

# Welcome

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

# Virtual Scoping Meeting

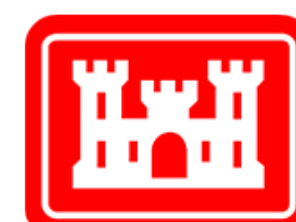
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers welcomes you to the  
**Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion EIS  
Virtual Public Scoping Meeting**

Summer 2020

We want to hear from you about the proposed Mid-Breton  
Sediment Diversion Project.

What are your comments, questions, and concerns?

Your involvement will assist us in making an informed decision. Thank you for your participation. For more information, please visit the project website at: [www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/)



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# Participate in the Meetings

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping materials and live meeting event information can be found on the project website: [www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/)

### How to Attend

The public will have three opportunities to participate in the Virtual Public Scoping Meetings

#### Session 1

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 | 9:00am to 10:30am CDT

Event Web Conference Link: <https://ghdecc.webex.com/ghdecc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0717d5e6acfc70eda0acf24bf754c5dd>

Event Web Conference Password: mbreton

Audio Conference Number: US Toll Free 1-844-621-3956

Audio Conference Access Code: 126 005 0147

#### Session 2

Wednesday, July 15, 2020 | 2:00pm to 3:30pm CDT

Event Web Conference Link: <https://ghdecc.webex.com/ghdecc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e73d5e55b6637e09ee1f10f5732272965>

Event Web Conference Password: mbreton

Audio Conference Number: US Toll Free 1-844-621-3956

Audio Conference Access Code: 126 841 4739

#### Session 3

Thursday, July 16, 2020 | 6:00pm to 7:30pm CDT

Event Web Conference Link: <https://ghdecc.webex.com/ghdecc/onstage/g.php?MTID=ec10dcb7bfccae20345781db9cf0b7e25>

Event Web Conference Password: mbreton

Audio Conference Number: US Toll Free 1-844-621-3956

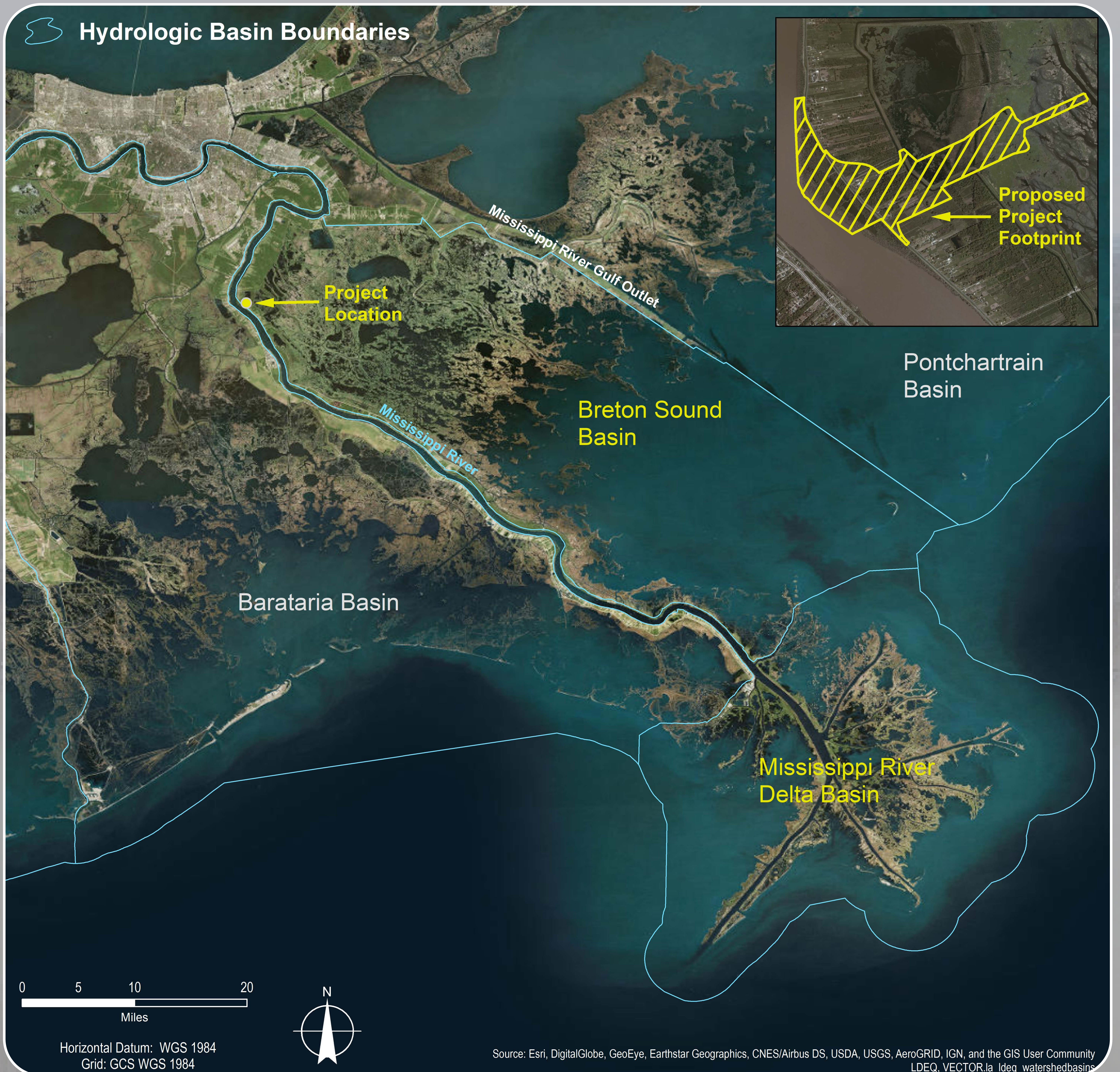
Audio Conference Access Code: 126 316 9289



