THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

Our presentation will begin momentarily

St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana Feasibility Study Revised Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement is available for Public Review and Comment July 21 – September 6, 2023.

View and Download the report: https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/NEPA-Compliance-Documents/Bipartisan-Budget-Act-2018-BBA-18/BBA-18-Projects/



ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA FEASIBILITY STUDY

Optimized Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Public Meetings August 15 & 16, 2023







US Army Corps of Engineers

PRESENTATION AGENDA

- Meeting Purpose
- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process
- Project Introduction
- Objectives
- Alternatives Considered
- Tentatively Selected Plan
- Opportunities to Comment



MEETING PURPOSE

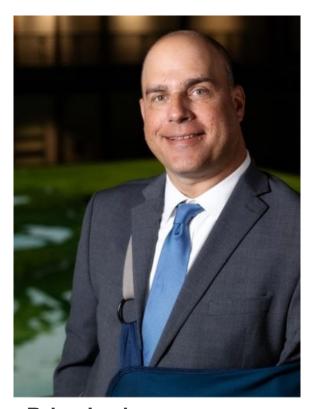
- Present the Revised Draft Report
 - Provide background on the Study
 - Study updates on alternative analysis
 - Optimized Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP)
- Receive Comments
 - Comments received through September 6, 2023
 - Full participation is encouraged

OPENING REMARKS



Col. Cullen A. Jones, PMP, P.E. Commander
New Orleans District
United States Army Corps of
Engineers

OPENING REMARKS



Brian Lezina
Chief of Planning
Coastal Protection &
Restoration Authority of
Louisiana

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a law that requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions.

 Part of that process is obtaining public input and hearing comments.

Goals of NEPA?

- Requires Federal agencies to consider their actions and decisions with respect to the environment.
- Ensure public and other agency involvement in the decisionmaking process.

How will USACE comply with NEPA?

 By acting as the lead Federal Agency in drafting this revised draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and gathering your input.

WHAT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT?

Purpose and Need

- What is the purpose of this project? What is the goal trying to be achieved?
- Why is this project needed? Is there a reasonable, foreseeable need for the proposed project?

Alternatives

- What alternatives will be looked at in the EIS?
- Informed by the scoping process of the EIS

Affected Environment

- What are the baseline conditions of the human and natural environment that could potentially be affected?
- Informed by the scoping process of the EIS

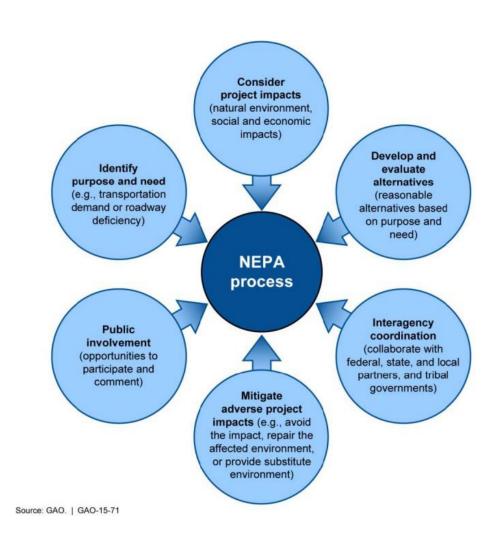
Environmental Consequences

 How will building, operating, and maintaining this project affect those baseline conditions of the human and natural environment?

[★] The public is given an opportunity to respond to the Draft EIS. This is where we are today.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

- Requires all federal agencies to:
 - consider the environmental impacts of any proposed action;
 - develop a range of alternatives;
 - provide opportunities for the public to provide input; and
 - document the decision-making process so that interested and affected stakeholders can understand how the agency came to a decision.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Law	Compliance Status
Clean Water Act (CWA)	 Section 404(b)(1) evaluation. Public Notice is out for comments. CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification received from Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Coastal Zone Management Act	Coastal zone consistency determination is in process with Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	FWS provided their Draft Coordination Act Report (DCAR). The DCAR recommendations and USACE responses are included in the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS).
Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste	A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment has been conducted and is included in the RDEIS
Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species	A Biological Assessment for potential impacts to T&E species is under evaluation by the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for their consideration and development of Biological Opinion



