



This document is in draft form. A final version of this document may differ from this draft. As such, the contents of this draft document shall not be relied upon. GHD disclaims any responsibility or liability arising from decisions made based on this draft document.

Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Public Scoping Meeting Transcript

Session 2 – July 15, 2020

Opening Remarks

00:04 Hello and welcome. Thank you for joining the Mid-Breton
00:08 Sediment Diversion Public Scoping meeting. #2 and thank
00:11 you for your interest in the project. I am Stacy Miller from
00:16 GHD and will be hosting today's event. Karen Miller and Simonia
00:20 Ramirez Dias also from GHD will assist in the production.
00:25 An moderation of today's event.
00:29 As we are all likely adapting to new technology, I would
00:33 like to cover some items to expect while viewing or
00:37 listening to our event today.
00:41 First, today's event is being recorded.
00:46 And recordings from all three public scoping meetings sessions
00:49 will be made available for future viewing through links on
00:53 the project web page.
00:56 Secondly, you have joined us in listen only mode through the
01:01 Webex Event Center platform.
01:03 There will be a period during today's event when those of
01:07 you who have joined us by Internet will be able to ask
01:10 questions through a Q&A feature on your screen.
01:18 We will share instructions on how to submit those
01:21 questions just before the question and answer session
01:24 begins. Please note that questions you submit today
01:28 may be published for all attendees to view during
01:31 today's event and will eventually be available on
01:34 their projects web page.
01:37 If you are familiar with Webex or other similar
01:40 video conferencing products, we'd like to
01:42 remind you that the Webex Event Center platform is
01:45 very different from a meeting platform. You will
01:48 not be able to share your audio or video feeds.
01:53 And we will not be using other features such as chat, pulling



01:57 or raise hand. Again we will only be using the Q&A feature,
02:01 and if you're not familiar with Webex in the Q&A feature, we
02:04 will be providing verbal in on screen instructions on how you
02:08 may participate prior to beginning the moderated
02:10 question and answer portion of today's events. So we have not
02:14 opened that feature yet. But when we do, we will make sure
02:18 that you have good instructions on how to access that.
02:22 If you have dialed into the audio conference only, you
02:25 will not be able to submit questions today through the
02:28 Q&A feature and you will remain in listen only mode.
02:32 If you visit the projects web page, you are able to click a
02:36 button on the left hand side of the web page to submit
02:40 your questions. Responses to questions submitted through
02:43 the project web page may be addressed outside of today's
02:46 event.
02:47 The presenters today will be sharing several ways for you to
02:51 submit official scoping comments outside of today's event.
02:55 We are sharing these ways on your screen now and will also
03:00 share again throughout today's
03:01 event. You can Mail.
03:04 Or you can send email to CEMVN Dash Mid Breton at USA
03:11 CE dot army dot MIL.
03:15 Or you can call to leave a recorded
03:32 Army Corps of Engineers, Rene. You may begin.

Rene Poche (USACE) Begins Opening Remarks and Presentations

03:36 Thank you Stacy and Good afternoon and thank you for
03:40 joining us today for the scoping meeting concerning the Mid
03:44 Breton Sediment Diversion project, the coastal protection
03:47 and Restoration Authority of Louisiana has applied to the US
03:51 Army Corps of Engineers for permits and permission to
03:54 construct, maintain and operate the Mid Breton Sediment
03:57 Diversion Project. This is on the East Bank of the Mississippi
04:02 River near Wills point in Plaquemines parish, in



