



2018

THE PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT

PROGRESS REPORT



Federally Funded Projects

- WEST SHORE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN, HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS) PROJECT, ST. CHARLES, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, AND ST JAMES PARISHES
- LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND VICINITY (LPV), HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS) PROJECT, ST. CHARLES PARISH

Locally Funded Projects

- LAUREL RIDGE LEVEE EXTENSION PROJECT, ASCENSION PARISH
- ST. JAMES-ASCENSION STORM SURGE FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT
- BAYOU CONWAY AND PANAMA CANAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, ASCENSION AND ST. JAMES PARISHES
- EAST BANK URBAN FLOOD CONTROL FEASIBILITY STUDY, ST. CHARLES PARISH
- HURRICANE PROTECTION LEVEE SHORELINE ENHANCEMENT AND LABRANCHE WETLANDS RESTORATION PROJECT, ST. CHARLES PARISH
- LABRANCHE WETLANDS RESTORATION FRESH WATER DIVERSION PROJECT, ST. CHARLES PARISH

March, 2018

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Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners

Ricky Bosco, President
Representing St. Charles Parish

Blaine J. Sheets., Vice President
Representing Canadian National Railroad

Henry N. Baptiste
Representing East Baton Rouge Parish

Senecca D. Boudreaux
Representing St. James Parish

Percy Hebert, Jr.
Representing Iberville Parish

Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr.
Representing St. John the Baptist Parish

Jerry Savoy
Representing Ascension Parish

Trey Granier
At Large

Leonard J. Wilson, Jr.
Representing Canadian National Railroad



PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT
2069 Railroad Ave.
Post Office Box 426
Lutcher, Louisiana 70071
(225) 869-9721

Board Executive Staff

Monica Salins Gorman
Executive Director

Dwight D. Poirrier
Special Counsel

Mel D. Bush
Board Secretary

Joseph Sevario
Executive Assistant to the Board

Mission

- To maintain the existing levee systems in a condition that will ensure their integrity and capability to withstand river stages and hurricane tidal surges, as anticipated by their design and condition;
- To improve, by construction or supporting construction by others, of new or enhanced levels of protection as design parameters change or higher levels of protection are authorized; and
- To anticipate weaknesses in the system as and before they develop, and to respond actively with necessary emergency measures when the levees are being subjected to river stages or hurricane tidal surges that would cause flooding within the jurisdiction of the Pontchartrain Levee District.



