

# March THE PONT CHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT UPDATE

## West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction Project, St. James, St. John the Baptist, & St. Charles Parishes, Louisiana

#### **Project Description & Scope**

- The alignment is approximately 23 miles in length, consisting of 22 miles of levee and 1 mile of T-wall
   St. Charles Parish = 0.5 miles
   St. John Parish = 18.0 miles
   St. James Parish = 4.5 miles
- The project includes pump stations, drainage structures, gated road crossings, railroad gates, utility relocations, culvert valves / gates, and raising / floodproofing of a limited number of structures.

#### **Project Status**

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has issued construction contracts totaling \$332M for the following levee reaches: WSLP-101a, WSLP-102, WSLP-104, WSLP-105, WSLP-106, WSLP-107, WSLP-108, and WSLP-110.
- USACE anticipates awarding the contracts for WSLP-103, WSLP-109, and WSLP-114a this fiscal year.
- Construction is complete on Access Roads in St. John the Baptist and St. Charles Parishes.

#### **Project Funding**

- \$760M appropriation for the project includes funding for real estate, design, construction, etc., authorized as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.
- In January 2022, \$3M in funds were appropriated for a West Shore Lake Pontchartrain General Reevaluation Report (GRR) focused on resiliency with up to \$450M in additional construction funds for resiliency set aside.
- The \$450M in resiliency funds for WSLP will be reprogrammed through provisions in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 for construction of the authorized project. This funding is needed to proceed with additional construction contracts for levees, pump stations, and drainage structures in St. John and St. Charles Parishes.
- Ensuring previously appropriated funds can be directed towards completing the WSLP project is an important milestone to eventually provide the desired protection in St. James Parish.
- The Non-Federal Sponsors are seeking application of the \$400M in BBA18 contingency funds towards construction as well as seeking clarity in WRDA 2024 on the eligibility of RESTORE Bucket 2 funds to be used towards a non-Federal cost share.



Levee Construction at WSLP-110



Levee Construction at WSLP-107

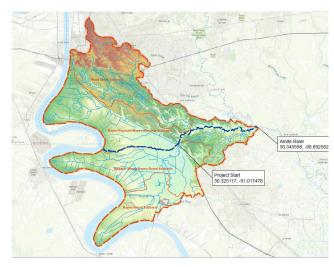


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## March 2024 UPDATE

## Bayou Manchac Regional Flood Risk Reduction Project, Iberville, Ascension, & East Baton Rouge Parishes, Louisiana

The Bayou Manchac Basin is an approximately 169 square mile basin serving Ascension, East Baton Rouge, and Iberville Parishes. The three Parishes comprise the area that was hardest hit during the August 2016 floods which led to \$1.2 billion in federal funding for the State of Louisiana to address flooding concerns. The three parishes requested that PLD develop the Bayou Manchac Regional Flood Risk Reduction Plan to investigate several projects within the Manchac Basin for funding. Phase 1A includes clearing and snagging of channel from Alligator Bayou to Amite River. Phase 1B includes five alternatives: clearing, snagging, dredging and culvert improvements between Nicholson and Alligator Bayou; Channelization between Alligator Bayou and Amite River; Perkins Road Bridge Replacement; Ward Creek Realignment; and Alligator Bayou Dredging. Phase 2



includes a regional detention project in Iberville Parish. The project has been modeled and is in the permitting process while awaiting funding to begin design.

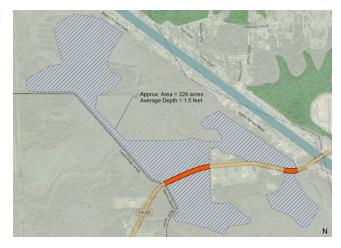
Project	Summary	Cost
Clearing and Snagging	Clearing and snagging of Bayou Manchac from its confluence with the Amite River to the Alligator Bayou Floodgate to remove debris and fallen trees from above and below the water surface	\$1.55M
Channelization Phase 1	Channel deepening from the Alligator Bayou Floodgates to the Amite River to establish a constant slope downstream and remove berms and siltation	\$47.02M
Channelization Phase 2	Removal of selective berms/siltations within Bayou Manchac from HWY 30 to Alligator Bayou and replacing structures to improve conveyance	TBD
Perkins Road Bridge Raise	Raising of the existing Perkins Road Bridge to reduce occurrences of road inunda- tion and impeding flow of Bayou Manchac	\$3.07M
Ward Creek Realignment	Constructing a new outlet east of its confluence with Bayou Manchac to improve conveyance and reduce backwater flow from Bayou Manchac	\$5.76M
Alligator Bayou Dredging	Channel deepening starting at the floodgate to its confluence the Bayou Paul Stream Restoration Project to improve conveyance	\$5.36M



