



The Honorable Henry L. Burns (LA-9)
Louisiana House of Representatives

Testimony on "*Giant Salvinia: How Do We Protect Our Ecosystems*"
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs
House Committee on Natural Resources

June 27, 2011

Governor Jindal and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources selected Lake Bistineau as the primary focus for controlling invasive plant life in our inland water bodies in Louisiana. I am grateful for this selection, but with limited funding our effort has restricted the department's ability to make the gains that were anticipated.

It will take a coordinated effort by all parish, state, federal and to include private sector contributors just to minimized the negative impact of this destructive aquatic plant, Giant Salvinia.

What is at stake? Quality of life, recreational opportunities, property values and economic development. Without question, it will take a team effort just to manage this problem. I applaud Congressman Fleming for his interest and action.