NEPA/ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Leave	O a manufilia mana Ottatana
Law	Compliance Status
Endangered Species Act, Section 7	USACE is currently addressing concerns related to the Threatened and Endangered species in the Tentatively Selected Plan project area in coordination with Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Services.
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106	 USACE is engaged in developing a Programmatic Agreement (PA) pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.14(b) in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), affected Tribes, Non Federal Sponsor, and other interested parties is underway to satisfy USACE's Section 106 responsibilities for this Undertaking. Notice of Intent to develop a PA sent to LA State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), affected federally recognized Tribes, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on 26 August 2020 in partial fulfillment of CEMVN's Section 106 (NHPA) responsibilities. NHPA/NEPA Public Notice posted to the designated project website for a 30-day comment period on 31 August 2020. Continued Section 106 consultation to develop a PA sent to LA SHPO, affected federally recognized Tribes, and NFS on 21 May 2021.



45-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

- The revised draft EIS is published for public review and comment.
- Your comments and input are welcomed and encouraged.
- Once comment period closes, study team will consider all substantive comments and, if necessary, conduct further analysis.
- The 45-day public comment period ends September 6, 2023.
- Responses to comments will be included in the final EIS

Public Hearings

Slidell Public Meeting Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 6 p.m. Slidell Municipal Auditorium 2056 2nd Street, Slidell, LA 70458

Covington Public Meeting Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 6 p.m. Covington Firehouse Event Center 32 N. Theard Street, Covington, LA

Public Comments/Public Input

Traditional Mail

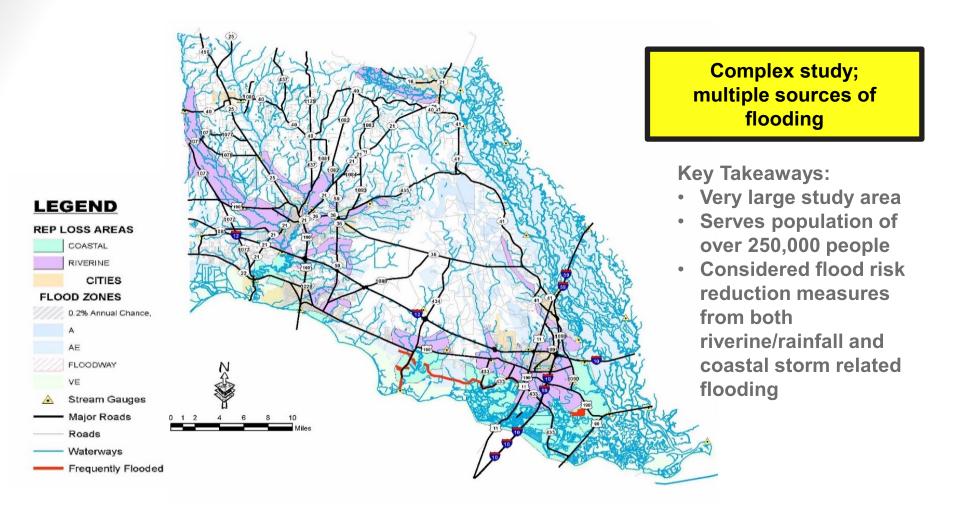
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Eric Williams, Ch, Environmental Branch Regional Planning and Environmental Division South 7400 Leake Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118