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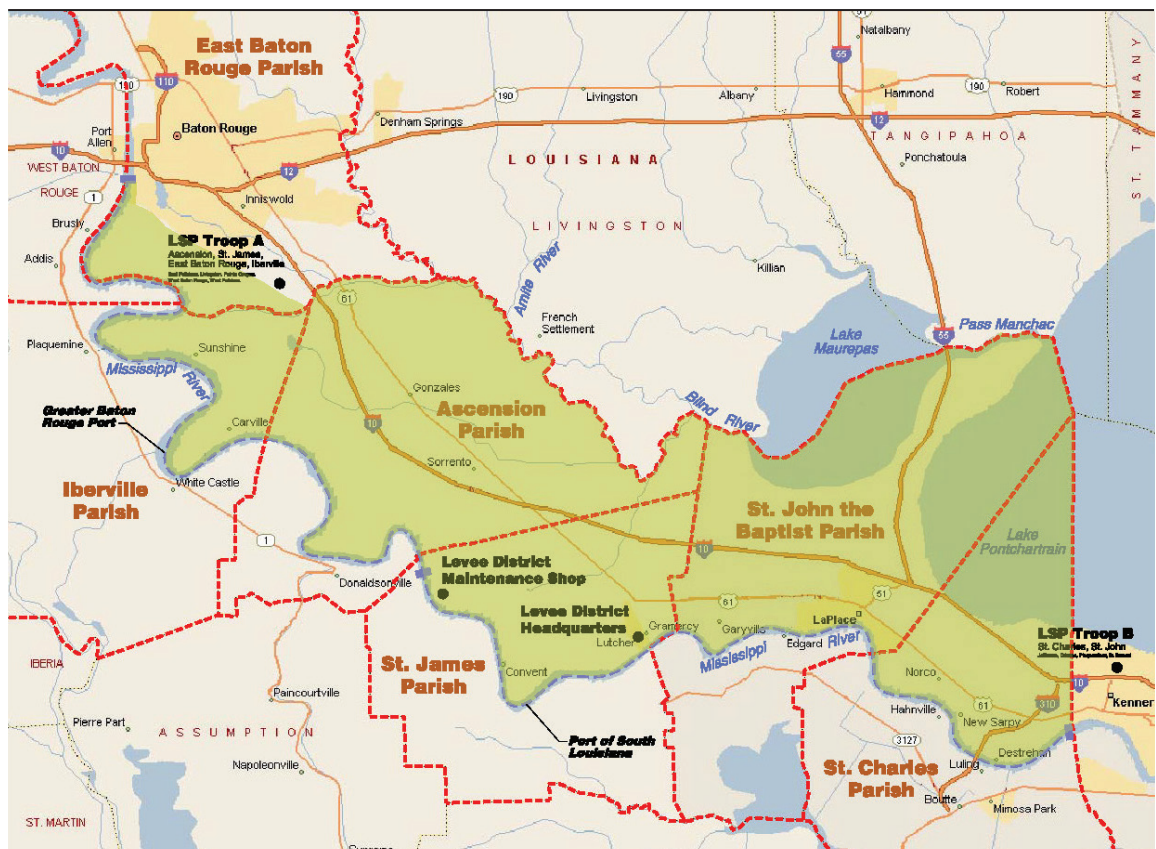
Pontchartrain Levee District



The Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD) was created by the legislature in 1895. At that time the District included the Baton Rouge Front Levee, and until 1979, it encompassed what is now the East Jefferson Levee District. The PLD headquarters is located in Litcher, La. and the maintenance shop is located in the community of Union, La. Today, within the PLD's jurisdiction, are 115 miles of levee along the east bank of Mississippi River, and 10 miles of hurricane protection levee in St. Charles Parish. The PLD extends from Baton Rouge to Kenner, La., at the St. Charles Parish line, and runs north from the Mississippi River to reach the Amite River and Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas. PLD's jurisdiction includes the east bank parishes of Iberville, Ascension, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and St. Charles, and a portion of East Baton Rouge Parish.

The Board of Commissioners of the Pontchartrain Levee District is currently comprised of nine (9) board members, consisting of one member from each of the six parishes, two additional board members representing the Canadian National Railroad Council, and an at-large member. The Commissioners are vested with the control and responsibility for assuring the proper monitoring of levees, structures, canals, and related improvements throughout the district. The Commissioners attend one regular monthly meeting, along with various special and committee meetings. The PLD keeps an accurate account of the finances, examines and reviews financial transactions before approving expenditures, and adopts an operating budget.

PLD Jurisdictional Boundaries





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Pontchartrain Levee District

Facts and Statistics



The Pontchartrain Levee District's (PLD) budget is derived principally from an ad valorem tax from the six-parish area, and from a limited amount of interest and royalties. PLD's current FY 2017-2018 budget is based upon a 3.52 mils collected from six parishes.

The PLD conservatively estimates that its levees protect billions in assessed taxable property and improvements, as well as highways, bridges, airports, schools, courthouses, and parks. The PLD protects an estimated 500,000 people within its six-parish jurisdiction, and incorporates the primary evacuation routes for 1.1 million people from the southeast (Greater New Orleans), and an additional 300,000 people from the southwest via routes U.S. 61, U.S. 90, and Interstates 10 and 310.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is responsible for levee construction and related works under the federal Mississippi River & Tributaries Flood Control Project (MR&T). The PLD, as a local assuring agency, works with the Corps to furnish rights-of-way and maintain levees, canals and caving banks. The Corps continues to work toward completion of the MR&T Project by awarding contracts for levee enlargements. These projects are financed through federal appropriations and are completed as part of a total upgrading of the levee system. Bank caving is being solved by a sophisticated "revetment program." Completion of the MR&T Project, which began in 1928, depends solely on the availability of federal funds appropriated in the yearly federal budget.



