

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Team (RPT) Region 4, Lake Charles, LA, 12 Feb 19, 10:00 am

1. Agenda Item #1, Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Darryl Clark, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and RPT Region 4 Leader, opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. He introduced the several parish representatives of Region 4, each of whom offered words of welcome. He also acknowledged the presence of several USACE members and various CWPPRA committee members. Region IV consists of the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin and the Mermentau Basin. Mr. Clark introduced Ms. Michelle Fischer and Ms. Adrienne Garber (USGS), Ms. Sarah Bradley and Ms. Kaitlyn Carriere, (USACE), Lonnie Fontenot (JESCO), and Randy Perkins (Perkins Video) for their services in this process. He asked that all attendees introduce themselves.

2. Agenda Item #2, Project Priority List (PPL) 29 Selection Process Brief Overview and Ground Rules for PPL 29 Nomination Meeting. Mr. Clark delivered a PowerPoint presentation, which is available online at the CWPPRA website. Parishes eligible to vote for projects in Region IV 4 are: Calcasieu, Cameron and Vermilion. Mr. Clark acknowledged several parish representatives present.

Nominated projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. A project can be nominated from only one basin, except for coastwide projects. If a project crosses multiple basins, excluding coastwide projects, it should be nominated in one basin only, based on the majority area of project influence. Coastwide projects apply across basin boundaries; their benefits are not tied to one basin. Coastwide projects can be nominated from any basin and can be presented at any or all of the RPT meetings. If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives will determine if they should proceed as separate projects or if they are similar enough to combine.

Presenters were asked to complete a project information sheet for each project nominee, including demonstration project nominees, with the name of the proposed project and the presenter's contact information, if a fact sheet was not provided. The project information sheet or facts sheet should be provided to Ms. Carriere, Ms. Fischer, and the minutes-taker. Presentations should be limited to five minutes and five PowerPoint slides. Public comments on project proposals will be accepted orally during the meeting and in writing by February 21, 2019. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Brad Inman, USACE. Mr. Clark asked that attendees limit comments and questions to the PPL 29 proposals and processes.

Coastwide projects propose a technique applicable across the entire coast. Only one Coastwide nominee may be selected during the Coastwide Electronic Voting on February 28, 2019. The Technical Committee may or may not select a Coastwide project at the April 11, 2019 meeting. Demonstration projects demonstrate a technology which can be transferred to other areas in coastal

Louisiana. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will determine whether or not a project meets the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) criteria for demonstration projects. The RPT will select up to six demonstration projects during electronic voting on February 28, 2019; the Technical Committee may select up to three demonstration projects at the April 11, 2019 meeting. The Work Groups may recommend that no demonstration projects move into the candidate stage. Previously nominated demonstration projects must be re-nominated to be considered for PPL 29.

3. Agenda Item #3, Explanation of Coastwide Voting Process. The Coastwide Electronic Voting will be held on February 28, 2019. The Coastwide Electronic vote will result in the following Projects-per-Basin breakdown (based on land loss rates): four projects each in Barataria and Terrebonne Basins, three projects each in Breton Sound and Pontchartrain, two projects each in Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine and Tech Vermilion, one in Atchafalaya and one Coastwide, for a total of 22 projects. Additionally, up to six Demonstration Projects may be chosen.

Parishes must identify their voting representative at the RPT meeting to be eligible to vote. No additional projects can be nominated and no significant changes can be made to projects after the RPT meeting. Oral comments on nominee projects will be accepted throughout the meeting, and written comments must be submitted to Mr. Inman by February 21, 2019.

Mr. Clark explained the voting process. Excel spreadsheets and portable document format (pdf) documents will be provided to the voting representatives one week prior to the vote. Voters will receive voting sheets for the basins for which they are eligible to vote, and the column on which they need to mark their vote will be highlighted. Voters must email or fax their votes to Ms. Carriere by 10:30 am on February 28, 2019.

Following the Coastwide Electronic Voting, an agency will be assigned to each project (if one is not already involved) to prepare a fact sheet and map if one is not already involved. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will then review the draft features and assign preliminary costs and benefits. They will also verify that the Coastwide and Demonstration projects meet PPL 29 criteria.

Mr. Clark reviewed the remaining steps in the PPL 29 process. Ten candidate projects and up to three Demonstration projects will be selected on April 11, 2019 at the Technical Committee Meeting. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the Technical Committee Meeting. Candidate projects will undergo further review between May and October, and the Technical Committee will vote to recommend up to four projects for Phase I Engineering & Design (E&D) on December 5, 2019. The Task Force will make the final decision in January 2020.

Mr. Clark provided a brief overview of the 2017 State Master Plan projects. He reiterated that all projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. The State – Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) – Representatives, will likely determine project

eligibility based on consistency with the Master Plan at this meeting.

4. Agenda Item #4, PPL 29 Project Nominations.

a. Mr. Clark opened the floor for project nominations in the Mermentau Basin.

#1 – Highway 82 South Marsh Creation and Terracing. The project was presented by Brandon Howard, NOAA Fisheries. The project vicinity is east of Creole & Grand Chenier, just southwest of Grand Lake. The project seeks to create 320 acres of planted marsh along the south side of Hwy 82. The option of adding terraces to the east side (and perhaps south) of the project will be explored. The proposed design includes containment dikes and will utilize offshore dredge material. Fully funded estimated construction costs are \$20 to \$25 million; this cost includes vegetated terrace construction. No questions or comments were proffered.

#2 – Southeast Pecan Island Marsh Creation and Freshwater Enhancement. This project was presented by Ron Boustany, NRCS. He began by describing the project as a holistic approach to the treatment of 2,500 acres, stating that the general idea is to move freshwater and sediments from the upper Mermentau basin into marshes to the south. The project intent is to clean out the canal and place a freshwater introduction structure at Front Ridge to facilitate the flow of freshwater, sediment and nutrients into southern marsh areas. Terraces are to be constructed at the outflow site to slow water flow and capture sediment. Previously placed terraces further south have degraded, but will be augmented. Just to the south of those, three marsh creation cells (totaling 212 acres) are proposed. Dredge material for the terraces and marsh creation cells will be obtained from a Gulf of Mexico borrow site. Culverts and drainage pipes may be placed strategically throughout the area to further facilitate water flow and sediment capture. All features of this project are designed to work synergistically, allowing the marsh to capture sediment and regenerate itself. The construction cost estimate with 25% contingency is \$15-20 million. Kevin Roy posed a question regarding channel dredging to the north. Mr. Boustany responded with rationale for the current plan, which simplifies the hydrologic potential, rather than further altering the hydrology. Ralph Libersat, Vermilion Parish representative, spoke in favor of the project. He emphasized the drainage structures on the southern edge, with a caution to avoid holding water in the area. Mr. Boustany concurred

#3 Mermentau Basin Wetland Inundation Relief Project. Todd Baker, presented the project on behalf of LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. He began by iterating the problem of moving water south out of the Mermentau Basin, especially after significant rain events, with Hwy 82 being a primary blockage. Project features include the cleanout of existing drainage laterals along the south side of Hwy 82, installing a new drainage feature adjacent to the East End Locks to evacuate the increased flow, and replace the fixed gates at the Ease End Locks with ones of flap-gated capability. In addition, two water control structures are proposed for the east side of MU4 of the Rockefeller Refuge, allowing freshwater inflow. Finally the creation of 200 acres of marsh within that management unit is proposed; Joseph Canal dredging will provide borrow material and facilitate freshwater movement. Costs with contingencies are an estimated \$30 million. Ralph Libersat spoke

in favor of all project features. Mr. Clark spoke of his agreement with the capture of freshwater into MU4.

#4 – Gulf Shoreline Stabilization East of Beach Prong. This project was presented by Robert Dobbs, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. This project is essentially the final three-mile extension westward of ME-18 and two other state/parish projects; it would achieve the overall goal to protect a nine-mile stretch of shoreline along the western edge of Rockefeller Refuge. There would be no E&D costs, as this project would be constructed as the ME-18 project was. Estimated costs are \$20-25 million. Mr. Dobbs spent several minutes reviewing shoreline retreat rates and summarizing the many wildlife, environmental and economic benefits associated with the project. No questions or comments were proffered.

#5 – Gulf Shore Protection at Beach Prong. Ronnie Paille, FWS, presented this project last year and today acknowledged significant overlap with the project most recently presented. Mr. Paille announced that the projects would be combined, thus extending the project scope another 1.5 miles. Reduced contractor rates will be negotiated in an attempt to keep costs within CWPPRA limits. A revised fact sheet will be submitted within a few days. Mr. Paille reiterated statistics regarding dire shoreline loss rates along this stretch of the coast. Mr. Clark commended the two agencies for working together to resolve this issue prior to these proceedings. No other questions or comments were proffered.

