



Amite River and Tributaries, Comite River Basin, LA Project Fact Sheet

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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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The Comite River Diversion Project is located in East Baton Rouge Parish, LA in the southern portion of the Comite River Basin. The Project will provide urban flood risk reduction from rainfall events/headwater flooding for residents in this watershed.

Project Purpose: Flood issues within the basin are caused by the excessive rainfall that results in headwater and backwater overflow in the lower reaches of the Amite River and the tributary streams in the vicinity of their confluence with the Amite River. Historically, the majority of flooding was confined to swampland, rural, sparsely populated and largely wooded areas with only scattered agricultural usage. As the Baton Rouge metropolitan area has expanded further into the floodplain to accommodate population growth, concern over flooding in the region has heightened given major flood events in both 1983 and 2016. On 27 August 1991, the Chief of Engineers signed a report for the Amite River and Tributaries, Comite River Diversion, Louisiana, recommending construction of a 12 mile long diversion channel and associated project features to divert flood waters from the Comite River to the Mississippi River. The project was fully funded for construction under the Bipartisan Budget act of 2018.



Project Features: The primary project features include a control structure at the Comite River, a control structure at Lilly Bayou, three control rock chutes at the intersections of the diversion channel with White, Cypress and Baton Rouge Bayous, clearing and snagging of each bayou, two railroad bridges, four highway bridges, and one parish road bridge. The Non-Federal Sponsor, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is responsible for construction of three highway and one railroad bridge.

Project Status: Construction is complete on eight project features and work is continuing on nine project features of the 23 total contracts. Design of the remaining six project features is at approximately ninety-five percent complete. LADOTD is working to acquire remaining real estate and finalizing the remaining utility relocations, which are the driver for award of the remaining features. While these relocation schedules are still being coordinated, the goal is to award all remaining project features by the end of CY 2025 and is dependent on all real estate acquisitions and utility relocations being complete.

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