04:05 compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.
04:08 Or will be prepare an environmental impact statement
04:11 to inform its permitting
04:13 decisions. Of course, seeking public comment to assist in
04:17 determining the scope of the issues, resources, impacts and
04:21 alternatives to be addressed in
04:23 the document. You are extremely important to the process and we
04:27 want to hear from you.
04:29 Comments will be collected through August 16th, 2020.
04:34 At anytime during the scoping period, interested parties can
04:39 provide their official comments using one of the following.
04:43 There's the the regular Mail address.
04:49 email at CEMVN Dash, Mid Breton. That's MIDBRETON at USA CE dot
04:56 army dot MIL an you could submit oral comments via toll free
05:02 number at 1-855-643-2738, that's
05:03 1-855-643-2738.
05:04 Today there will be 3 recorded
05:11 presentations. The first will be from Colonel Steven Murphy, New
05:16 Orleans district commander with opening remarks, then Bradley
05:19 LaBorde, army Corps of Engineers Regulatory project manager will
05:23 provide an overview of the course permit process.
05:27 It will be followed by Brad Barth, Louisiana Coastal
05:31 Protection Restoration Authority, who will provide an
05:33 overview of the Mid Breton sediment diversion project.
05:37 After that we will take questions, will answer as many
05:41 questions as possible and unanswered. Questions maybe
05:44 responded to on the project web page. Again, thank you for
05:48 joining us today.

Welcome Video from Colonel Steven Murphy

05:51 Hello, I'm Carl Steven Murphy. I'm the commander of the army
05:56 Corps of Engineers, New Orleans district and I want to thank you
06:00 for participating today in this first in a series of virtual
06:05 meetings regarding the Mid Breton sediment aversion



06:08 environmental impact statement. Today your participation is
06:10 invaluable to us because your participation and the questions
06:14 you provide us will help us come to the best decision possible
06:19 that us is the permit applicant that coastal protection.
06:22 And Restoration Authority and the Corps of Engineers and today.
06:26 We hope to provide you insight into the process and the
06:30 authorities that govern this process, an really to address
06:33 your questions and hear your feedback. We're doing this in a
06:37 virtual environment because of everything we've been
06:43 patience as we move forward. This is a new process and I'm
06:47 sure that will experience just a few flip flops along the way so
06:52 thank you again for
06:53 participating. I appreciate it very much and I look forward to
06:57 your feedback is you provide input to help the Corps come to
07:00 the best decision possible.

USACE Presentation. Brad LaBorde. Regulatory Project Manager

07:05 Hello and welcome to the virtual scoping meetings for the
07:09 proposed met Brandon Settlement. Divergent Project my name is
07:12 Bradley LaBorde. I am the Corps regulatory project manager for
07:15 the Mid Breton Sediment diversion, project review and
07:18 environmental impact statement or EIS. This presentation is
07:21 available to you on the Corps Mid Breton Web page. It will also be
07:26 part of our live events.
07:29 However you choose to participate myself in the
07:32 Corps Breton Review Team, thank you for sacrificing some
07:36 of your time to actively participate and provide input on
07:40 the proposed project.
07:42 Ideal in accord with host these meetings in person, however, do
07:45 the challenges with the ongoing public health crisis. We cannot
07:49 do that at this time.
07:52 The goals of this presentation in the scoping meetings are two.
07:56 One provide you with brief details on CRPA raise or the
08:01 Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of



08:03 Louisiana's proposed Mid Breton Sediment diversion
08:06 projects. Following my presentation, Brad Morris of
08:10 security will provide more details on their proposed
08:14 project and cra's overall mission to explain the Corps
08:18 review process, including are niba or National
08:21 Environmental Policy Act review three and most
08:24 importantly provide you with a platform to answer any
08:29 questions you may have so you can adequately prepare
08:33 your scoping comments.
08:36 This presentation, along with additional visual aids and a
08:39 projects, actually are available on the Corps of Engineers in
08:43 NOLA's District Mid Breton webpage. If interested please
08:46 review this information and if you can participate and will not
08:51 allow my events scheduled for July 14th, 15th and 16th.
08:56 During these three live events, participants can call into
08:59 listen using the number an access codes shown here.
09:03 Additionally, participants using the Internet and go to the Corps
09:07 Mid Breton Web page and click on the appropriate link to
09:11 direct you to the web meeting from their questions can be
09:15 submitted using the chat box and the Webex online platform.
09:20 During live events or moderate are.
09:23 Will relay questions for Corps or CRPA representatives. To answer
09:27 all three meetings will be recorded and posted on the
09:31 Corps Breton webpage. Your participation in our scheduled
09:34 laws events just for informational purposes. It does
09:37 not count as your official scoping comment you scoping.
09:41 Comments can be submitted by traditional Mail, email or by
09:45 telephone, as shown here.
09:47 Here's a screenshot of the Corps Mid Breton webpage. The main
09:53 section has summary and schedule
09:55 information. Also scoping meeting info will be on the
09:59 left. You can click the submit scoping question box prior to
10:03 our live events to send us a question to be answered during