#6 - South Pecan Island Marsh Creation Project. This project was presented by Mr. Darryl Clark, USFWS. The project is located south of Pecan Island, west of Freshwater Bayou Canal and seeks to restore and nourish a total of 478 acres of intermediate to brackish marsh. Project features include just less than 43,000 linear feet of vegetated earthen terraces, and five marsh creation cells utilizing dredge borrow from the Gulf of Mexico. Post-construction features would eventually include degrading retention dikes, and creating tidal creeks and ponds to restore hydrology, enhance fish and wetland fowl productivity. Total estimated cost with contingencies is \$30-\$35 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#7 – North Big Marsh Restoration Project. This project was presented by Mr. Darryl Clark, USFWS. The project is located NE of Pecan Island in the Big Marsh area on land owned by Vermilion Corporation. Mr. Clark began by iterating the accelerated rates of loss primarily due to Hurricanes Rita and Ike. The project seeks to restore and nourish 450 acres of fresh and intermediate marsh with material dredged from near Little Vermilion Bay. Another project feature is the introduction of freshwater from White Lake via 3 culverts at Hwy 82. This feature would improve function of an existing canal through which water would enter the marsh. Post-construction features would eventually include degrading retention dikes, and creating tidal creeks to restore hydrology and improve wetland productivity. The construction cost including contingencies is \$25 to \$30 million. Mr. Libersat spoke of the vital need for the project in light of land loss rates, especially the components that allow for freshwater introduction into the marsh creation area. Randy Moertle spoke in favor of both USFWS projects presented.

Mr. Clark called for a motion to close project nominations in the Mermentau Basin.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations in the Mermentau Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

b. Mr. Clark opened the floor for project nominations in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin.

#1 – Willow Bayou Marsh Creation Project. Ronnie Paille, USFWS, presented the project, which was presented last year as Sabine Refuge Unit 6. This project is located on the Sabine Refuge in an area where previous terracing projects have been constructed, and intends to construct marsh in open areas where terracing has not occurred. Open-water areas likely began with Hurricane Audrey, were exacerbated by the construction of the Sabine-Neches Waterway, and the area was further degraded by Hurricanes Rite & Ike. The project will utilize borrow material from Sabine Lake to create and nourish 402 acres of marsh within 2 confined cells. Other benefits include reduced fetch, restoration of subaquatic vegetation (SAV), and reduced shoreline erosion of nearby marshes. Estimated construction costs are \$10-20 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#2 – South Black Bayou Marsh Creation Project. This project was presented by Ronnie Paille, USFWS. This project is located east of Sabine Lake and west of Black Bayou – primarily on the Sabine NWR, and partly on Stream property. As a result of the construction of the Pines Canal, the natural hydraulic flow northward of the Black Bayou Marsh into the Black Bayou has been interrupted. Additionally, Sabine Lake is eroding toward a rivulet that has formed, which compromises the integrity of a soil bank between the lake and a Black Bayou tributary; this allows saltwater intrusion into the marsh. Project goals are to create a total of 372 acres of marsh in five confined cells and 2 semi-confined cells; cell layout would create a “land bridge” of sorts between the Pines Canal and the banks of Sabine Lake, thus eliminating water exchange across the system. An additional 72 acres of existing marsh within the cells would be nourished. The borrow site is Sabine Lake. The project would result in a total of 444 acres in restored and nourished marsh, at an estimated construction cost of \$20-\$25 million. Dave Richard spoke in strong support of the project on behalf of Stream Companies and landowners to the north. He asserted the need for the plugging of an existing opening at Pines Canal. He also warned of increased tidal fluctuations, which will exacerbate problems throughout western Cameron Parish, as the deepening and widening of the Sabine/Neches Channel ensues. Laurie Cormier also pointed out that both FWS projects presented today would serve to protect the I-10 corridor during significant rain events.

#3 – East Prong Marsh Creation and Terracing. This project was presented by Kevin Roy, USFWS. (Mr. Roy began with an update of the Grand Bayou Marsh Creation Project. Construction of one marsh creation cell has been completed, another is currently being filled. With additional funding the project will be expanded; completion is expected by early summer.) The East Prong project is a continuation of efforts to recreate marsh in the Cameron-Creole watershed and near the Cameron Prairie NWR. Project goals are to create 435 acres of partially contained marsh, and install 25,000

linear feet of inland terraces. Another component of the project will be spray dredging 55,000 linear feet of the natural bayous onto the bankline to re-nourish the marsh, restore the functional capacity of the waterways, and enhanced the natural tidal hydrology in the system. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is approximately \$20-25 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#4 – North Mud Lake Marsh Creation and Nourishment. This project was presented by Jennifer Smith on behalf of Donna Rogers, NOAA Fisheries. The project area is north of Mud Lake on the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge; the project was chosen for candidacy in PPL 28, although the polygon has been shifted to the east for this year’s proposal. Much of the area has been converted from brackish marsh to open water due to anthropomorphic activities and natural (i.e. tropical) events. The project proposes the use of near-shore Gulf borrow material in order to avoid issues with the oyster beds in Calcasieu Lake and issues with ship channel dredging cycles. The project intent is to create and nourish 326 acres of brackish marsh, with a possible terrace field expansion southward. Construction costs are estimated in the range of \$20-25 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#5 – Mud Lake Peninsula Marsh Creation Project. This project was also presented by Jennifer Smith, NOAA Fisheries. Also nominated in PPL 28, support for the project has been received from Stream Companies and Apache Corporation. The project is located southwest of Calcasieu Lake and exhibits synergy with the Oyster Bayou project recently constructed. The peninsula that extends into Mud Lake has deteriorated in recent years due to several natural and made-made factors, resulting in large open areas. The project seeks to utilize a small dredge in order to restore and nourish a total of 412 acres of brackish marsh on the peninsula, and along the northern edge of Mud Lake. Marsh creation areas would be contained initially, and possibly planted with native vegetation. Staggered borrow sites within Mud Lake will provide sediment for the project. The estimated construction costs are \$15 - \$20 million. David Richard reiterated his support of the project, which is situated entirely on “private lands.”

#6 – Mud Lake South Marsh Creation. Brad Crawford presented this project on behalf of EPA, beginning with assertion that it has been modified since being nominated last year. He presented a map of the area, demonstrating consistency with the 2017 Master Plan. He reviewed problems and causes of land loss in the region, and provided historical topo maps as a reference to present-day wetland loss. The location is west of the Calcasieu Ship Channel, just north of the Gulf of Mexico. The project proposes creating and nourishing a total of 316 acres marsh utilizing dredge material from the Gulf of Mexico. The created marsh would be planted, and eventually tidal creeks & ponds would be constructed to reestablish hydrologic connectivity. Cost estimates are \$15-20 million. David Richard expressed his support of this project, in light of the fact that it is adjacent to CS-59 (located on Stream property.) Mr. Clark voiced the observations that the previously presented projects associated with the Mud Lake complex do not apparently overlap with this one, and that combining projects/ project elements would not be cost-feasible; informal discussion resulted in no disagreement of those observations.

#7 – Sweetlake Freshwater Enhancement. Ron Boustany, NRCS, presented the project. He began with an overview of problems in the area, especially water inundation and the lack of capacity to remove it rapidly – similar in comparison to the Mermentau Basin. Hydrologic data from CRMS sites indicate that water levels within the Cameron-Creole watershed are higher than Calcasieu Lake 35% of the time, and that the ability to flow water out actually occurs frequently. The specific project area is lies west of Calcasieu Lake, and southwest of the Sweetlake community. The project consists of several features: a) a uni-flow, flap-gated freshwater introduction structure at the GIWW, b) terraces created in open areas at the outflow of this structure, c) plugging a canal situated on the project’s north edge and near the lake, which currently allows saltwater to intrude interiorly, and d) installation of two lake front drainage structures, which would facilitate rapid water evacuation during high-water events. Estimated costs with contingencies are \$10-15 million. Without quantifiable benefits at hand, Mr. Boustany defended the project as synergistic with all other restoration efforts in the area, and as a relatively inexpensive way to mitigate problems that CPRA monitoring is revealing.

#8 – Sweetlake Marsh Creation. Craig Gothreaux, NOAA Fisheries, presented the project, beginning with an acknowledgment of landowners – both Sweetlake and Miami Corporation. Located in the vicinity of the previous project, this is an area where terraces previously installed (by Ducks Unlimited) have degraded. This project intends to create and nourish 415 acres of marsh with sediment from Calcasieu Lake. Containment dikes would eventually be gapped to facilitate tidal exchange; tidal creeks will be considered. Estimated costs with contingencies are \$20-25 million. David Richard expressed his dismay, inquiring why the beneficial use of materials dredged from the Calcasieu Ship channel is not being proposed. Mr. Craig replied that costs are a primary driver at this stage of the process. Mr. Bolfrass interjected that several approved projects are utilizing Ship Channel dredge material; Mr. Clark clarified that those projects are westward of the channel, and that negotiations with the USACE to obtain dredge material for projects eastward were unsuccessful. Chad, DWF, asserted that negotiations with the USACE remain optional, but the current borrow site was chosen for purposes of this presentation. Ms. Bradley asserted that from the USACE perspective, crossing the lake with dredge pipeline requires consideration of oyster seed ground and other resources therein. While a second round of water bottom assessments are ensuing, negotiation and potential mitigation with DWF is challenging. Ms. Bradley’s statement drew some opposition; Mr. Williams ended the discussion by re-iterating that, as current federal standards exist, it is simply more expensive to obtain channel-derived materials for restoration efforts east of Calcasieu Lake. Therefore, in order for east-side projects to compete, Calcasieu Lake is often the dredge site considered most feasible.