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# Project Location Map

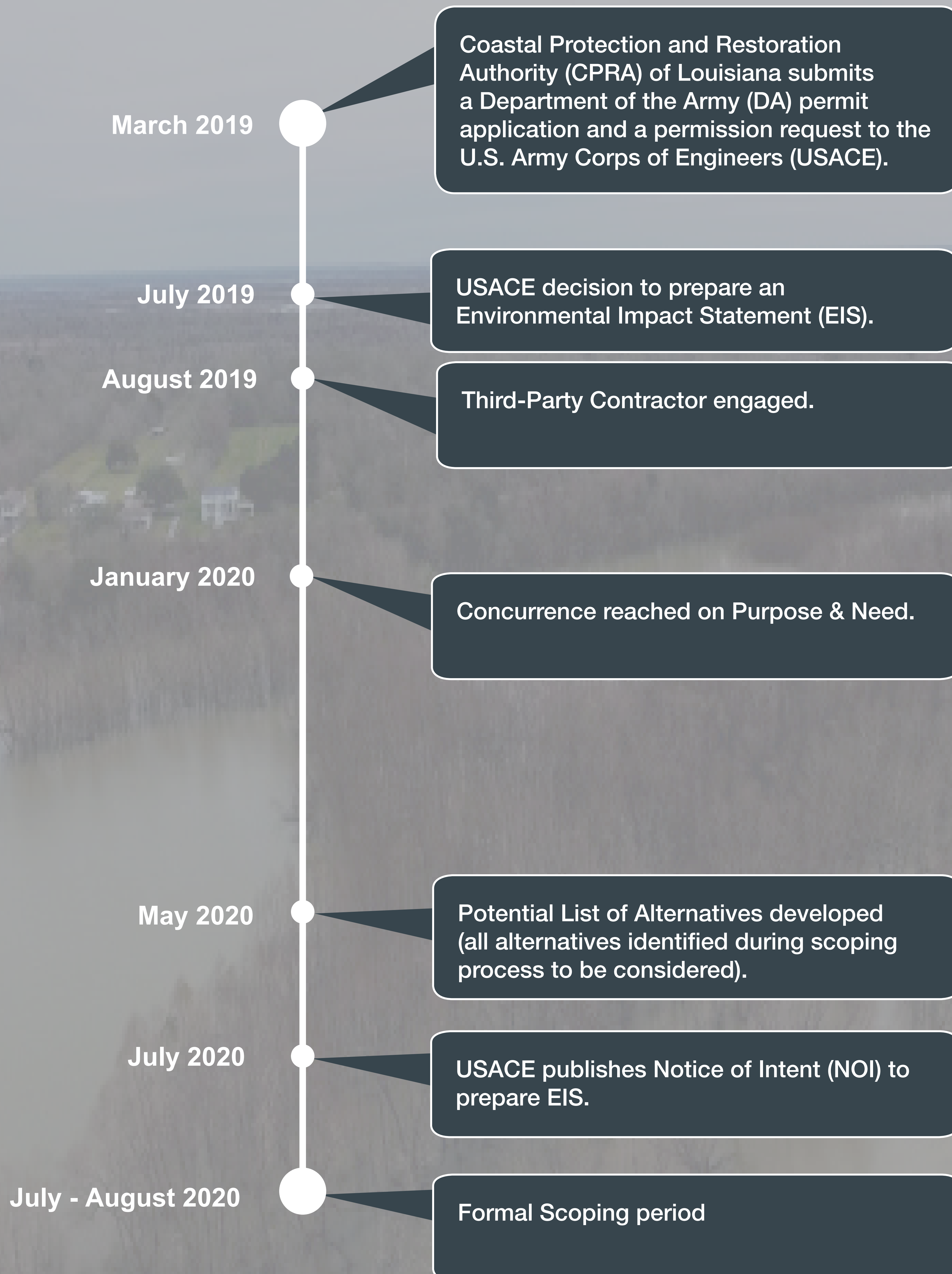
## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement



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# History of the Proposed Project

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement



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# What is NEPA?

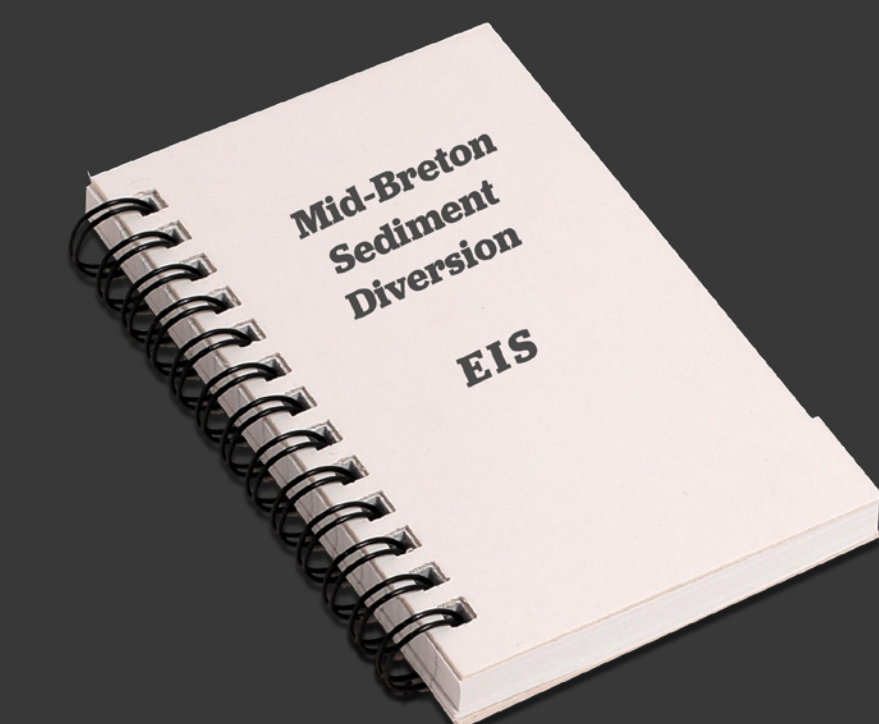
## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

### National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires all federal agencies to evaluate major federal actions\* and inform decision makers and the public of the likely environmental consequences of proposed projects and alternatives.

*\*The major federal action that triggers NEPA for the proposed Breton SD Project is the USACE decision regarding DA permits (Sections 10/404) and permissions (Section 408).*

### Environmental Impact Statement



A federal agency must prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) if a proposed project could significantly affect the quality of the human environment. An EIS is a detailed study that analyzes the potential effects, both positive and negative, that a proposed project may have on the environment and local community.



