



Amite River and Tributaries, Comite River Basin, LA

Project Fact Sheet

Updated October 2025

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

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.



COM-05: Channel Segment 2A



COM-18: McHugh Rd Bridge

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 Bayou 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 the construction of three highway and one railroad bridge.

Project Status: The Comite River Diversion Project consists of twenty-three contracts (20 led by USACE and 3 led by the Non-Federal Sponsor, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development). USACE and LADOTD has successfully awarded all contracts by the end of FY2025, with eight projects currently under construction.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – TEAM NEW ORLEANS

7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118 | www.mvn.usace.army.mil

Visit the following links to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr:

www.facebook.com/neworleansdistrict

www.twitter.com/teamneworleans

www.flickr.com/teamneworleans