#9 – Cameron Meadows East. This project was presented by Patrick Williams, NOAA Fisheries. Mr. Williams began with an update on the Cameron Meadows (CS-66) project, asserting that many issues with land rights, permitting etc. are being resolved on time, and that the target construction bid date is expected in late 2019. This project location would be to the east of Cameron Meadows Field Road, as opposed to CS-66 which is west of the road. Mr. Williams introduced the project concept

last year, declaring that permitting is almost completed, and land rights issues are nearly resolved. Maintenance of the Magnolia Vacuum Canal (immediately to the east of the road) is crucial to project success. The project seeks to construct about 300 acres of marsh in one large cell; containment dikes will eventually be gapped. While conditions are favorable for terrace construction, that feature is not included in this proposal. An opportunity to reduce pumping distance (from an alternate borrow site) may be explored, but costs with contingencies are an estimated \$25-30 million. Dr. Foret spoke on behalf of the landowner (Mr. Dore) expressing full support of the project. He also stated that an eastward extension of the CS-66 borrow site was once suggested by the offshore geo-tech company; therein may be a cost-saving opportunity.

With no further nominations, Mr. Clark called for a motion to close project nominations in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

c. Mr. Clark opened the floor for nominations of Coastwide Projects.

#1 – Coastwide Sediment Management. Brad Crawford, EPA, presented the project. He began with a rationale for the project, asserting that restoration projects are often limited or deemed not feasible due to the costs and logistics associated with sediment access/ transport. This project seeks to establish temporary holding areas for dredged materials, the establishment and management of which would occur independently of a particular project. The holding areas, however, would necessarily be placed in consideration of high-need areas and be strategically located to minimize transport costs. This project facilitates the beneficial use of dredge material, and could potentially increase restoration acreage, especially in areas remote to borrow sites. The project requires that sources of dredge material be identified, holding locations be scouted, and projects “matched” (utilizing GIS technology) to holding area proximity. Holding sites may require permit/ permission, materials would be tested, and areas would be managed for quality and quantity of material therein. For example, Mr. Crawford suggested that the USACE, rather than utilizing its upland disposal site for the Calcasieu Ship Channel dredging materials (which is nearing capacity), may place materials nearer to areas of need. He also cited routine dredging activities in Bayou Lafourche, which currently dispose of materials offshore. Project costs with contingencies are estimated at \$20-25 million. Mr. Clark questioned the efficiency of the project concept. Mr. Crawford clarified by stating that this project pertains to sites that exhibit inefficient/ cost prohibitive acquisition of dredge materials. Mr. Baker asked whether or not dredge materials outside the Master Plan scope (lower Atchafalaya and lower Mississippi, for example) could be utilized; Mr. Crawford’s response was not certain. Mr. Roy asked about how costs were developed, wondering specifically about the cost of placing (in holding areas) and then moving the materials. In response, Mr. Crawford provided an overview of the itemized budget, and affirmed a budgetary “place-holder” for incremental increases for the placement of dredged materials. Mr. Williams asked about how project benefits are assessed/ assured? Mr. Crawford responded that while there are no direct benefits, the project certainly will improve the

cost/benefit ratio of appropriate projects. Mr. Roy pointed out that the assumption must be made that the material will not be used. Mr. Crawford responded that storage for local use is emphasized as an alternative, for example, to off-shore disposal. Mr. Paille wondered if the USACE could incorporate activities like this into its dredge material management plans. Mr. Clark asserted that the corps lacks such funding.

With no further proposals forthcoming, Mr. Clark closed Coastwide Project nominations.

d. Mr. Clark opened the floor for nominations of Demonstration Projects

No nominations were proffered. Mr. Clark closed the floor for all nominations in Region 4.

Mr. Clark adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Team (RPT) Region 3, Morgan City, LA, 13 Feb 19, 9:30 am

Agenda Item #1, Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Ron Boustany, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and RPT Region 3 Leader, opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. He introduced Cindy Cutrera, representing the host of today's venue, the Port of Morgan City; Ms. Cutrera offered words of welcome, and provided a verbal orientation to the building. Mr. Boustany introduced Adrienne Garber and Michelle Fischer (USGS), Sara Bradley, Mr. Brad Inman and Ms. Kaitlyn Carriere, (USACE), and Randy Perkins (Perkins Video) for their services in this process. Mr. Boustany then acknowledged the presence of several parish representatives as well as several CWPPRA committee representatives and project developers. Region 3 consists of the Terrebonne Basin, Atchafalaya Basin and the Teche-Vermilion Basin. He asked that voting parish representatives register with Ms. Carriere. He also reminded attendees to sign in and reviewed proper procedures for making public comments and asking questions. All attendees were invited to introduce themselves.

2. Agenda Item #2, Project Priority List (PPL) 28 Selection Process Brief Overview and Ground Rules for PPL 28 Nomination Meeting. Mr. Boustany delivered a PowerPoint presentation, which is available online at the CWPPRA website. Parishes eligible to vote for projects in Region IV are: St. Mary, Terrebonne, Assumption, Lafourche, Iberia, St. Martin and Vermilion.

Nominated projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. A project can be nominated from only one basin, except for coastwide projects. If a project crosses multiple basins, excluding coastwide projects, it should be nominated in one basin only, based on the majority area of project influence. Coastwide projects apply across basin boundaries; their benefits are not tied to one basin. Coastwide projects can be nominated from any basin and can be presented at any or all of the RPT meetings. If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives (defined as RPT leaders, federal and state agencies, parish representatives and landowners) will meet separately during these proceedings, to determine if they should proceed as individual projects or if they are similar enough to combine.

Presenters were asked to complete a project information sheet for each project nominee, including demonstration project nominees, with the name of the proposed project and the presenter's contact information, if a fact sheet was not provided. The project information sheet or facts sheet should be provided to Ms. Carriere, Ms. Fischer, and the minutes-taker. Presentations should be limited to five minutes and five PowerPoint slides. Public comments on project proposals will be accepted orally during the meeting and in writing by February 21, 2019. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Brad Inman, USACE. Mr. Boustany asked that attendees limit oral comments and questions to the PPL 29 proposals and processes.

Coastwide projects propose a technique applicable across the entire coast. Only one Coastwide nominee may be selected during the Coastwide Electronic Voting on February 28, 2019. The Technical Committee may or may not select a Coastwide project at the April 11, 2019 meeting. Demonstration projects demonstrate a technology, which can be transferred to other areas in coastal Louisiana. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will determine whether or not a project meets the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) criteria for demonstration projects. The RPT will select up to six demonstration projects during electronic voting on February 28, 2019; the Technical Committee may select up to three demonstration projects at the April 11, 2019 meeting. The Work Groups may recommend that no demonstration projects move into the candidate stage. Previously nominated demonstration projects must be re-nominated to be considered for PPL 29.

3. Agenda Item #3, Explanation of Coastwide Voting Process. The Coastwide Electronic Voting will be held on February 28, 2019. The Coastwide Electronic vote will result in the following Projects-per-Basin breakdown (based on land loss rates): four projects each in Barataria and Terrebonne Basins, three projects each in Breton Sound and Pontchartrain, two projects each in Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine and Tech Vermilion, one in Atchafalaya and one Coastwide, for a total of 22 projects. Additionally, up to six Demonstration Projects may be chosen.

Parishes must identify their voting representative at the RPT meeting to be eligible to vote. No additional projects can be nominated and no significant changes can be made to projects after the RPT meeting. Oral comments on nominee projects will be accepted throughout the meeting, and written comments must be submitted to Mr. Inman by February 21, 2019.

Mr. Boustany explained the voting process. Excel spreadsheets and portable document format (pdf) documents will be provided to the voting representatives one week prior to the vote. Voters will receive voting sheets for the basins for which they are eligible to vote, and the column on which they need to mark their vote will be highlighted. Voters must email or fax their votes to Ms. Carriere by 10:30 am on February 28, 2019.

Following the Coastwide Electronic Voting, an agency will be assigned to each project to prepare a fact sheet and map if one is not already involved. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will then review the draft features and assign preliminary costs and benefits. They will also verify that the Coastwide and Demonstration projects meet PPL 29 criteria.

Mr. Boustany reviewed the remaining steps in the PPL 29 process. Ten candidate projects and up to three Demonstration projects will be selected on April 11, 2019 at the Technical Committee Meeting. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the Technical Committee Meeting. Candidate projects will undergo further review between May and October, and the Technical Committee will vote to recommend up to four projects for Phase I Engineering & Design (E&D) on December 5, 2019. The Task Force will make the final decision in January 2020.

Mr. Boustany provided a brief overview of the 2017 State Master Plan projects. He reiterated that all nominated projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. Mr. Boustany gave the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) Representatives a chance to comment. At this meeting CPRA will likely determine nominated project eligibility based on consistency with the Master Plan.