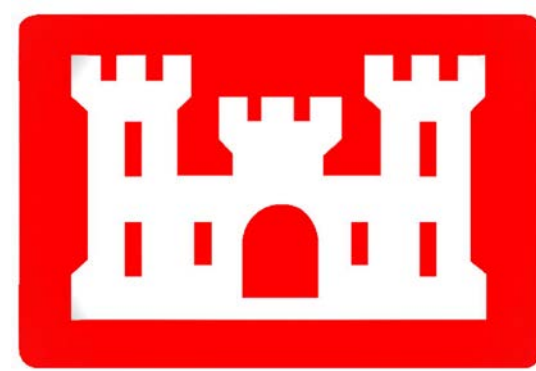
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# The NEPA Team

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement



Input from the public will be considered during development of the EIS



Lead Agency

Section 10/404 permit and 408 permissions

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Cooperating Agencies

There are other agencies that may use the EIS to inform decisions on necessary permits/approvals, USACE is coordinating with these agencies on a regular basis

Other Cooperating & Coordinating Agencies



Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Applicant

Proposed Breton SD Project Applicant



GHD Team

Third Party Contractor

Assisting the USACE in development of the EIS



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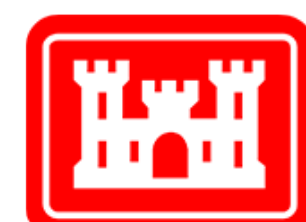
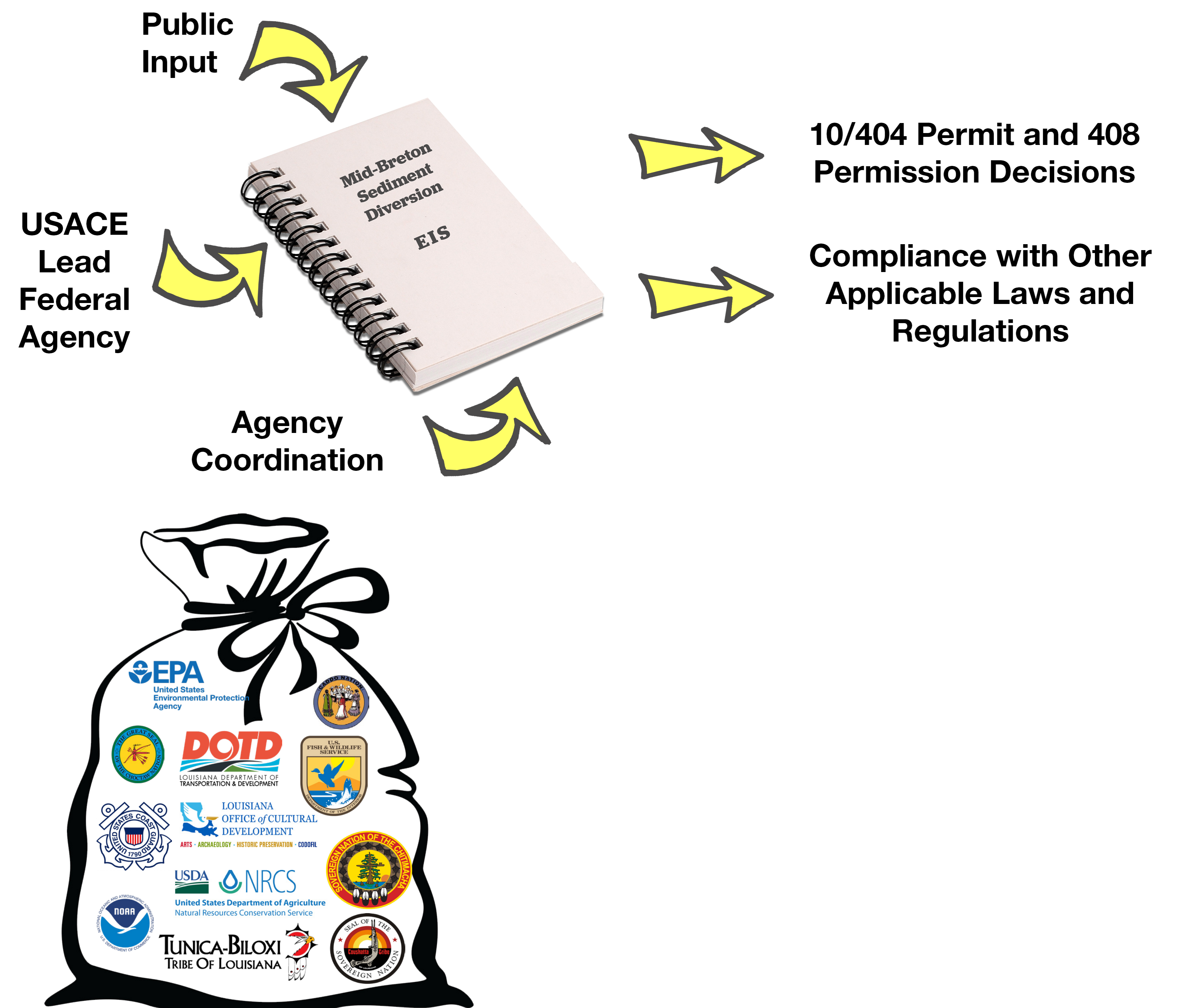
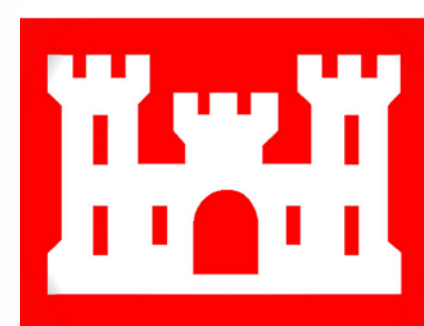
# The EIS Process