10:07 the live meetings on the right side of the web page you will
10:11 see information about how to submit your official scoping
10:15 comments. The two legs at the bottom or four quarter or for
10:19 the Corps Mid Breton Web page and the permanent dashboard.
10:22 These two links should be the top two resolves if you Google
10:26 Corps Mid-Breton. The permitting dashboard allows
10:29 interested parties to track our progress during the big
10:33 brands sediment diversion project review. Be sure to
10:36 periodically check this link.
10:39 After the scoping process to monitor on progress
10:44 CPRA has proposed to construct, operate and maintain the
10:48 Mid-Breton Sediment diversion
10:50 project. The concept of the versions has been studied as a
10:55 coastal restoration tool for sometime now. Coastal Louisiana
10:58 currently has two fresh water diversions in operation. Davis
11:02 pawn on the West Bank and Kenarban on the East bank. CPRA
11:07 is proposing Mid Breton and Sediment divergent designed to
11:11 convey water at volumes up to 75,000 cubic feet per second or
11:16 CFS, depending on Mississippi River level and flow rates when
11:20 the diversion. Structured is closed a base well about two
11:24 5000 CFS is proposed. It constructed the project
11:27 footprint would be on the East bank in Wills Point, the
11:31 platforms parish, Louisiana. At this point you may be asking
11:35 yourself if this is a CRPA, a project. Why is the Corps of
11:40 engineers involved? Well, the Corps is directed to by Congress
11:44 via the rivers and harbors act and the Clean Water Act as a
11:48 member of the general public, has an action or project that
11:51 may impact the course of a works
11:53 project. One must obtain a Section 4 way permission from
11:57 the Corps. This includes any federally mandated levy or water
12:00 weigh. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed
12:03 activity will not be injurious to the public's interest and
12:07 will not impair the usefulness of the federal projects.



12:11 If a member of the public has an action or project that obstructs
12:16 their altars, inevitable waterway, such as a doctor or
12:19 water convenience, it would require ascension 10 permit as
12:23 the Corps regulatory program is tasked with maintaining
12:26 navigation in the US waters. Similarly, if a member of the
12:30 general public has an action or project that requires excavating
12:34 and or failing into jurisdictional wetlands, a
12:37 section 404 permit would be required. It must be
12:41 demonstrated that the project is in the Public Interest.
12:44I have been taking to take him to avoid and minimize adverse
12:56 proceed. During all product reviews and during the Mid
13:00 Breton Sediment, divergent review the Corps regulatory
13:03 stance remains neutral and independent, and what decision
13:07 making our mission is to make permit decisions on best
13:11 available science, engineering standards and professional
13:13 judgment. Again, the Corps is neither for or against this or
13:18 any other application we review.
13:21 OK, so here is CRPA as proposed project. Mid Breton
13:28 Sediment aversion footprint using MoneyGram colors.
13:32 You have the full construction
13:34 footprint. Within that, in LSU gold you can see
13:38 outline of the actual structure and changes to LA
13:41 39.
13:43 Into and green CRPA anticipates modifications to
13:46 the existing pump station along this back living.
13:51 If you think back to the previous slide CRPA a hit the
13:56 permitting trifecta requiring a section 10404 permit and a
13:59 section for late permission to better understand, you can break
14:04 the project in the three segments. One the area within an
14:08 along the Mississippi River to the Mississippi River Levee has
14:12 section 10404 and four Lane
14:14 interests. 2 between the Mississippi River and the back
14:19 levee, where there are impacts, deception, floral, form buttons



