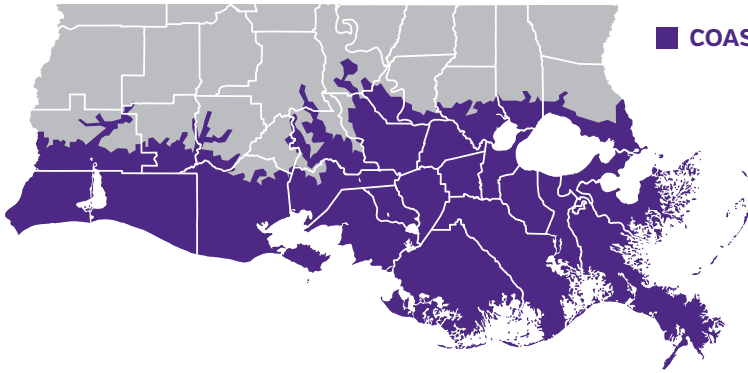


LSU RESEARCH WORKS ON HURRICANE IMPACTS

In 50 years, storm and flood damages could cost the state up to \$23.4 billion a year.



■ COASTAL ZONE AND EXTREME STORM SURGE POTENTIAL ZONE



OVER 2 MILLION PEOPLE LIVE IN LOUISIANA'S COASTAL ZONE.



THE EXTREME STORM SURGE POTENTIAL ZONE **FACES STORM SURGES OF OVER 9 FEET FROM EVEN A CATEGORY 3 HURRICANE.**

OVER 20% OF THE MOST INTENSE U.S. MAINLAND HURRICANES ON RECORD MADE LANDFALL IN LOUISIANA.

LSU research works to minimize loss.

Building resilient communities

- Louisiana Sea Grant **produced the Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards and distributed copies to coastal residents** to help them reduce their risk and property damage from storms, wind, and flooding.
- LSU engineering, architecture, and agricultural economics faculty are **testing new low-cost, hurricane-resistant residential construction materials** that would help protect the homes of low-income families living in hurricane-prone coastal areas.

Producing accurate predictions

- LSU oceanographers, engineers, and computer scientists are **improving upon latest computer models** to help state emergency response teams predict hurricane storm surge and potential damages more accurately.
- LSU uses high-performance computing and the latest field data to **predict the impacts of relative sea level rise, tides, wind waves, and hurricane storm surge** that can affect flood maps, flood insurance rates, and coastal development.



KEY BENEFITS OF COMPRESSED AND STABILIZED EARTH BLOCK HOMES



COST-EFFECTIVE: finished construction price of \$46-\$55 per square foot



HURRICANE-RESISTANT: can withstand 134 mph winds



HOME-GROWN MATERIALS: can be made from soil in almost any Louisiana parish



MODERN DESIGN OPTIONS: easily integrated into the design of houses of different sizes