E-Mail

sttammanyfs@usace.army.mil



ST. TAMMANY PARISH FLOODING

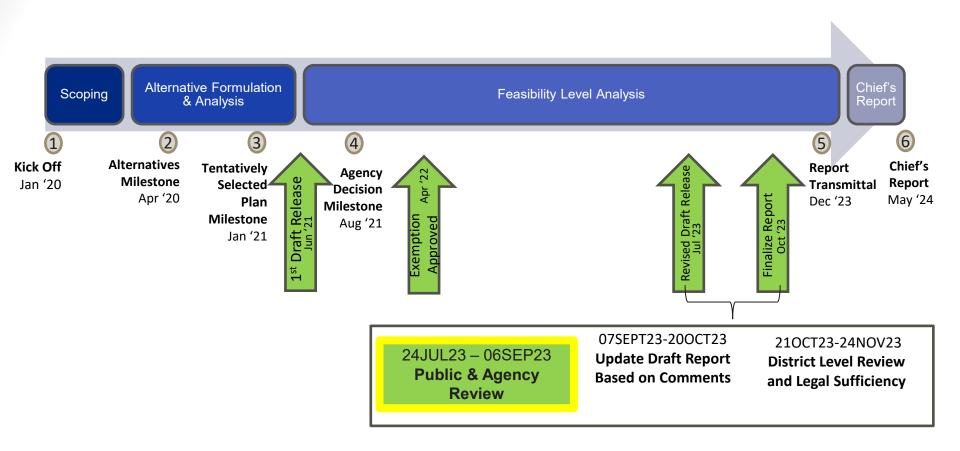


Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016: Authorization for flood risk reduction and ecosystem restoration.

Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), Division B, Subdivision 1, H. R. 1892—13, TITLE IV, CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, INVESTIGATIONS

Study conducted in accordance with Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2014 Section 1001

Recent Exemption Increased Time and Cost; Remains fully federally funded



OBJECTIVES

- Reduce flood damage to structures
- Reduce the risk to public health and safety
- Reduce interruption to the nation's transportation corridor
- Increase community resiliency