4. Agenda Item #4, PPL 29 project Nominations.

a. Mr. Boustany opened the floor project nominations from the Teche-Vermilion Basin

#1 – Boston and Oaks Canals Marsh Area Protection Project. The project was presented by John Foret of Fenstermaker & Associates. Mr. Foret began with a description of the project location/ area; he presented estimated land-loss rates and the probable causes. In regards to project solution planning, Mr. Foret declared the support of land-lessees, landowners, Vermilion Parish representatives and other stakeholders. Project features include the placement of two rock dikes, both of which are adjacent to Vermilion Bay – one (4,600 LF) along the eastern perimeter of the project area from the Oaks Canal southward, and one (4,900 LF) along the southern perimeter. These are areas of shoreline erosion and looming inundation of interior wetlands. The rock dikes are to be gapped to allow for tidal exchange and fish access. An additional project feature is a fixed crest weir with a boat bay on the north edge of project area; the structure would potentially restore hydrology and prevent the loss of wetland material along this heavily used tract of the GIWW. Another boat bay along the western edge (Boston Canal) of the project area may be warranted, but is not included in this presentation. Project cost estimates are \$10-\$15 million, with a potential net benefit of 473 acres.

#2 – South Humble Canal Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation Project. Ronnie Paille (FWS) presented the project. This project is located on the bank Freshwater Bayou Channel and is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan. A primary project feature consists of just less than 6,000 LF of revetment and 500 LF of foreshore rock dikes strategically placed along Freshwater Bayou channel to reduce water exchange between the channel and interior marsh. Additional project features include almost 7,000 LF of terracing in ponded areas adjacent to the channel, to trap sediment and reduce the wave energy in front of the proposed marsh creation area. The creation of 35 acres of semi-confined marsh (in 12 cells) is being proposed to protect the integrity of lakes further inland. The intended borrow area for dredge material is the channel adjacent to the proposed revetment area, which Mr. Paille described as an eroded shallow shelf. The cost estimate including a 25% contingency is \$4-5 million. Mr. Libersat inquired as to the depths of dredging, with a caution to avoid undermining the stability of the revetment. He cited a project to the south, where dredge from the channel itself was utilized. Mr. Paille concurred, pointing out that borrow could occur within the interior ponds as well as the channel, depending on the quantity required/ available. In an effort to reduce costs, the Gulf of Mexico and Vermilion Bay are not being considered as borrow sites.

#3 – North Marsh Restoration (North Increment). Brandon Howard, NOAA Fisheries, presented this project. The project is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan, and is unchanged from its previous design as a candidate project in PPL 28. Mr. Howard began with an overview of the entire area to demonstrate accelerated marsh loss, due in large part to shoreline erosion and increased connectivity of the Freshwater Bayou Canal with marshes to the east. This project is similar to the project previously presented by Mr. Paille, and is being touted as the first increment (of three) to begin addressing this issue. Mr. Howard presented his rationale for utilizing the Gulf of Mexico as a borrow site. Each increment would consist of marsh creation parallel to the ship channel, terrace construction interiorly adjacent to the marsh creation cells, and shoreline protection along the channel itself. This first increment will consist of 239 acres of marsh creation and nourishment, 1 mile of foreshore rock along the channel, and 16,100 LF of earthen terraces with vegetative planting. Construction cost estimate is \$25-\$30 million. Mr. Libersat spoke in favor of the project, and iterated his preference for Vermilion Bay as the borrow site (rather than the Gulf of Mexico), because of other (possibly) concurrent activities within the channel. Mr. Moertle spoke in favor of this project and the one previously proposed by FWS, asserting that there is no conflict or overlap with this increment.

#4 – Southeast Marsh Island Marsh Creation and Nourishment. The project was presented by Adrian Chaverria, EPA. Mr. Chaverria began by noting that this project was previously proposed, and has been slightly revised. He describes the project as synergistic with TV-21 and TV-14, and is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan & EPA goals. He reviewed problematic causes in the area, and provided historical references to demonstrate the extent of loss. The project seeks to create and nourish 658 acres of emergent marsh in fully contained cells, utilizing dredged material from offshore. Construction cost estimates total \$20-\$25 million. Lance Campbell, DWF, spoke in full support of this project; located on Marsh Island Refuge, it would fortify the southeast corner of the island and protect areas of St. Mary, Iberia and Vermilion parishes.

#5 – Southeast Freshwater Bayou Marsh Creation, Terraces and Shoreline Project. Ron Boustany introduced the project, emphasizing that it is in the same area of the FWS project presented previously by Ronnie Paille, and described as the third increment mentioned in the NOAA Fisheries project previously presented by Brandon Howard. After comments made by Mr. Libersat of Vermilion Parish, Mr. Boustany withdrew the project from these proceedings to avoid competition of similar strategies. Mr. Boustany called for other comments or questions; none were proffered

With no further project nominations forthcoming, Mr. Boustany called for the closure of nominations in the Tech-Vermilion Basin.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations in the Teche-Vermilion Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

b. Mr. Boustany opened the floor for nominations in the Atchafalaya Basin.

No nominations were proffered for the Atchafalaya Basin.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations for the Atchafalaya Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

c. Mr. Boustany opened the floor for nominations in the Terrebonne Basin.

#1 – East Catfish Lake Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection. This project was presented by Mr. Kevin Roy, USFWS. He mentioned that this project was chose for candidacy in PPL 28, but was not funded for Phase I. The area east of Catfish Lake is particularly inundated with oil and gas canals, with only spoil banks between it and Golden Meadows. The lake shoreline is eroding, with rates as high as 23 feet per year on the southern shoreline. This project is essentially an extension southeastward of an NRCS project (PPL 22 North Catfish Lake Marsh Creation) currently in Phase I, and is synergistic with other projects westward. The project consists of 306 acres of marsh creation and nourishment in five cells, and 12,479 linear feet of shoreline armoring along the lakeside boundary of those cells. The project would use Catfish Lake as a borrow source. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-\$30 million. No questions or comments were proffered. Mark Black spoke in favor of the project on behalf of Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes (in Amanda Voisin’s absence), citing its protective impact for the town of Golden Meadow.

#2 - Small Bayou LaPointe Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Kevin Roy, USFWS; it was a candidate in PPL 28. The project would essentially extend the landbridge function eastward of the North Lake Mechant Landbridge Marsh Creation project (TE-44); it would be oriented along the north side of Small Bayou LaPointe ridge. The proposed project features 311 acres of marsh creation and nourishment utilizing a borrow area in Lake Decade. Another option would be to create/nourish marsh on the south side of the ridge, basically resulting in the same functionality. Containment dikes will be constructed as necessary, and gapped upon project completion. Mr. Roy also asserted project synergy with TE-72 to the west. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-30 million. Mark Black suggested additional synergy with TE-38, located to the north of this area between Lake Decade and Raccourci Bay, and proffered full support.

#3 – South Bayou Decade Marsh Creation. Adrian Chaverria, EPA, presented the project initially asserting that preliminary support had been obtained from Terrebonne parish representatives, but not yet obtained from landowners. The project is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan and with EPA regional objectives. Mr. Chaverria presented evidence of historical and projected land loss rates. The project is located south of Bayou Decade, and is synergistic with several other projects in the area. Project features include 434 acres of contained marsh creation utilizing dredge material from Lake Mechant or Lake Decade. Cost estimates with a 25% contingency are estimated at \$20-25 million. Mr. Black spoke in favor of the project, citing its synergistic effects in a critical area where there is urgent need of restoration.

#4 - Point au Chenes Ridge Restoration and Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Brad

Crawford, EPA. This project is consistent 2017 Master Plan, and pertains to two parishes. The project is located north of Grand Bayou Felicity along the southern portions of Bayou Terrebonne. Project features include the creation of 31,907 LF of ridge, and the creation/ nourishment of 473 acres of contained marsh utilizing dredge materials obtained from Lake Raccourci or Lake Felicity. The construction cost estimate including a 25% contingency is \$25-30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#5 – Point au Fer Island Marsh Creation and Terracing. This project was presented by Robert Dubois, on behalf of FWS. He began with an assertion that the primary problem is altered hydrology within this area of saltwater, intermediate and freshwater marsh confluence. The project features the creation of 350 acres of brackish marsh, utilizing dredge material from Four League Bay, Atchafalaya Bay, or possibly the Atchafalaya River. The creation areas are to be contained with earthen dikes, or existing spoil banks, and will be gapped as needed to restore hydrologic connectivity with adjacent wetlands. Additionally, 53,000 LF of terraces would be installed northward of the proposed marsh creation, to capture sediment and reduce wind erosion. Finally, the project intends to plug four areas where saltwater intrusion occurs from the west. The estimated construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-30 million.

#6 – North Lake Boudreaux Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation. Robert Dubois, of FWS, proposed this project, which is located along the north shore of Lake Boudreaux just south of the city of Houma, LA. He described significant shoreline erosion and land loss rates, and their causes. The project seeks to construct 8,300 LF of shoreline protection in the form of foreshore rock dike, create/ nourish 415 acres of confined marsh along the northern and eastern edges of the lake, and install 56,000 LF of earthen terraces to protect the Ward 7 levee north-and-eastward. Dredge material would come from Lake Boudreaux. Mr. Dubois inferred that this project would fill the “gaps”, essentially completing other mitigation projects established around the lakeshore; he anticipates no construction issues, as this project is similar to those. The estimated construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-30 million. Mr. Black asked about the existence of “landowner issues”, the knowledge of which Mr. Dubois denied.