14:23 and three the outfall area into Brandon Sam, where Section 10
14:27 and floral would apply with perhaps some floor late interest
14:32to hear a conveyance. Structure extends through Wetlands Till
14:36 River. This one offers two zooMid out shots of the project
14:41 area on the left you can see the project footprint and CRPA as
14:46 anticipated transition area and
14:48 white. This is where it gets deltaic processes can be
14:53 expected based on CRPA as pulmonary estimates, additional
14:57 water quality and salinity impacts are anticipated outside
15:00 this area. On the right you can get a better view of the project
15:05 location with reference to the New Orleans Metropolitan area to
15:08 the top left. Following the Mississippi River, you can see
15:12 the project location, the Breton Sound Basin at the
15:16 Mississippi River basin in Plaquemines and Saint Bernard
15:19 Parish is unaware most impacts will be how far impacts may go
15:23 to the East and North East into the Poncha Train Basin and
15:28 Chandelier sound. If at all is unknown at this time, the Corps
15:32 is independently reviewing all of CRPA, raise models to better
15:36 understand the extent of impacts, including land building
15:39 in accretion, storm surge and aquatic resources to determine
15:42 the literal. Beneficial in adverse impacts associated with
15:46 CRPA as projects.
15:48 So now that we've discussed Section 4 way permissions and
15:52 the section 10 and 4 four permits, it's important to know
15:56 what our decision making tool is, and that is neat, but the
16:01 National Environmental Policy Act and evil process.
16:04 And documents serve as our evaluation and decision making
16:07 tool. The Corps is the lead federal agency. For this effort,
16:12 a third party contractor has been selected to help write an
16:16 independently reviewed super res Mid-Breton Sediment version
16:19 project. The level of our neighbor reviews is dependent on
16:23 the impacts. In this case, the court has already determined
16:27 that this project could significantly affect the quality



16:30 of the human environment requiring an EIS or environmental
16:33 impact statements. Any I ask is a detailed study of a project
16:38 potential impacts to the human
16:40 environment. The poor, as believe federal agency is in
16:45 charge of drafting the EIS in coordination with the central
16:49 cooperating agencies. The scoping comments you provide
16:52 will help us determine the appropriate amount of detail for
16:56 each specific resources to be
16:58 impacted. The end results or outputs from the IIS will be
17:03 included into a record or decision or rod, which would
17:07 announce the per the Corps permitting decision in
17:10 conjunction with other federal laws. Typically the most
17:13 important details in an EIS can be sound in chapters one through
17:18 four. Chapter one outlines of projects, purpose in need
17:22 statement that explains why a particular project is being
17:25 pursued. Chapter 2 the alternative section outlines the
17:28 alternative projects that will
17:30 be examined. In the EIS Analysis, Chapter 3 affected
17:34 environment is a description of the project areas, existing
17:38 conditions, conditions in trends, chapter 4, environmental
17:41 consequences, and perhaps the most important part of the EIS,
17:46 analyzes the impacts of the proposed project and
17:50 alternatives, including the no
17:51 action alternatives. For the Mid-Breton sediment aversion EIS
17:56 the quarter in coordination with our federal cooperating
17:59 agencies, established a purpose in the statement based off the
18:04 one provided by CPRA in their permit application. From there,
18:09 we evaluated potential alternatives. CPRA has provided
18:12 an alternatives analysis for cooler review. The Corps, in
18:16 coordination with the federal cooperating agencies, did an
18:20 independent review of alternatives from prior studies.
18:23 The CRPA is the Middle and evaluated other potential
18:27 coastal restoration tools are alternatives. Analysis is not



