climate and identify factors that affect sustainable development of natural resources in Louisiana. They will also interpret data about the consequences of environmental decisions to determine the risk-benefit of environmental actions and/or practices. Students will also construct arguments addressing the negative impacts of introduced organisms that have one native species.

Science Standards:

- HS-ESS2-5** Plan and conduct an investigation on the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.
- HS-EVS1-1** Analyze and interpret data to identify the factors that affect sustainable development and natural resource management in Louisiana.
- HS-EVS1-3** Analyze and interpret data about the consequences of environmental decisions to determine the risk-benefit values of actions and practices implemented for selected issues.
- HS-EVS2-3** Use multiple lines of evidence to construct an argument addressing the negative impacts that introduced organisms have on Louisiana's native species.

Enduring Understandings- Unit Anchor Phenomenon:

For approximately 100 million years, sediment deposition to the Mississippi River gradually increased the size of the Mississippi River Delta. However, over the past few decades, the Mississippi River Delta has greatly decreased.

Essential Questions- Reflective Summaries:

- Describe the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.
- Describe the consequences of building levees and hydrological modifications on the Mississippi River Delta and Louisiana.
- Make a claim supported by evidence that invasive species are impacting Louisiana wetlands and native species.
- Explain how the Mississippi River Delta and/or Louisiana wetlands supply ecosystem capital. Identify factors that affect its sustainable development and natural resource management and solutions to overcome them.