#7 – Bay Raccourci Marsh Creation and Ridge Restoration. This project was also presented by Robert Dubois. Mr. Dubois began this presentation by illustrating how previous projects around the north shores of Lake Mechant are “short-circuited” by saltwater, which flows unimpeded northward through Bayou Raccourci (which is wide and deep), into Bay Raccourci, thus inundating marshes on its northern edges along Bayou Decade. Those degraded marshes allow for saltwater exchange into Bayou Decade and back out into the marshes north and west of the bay. This project seeks to impede that saltwater movement by creating and nourishing a total of 470 acres of low-salinity marsh around the north and west perimeter of Bay Raccourci. Borrow material from Lake Mechant would be used to create the contained marsh cells. The project also seeks to establish 25,000 LF of ridge habitat along the adjacent edge of Bayou Decade. Construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-\$30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#8 – Bayou Barre Marsh Creation and Terracing. This project was presented by Robert Dubois, USFWS. The project is located in the Madison Bay area, where other projects are currently in Phase I status. As a result of subsidence, saltwater intrusion, and a lack of sediment deposition, rapid land loss rates have occurred. Thus, the Morganza Hurricane Protection Levee to the north (and other infrastructure) is threatened with high wave energies and increased fetch. Of primary concern from an engineering perspective is the construction of containment dikes. This project would utilize currently intact levee remnants as a base for containment dikes, reducing the amount of dredge material needed. A small dredge would be utilized to place material from a Madison Bay borrow area to create and nourish a total of 420 acres of intertidal brackish marsh and construct 21,00 linear feet of terraces northward of the marsh cells. Construction costs with contingencies are estimated at \$20-25 million. Mr. Dubois acknowledged that project previously proposed in this area has been placed on the inactive list because of daunting conditions. He remains confident that containment dikes can be constructed as described, while admitting that terrace construction will be more challenging. He urged consideration for projects in this vicinity, which he described as one of the most critical in terms of restoration need across the coast. Lance Campbell of DWF spoke in favor of the project which would protect their levee system and wildlife habitat north-and-eastward of the project area. Mark Black spoke in strong support of the project, referring to the area as “ground zero” in terms of land loss rates in the state.

#9 – West Louisiana Highway 1 Marsh Creation and Terracing. Brandon Howard, NOAA Fisheries, presented the project. This project is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan, has been proposed in past years and was chosen as a candidate in 2016. It is located in an area of high land loss rates, primarily a result of subsidence. It will augment other area projects (either proposed or in existence) and offer further protection against storm surge for the Highway 1 corridor. This project includes 346 acres of marsh creation and nourishment in a cell south of the Twin Pipelines along the west side of LA-1. The currently proposed borrow source is Catfish Lake. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$20-\$25 million. Mr. Black commented on the importance of the project as it relates to the protection of Highway 1, and reiterated his and Ms. Voisin’s support.

#10 – North Bayou Decade Marsh Creation. Mr. Ron Boustany, NRCS, presented this project. It was proposed in previous years, and is being re-nominated; Mr. Boustany insisted that other projects in the vicinity have been successful, and that conditions are favorable for construction; this project will thus produce synergistic effects. It is located on the north ridge of Bayou Decade. The project features 334 acres of contained marsh creation in four cells to the north of the ridge, and 15,000 LF of terracing to the north of three of those cells. Lake Mechant is the proposed borrow site. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is an estimated \$20-\$25 million. Ms. Suazo commented that an adjacent (i.e. synergistic) DU project (westward) is expected to go to construction in 2020.

#11 – South Falgout Canal Marsh Creation and Terraces. Ron Boustany presented this project on behalf of NRCS. The project is located on the south side of Falgout canal and the east side of Bayou Dularge. It will capitalize on an existing parish freshwater diversion project, which provides an

influx of freshwater, nutrients and sediment into the project area from Falgout Canal; it will augment adjacent parish mitigation project(s). This project will create/ nourish 250 acres of marsh in two cells, and construct 28,000 LF of terraces southward of those cells to reduce wave fetch and capture sediment. The proposed borrow material will be obtained from the outfall of Miners Canal, where dredging enhances the conveyance of freshwater from an Atchafalaya diversion. Mr. Boustany expressed confidence that the impact of this project and others in the region will be significant. Construction cost including a 25% contingency is an estimated \$15-\$20 million. Mr. Black spoke in favor of the project, referring to its synergy with the water control structures on the canal.

#12 - Bayou Rambio Marsh Protection Project. This project was presented by Ronnie Paille, USFWS. The project location is within the 2017 Master Plan in an area south of Falgout Canal, between Bayou Dularge and Bayou Grand Caillou. The area is in danger of becoming open water because of man-made ditches, which allow water exchange laterally and vertically with the bayous. The concept is to construct three small marsh creation areas to create a “landbridge” across the open areas to block wave fetch and water exchange in both directions. The project proposes confined cells utilizing borrow material from Bayou Grand Caillou. A total of 109 acres of marsh creation and nourishment are anticipated. Total construction cost is estimated at \$15-20 million. Mr. Black asked if the landowners were identified; Mr. Paille responded affirmatively and provided them.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations in Terrebonne Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

d. Mr. Boustany opened the floor for Coastwide Project nominations.

#1 – Coastwide Sediment Management. Brad Crawford, EPA, presented the project. He began with a rationale for the project, asserting that restoration projects are often limited or deemed not feasible due to the costs and logistics associated with sediment access/ transport. This project seeks to establish temporary holding areas for dredged materials, the establishment and management of which would occur independently of a particular project. The holding areas, however, would necessarily be placed in consideration of high-need areas and be strategically located to minimize transport costs. This project facilitates the beneficial use of dredge material, and could potentially increase restoration acreage, especially in areas remote to borrow sites. The project requires that sources of dredge material be identified, holding locations be scouted, and projects “matched” (utilizing GIS technology) to holding area proximity. Holding sites may require permit/ permission, materials would be tested, and areas would be managed for quality and quantity of material therein. For example, Mr. Crawford suggested that the USACE, rather than utilizing its upland disposal site for the Calcasieu Ship Channel dredging materials (which is nearing capacity), may place materials nearer to areas of need. He also cited routine dredging activities in Bayou Lafourche, which currently dispose of materials offshore. Project costs with contingencies are estimated at \$20-25 million. Ms. Cutrera inquired about the use of materials from the Atchafalaya Basin (managed by CPRA); she indicated her intent to submit public comments in support of the project, asserting the need for dredged materials, especially in eastern Terrebonne Parish. Mr. Bolfrass (CPRA) concurred with her

in principle, but declared there were “other issues” to consider. Mr. Inman (USACE) spoke of the 20-year materials management plans required in dredging activities on federal channels. While expressing his interest in the project goals, he pointed out that much coordination would be needed not only to optimize the schedule of USACE dredging activities, but also to comply with the dredging management plans. Mark Hester asked for a reiteration of the cubic yard estimates obtained from the Bayou Lafourche dredging activities; Mr. Crawford provided it.

A motion was made and seconded to close Coastwide Project nominations; the motion carried without dissent.

e. Mr. Boustany opened the floor for Demonstration Project nominations.

None were proffered.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations for Demonstration Projects; the motion carried without dissent.

Mr. Boustany thereby adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

CEMVN-PM-C (10-1-7a)

1 Feb 18

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Team (RPT) Region 2, Lacombe, LA, 1 Feb 18, 10:00 am

1. Agenda Item #1, Welcome and Introductions. Ms. Sara Bradley, US Army Corps of Engineers, and RPT Region 2 Leader, opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. She introduced the representative of Big Branch Refuge, Barrett Fortier, who offered words of welcome. Ms. Bradley also acknowledged the presence of several staff, service personnel, agency representatives, and asked for attendees to introduce themselves. Region 2 consists of the Barataria Basin and the Breton Sound Basin. Ms. Bradley reminded those present to sign in, and asked that voting parish representatives register with Ms. Carriere.

2. Agenda Item #2, Project Priority List (PPL) 29 Selection Process Brief Overview and Ground Rules for PPL 28 Nomination Meeting. Ms. Bradley delivered a PowerPoint presentation, which is available online at the CWPPRA website. Parishes eligible to vote for projects in Region 2 are: Jefferson, Plaquemines, Orleans, Ascension, Assumption, St. James, St. Charles, Lafourche, St. Bernard, and St. John the Baptist.

Nominated projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. A project can be nominated from only one basin, except for coastwide projects. If a project crosses multiple basins, excluding coastwide projects, it should be nominated in one basin only, based on the majority area of project influence. Coastwide projects apply across basin boundaries; their benefits are not tied to one basin. Coastwide projects can be nominated from any basin and can be presented at any or all of the RPT meetings. If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives will determine if they should proceed as separate projects or if they are similar enough to combine.

Presenters were asked to complete a project information sheet for each project nominee, including demonstration project nominees, with the name of the proposed project and the presenter's contact information, if a fact sheet was not provided. The project information sheet or facts sheet should be provided to Ms. Carriere, Ms. Fischer, and the minutes-taker. Presentations should be limited to five minutes and five PowerPoint slides. Public comments on project proposals will be accepted orally during the meeting and in writing by February 21, 2019. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Brad Inman, USACE. Attendees should limit comments and questions to the PPL 29 proposals and processes.

