



**LOUISIANA DISASTER  
RECOVERY FOUNDATION**  
*Louisiana's Fund for Louisiana's People*

News Release  
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**LOUISIANA DISASTER RECOVERY FOUNDATION GRANT BRINGS  
\$1.1M TO CAMERON PARISH FISHERIES**

Baton Rouge, La. - The Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation's (LDRF) support of the Gulf Coast Fisheries Cooperative (GCFC) has leveraged a \$1.1 million Community Block Development Grant from the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA), which will be used to build desperately-needed docks for independent fishermen.

The GCFC is a cooperative that was established following Hurricane Rita as part of an effort to recover the independent fishing industry, primarily in the Cameron Parish area.

The grant that the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation (LDRF) awarded to the GCFC in 2008 was necessary to help build the cooperative's organizational capacity and infrastructure, which allowed it to meet minimum requirements for other potential funders.

LDRF's \$96,000 grant to the GCFC funded generators, nets and fishing equipment, a storage building and technical training in safety and management.

The GCFC was awarded the \$1.1 million Community Development Block Grant this year after the LRA issued a request for proposals for the Fisheries Infrastructure Program in 2008. Started in 2007, the Fisheries Infrastructure Program was established by the LRA to protect the commercial and recreational fishing industry in Louisiana and support infrastructure.

"One of LDRF's core competencies is the ability to make relatively small grants that effectively leverage much larger sums of money for local nonprofits, resulting in a tremendous impact in return for a small investment," said LDRF's Director of Housing and Small Business Development, Landon Williams.

"Supporting the Gulf Coast Fisheries Cooperative and the Louisiana independent fishing industry will positively impact our state's economy by growing and sustaining small businesses, saving existing jobs and creating new opportunities" said Williams.

"LDRF looks forward to continuing to work towards the long-term recovery and betterment of our state's economy through by supporting of small businesses' and organizations' ambitions to grow smart and grow strong."

*The Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation (LDRF) is a private foundation established by former Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco on Sept. 6, 2005 and the recipient of the \$24.4 million Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund. LDRF's mission is to transform the disaster caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita into an unprecedented opportunity for a new Louisiana -- providing resources for the relief, recovery and betterment of all its people by ensuring access and opportunity in rebuilding their communities and culture.*