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FEDERAL PROJECT

West Shore Lake Pontchartrain, Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. James Parishes

Project Location:

The West Shore Lake Pontchartrain, Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project study area is located in portions of St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. James Parishes. The project begins at the Upper Guide Levee of the Bonnet Carré Spillway and continues westward toward the Hope Canal. This alignment provides protection to the communities of Montz, LaPlace, Reserve, Garyville, Mount Airy, Gramercy, Lutcher, and Grand Point.

Status of Work:

The cost of the Feasibility Study Report was 50/50 cost-share between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD). The following three alignments were reviewed; Alignment A, an alignment that follows the wet-dry interface with the wetlands from the Upper Guide Levee to Hope Canal (Environmentally Preferred Alignment); Alignment C, an alignment that follows the petroleum pipeline right-of-way from the Upper Guide Levee to Hope Canal then turns south toward the Mississippi River (Pipeline Avoidance and Storage Capacity Alignment); and Alignment D, an alignment that follows the Interstate-10 route from the Upper Guide Levee to the Marvin Braud Pump Station in Ascension Parish (Locally Preferred Alignment).

Alignments C and D considered protection for the St. James Parish communities through non-structural methods such as ring levees and property elevations. Alignment C, the Pipeline Avoidance and Storage Capacity Alignment, was recommended as the Tentatively Selected Plan in June 2013, and was approved during the Agency Decision Milestone Meeting in November 2013. The Corps and PLD finalized the Feasibility Study Report and Appendices and submitted the report for Division and Headquarters review in September 2014. The Feasibility Study Report

was approved by the Civil Works Review Board in December 2014 and distributed to the State of Louisiana and Federal Agencies for review in January 2015. The Comment Resolution was completed in April 2015 and the approved Chief's Report was issued on June 12, 2015. Language for authorization was submitted for inclusion in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act which was signed into law on December 19, 2016.

PLD is currently coordinating with local, state and federal project partners, included the Corps, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Facility Planning, and Control (FP&C), and St. Charles and St. John the Baptist Parishes to formulate a plan and funding matrix that will allow for the initiation of surveys, geotechnical investigations, preliminary engineering, and real estate acquisition for an initial phase of the project. Real estate acquisitions, which is the local sponsor's responsibility, are required prior to any construction activities.

Project Funding:

In 2011, the PLD secured \$2,830,000 in Priority 2 and \$8,500,000 in Priority 5 funds through the Louisiana Capital Outlay Program for this project. The State requires a \$3,610,000 Agency Match for a total project funding of \$14,440,000. PLD has executed contractual agreements with the affected Parishes to provide the Agency Match/Local Match for this project. The Corps needs funding to start Preliminary Engineering Design (PED) after the Chief's Report and authorization of the project. The FY2018 Federal Funding Request is based upon normal PED funding of newly authorized projects.

FY2018 Federal Funding Requested for PED: \$1,500,000





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FEDERAL PROJECT

Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS), St. Charles Parish

Project Location:

The Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project improvements are located in St. Charles Parish on the east bank of the Mississippi River, bounded to the west by the Bonnet Carré Spillway Lower Guide Levee and to the east by the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, where it ties into the LPV Jefferson Parish project. The project separates the developed east bank areas of St. Charles Parish from approximately 26,000 acres of wetlands to the north, known as the LaBranche wetlands.

Project Description:

The Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana and Vicinity Hurricane Protection Project was authorized by Public Law 298, 89th Congress, 1st Session, and approved on October 27, 1965. The St. Charles Parish portion of LPV was fully constructed to the original authorized design providing Standard Project Hurricane (SPH) protection from the Probable Maximum Hurricane (PMH). Following Hurricane Katrina, Congress authorized and funded the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) to reduce the risk associated with a storm surge event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year, or a 100-year storm surge. The project includes approximately 9.5 miles of earthen levees, four drainage structures, five floodwalls and a railroad gate. Two pre-cast concrete access bridges were also constructed for access during construction and operation and maintenance.