Coastwide projects propose a technique applicable across the entire coast. Only one Coastwide nominee may be selected during the Coastwide Electronic Voting on February 28, 2019. The Technical Committee may or may not select a Coastwide project at the April 11, 2019 meeting. Demonstration projects demonstrate a technology that can be transferred to other areas in coastal Louisiana. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will determine whether or not a project meets the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) criteria for demonstration projects. The RPT will select up to six demonstration projects during electronic voting on February 28, 2019; the Technical Committee may select up to three demonstration projects at the April 11, 2019 meeting. The Work Groups may recommend that no demonstration projects move into the candidate stage. Previously nominated demonstration projects must be re-nominated to be considered for PPL 29.

3. Agenda Item #3, Explanation of Coastwide Voting Process. The Coastwide Electronic Voting will be held on February 28, 2019. The Coastwide Electronic vote will result in the following Projects-per-Basin breakdown (based on land loss rates): four projects each in Barataria and Terrebonne Basins, three projects each in Breton Sound and Pontchartrain, two projects each in Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine and Tech Vermilion, one in Atchafalaya and one Coastwide, for a total of 22 projects. Additionally, up to six Demonstration Projects may be chosen.

Parishes must identify their voting representative at the RPT meeting to be eligible to vote. No additional projects can be nominated and no significant changes can be made to projects after the RPT meeting. Oral comments on nominee projects will be accepted throughout the meeting, and written comments must be submitted to Mr. Inman by February 21, 2019.

Ms. Bradley explained the voting process. Excel spreadsheets and portable document format (pdf) documents will be provided to the voting representatives one week prior to the vote. Voters will receive voting sheets for the basins for which they are eligible to vote, and the column on which they need to mark their vote will be highlighted. Voters must email or fax their votes to Ms. Carriere by 10:30 am on February 28, 2019.

Following the Coastwide Electronic Voting, an agency will be assigned to each project to prepare a fact sheet and map if one is not already involved. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will then review the draft features and assign preliminary costs and benefits. They will also verify that the Coastwide and Demonstration projects meet PPL 29 criteria.

Ms. Bradley reviewed the remaining steps in the PPL 29 process. Ten candidate projects and up to three Demonstration projects will be selected on April 11, 2019 at the Technical Committee Meeting. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the Technical Committee Meeting. Candidate projects will undergo further review between May and October, and the Technical Committee will vote to recommend up to four projects for Phase I Engineering & Design (E&D) on December 5, 2019. The Task Force will make the final decision in January 2020.

Ms. Bradley provided a brief overview of the 2017 State Master Plan projects. She reiterated that all projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. The State – Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) – Representatives, will likely determine project eligibility based on consistency with the Master Plan at this meeting.

4. Agenda Item #4, PPL 29 Project Nominations.

a. Ms. Bradley opened the floor for nominations in the Breton Sound Basin.

#1 – Bayou Terre aux Boeufs Ridge Restoration and Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Blaise Pezold, representing the Mirra Foundation. This project was presented last year and

progressed to candidacy, but was ultimately not funded. The project is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan. The project features include restoring 4.73 miles of the Bayou Terre aux Boeuf forested ridge – 22 acres of habitat, which is rated S1 and S2 priority by the state – with sediment bucket-dredged from the bayou. Another feature of the project is 508 acres of semi-confined marsh creation and nourishment using borrow material from Cochon Bay. The cost estimate with contingencies is \$25-30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#2 – Bayou Terre aux Boeufs North Ridge Restoration and Marsh Creation. Adrian Chaverria presented this project on behalf of Sharon Osowski, EPA. The project is located to the east of NOAA’s East Delacroix project (recently approved for Phase I funding), and demonstrates consistency with the State Master Plan and synergy with other projects in the vicinity. As mentioned in the previously presented project, the natural forested ridge along Bayou Terre aux Boeufs continues to degrade due to storm events, subsidence and sea level rise; thus the fragmented wetlands north and south of the ridge are threatened by potential conversion to open water. The project seeks to restore 14,766 LF of ridge to restore habitat and provide protection against wave action and storm surge. Furthermore, the project will establish two marsh creation and nourishment cells (one north and one south of the bayou) for a total of 325 acres; the proposed borrow area is Lake Lery. The cost estimate with contingencies is \$25-30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#3 – Spanish Lake Shoreline Restoration and Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Robert Dubois, FWS. He began by demonstrating project consistency with the master plan, and provided images to highlight the extent of land loss since 1998. The southern and eastern shoreline of Spanish Lake is practically non-existent; water depths therein require that the project be moved. The project features one large, uncontained marsh creation and nourishment cell totaling 300 acres along the south and eastern perimeter of the lake. Sediment will be likely obtained from the Mississippi River. With the same material, approximately 17,000 LF of shoreline would be restored interiorly at a higher elevation. There could conceivably be another phase of marsh creation (400+ acres) along the east side of the proposed project area utilizing dredge material from Grand Lake. Construction cost with contingency is \$25-\$30 million. After a question from an unidentified attendees, Mr. Dubois reiterated that this project is pertinent to “Increment 1” as indicated on the lake rim, consisting of 300 acres.

#4 Breton Landbridge Central Marsh Creation. Dawn Davis, NOAA Fisheries, presented this project, beginning with an acknowledgement of the Delacroix Corporation and their coordination with the project. The project is oriented on the northeast shore of Grand Lake, at the intersection with Bayou Chantilly and Petite Lake. It is the third component (of three) in the comprehensive Breton Landbridge concept; both other components have been funded. The project consists of two confined marsh creation and nourishment cells totaling 410 acres, the largest one of which would be fronted by a vegetated earthen berm. Small terrace fields may be placed on the north side of both cells. The proposed borrow area is within Grand Lake. The construction cost is an estimated \$20- \$25 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#5 – Spanish Lake Marsh Creation, South Shoreline. Dawn Davis, NOAA Fisheries, presented this project, once again with an acknowledgement of the Delacroix Corporation. Ms. Davis concurred with the FWS presentation (above) about land loss rates, causes and synergy with other projects in the area. The project intends to utilize borrow material from the Myrtle Grove area of the Mississippi River to create and nourish 300 acres of marsh in a wide, marsh-level swath along the southern portion of the Spanish Lake shoreline. A potential “second phase” would be oriented northward along the eastern shoreline of Spanish Lake. Construction costs with contingencies is an estimated \$35- \$40 million. Ms. Bradley recommended that the issue of overlap be addressed at this juncture. The public was invited to comment; an unidentified attendee urged the voting representatives to consider the costs as presented, because more expensive projects eventually limit the number chose for construction. Ms. Davis asserted that the projects are different in concept and should move toward a [coastwide] vote independently; she also asserted that the cost quoted by NOAA Fisheries is “more in line” with expectations when considering river borrow. Ms. Bradley opened the floor for further discussion. Mr. Boustany asked for comments from the parish representatives or landowners; none were proffered. Mr. Dubois and Ms. Davis both spoke of support from the Delacroix Corporation. Mr. Roy offered his opinion that the projects were very similar, and thus should be voted upon in accordance with the overlap rule. Mr. Bolfrass (CPRA) pointed out that the FWS project is “new” and that the NOAA Fisheries project had been presented in PPL 28. With no further public comment, Ms. Bradley called for a recess (10:48) so that voting representatives to resolve the issue. Ms. Bradley reconvened the meeting at 11:09; voting resulted in a decision to allow the USFWS project to move forward to the electronic vote.

#6 – North Delacroix Marsh Creation and Terracing. Dawn Davis, NOAA Fisheries, made the presentation. She acknowledged the work of St. Bernard Parish on behalf of the project, which is located northward (essentially an extension) of NOAA’s East Delacroix project. Project goals are to create 311 acres of marsh in two cells, utilizing borrow material from Lake Lery. Two areas adjacent to the marsh creation cells are planned de-watering areas with 17,540 LF of constructed, vegetated terraces (for sediment retention) situated on their eastern edges. Estimated construction cost with contingencies is \$25-\$30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#7 – Reggio Marsh Creation and Hydrologic Restoration. This project was presented by Brad Crawford, EPA. The project is adjacent to the small community of Reggio, just north of the project presented previously by NOAA Fisheries. This project builds on the Breton Landbridge concept, at its most northeastern end, and is synergistic with projects further south. Project features include 483 acres of contained marsh creation/ nourishment utilizing borrow material from Lake Lery or Lake Borgne. This feature would not only restore habitat, but it would protect the community there. Another feature is the plugging of two canals (1,563 ft.) to limit saltwater intrusion. The estimated construction cost is \$15-\$20 million. Mr. Paille inquired about methodology to plug the canals; Mr. Crawford’s recommendation is to fill them with marsh.

