ership," al-Sahhaf said on Abu Dhabi Television. That "led to fatal mistakes." He complained that the zones were placed under the control of civilians, including Saddam's younger son Qusai, and his trusted aides, Ali Hassan al-Majid and Izzat Ibrahim. He said the military experts were relegated to secondary positions. Al-Sahhaf, who is expected to appear in four more episodes of the program "Al-Sahhaf's War," also denied that Iraq had

whether he was connected.

Nonetheless, as Bush has described the invasion of Iraq as part of the war on terror, he has drawn a loose connection, saying that after Sept. 11, 2001, the United States could no longer tolerate the kind of threat that he said Saddam posed, or risk that Saddam's weapons could be put in the hands of terrorists.

Cheney has gone the furthest in publicly discussing possible , and he noted Sun- ne of the perpetra- e bombing of the le Center in 1993 t, receive support qi government after

wants Iraqis to take mor sponsibility for internal rity, U.S. officials in Iraq s final decision had not made.

"The coalition authority been informed in general te about this proposal," said iel Senor, a senior advise Bremer. "We are looking ward to the details before agree to it."

Though the council has b given responsibility for m day-to-day governance iss Bremer has the final say, pa ularly on security matters. a senior U.S. official in Iraq Bremer is "open-minded proposed solutions to secu

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Restoring Natural Resources After Oil Spills

M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

Trustees Release Draft Regional Restoration Plan to Restore Injured Resources

State of Louisiana and Federal natural resource trustees are soliciting public comments on a draft Regional Restoration Plan to restore natural resources injured by oil spills. This draft Region 2 Plan is the first of nine regional plans to be developed under the statewide Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program.

The State of Louisiana, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and U.S. Department of the Interior have developed a statewide program to expedite restoration of injured resources and reduce the cost of Natural Resource Damage Assessments—the process by which trustee agencies assess and restore resources injured by oil spills.

Region 2 encompasses all or part of the following parishes: Ascension, Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist. The draft Plan describes the affected environment, biological resources, and associated habitat types, as well as the natural resources/services that are likely to be injured by an incident, appropriate restoration types for each of the potentially injured resources/services, and available restoration projects that have been identified to date. Another key feature of the draft Region 2 Plan is the determination of a representative unit cost to restore predominant habitat types in the region as part of a cash settlement. The proposed predominant habitat types in Region 2 are coastal herbaceous wetlands, oyster reefs, and coastal-forested wetlands.

For more information and/or to receive a copy of the draft Plan, please visit ***www.darp.noaa.gov*** or contact one of the following individuals:

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The draft Region 2 Plan will be released on or before September 23, 2003. Written comments should be submitted to William Conner by October 23, 2003, at the address listed above.