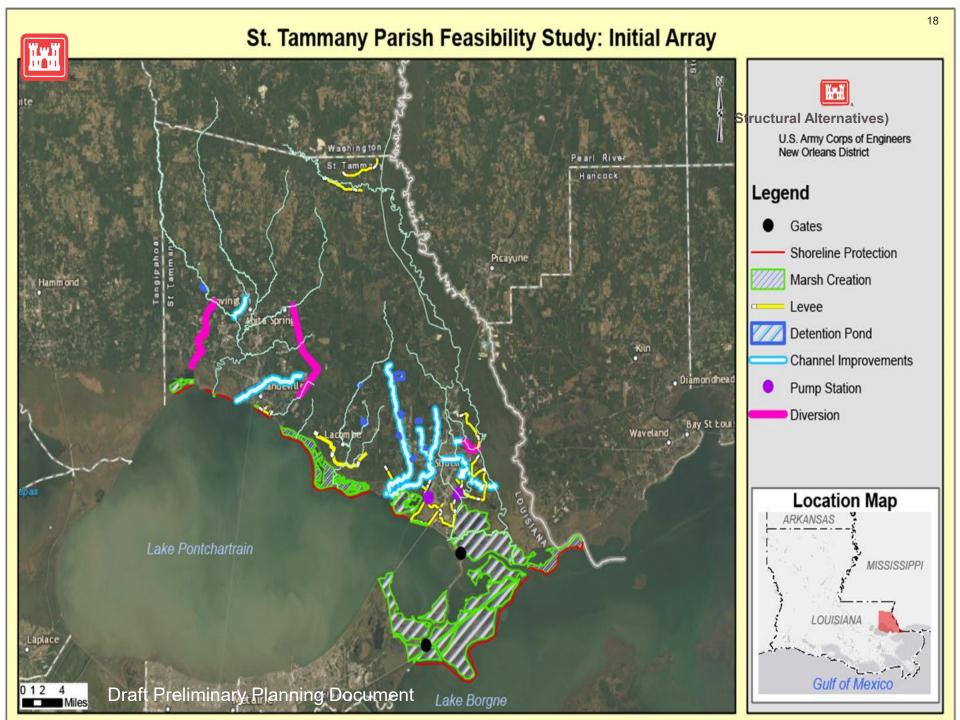
Non-Federal Sponsor

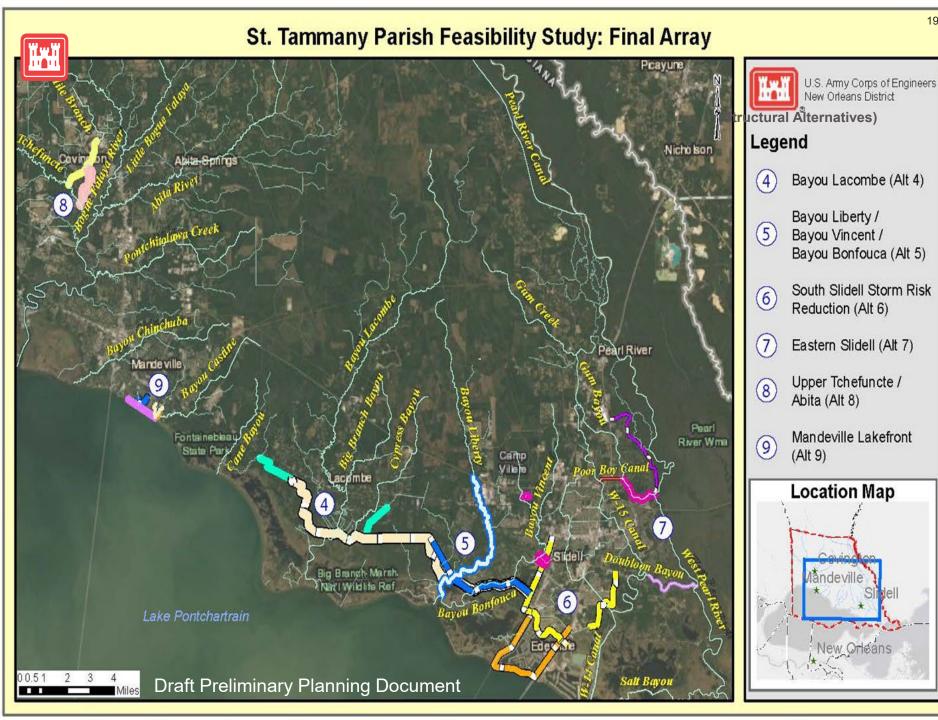
 Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board

Governmental Stakeholders

- Natural Resource Agencies
- State of Louisiana and State Agencies
- St. Tammany Parish and St. Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District
- City Officials

Considered/reviewed/incorporated previous and ongoing studies and recommendations





SCREENING CRITERIA FOR FINAL ARRAY ANALYSIS

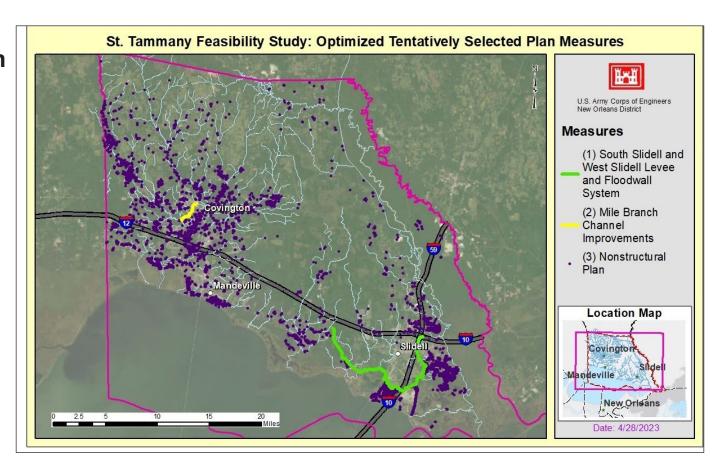
- Preliminary Engineering Design
- Estimated Risk Reduction Performance (2 year-500 year event)
- Degree to which they met project objectives and avoided constraints
- Cost Estimate
- Risk Analysis
- Nonstructural Floodplain Analysis
- Economic benefits
- Environmental Resource Evaluations
- Impacts to Life Safety
- Societal Impacts
- Real Estate Impacts
- Principles and Guidelines Criteria- Completeness, Effectiveness, Efficiency and Acceptability
- Contribution to Federal Objectives and Accounts



TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN

Comprehensive plan to address flooding Parish-wide includes:

- Structural measures to manage risk due to coastal flooding, rainfall and riverine flooding
- Nonstructural plans



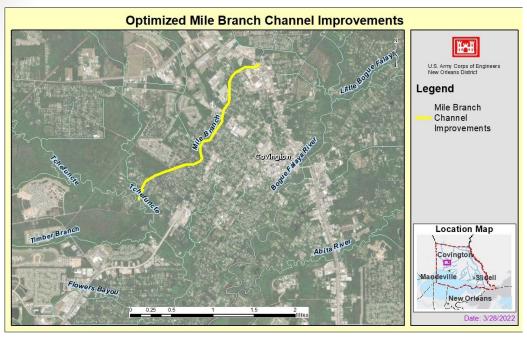
TSP Components

- West Slidell and South Slidell Levees
- Mile Branch Channel Improvements
- Nonstructural home elevations and floodproofing for the rest of the Parish