#8 – Davant Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Brad Crawford, EPA. The project is located on east bank of the Mississippi River adjacent to the community of Devant. It is consistent

with the 2017 Master Plan and Plaquemines Parish Phase 1 & 2 priorities. Mr. Crawford presented this project as the first of several that could be constructed in this area, where subsidence and man-made hydrologic disruptions have thoroughly degraded the marshes of Point a la Hache. With dredge material from the Mississippi River, this project intends to create and nourish 284 acres of contained, marsh, which would subsequently be planted. The preliminary cost estimate with contingencies is \$20-\$25 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#9 - Wills Point South Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Scott Wandell, USACE. The project is located on the western side of the Breton Sound Basin, and is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan. More specifically it is oriented on the NW edge of Spanish Lake along the natural ridges of River aux Chenes and Tiger Ridge. The project area is characterized by natural ridge formations that provide essential migratory species habitat and help to protect levees and adjacent communities. A planned total of 576 acres of marsh creation and nourishment would be constructed, utilizing dredge material from the Mississippi River; the construction of containment dikes will likely make use of those natural ridges. Estimated construction cost plus contingency is \$30-\$35 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#10 – Phoenix Marsh Creation – East Increment. This project was presented by Kevin Roy, USFWS. The project is located on the western side of the Breton Sound Basin, and is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan. It was presented as the first of several increments that would extend the Breton Landbridge complex of projects westward from River aux Chenes to the Mississippi River. Project features include 485 acres of created marsh in two confined cells utilizing borrow material from the Myrtle Grove Anchorage site. The cost estimate with contingencies is \$25-30million. No questions or comments were proffered. In response to a question, Mr. Roy stated that approximately seven miles of dredge pipe is anticipated if the proposed borrow site is used.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations in Breton Sound; the motion carried without dissent.

b. Ms. Bradley opened the floor for nominations in the Barataria Basin.

#1 – North Fourchon Marsh Creation Project. Adrian Chaverria, EPA, presented this project. The project is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan, and is located just north of the port, adjacent to Highway 1 and just east of Bayou Lafourche. The project exhibits synergy with TE-134 and The East Leeville project. The project consists of one large marsh creation and nourishment cell totaling 575 acres; dredge material will be obtained from Timbalier Bay or Little Lake. A shallower, smaller cell (214 acres) oriented southward is being considered as a possible expansion site. The estimated construction cost with contingencies is \$25-\$30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#2 – Three Bayou Bay Marsh Creation. Adrian Chaverria, EPA, presented this project. It is located west/ northwest of Three Bayou Bay in Jefferson Parish. Mr. Chaverria illustrated consistency with the 2017 Master Plan and synergy with area projects. The Project intent is to create and nourish 638

acres of emergent marsh (in three contained cells) utilizing borrow material from Little Lake. Estimated construction cost with contingencies is \$25-\$30 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#3 – East Bayou Lafourche Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Kevin Roy, USFWS. The project is located on eastern side of Bayou Lafourche just North of Leeville. It is consistent with the 2017 Master Plan, and has been previously proposed. The project is vital to protect the Highway 1 corridor and the town of Leeville. The only project feature is 417 acres of marsh creation and nourishment utilizing dredge material from Little Lake or Caminada Bay. The project is synergistic with East Leeville Marsh Creation project (Phase I). The construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$30 to \$35 million. No comments or questions were proffered.

#4 - Northeast Turtle Bay Marsh Creation Extension. Quin Kinler, NRCS, presented the project, which is located due south of the community of Lafitte. It is synergistic with several area projects, and would protect the Central Barataria Basin Landbridge. Features include 510 acres of contained marsh creation and nourishment with material dredged from Turtle Bay. The construction cost including a 25% contingency is \$25-30 million; this includes potential vegetative planting of the 25% of the marsh creation acreage. No comments or questions were proffered.

#5 – Bayou eau Noire Ridge Restoration and Marsh Creation. This project was presented by Brad Crawford, EPA. It is oriented between Bay de la Chenier and the west bank of the Mississippi River. It was presented in PPL 28, and demonstrates consistency with the Master Plan; it also addresses Plaquemines Parish Phase I and II Priorities. Project features include the restoration of 25,862 linear feet of historic ridge, and five contained marsh creation and nourishment cells (totaling 428 acres) strategically located between the ridge and the river as additional support for the ridge feature. Dredge material will be sourced from the Mississippi River. Estimated construction cost with contingencies is \$25-\$30 million. No comments or questions were proffered.

#6 – Fifi Island Marsh Creation. Lauren Averill made the presentation for this project on behalf of Jefferson Parish Coastal Management; she acknowledged cooperation with FWS. The project is located on Fifi Island, which is oriented behind Grand Isle. It serves as an important buffer for wave fetch produced in Caminada Pass/ Caminada Bay. The project consists of 187 acres of marsh creation, which would utilize existing natural and made-made containment features. It augments the Grand Isle Levee District efforts to install rock dikes along the north, west and south edges of the island, by creating marsh behind the dikes. The result will be creation of marsh habitat, and enhancement of long-term dike performance. No comments or questions were proffered.

#7 -- Old Highway 1 Marsh Creation and Terraces. Ron Boustany introduced the project, immediately acknowledging overlap with a project previously presented by EPA – North Fourchon Marsh Creation. Mr. Boustany withdrew this project from the PPL 29 nominations, with an appeal for the two agencies to work together if the EPA project advances. No comments or questions were proffered.

Ms. Bradley called for further nominations in the Barataria Basin; none were proffered.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations for the Barataria Basin. The motion carried without objection.

c. Ms. Bradley opened the floor for Coastwide Project nominations.

#1 – Coastwide Sediment Management. Brad Crawford, EPA, presented the project. He began with a rationale for the project, asserting that restoration projects are often limited or deemed not feasible due to the costs and logistics associated with sediment access/ transport. This project seeks to establish temporary holding areas for dredged materials, the establishment and management of which would occur independently of a particular project. The holding areas, however, would necessarily be placed in consideration of high-need areas and be strategically located to minimize transport costs. This project facilitates the beneficial use of dredge material, and could potentially increase restoration acreage, especially in areas remote to borrow sites. The project requires that sources of dredge material be identified, holding locations be scouted, and projects “matched” (utilizing GIS technology) to holding area proximity. Holding sites may require permit/ permission, materials would be tested, and areas would be managed for quality and quantity of material therein. For example, Mr. Crawford suggested that the USACE, rather than utilizing its upland disposal site for the Calcasieu Ship Channel dredging materials (which is nearing capacity), may place materials nearer to areas of need. He also cited routine dredging activities in Bayou Lafourche, which currently dispose of materials offshore. Project costs with contingencies are estimated at \$20-25 million. Mr. Roy asked for a reiteration of dredge quantity from Bayou Lafourche. Mr. Petitbon requested clarification of the costs, which Mr. Crawford summarized according to Dr. Taylor’s itemized budget estimate. Mr. Roy pointed out that the project as proposed does not create wetlands, and thus demonstrates no quantifiable benefits. Mr. Crawford submitted that benefits would include additional acreage restored as a result of dredge material accessibility and reduced dredging/ pumping costs. Mr. Roy replied that this project requires “double-handling” of dredge materials, and he questions its qualification as a coastwide project. Mr. Inman spoke of the complex logistical coordination required for the obtainment and beneficial use of federally dredged materials. The alternate placement and storage of such material would have to be written into the USACE dredge material management plans currently in place. Mr. Inman affirmed the concept of the project, while acknowledging the cost-effectiveness questions mentioned by FWS. Mr. Crawford replied that this project is mechanism that would facilitate/ optimize the beneficial use of materials derived from maintenance dredging, and potentially reduce costs of CWPPRA projects.

#2 – Coastwide Hydrologic Improvements. Jennifer Smith on behalf of Jason Kroll, NOAA Fisheries, presented the project. Ms. Smith began by stating that this project has been altered since its nomination last year to include only one funding cycle (as opposed to five.) CWPPRA funding is difficult to obtain for small-scale hydrologic restoration projects. This project is basically a funding mechanism for small restoration projects which focus primarily on improving hydrology on a site-

by-site basis. Project examples are water control structures (i.e. installation, improvement, repair, replacement, or removal) and freshwater conveyance by dredging. It does not intent to create management units or to rebuild marsh, and may not be considered in areas where projects/ project funding elements exist. Ms. Smith concluded with estimates of marsh acreage benefitted or created over the 20-year project life. Preliminary costs with contingencies are an estimated \$0-5 million. Mr. Bolfrass recommended (for public record) that site-specific project examples be presented to voting entities in order to increase chances for funding support.

#3 – Coastwide Feral Hog Control Program. Ed Fike, Coastal Environments, Inc. presented the project, beginning with dire statistics and consequences of the rampant feral hog population in Louisiana. This project – modeled after the Nutria Control program, which is managed by Coastal Environments, Inc. – seeks to elicit support from landowners, land lessees and recreational hunters in an attempt to control this invasive species. The program was presented last year, but on a limited parish basis. This year, the proposal expands the project scope geographically, and is estimated to cost approximately \$1.14 million per year for three years. No comments or questions were proffered.

Ms. Bradley called for any other Coastwide projects; none were proffered.

A motion was made and seconded to close Coastwide Project Nominations; the motion carried without dissent.

d. Ms. Bradley opened the floor for Demonstration Project nominations.

