

## **Accelerated Revenue Sharing to Fund Coastal Protection & Restoration**

The Domenici-Landrieu *Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006* dedicates a portion of offshore oil and gas revenues to coastal protection and restoration in the four Gulf energy-producing states.

Under the new Landrieu legislation, the *Restoring Ecosystem Sustainability and Protection on the Delta (RESPOND) Act*, funds from new leases off Louisiana's coast would be shared immediately, as opposed to 2017. This funding stream is necessary if Louisiana is ever to be able to defend itself from manmade disasters, like the oil spill, or natural disasters, such as hurricanes.

Today's weakened marshes allow oil to penetrate more deeply, killing vegetation and destroying habitat deep within the wetland. As the vegetation dies, the natural eroding forces of the ocean quickly churn the soil into open water, eroding Louisiana's natural levees and leaving our coastal communities in ever greater peril.