Project Cost	\$4,452,059,000
Benefits	\$402,762,000
Average Annual Costs	\$165,680,000
Net Benefits	\$237,083,000
Benefit to Cost Ratio	2.4

WWW 8

MILE BRANCH CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS





Lower 2.15 miles (11,341 ft channel) of Mile Branch in Covington, LA

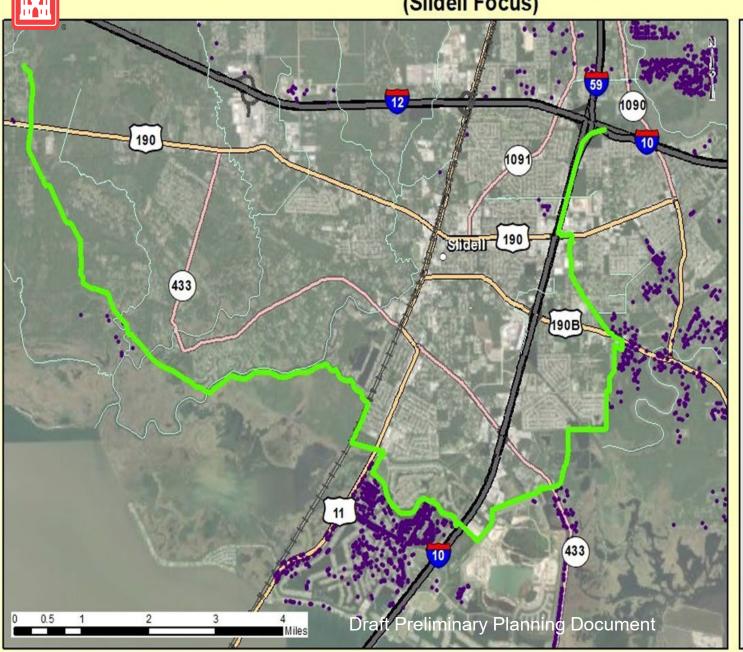
- Clearing and Grubbing
- Mechanical Dredging

Deepen Channel by ~5 feet

- Bridge replacements
- Real Estate
- ROE & ROW for construction and staging areas

St. Tammany Parish Feasibility Study: Optimized Mile Branch Channel Improvements 190 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Legend 29th Avenue Culvert or Bridge Replacement Required Culvert or Bridge 28th Avenue Replacement Completed 25th Avenue Mile Branch Channel Improvements 190B 27th Avenue Staging Areas (Pedestrian Bridge) Staging Area (becomes Backwater Improvement) 21st Avenue Mile Branch Channel Improvements ROW 23rd Avenue Footprint **Location Map** Govlingion 11th Avenue Covington 19th Avenue Mandeville Slidell Tchefuncte 15th Avenue New Orleans Draft Preliminary Planning Document Date: 2/23/2023

St. Tammany Feasibility Study: Optimized Tentatively Selected Plan Measures (Slidell Focus)