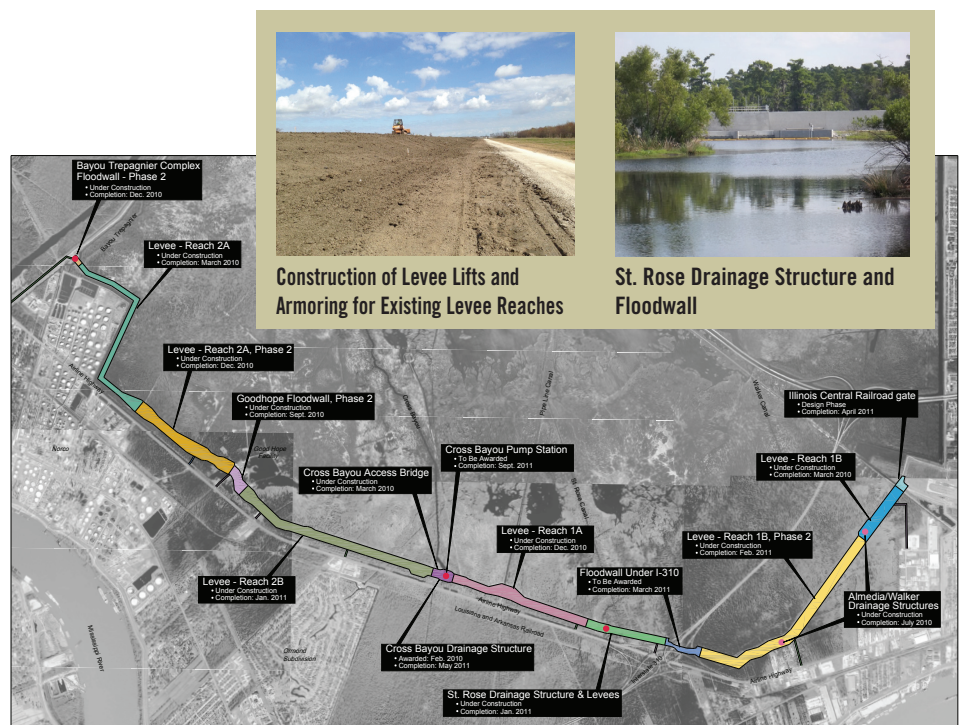
Project Status

All 100-year level risk reduction features in the LPV-St. Charles Parish project area were completed in May 2011. On December 15, 2014, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) awarded a contract for the armoring of the LPV-05.2a and LPV-05.2b levee projects which are now fully constructed. On September 29, 2016, the Corps awarded a contract to Shavers-Whittle Construction, LLC for the levee lifts and armoring of the LPV 04.2a and 04.2b levee projects. A Notice to Proceed was issued in December 2016 to begin the project. As of February 2018, the project is approximately 90% complete.

Project Funding

The Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project is a cost-share

between the Corps and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), the non-federal state sponsor. CPRA works closely with the Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), a local partner, to ensure that system construction and continuous enhancements are achieved. For construction of the earthen levee sections, the Corps is responsible for 65% of the project costs and the PLD is responsible for 35% of the project costs. The project costs for the drainage structures, floodwalls and pre-cast access bridges are 100% federally funded. Due to the Corps credited amounts accumulated over a 25-year period by the PLD for in-kind work in connection with the original Standard Project Hurricane protection, the financial impact to the PLD for the LPV HSDRRS Project is expected to be minimal.



Construction of Levee Lifts and Armoring for Existing Levee Reaches



St. Rose Drainage Structure and Floodwall



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Approved and Pending Project Credits and PLD Cash Contributions February 2018

Based on a 2016 interim accounting of the Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane Protection Project as conducted by the Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD) has made excess cash contributions to the Corps of \$6.7 million. Additionally, PLD has accumulated project credits (Corps approved and pending) of \$17.1 million. PLD is seeking appropriations for excess cash contributions and accumulated project credits to be used as a funding source for other federal and local projects within PLD's six parish jurisdiction.