18:31 complete. It is not complete until we also evaluate
18:35 alternatives provided during the scoping process. Reasonable
18:38 alternatives received during scoping will be given the same
18:43 considerations established during our preliminary review.
18:46 After pulling air review, the list of alternatives to be
18:50 evaluated in the ISR.
18:52 Sediment diversions with maximum flows of 35,000 CFS. 75,000
18:59 CFS. The applicants preferred
19:03 alternative. 1000 CSS 2 alternative base flows are also
19:09 being evaluated. A 2500 CFS and 5000 CFS Baslow scenario.
19:16 To wrap up, the scoping process, is the Publix opportunity to
19:29 if you've listened to my presentation this this long.
19:32 Please submit your comments by email or treatment. Traditional
19:36 Mail. You can also submit a verbal comment at one 855-Mid
19:41 Breton. The number allows 4 minutes for your comment. The
19:45 comments will be transcribed and included into the permit record.
19:49 Verbal coms can be provided in multiple different languages and
19:53 later translated. Also if you're viewing this before our lives
19:57 events, please participate in one. If you can we will be
20:01 addressing your questions during
20:03 these times. Public involvement does not end with scoping. While
20:07 preliminary work on the IS has begun, we are early in the EIS
20:12 project process, which starts with public scoping. Once coping
20:16 is complete, CPRA will provide all project modeling material in
20:20 a series of technical reports. The Corps, with the help of the
20:25 third party contractor and cooperating federal and state
20:28 agencies, will independently review CRPA as material along
20:31 with other best available science to draft the EIS.
20:35 The draft EIS is scheduled to be complete in fall 2022.
20:40 Only after the draft EIS the poor will host the public
20:45 hearing. The Corps will never revise the draft EIS. Based on
20:49 public hearing feedback to produce the final EIS currently
20:52 scheduled in the fall of 2023.



20:55 Then the final EIS will go from public. Or do you before
21:00 the all important permit and record of decision currently
21:04 scheduled for January 2024, the permit decision can be a
21:08 denial, proffering a least damaging alternative examined
21:11 in the EIS, or approval of CRPA as preferred alternatives.
21:16 Lastly, I want to leave you with a list of potential issues that
21:21 we will address along with your concerns. This list is part of
21:26 the visual aids we have available to you on the Corps
21:31 Mid-Breton webpage. When providing your Scott scoping comment,
21:34 please consider the following questions. What important
21:36 issues, resources in impacts should be considered in the EIS?
21:40 What alternatives will modifications to the existing
21:43 proposal should be considered in the EIS, and?
21:46 If there are other problems or opportunities, the poor should
21:50 be aware of, this concludes my presentation. Thank you for your
21:54 participation and be safe during these Times Now hand it over to
21:58 Brad Barth from CRPA. A thank you.

Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion (BS-0030) Presentation. CPRA. Brad Barth

22:02 Welcome to the Mid Breton Sediment diversion public
22:07 scoping meeting I'm Brad Barth with the coastal protection
22:14 restoration authority. In this setting, diversion program
22:18 manager and also in the operations group with CRPA a
22:25 on the operations assistant administrator. Thank you for
22:31 coming today. Look like will go over an introduction, talk a
22:36 little bit about our coast or land loss will talk about.
22:40 Addressing the root cause for reconnecting our River.
22:44 Him to lead us into talking about the Mid Breton Sediment
22:48 Diversion. And then Lastly will hit upon and talk a little bit
22:52 about our operations and active
22:54 management. So do you think you are right?
23:00 Post 2005 Hurricane Katrina,
23:04 Legislator. Look at how the state was implementing coastal
23:09 restoration. She goes to protection and combined us



23:12 into one group or one agency to do integrated approach to
23:17 handling restoration and protection efforts. Rating to
23:20 the creation of Coastal Protection. Restoration
23:22 Authority.
23:24 So you may be familiar with this map. You may have seen it before since
23:30 1930 two 80 years of actual data that we've observed in the USGS
23:36 of land loss over 2000 square
23:39 miles. Or look at going forward over the
23:46 next 50 years.
23:48 When is mother with, we look at a couple different sea level
23:52 rise scenarios. This would be the Midium scenario. Potentially
23:55 we are an order of 4200 square miles that we have the potential
23:59 to lose over the next 50 years. Should we do nothing?
24:04 So what is steak? Here we look at coastal Louisiana. What
24:10 does steak is? Our flood protection are natural processes
24:15 of the of the lower coast of Louisiana. Are coastal
24:21 habitats are cultural heritage.
24:24 Channel and I working codes for a mistake.
24:29 How close to master plan is required by the legislator every
24:34 six years 50 billion dollar planning. Equally split between
24:37 restoration, paint and production or risk reduction. 25
24:41 billion to each it is required for us to look at this every six
24:47 years. And really what this is?
24:50 It's really how we rank in select projects for
24:54 implementation. Every six years it gives us the ability to put
24:58 the best projects on the landscape. Considering the
25:02 information science analysis available to rank projects,
25:05 that's really what it is. We don't have \$50,000,000, but this
25:09 is this. A pool of projects to select from to make the best
25:14 projects on the ground with changing environmental
25:17 conditions. Are you
25:21 cost? Early 1900s we really in the process of
25:28 completing the lower Mississippi River protection system.