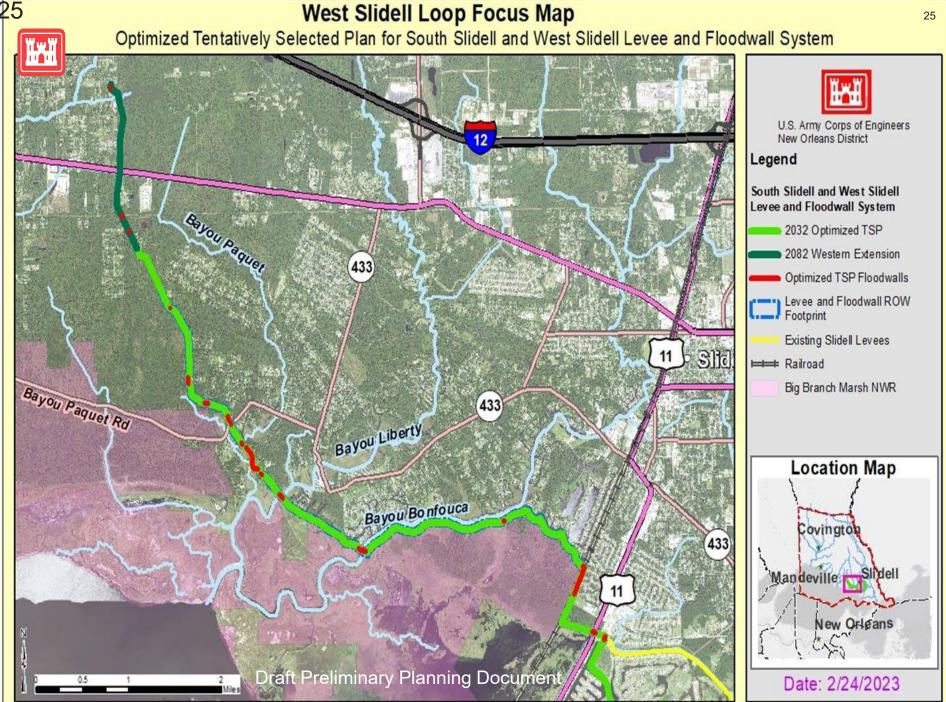


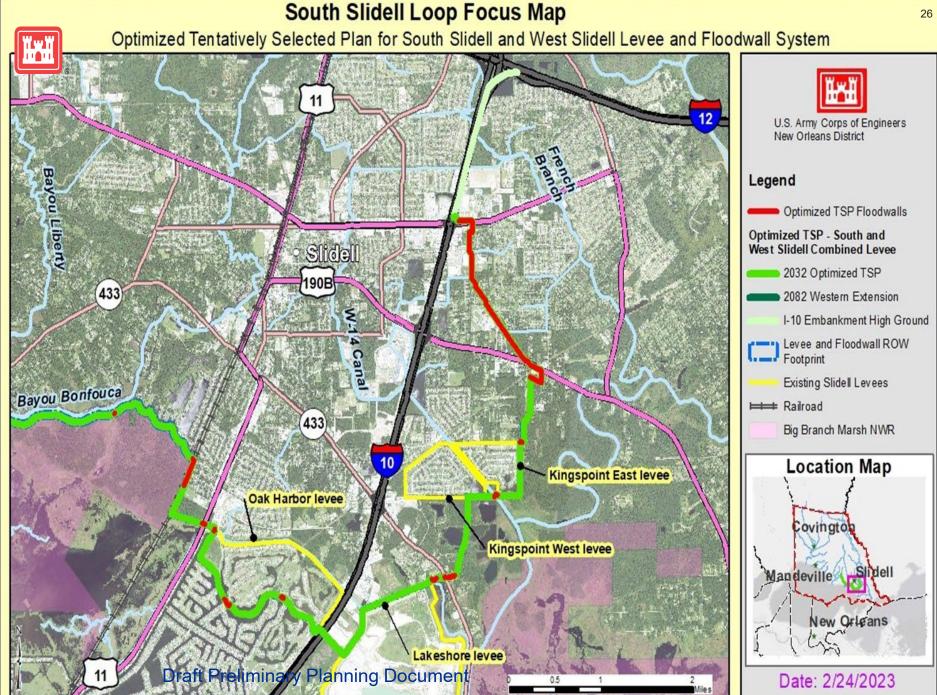
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District

Measures

- (1) South Slidell and
 West Slidell Levee and Floodwall System
- (3) Nonstructural Plan







FEATURES

Attribute	South Slidell and West Slidell Levee and		
	Floodwall System		
Total Length of alignment/improvements	18.5 miles (97,700 feet)		
Length of Floodwall	3.5 miles (18,200 feet)		
Length of earthen Levee	15 miles (79,500 feet)		
Hydraulic Design Elevation Range	13.5 to 16 (year 2032)		
(Dependent on location)	17.5 to 20 (year 2082) (depending on		
	location)		
Pump Stations	8		
Culverts/ Sluice Gates/ Life Gates	13		
Number of Vehicular Floodgates	18		
Number of Pedestrian Floodgates	1		
Number of Railroad Gates	1		
Number of Road Ramps	6 (includes the I-10 near Oak Harbor)		
Fill (Borrow Material) Required	7,079,000 cubic yards (initial construction		
	plus future lifts)		
	3,000,000 cubic yards for initial		
	construction only		
Temporary Acres of Construction Impacts	238 acres (3.34 net acres)		
Permanent Construction Impacts	352 acres (224 net acres)		