#1 – Storm Surge Barriers to Expand Oyster Production. Dr. Zach Lee presented the project on behalf of Sustainably Smart Projects. His concept is the construction of man-made terraces and canals that would provide both environmental and economic benefits. For example, earthen terraces would be created using dredge materials, thus creating canals. Terraces would be built and oriented to optimize storm surge protection, and utilized for land-based enterprises. Adjacent canals would be dedicated according to salinity levels and utilized for any number of appropriate water-based enterprises. Regulatory processes often hinder private sector investments. This project is primarily concerned with the policy of combining coastal protection with economic development, a concept unique to the PPL process. Dr. Lee is primarily concerned with the oyster industry, and the stability that these man-made canals could provide for that industry. No comments or questions were proffered.

Ms. Bradley called for any other Demonstration projects; none were proffered.

A motion was made and seconded to close Demonstration Project Nominations; the motion carried without dissent.

Ms. Bradley thereby closed nominations for Region 2.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Team (RPT) Region 1, LaCombe, LA, 1 Feb 18, 1:00 pm

Agenda Item #1, Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Kent Bolfrass, CPRA, and RPT Region 1 Leader, opened the meeting at 12:37 pm, and welcomed the attendees. Mr. Bolfrass deferred introductions because the group was fairly unchanged. Region 1 consists of the Pontchartrain Basin. Mr. Bolfrass acknowledged Ms. Michelle Fischer (USGS), Ms. Kaitlyn Carriere, (USACE), and Randy Perkins (Perkins Video) for their services in this process. He asked that voting parish representatives register with Ms. Carriere.

2. Agenda Item #2, Project Priority List (PPL) 29 Selection Process Brief Overview and Ground Rules for PPL 28 Nomination Meeting. Mr. Bolfrass delivered a PowerPoint presentation, which is available online at the CWPPRA website. Parishes eligible to vote for projects in Region 1 are: Jefferson, Plaquemines, Orleans, Ascension, St. Bernard, Livingston, St. James, St. Charles, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, St. Bernard, and St. John the Baptist.

Nominated projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. A project can be nominated from only one basin, except for coastwide projects. If a project crosses multiple basins, excluding coastwide projects, it should be nominated in one basin only, based on the majority area of project influence. Coastwide projects apply across basin boundaries; their benefits are not tied to one basin. Coastwide projects can be nominated from any basin and can be presented at any or all of the RPT meetings. If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives will determine if they should proceed as separate projects or if they are similar enough to combine.

Presenters were asked to complete a project information sheet for each project nominee, including demonstration project nominees, with the name of the proposed project and the presenter's contact information, if a fact sheet was not provided. The project information sheet or facts sheet should be provided to Ms. Carriere, Ms. Fischer, and the minutes-taker. Presentations should be limited to five minutes and five PowerPoint slides. Public comments on project proposals will be accepted orally during the meeting and in writing by February 21, 2019. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Brad Inman, USACE. Mr. Bolfrass asked that attendees limit comments and questions to the PPL 28 proposals and processes.

Coastwide projects propose a technique applicable across the entire coast. Only one Coastwide nominee may be selected during the Coastwide Electronic Voting on February 28, 2019. The Technical Committee may or may not select a Coastwide project at the April 11, 2019 meeting. Demonstration projects demonstrate a technology that can be transferred to other areas in coastal Louisiana. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will determine whether or not a project meets the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) criteria for demonstration projects. The RPT will select up to six demonstration projects during electronic voting on February

28 201; the Technical Committee may select up to three demonstration projects at the April 11, 2019 meeting. The Work Groups may recommend that no demonstration projects move into the candidate stage. Previously nominated demonstration projects must be re-nominated to be considered for PPL 29.

3. Agenda Item #3, Explanation of Coastwide Voting Process. The Coastwide Electronic Voting will be held on February 28, 2019. The Coastwide Electronic vote will result in the following Projects-per-Basin breakdown (based on land loss rates): four projects each in Barataria and Terrebonne Basins, three projects each in Breton Sound and Pontchartrain, two projects each in Mermentau, Calcasieu/Sabine and Tech Vermilion, one in Atchafalaya and one Coastwide, for a total of 22 projects. Additionally, up to six Demonstration Projects may be chosen.

Parishes must identify their voting representative at the RPT meeting to be eligible to vote. No additional projects can be nominated and no significant changes can be made to projects after the RPT meeting. Oral comments on nominee projects will be accepted throughout the meeting, and written comments must be submitted to Mr. Inman by February 21, 2019.

Mr. Bolfrass explained the voting process. Excel spreadsheets and portable document format (pdf) documents will be provided to the voting representatives one week prior to the vote. Voters will receive voting sheets for the basins for which they are eligible to vote, and the column on which they need to mark their vote will be highlighted. Voters must email or fax their votes to Ms. Carriere by 10:30 am on February 27 2019.

Following the Coastwide Electronic Voting, an agency will be assigned to each project to prepare a fact sheet and map if one is not already involved. The Engineering and Environmental Work Groups will then review the draft features and assign preliminary costs and benefits. They will also verify that the Coastwide and Demonstration projects meet PPL 29 criteria.

Mr. Bolfrass reviewed the remaining steps in the PPL 29 process. Ten candidate projects and up to three Demonstration projects will be selected on April 11, 2019 at the Technical Committee Meeting. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the Technical Committee Meeting. Candidate projects will undergo further review between May and October, and the Technical Committee will vote to recommend up to four projects for Phase I Engineering & Design (E&D) on December 5, 2019. The Task Force will make the final decision in January 2020.

Bolfrass provided a brief overview of the 2017 State Master Plan projects. He reiterated that all projects must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan. The State – Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) – Representatives, will likely determine project eligibility based on consistency with the Master Plan at this meeting.

4. Agenda Item #4, PPL 29 Project Nominations.

a. Mr. Bolfrass opened the floor for nominations in the Pontchartrain Basin.

#1 – St. Catherine’s Pass Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection. Adrian Chaverria presented this project on behalf of EPA. Mr. Chaverria describes the location as at the confluence of the old Pearl River and The Rigolets, adjacent to St. Catherin Pass. It is part of the larger New Orleans East Landbridge concept, and as such is consistent with the State Master Plan. The project seeks to create and nourish a total of 283 acres of confined emergent marsh using sediment dredged from Lake Bourgne. The created marsh is to be planted. Estimated project costs with contingencies are #15-20 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#2 – Guste Island Marsh Creation. Adrian Chaverria presented this project on behalf of EPA. The project is located along the north Lake Pontchartrain shoreline; as such it is consistent with the Master Plan strategy. He declared that it attains 100% completion of the St. Tammy Parish restoration goals. Mr. Chaverria described synergy with several programs and projects primarily located south and eastward. He provided video representation of the extent of land loss in the area, which was once impounded for agricultural development. The project features 436 acres of marsh creation and nourishment in three confined cells immediately north of a USACE shoreline project. Existing high spoil banks will be advantageous for the construction of confinement berms. Estimated construction cost with contingency is \$20-\$25 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#3 – East Labranche Shoreline Protection. Nick McCoy, NRCS presented the project, which is oriented along the southeast shore of Lake Pontchartrain adjacent to The Labranche Wetlands. This portion of the shoreline remains unprotected and is retreating at a rate of 12- 60 feet per year; this project would be an extension of those already in place, or in different stages of funding. The project intends to construct 12,800 LF of foreshore rock dike to protect an estimated 140 acres of interior wetlands to the south. Estimated construction cost with contingency is \$10-\$15 million. No questions or comments were proffered.

#4 - Miller Bayou Marsh Creation. The project was presented by Dawn Davis, NOAA Fisheries. The project is located within the New Orleans land bridge southeast of Lake St. Catherine; its focus is in an area between Unknown Pass and Miller Bayou. NOAA is proposing a total of 493 acres of marsh creation and nourishment with sediment from Lake St. Catherine. The four marsh creation/nourishment cells will be temporarily contained. Estimated construction cost with contingency is \$15-\$20 million. No questions or comments were forthcoming.

#5 – Fritchie Marsh Hydrologic Restoration. Joe Guillory presented the project on behalf of St. Tammany Parish. This project began as an attempt to move water out of Slidell and through Fritchie Marsh as a flood control project; designers have identified problem areas within the marsh. Some of the issues involve CWPPRA projects and a USACE mitigation project within the marsh. With modeling of water movement within the marsh several hydrologic features are now being proposed to improve water flow through the marsh. Those features include deepening some of the natural channels, creating new conveyances to allow flow through the marsh, constructing strategically

placed flap gate culverts and maintaining a weir on the W-14 Canal. Mr. Guillory suggested that this project could stand alone, or become part of the Coastwide Hydrologic Improvement project, or appropriate features could be incorporated into the design of existing projects. In response to a question about the weir, Mr. Guillory asserted that the weir is in good shape and should remain in place.

After a clarification about the Coastwide Hydrologic Improvement project, Mr. Bolfrass called for a motion to close project nominations in the Pontchartrain Basin.

A motion was made and seconded to close project nominations in the Pontchartrain Basin; the motion carried without dissent.

b. Mr. Bolfrass opened the floor for Coastwide or Demonstration Projects. None were proffered.

Mr. Bolfrass called for a motion to close nominations in Region 1.

A motion was made and seconded to close Region 1 project nominations; the motion carried without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.