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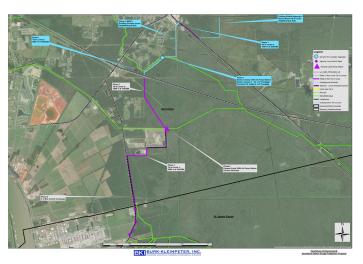
## LA 22 Gapping Project, Louisiana Watershed Initiative, Ascension & Livingston Parishes, Louisiana

The LA 22 Gapping Project commenced as a master planning project which involved analysis of multiple projects that have a flood risk impact on the Lower Amite River Basin. Multiple concepts were developed based on old studies, stakeholder input, and new modeling information. The results of this effort showed a great need for gapping of LA 22 near the Amite River Diversion which was emphasized during the August flood of 2016. LA 22's alignment prevents water from flowing through the floodplain, causing a backwater event. This project includes the construction of two bridge structures along LA 22 and selective excavation within the floodplain to restore flow through the Amite River Diversion Canal Floodplain. This project will help reduce water surface elevation along the Amite River and improve the health of the wetlands located within



the floodplain of the Amite River Diversion Canal. Pontchartrain Levee District received \$42 million dollars in funding through the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, and \$6.8 million in Capital Outlay funds have been allotted for the project. The project is currently in the design and permitting phase.

## Ascension Parish Storm Surge Project, Ascension Parish, Louisiana



The Ascension Parish Storm Surge Protection Project will provide storm surge protection to the east bank of Ascension Parish. Project scope includes 2.8 miles of new earthen levee, 3 miles of upgrades to existing levees, and improvements to existing pump stations, including generators, fuel storage tanks, and stop logs. Ascension Parish Government has requested the addition of a 1,320 cfs pump station with three gravity drainage gates and a boatway on Bayou Conway and the installation of a new 1,650 cfs pump station with three gravity drainage gates on the Panama Canal. The project has been separated into two phases: Phase 1 consisting of work north of I-10 and Phase 2 consisting of work south of I-10.

This project is a joint effort between the Pontchartrain Levee District, the East Ascension Consolidated Gravity Drainage District 1, and the Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control Capital Outlay Program. The Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control authorized the start of the project in January 2022. The design team has made substantial progress on work including design coordination, rights of entry, topographic and bathymetric surveys, geotechnical investigations and analysis, cultural resources investigations, wetland delineations, and hydrologic and hydraulic studies. Final engineering design for Phase 1 will begin in Q3 2024.



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## March 2024 UPDATE

### Pontchartrain Levee District Board of Commissioners

Senecca D. Boudreaux, President

Representing St. James Parish

**Matthew Butler** 

Representing East Baton Rouge Parish

Percy Hebert, Jr.

Representing Iberville Parish

Randy T. Clouatre, Sr.

Representing Ascension Parish

Wardell Irvin

Representing Canadian National Railroad

Blaine J. Sheets, Vice President

Representing Canadian National Railroad

Aaron Pourciau

Representing St. Charles Parish

Allen J. St. Pierre, Sr.

Representing St. John the Baptist Parish

Claude "Trey" Granier, III

At Large

### **Board Executive Staff**

**Monica Salins Gorman** 

**Executive Director** 

Joseph Sevario

**Executive Assistant to the Board** 

**Dwight D. Poirrier** Special Counsel

### **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.

## March 2024

**Pontchartrain Levee District** 

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