DATA REQUIRED FOR NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (NED) ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Initial Data Sets

- First-Floor Elevation
 - Structure Inventory
- Ground Elevations

Calculations Completed

- Foundation Height Statistical Sampling
- Water Surface Elevation
- Depth-Damage Relationships





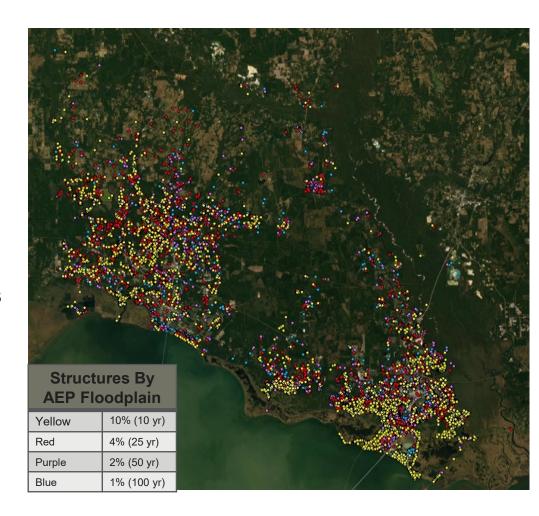
MONSTRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

Initial Draft

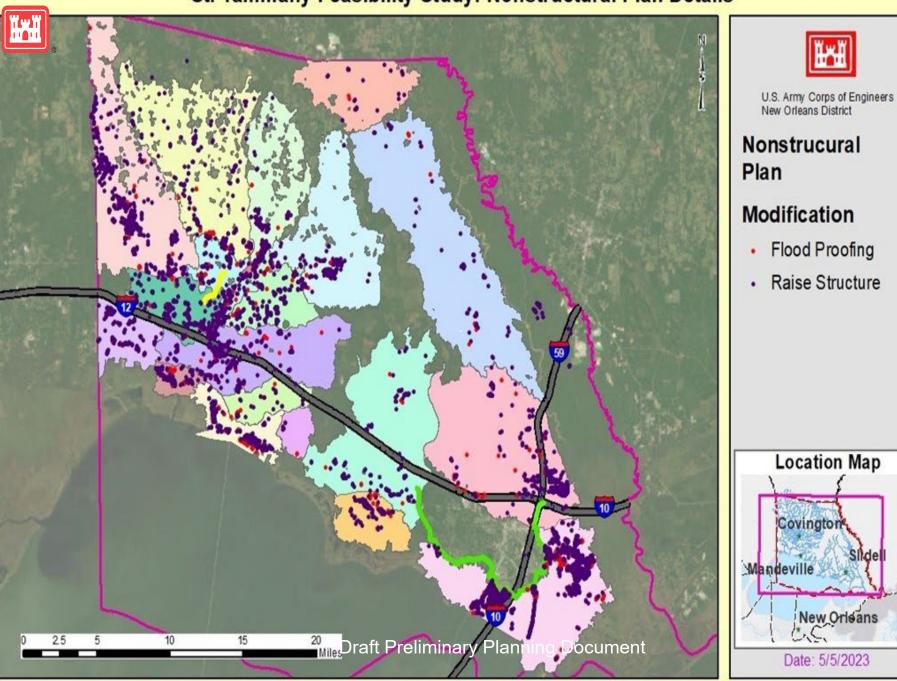
- 50 year floodplain for the entire parish.
- Included roughly 8,500 structures.

Revised Draft

- Identify structures in the floodplains of the study's influence areas to include 25, 50 and 100 year across 20 sources of flooding.
- Benefit/Cost ratios and net benefits calculated for each source of flooding.
- 6,500 structures now eligible.