Description	Approved for Credit
Corps Approved Project Credits -Project Management and Lands, Easements Rights of Way, Relocations and Disposal Areas (LERRDs)	\$10,579,810.39
Project Credits Pending Corps Approval-Project Management, LERRD's and Construction	\$6,529,682.37
Total Project Credits - Approved and Pending	\$17,109,492.76
PLD's 30% Share of Project Costs	\$20,855,479.05
PLD's Actual Cash Contributions to Corps	\$29,081,131.16
Excess Cash Contributions made by PLD	\$8,225,652.11
Corps Refund issued in 2016	\$1,510,919.73
PLD Excess Contributions to Corps	\$6,714,732.38
Total PLD Project Credits (Approved and Pending) and Excess Cash Contributions	\$23,824,225.14



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LOCAL PROJECT

Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project, Ascension Parish

Project Location:

The Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project is located in northeast Ascension Parish along the Amite River.

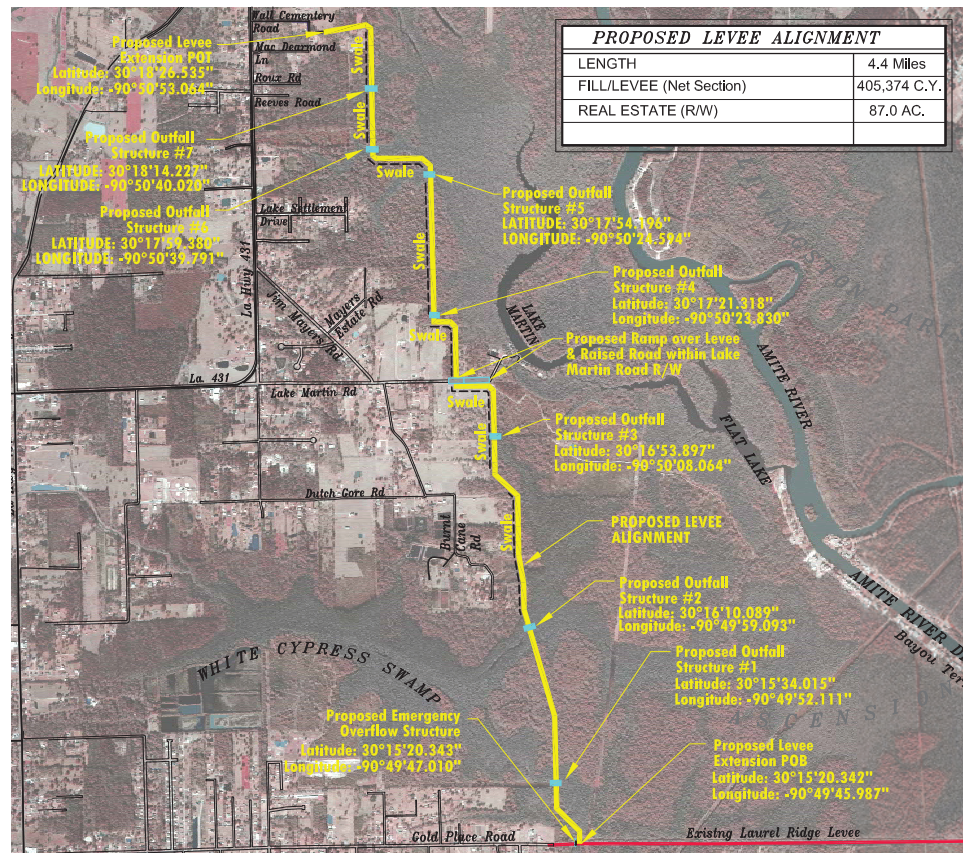
Project Description:

The Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project consists of extending the existing Laurel Ridge levee in order to protect additional properties along/within the Amite River floodplain against backwater flooding and high waters on the Amite River. The proposed levee extension will begin at the ending point of the existing Laurel Ridge levee and is currently designed to terminate at the eastern end of Walls Cemetery Road.