25:32 Great feat in terms of protecting our nation.
25:37 Our citizens and in our navigation address interest in
25:41 terms of economic. Some of the entire United States. So what
25:45 that's done is less than a lot of areas that don't have that
25:51 access to the freshwater. This Sediment, to the nutrients, and
25:55 that's really been starving those areas in waiting those
25:58 areas into a degrading nature or degrading wetland environment.
26:03 When we look at some imagery across coastal Louisiana.
26:08 We can look to our neighbors to the West in the Atchafalaya Wax
26:14 Lake Delta area, one of the only areas in coastal living, the
26:19 Internet is experiencing langgam no land loss in these areas in
26:23 these areas have that direct access to freshwater disk
26:27 adamantane nutrients, all combined together. If we go look
26:30 at areas further to the start button, found base and we don't
26:35 have that same access to freshwater sediment in their
26:39 dreams. That's why you look at this. You see the blue
26:43 from the LAX right to check flight call at the happy
26:46 face, you look at the Breton Soundside Frowny face.
26:51 So I want to talk a little bit more specifically why you're
26:56 here today for the Mid Breton sediment diversion project too.
27:00 Basic details. River Mile locations in 68 on the
27:04 Mississippi River on the East or the left descending bank will
27:08 point Bartonsville area. The funding is through this with all
27:13 spill dollars task currently that are being worked on right
27:17 now are the engineering design and permitting past associated
27:21 with this permit application.
27:22 Just wire it.
27:26 Some of the details of this project will be looking to have
27:32 an inlet on along the River in the minus 20 to minus 35 foot
27:38 elevation range. The overall corridor with for permanent
27:41 construction features is approximately 1400 feet wide,
27:44 approximately half a mile long. The capacity for the diversions
27:48 estimated up to 75,000 CFS.



27:51 So it's a passive system, so it's relies on the water level
27:56 of the River and the water level they're basing to send the
28:00 water, the nutrients and sediment out into the base, and
28:04 so at flow River flow in the beginning of the spring flood
28:09 season, the version may only be able to flow on order of 30 or
28:14 40,000 CFS as it approaches Max flood stage and reaches
28:18 1,000,000 million plus on the flow of the River will be up
28:23 closer to the 75,000 CFS, and now it operates.
28:26 Base flow up to 5000 CFS is what we're pretty for. Asking for the
28:32 permit. With that we know based flow is a more of an
28:36 environmental condition out in the future. We really only want
28:40 to flow would make some sense environmentally going forward
28:43 into the future based on conditions at the time that
28:47 we're operating major components and features of the project will
28:51 consist of an inlet for conveyance structure, an outlet
28:54 that will require us to do some interior drainage modifications
28:58 to maintained range within the
29:00 interior. Pin the Bartonsville Wills Point area and then also
29:05 requires to relocate Highway 23.
29:07 That's why I kind of gives you a footprint of the project area.
29:13 The main footprint includes temporary and permanent right
29:16 ways at this point, that's in very infancy of the engineering
29:21 design process, but this give you idea of perspective of the
29:25 footprint of the project in terms of both temporary and
29:29 permanent. I mean features of the lower blue got founded right
29:34 would be the pump station where we're looking at.
29:38 Potential improvements to the pump station for that interior
29:41 drainage and look at sediment diversions. What's the goal
29:45 here? Really, the goal is selecting a location along the
29:49 River that's got a super concentrated amount of
29:52 sediment. Hybrid sleep from deposition under a point bar,
29:56 and we can use that material and concentrate that material off
30:01 that point bar. Then we can maximize that sediment