St. Tammany Feasibility Study: Nonstructural Plan Details



SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Resource	Alt 2: Non-Structural Plan	Optimized TSP *	
Wetlands-Fresh/intermediate Marsh	Minimal indirect	122.5 acres 40 net acres -47.5 AAHU	
Wetlands-Pine Savanna/ Flatwood Forests	Minimal indirect	441 acres 150 net acres -75.12 AAHU	
Wetlands - Riparian Habitat	Minimal indirect	35 acres	
Uplands	indirect	-1,103 acres	
Aquatic Resources/ Fisheries	No impact	Direct & indirect impacts	
Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)	No impact	Direct & indirect impacts	



SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Resource	Alt 2: Non-Structural Plan	Optimized TSP *	
Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)	No impact	Direct & indirect impacts	
Wildlife	Indirect impacts	Direct & indirect impacts	
T&E Protected Species	Limited indirect impacts	NLAA T&E or their critical habitat; potential impacts to protected species	
Cultural Resources	PA agreement	PA agreement	
Recreation Resources	No Impact	Direct & Indirect Impacts	
Aesthetics	Indirect Impacts	Direct & indirect Impacts	
Air Quality	In Attainment	In Attainment	
Water Quality	Temporary	Temporary	
Prime and unique Farmland	No impact	Direct Impacts	
Noise Quality	Temporary Impact	Temporary Impact	
Socioeconomics	Direct & Indirect impacts	Direct & Indirect impacts	
Navigation	No Impact	Temporary Impacts	

SCHEDULE TO COMPLETE

Activity	Schedule		
Execute Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA)	13 January 2020		
Alternatives Milestone	13 April 2020		
SP Milestone with MVD 13 January 20			
Release of Draft Feasibility Report for Public Review	11 June 2021	+	Public
Agency Decision Milestone	27 August 2021		Meetings June 2021
Exemption Approved	04 April 2022	<u> </u>	
District Submittal of the Final Feasibility Report to HQ	15 December 2023		Public Meetings
Division Transmittal of Final Approved Feasibility Report	20 February 2024		Aug 2023
Chief Signs Chief's Report	14 May 2024		

Public Meeting Dates

- 28JUN21
- 29JUN21
- 15AUG23
- 16AUG23

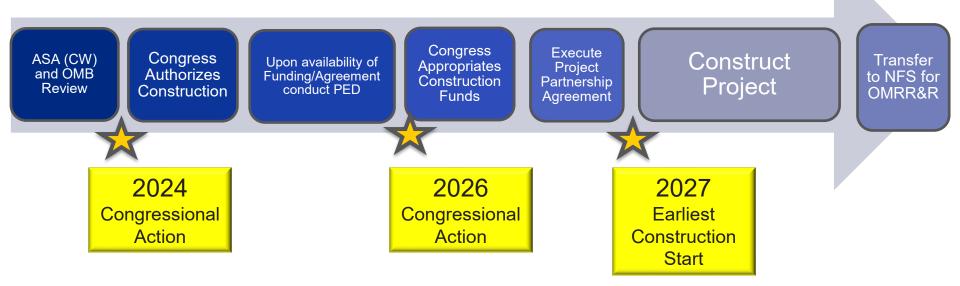
Public Review Period

- 11JUN21 26JUL21
- 21JUL23 –
 06SEPT23

PATH FORWARD

- Chief's Report May 2024
 - Chief of Engineers for USACE HQ
- Anticipated Authorization WRDA 2024
 - Detailed Design and Construction Funding not yet received

Chief's Report is **NOT** the last stop before construction



INPUT WE NEED FROM YOU

- Does the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) meet the needs of the community?
- Are there additional problems related to flooding in the project area that are not captured by the structural or nonstructural components of the TSP?
- Are there any modifications that could be made to the TSP to further reduce flooding?
- Is there anything in the draft report that needs further explanation in the final report?



TO SUBMIT COMMENTS/ PROVIDE INPUT

Comments accepted through Sept 6, 2023

Comment Cards Available Tonight

Document Available at:

https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/ NEPA-Compliance-Documents/Bipartisan-Budget-Act-2018-BBA-18/BBA-18-Projects/

Email: sttammanyfs@usace.army.mil

Address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regional Planning and Environmental Division South PDS-C
7400 Leake Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118

Additional Project Information:

_https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/About/Projects/BBA-2018/studies/St-Tammany





THANK YOU FOR JOINING US