The Laurel Ridge Levee Extension Project will be approximately 4.5 miles long and constructed to an elevation of 13.0 to 17.0 NAVD. The construction requires approximately 410,000 cubic yards of fill material. The levee will consist of 7 gated outfall structures and one emergency overflow weir to utilize the existing storage in the basin.

Project Status

All wetland mitigation credits required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management (DNR) due to wetland impacts from the proposed project levee footprint have been acquired by the Pontchartrain Levee District. The Corps Section 404 Permit and the DNR Coastal Use Permit were issued in January 2018, which allows for commencement of final design and right-of-way acquisition. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to begin in early 2019 and last for a period of two years.





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LOCAL PROJECT

Bayou Conway and Panama Canal Drainage Improvement Project

Ascension and St. James Parishes

Project Location:

Bayou Conway and the Panama Canal drainage basin is located in southern Ascension Parish and northern St. James Parish.

Project Description:

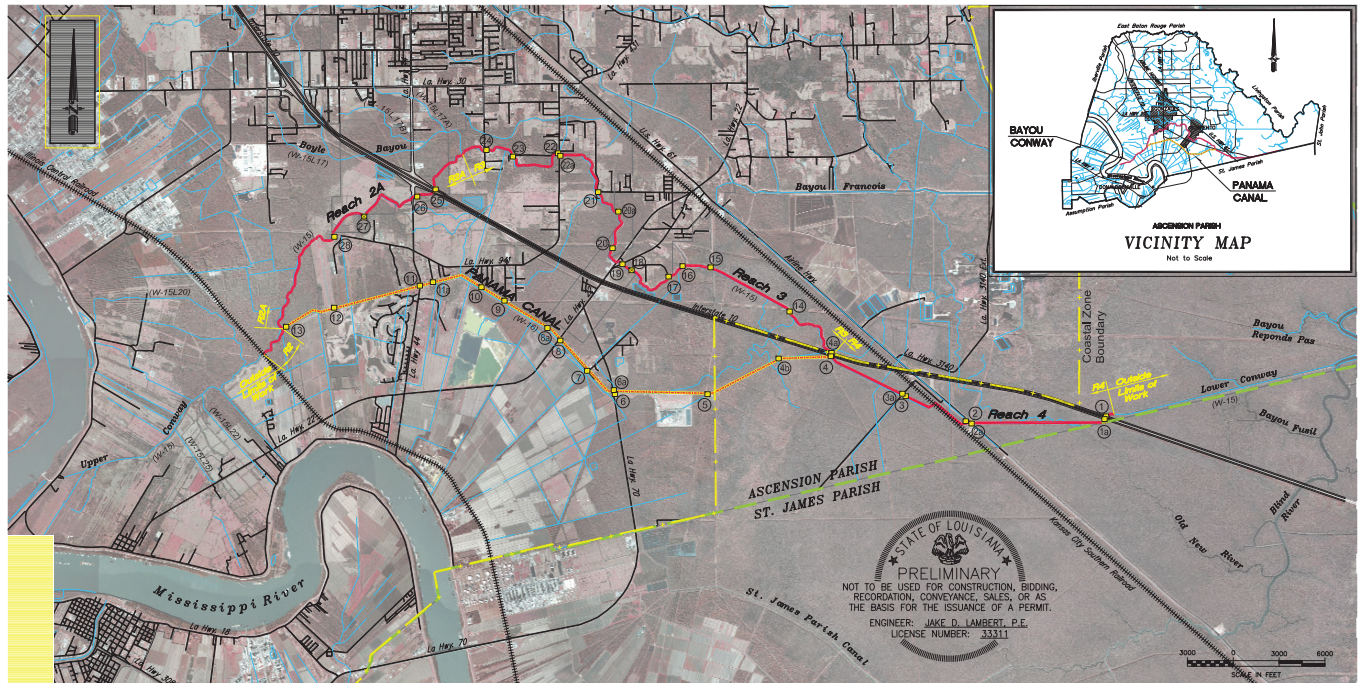
The purpose of the Bayou Conway and Panama Canal Drainage Improvement Project is to provide a reduction in the risk of flooding for the drainage basin, which encompasses a drainage area of approximately 65 square miles.