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

CPRA wants to build the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion, but it needs to get the appropriate permits and approvals.



The USACE needs to look at positive and negative impacts and produce an EIS that will inform permit and permission decisions.



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# Applicable Laws and Regulations

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

**Section 404 of the Clean Water Act • Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 • Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Section 408) • Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Water Quality Certification) • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) • Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act • Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Essential Fish Habitat) • Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act • Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) • Section 9 of Rivers and Harbors Act (U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Permit) • Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act • Farmland Protection Policy Act • Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Coastal Use Permit (CUP) • Louisiana Office of State Lands Waterbottom Permit**



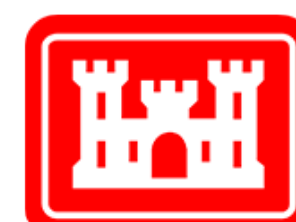
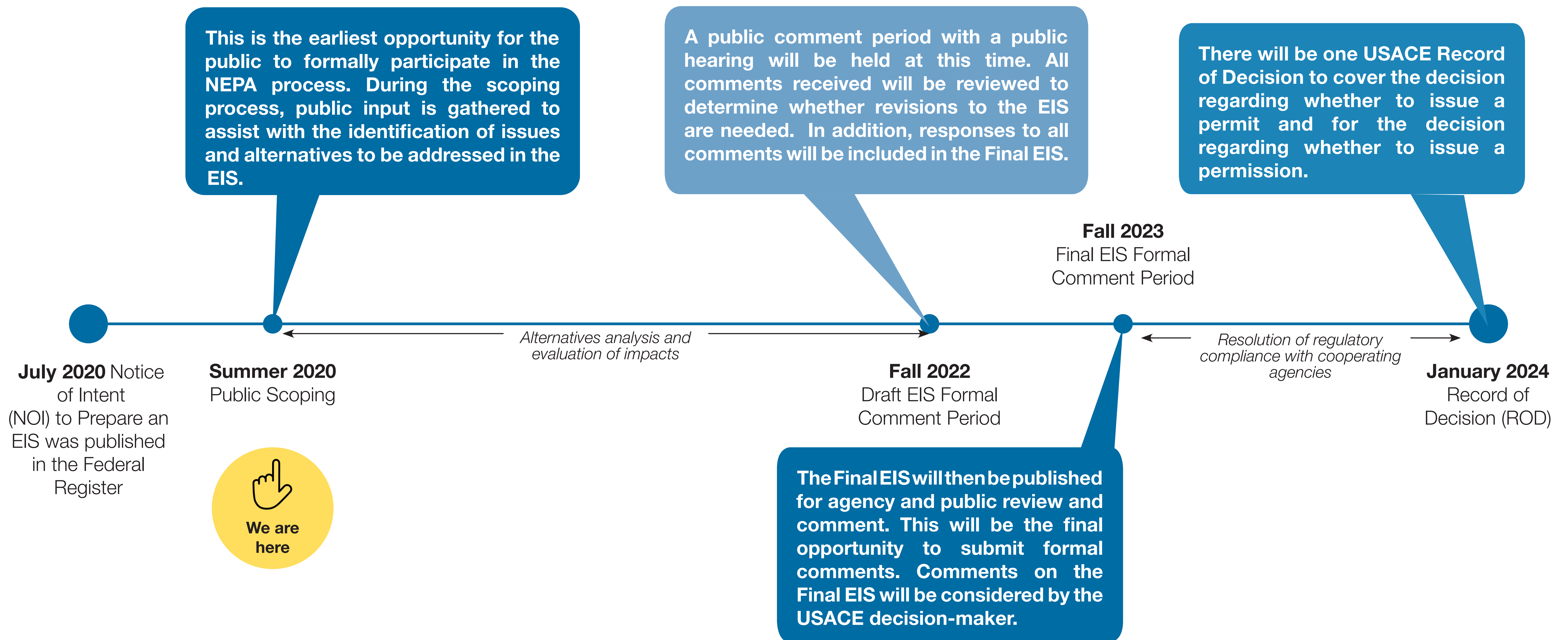
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# NEPA Process Timeline