30:04 diverted out into the basin and minimize that fresh water.
30:13 Looking at over project operations, this is a 3D
30:17 rendition. Obviously the project is on East bank for
30:21 the left descending bank. You can see here the flow for the
30:25 intake into the gated structure and then out into
30:28 the Breton Sound basin.
30:31 Looking at plan view, you can see a little bit more detail
30:37 here with permanent features and then potential temporary areas
30:41 for construction, lay down or staging areas. Again major major
30:46 features or intake channel. The gate structure, I839, relocation
30:50 channel, convenience and then out to the outfall area with
30:55 apology animal conservation.
30:56 Weather I'm getting another 3D rendition here.
31:02 Looking at that you see from kind of the bottom left at
31:06 the top right, the Mississippi River levee, or
31:09 an inlet channel. The Gate Structure Services, a
31:11 controlled gated facility so that we're not operating.
31:14 The gates can obviously be closed Channel 2 lanes out
31:18 for the outfall area and then head into the basin.
31:23 Kinda looking North South here. Looking at the gate
31:28 complex in the inconvenience channels guide levies.
31:36 So let's talk a little bit about operations. So as part of this
31:42 permit, initial operations plan is included in such that the
31:46 Corps can evaluate this project are trigger for the on off and
31:52 start and stop of the diversion is for Mid in 50,000 CFS in Belle
31:58 Chase. That also includes up to 5000 CFS and base flow when
32:03 we're below that former 50,000 CFS. That bass flow is just for
32:09 future changing environmental conditions. And again, it's up
32:12 to number. We would expect the base flow to only operate and
32:18 flow at a level needed based on the future operational
32:22 conditions or environmental conditions we see in the base,
32:26 and we expect that to be lower than the 5000.
32:31 Adaptive management plan. So this is a key part of of dealing



32:37 with environmental changes in the future and really gets at
32:42 the heart of our mission is to be able to consider our changing
32:48 environment should be able to manage app or below those levels
32:53 stated above based on the conditions we see.
32:57 Additional emergency stops. Tropical activity, spills and
33:02 navigation. It's part of our charge as CRPA A is is flood
33:08 protection but don't want to have conflicting messages there
33:12 in terms of flood protection, so no desire or intention to
33:16 have this thing operating during a tropical storm or
33:20 hurricane and thus won't have a plan in place to close the
33:25 gates during any kind of hurricane or tropical storm
33:35 information all our real time monitoring and information
33:38 that's gathered for anything from looking at the performance
33:41 of our project to providing this data and information on our
33:45 changing environment which will allow us to make operational
33:48 changes as needed. Based on our current conditions. So some of
33:52 the things that we may be looking at our assignment load
33:56 the flow in the River salinity in the basin on the stage in the
34:02 River and. Another water quality parameters in such.
34:06 As we go forward in this
34:09 permitting process. I will continue to have some boats out
34:13 in the River on a regular basis to do some River sediment
34:18 sampling. The community gathered the information necessary for us
34:22 to have an efficient design in terms of understanding the
34:26 hydraulic hydrology, the hydraulics, and the sediment
34:29 transport so we can maximize that Sediment. Capture source
34:32 site specific data information leading into our effort. There
34:36 will continue into 30% line effort that 30% design effort
34:40 will then directly support.
34:41 The permitting process, you provide the necessary
34:44 information to public in terms of what the project looks like,
34:48 the features of the project, the components of the project, such
34:52 that the Corps can assess those things based on this public



34:56 scoping meeting in your input physical model testing as part
35:00 of that Hydrology and hydraulic testing. One of the things we
35:04 want to do is also have a physical scale model of the
35:08 project as well, so that way we can look at both numerical.
35:13 And physical modeling and be able to have input there in
35:18 terms of getting the best design and that way it's also tested as
35:24 well and not.
35:26 Not sometimes experiment. We've already done that physical scale
35:30 model testing. And obviously will continue for outreach
35:34 and engagement where we tried to put as much
35:37 information that we can maintain the transparency of
35:39 information we have and where we're at in the
35:42 process of the project.
35:49 And I appreciate your time today. Thank you.