The Bayou Conway watershed encompasses the Mississippi River Levee at the 81-mile point

(mile marker 180) to its confluence with Blind River, and extends a distance of approximately 23.5 miles. The Panama Canal is an 8.3-mile diversion relief channel that provides a more direct path to the downstream end of Bayou Conway. The Conway/Panama system serves as the major conveyance channel for portions of Ascension and St. James Parishes. The results of the Bayou Conway/Panama Canal Drainage Improvement Study are being utilized for proposed channel improvements, so that the risk of flooding can be reduced within the basin.

Project Status

The next phase of work is the implementation of the project recommendations from the numerous hydrologic and hydraulic models and studies that have occurred during the life of the project. This phase will include a prioritized list of projects based on study recommendations and stakeholders with knowledge of the basin.



LEGEND	
—	Bayou Conway
—	Panama Canal
—	Interstate Highway
—	U.S. Highway
—	Louisiana Highway
—	Parish Line
—	Railroad
—	Drainage Thoroughways
—	Coastal Zone Boundary
—	Ascension Parish
—	St. James Parish
—	Naming System
—	Access/Landing Site & No.

ACCESS/LANDING SITE	
Site No.	Acres Length Width Clearing Req'd
①	0.11 133' 36" Minimal
②	0.11 133' 36" Minimal
③	0.09 204' 20" Minimal
④	0.15 250' 26" Minimal
⑤	0.09 75' 50" Minimal
⑥	0.04 43' 41" None
⑦	0.06 80' 35" None
⑧	0.13 104' 54" Minimal
⑨	0.23 133' 36" Minimal
⑩	0.21 206' 45" Minimal

ACCESS/LANDING SITE	
Site No.	Acres Length Width Clearing Req'd
⑪	0.05 100' 22" None
⑫	0.04 100' 16" None
⑬	0.14 200' 30" Minimal
⑭	0.17 205' 35" None
⑮	0.32 200' 70" Minimal
⑯	0.11 160' 30" Minimal
⑰	0.18 200' 40" Minimal
⑱	0.10 80' 52" Minimal
⑲	0.22 150' 65" Minimal

ACCESS/LANDING SITE	
Site No.	Acres Length Width Clearing Req'd
⑳	0.15 100' 65" None
㉑	0.11 100' 50" Minimal
㉒	0.15 165' 40" Minimal
㉓	0.27 155' 75" None
㉔	0.18 100' 80" None
㉕	0.39 163' 105" None
㉖	0.43 116' 62" Minimal

ACCESS/LANDING SITE	
Site No.	Acres Length Width Clearing Req'd
㉗	0.12 215' 25" Minimal
㉘	0.04 65' 25" None
㉙	0.09 80' 50" Minimal
㉚	0.11 100' 50" Minimal
㉛	0.06 72' 72" Minimal
㉜	0.11 100' 50" Minimal
㉝	0.13 207' 44" None
㉞	0.18 100' 78" Minimal
㉟	0.23 100' 100' Minimal

TOTAL ACCESS/LANDING ACREAGE = 5.30 Acres



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LOCAL PROJECT

East Bank Urban Flood Control Feasibility Study, St. Charles Parish

Project Description:

The St. Charles Parish East Bank Urban Flood Control Feasibility Study is the result of recommendations from earlier work by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and others to evaluate the need and costs for flood control improvements that will benefit the areas on the protected side of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project. Alternatives currently being evaluated during this study include increasing the effectiveness of existing storm water conveyance systems and the construction of a new storm water pump station along the existing hurricane protection levee. The purpose of the pump station projects is to reduce localized flooding on the east bank of St. Charles Parish. These projects also protect U.S. Highway 61 (Airline Highway), one of the major hurricane evacuation routes for the New Orleans metropolitan area.

Project Status

The study was originally funded by the Corps and Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD). The computer model for the existing and proposed conditions hydraulics and hydrology is complete. The results of the model are currently being reviewed by St. Charles Parish for use by FEMA to establish base flood elevations throughout the east bank.