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### What Will Happen Next?



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# Purpose & Need and Alternatives

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

### Applicant's Purpose and Need:

The Purpose of the Proposed Action is to reconnect and reestablish the deltaic sediment deposition process between the Mississippi River and the Breton Sound Basin through a large scale sediment diversion that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Master Plan and delivers sediment, freshwater, and nutrients in order to create, preserve, restore, and sustain wetlands to counteract the effects of natural and man-made disturbances, such as the DWH oil spill. The Proposed Action is needed to serve as a long term resilient, sustainable strategy to reduce land loss rates and sustain and restore wetlands altered by natural and man-made disturbances in the Breton Sound Basin.

### Alternatives:

CEMVN's preliminary range of alternatives are a sediment diversion with maximum flows of 35,000 cfs, 75,000 cfs (CPRA's preferred alternative), and 115,000 cfs. Each of the three sediment diversion alternatives will be evaluated with two base flow alternatives, 2,500 cfs and 5,000 cfs. Other reasonable alternatives may be developed based on comments received through the NEPA scoping process.



# What Are Some Potential Issues?

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

The following are some of the potential issues which will be addressed in the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion EIS.

### MARINE MAMMALS



To what extent could the proposed Breton SD Project impact marine mammals and their habitat?



### WATER QUALITY



How could the proposed Breton SD Project potentially affect the drinking water sources or surface waters (e.g. salinity, turbidity, nutrients/eutrophication, and pesticides) in the area?

### AQUATIC SITES



Will special or rare aquatic sites such as sea grasses, essential fish habitat, or reefs be impacted by the proposed Breton SD Project?

### SEDIMENTATION AND INUNDATION



If the proposed Breton SD Project operates, will we see more sediment deposited in the Breton Sound Basin and less open water? Will property or adjacent areas be flooded when it operates?

### SOCIOECONOMICS/ ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



Will the proposed Breton SD Project impact the local economy? Are minority or low-income communities going to be impacted more than other communities?

### HURRICANE RISK REDUCTION LEVEES



The proposed Breton SD Project would impact two levees. Will they still function as intended and provide the same level of risk reduction during storm events?

### SEA-LEVEL RISE/SUBSIDENCE



How could sea-level rise and subsidence affect the way the proposed Breton SD Project functions or the success of the project?



### FISHERIES (RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL)



How could changes from the proposed Breton SD Project impact fisheries resources (finfish and shellfish) used by commercial and recreational fishermen?

### NAVIGATION CHANNEL



Will construction of the proposed Breton SD Project cause any safety concerns for ship traffic on the Mississippi River or will operation of the Project change flow in the river that could impact ship traffic?

### WETLAND HABITAT



Are wetlands in the Breton Sound Basin going to be helped (nourished and enhanced) or hurt (flooded and/or eroded) as a result of the proposed Breton SD Project?



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# Tell us what you think!

## Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Environmental Impact Statement

Your comments and concerns are important. Please submit your comment in one of these ways:

### How to Comment

#### by Mail

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District  
Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2018-1120-EOO  
7400 Leake Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70118

#### by Phone

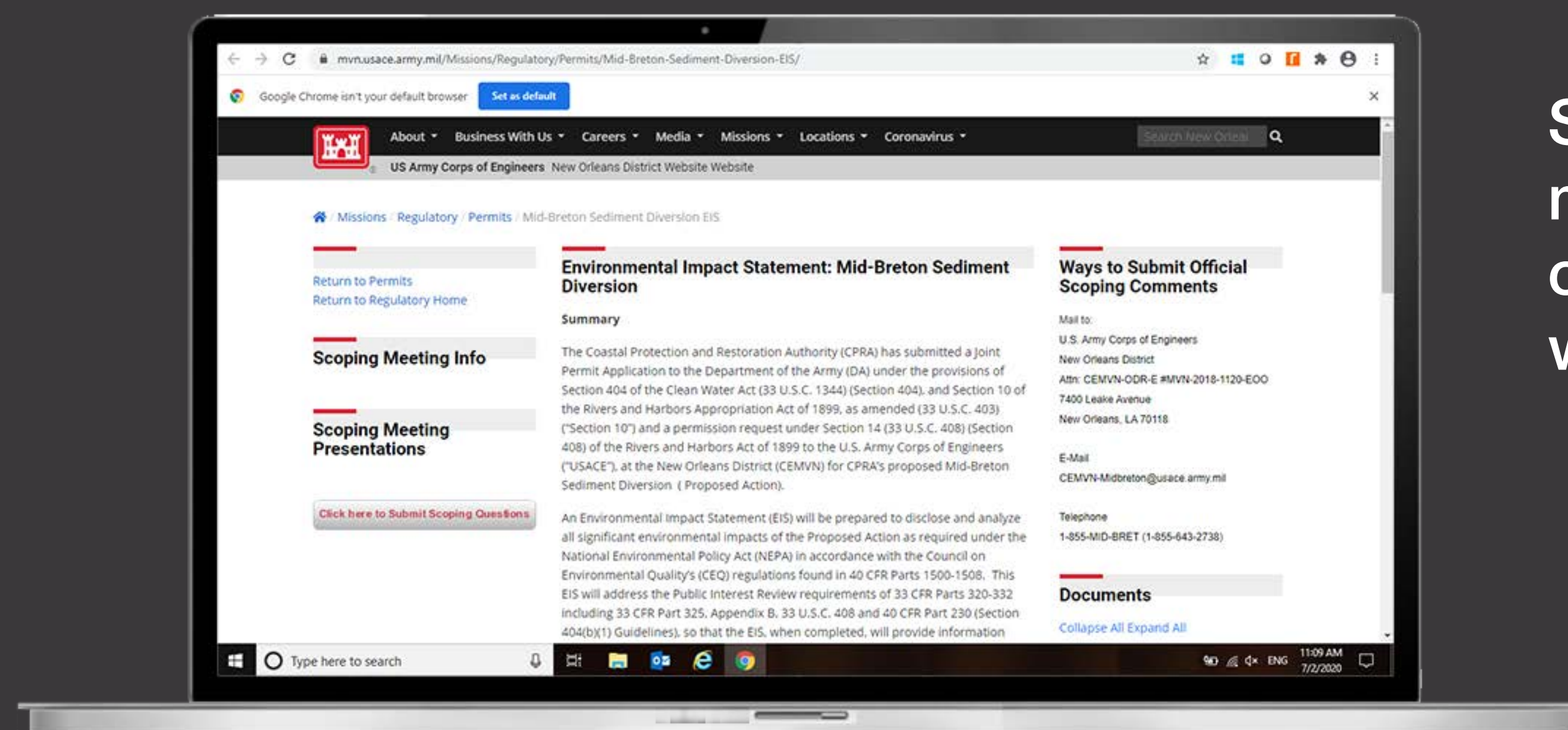
Toll-free number:  
1-855-Mid-Bret (1-855-643-2738)

#### by visiting the project website

[www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Breton-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/)

#### by E-mail

CEMVN-Midbreton@usace.army.mil



Scoping materials and live meeting event information can be found on the project website.

Written comments should reference:  
**Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2018-1120-EOO**



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