Pump Stations

The PLD, in concert with local partners, constructed the Bayou Trepagnier and Cross Bayou Pump Stations. Both are fully operational and have performed well during several named tropical events and numerous local rainfall events. The total construction cost of the Bayou Trepagnier Pump Station Project was \$8,500,000. The total construction cost of the Cross Bayou Pump Station was \$18,800,000. The PLD has finalized detailed design reports and construction documents for a needed additional pump station.

The PLD is currently in the process of procuring construction funding for the Walker-Almedia Pump Station.

Project Schedule

The East Bank Urban Flood Control Feasibility Study is essentially complete. The Corps is currently working with FEMA in their efforts to develop risk assessment in the modeled area. The PLD has completed its financial commitment to the initial phase of the feasibility study. Funding has been secured by the Corps to continue working on the Study, and work is currently underway to complete all remaining phases of the project. The cost share for construction of the East Bank Urban Flood Control Project features is 65% Federal and 35% Non-Federal.



Cross Bayou Pump Station



Bayou Trepagnier Pump Station



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THE PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT
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LOCAL PROJECT

Hurricane Protection Levee Shoreline Enhancement and LaBranche Wetlands Restoration, St. Charles Parish

Project Location:

The project is located along the unprotected sections of Lake Pontchartrain shoreline in St. Charles Parish.

Project Description:

The overall project objective is to stabilize the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline from further erosion, enhancing the shoreline where possible, and restoring the LaBranche wetlands to provide an integrated system of multiple lines of defense. The shoreline protection measures are integrated with interior marsh restoration for a comprehensive restoration strategy for the LaBranche wetlands. Through previous efforts, local projects have protected approximately 14,000 linear feet of shoreline for the area extending from the lower guide levee to Pipeline Canal. There remains approximately 15,200 linear feet of unprotected shoreline.

Project Status

West LaBranche Shoreline Protection Project, PO-42. Project construction was completed in June 2013. The project stabilized approximately 2,000 linear feet of shoreline.

East LaBranche Shoreline, PO-43. Through funding made available through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), approximately 3,400 linear feet of shoreline construction was completed in July 2015.

There is approximately 15,200 linear feet of shoreline which has not been protected and is eroding at a rate of 9 feet per year. The unprotected section extends from Pipeline Canal on the west to Parish Line Canal on the east. Permitting and design have been completed on the unprotected section of shoreline. This is a shovel ready project if funds can be allocated.

LOCAL PROJECT

LaBranche Wetlands Restoration Fresh Water Diversion, St. Charles Parish

Project Location:

The project is located on the east bank of St. Charles Parish and involves diverting fresh water from the Mississippi River via a pipeline into the northeast corner of the LaBranche wetlands.

Project Description

The project would include the construction of a 750-cfs hybrid pump-siphon structure on the Mississippi River, with a conveyance structure aligned along an existing parish owned servitude from the Mississippi River to the Airline Canal. The water would then be pumped over the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (LPV), Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Project into the LaBranche wetlands. The Pontchartrain Levee District (PLD), St. Charles Parish and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) are currently modifying the current permits to the existing LPV system pump stations in order to officially dedicate at least 50% of available pumping capacity at each location for coastal restoration purposes. The hybrid pump-siphon approach would operate as a siphon conveyance by default, with the structure reverting to a pumped conveyance during low river stages.

Project Status

The Mississippi River is in close proximity to the LaBranche wetlands at several locations and could provide a fresh water source throughout the year if pumped from the river. Planning efforts conducted by the PLD indicate that the amount of freshwater required to flush a storm surge salinity event or maintain the isohalines would not require a large conveyance from the river. Planning efforts have determined the required flow rates to freshen the LaBranche wetlands can be achieved with a flow

rate of the order of 600-cfs. The diverted water would need to be conveyed over two levees, the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) and LPV levees. The conveyance of water over the LPV levee could be accomplished by utilizing existing storm water pump stations. This can be achieved by employing just one of the existing pump stations at Bayou Trepagnier or Cross Bayou, or via the proposed Almedia-Walker Canal pump station.