Panel and Q&A Introduction

35:52OK, we thank everyone for UM, remaining patient and uh, giving
35:59 your attention to those recorded messages and just a reminder
36:05 that copies of those recorded messages, as well as the slide
36:11 deck of the presentations are available in the Corps Project
36:17 Web page. Um, so at this time we want to um introduce our
36:24 panel that will begin the question and answer session. So,
36:28 um, if I'll ask the panel to share their webcams at this
36:33 time, and you can remain on mute until you need to speak.
36:38 Uhm, but we will introduce the panel from the US Army Corps of
36:44 Engineers. We have Bradley LaBorde, Jeff Verisco, Landon Parr,
36:48 Brenda Archer, Rene Poche an from the state, Coastal
36:52 Protection and restoration authority we have Brad Barth,
36:56 Brian Lezina, Liz Davoli, Heather Layrisson and Tim Smith
37:00and you can likely see that they are all in multiple locations.
37:05 We appreciate the efforts that the panel has made.
37:09 To be here today, um, so now for those of you who are attending,
37:14 we have opened the Q&A feature and we had promised to walk you
37:19 through how to use that today so that you can pose questions to



37:23 the panel. Um, we would like you to begin submitting your
37:27 questions now, and while we wait for questions to come in, Karen
37:31 is are moderate are Karen. Would you like to give us instructions
37:34 on how we can use the Q&A
37:36 feature today? Yes, thanks Stacy and Good afternoon everyone.
37:42 We hope to respond to all your questions today. It's
37:46 important to the Corps to aid to help clarify CRPA's
37:50 proposed project in the Corps review of their projects so
37:54 that everyone can develop their official scoping
37:57 comments. Any questions not addressed today may be
38:00 answered on the project web page. We have included
38:04 instructions on the screen.
38:07 For how to participate in the Webex Q&A feature. So if
38:10 you'll take a moment to find acuminate feature by hovering
38:14 your mouse or tapping in the Middle of the screen, you'll
38:17 either see a question mark I can, or you may need to find the
38:22 icon that has three dots on it. That's the more options iPad.
38:26 When you hit on that, you should find an option to select Q&A.
38:31 Hum, these icons maybe located either on the right side or the
38:35 center of your screen, and if you are on a mobile device, you
38:39 may have to happen either the top or the bottom of your
38:42 screen, so once you pull up that Q&A and should be able to type
38:46 in your question. Then make sure you select all panelists and
38:51 finally select send to send your question. Will it knowledge?
38:55 Receipt of all questions with the general response and will
38:59 publish the questions so that other attendees making them
39:02 during the slide of that.
39:05 Please, we're going to ask that you use appropriate language. We
39:09 will monitor messages as well as give warnings for those that do
39:13 not comply with this request. Repeated use of inappropriate
39:16 language can be cause for removal from today's ago.
39:20 Is a reminder for those of you who have joined late or if you
39:24 have dialed in the audio patterns only mode, you will not



39:28 be able to submit questions today in law related listen only
39:32 mode. Will it encourage everyone to submit your official scoping
39:36 payments through the channels that were mentioned during the
39:4 previous presentations and that we will share again near the end
39:44 of today's advance?

39:47So.

39:49 While we're waiting, the questions to come in.

39:54 And Stacy, I'm not seeing the question panel opened, but maybe

39:59 that's. OK, well that's fine. Karen will give you a moment to

40:05 to find that today and again, just a reminder that, um, we

40:09 want to respond to all questions today. Uh, your feedback is very

40:1 important to help the Corps and CRPA a clarify the proposed

40:18 project in the Corps review of

40:21 the project. Hopefully the responses to the questions that

40:25 are given today help you.

40:28 Formalizing finalizer, officials scoping comments and will be

40:32 sharing the ways to.

40:35 Share those officials scoping comments. Karina you're ready or

40:39 you wait. I am ready now.

40:42 In mother waiting for your comments to come in, there was a

Q&A

40:47 question, a few questions that came in through our website.

40:51 Barbara Johnson, president and CEO of the Great Delta Tours,

40:55 submitted some questions and thank her for taking the time to

40:59 do that. So her first question is what are the key factors you

41:04 will be assessing in determining the impact of the Breton sound

41:08 diversion project on fisheries in the area?

41:11 So they have backed new Rene and bread.

41:16 Do you?

41:18 So for addressing fisheries in the in the base and we do have

41:24 models that were exploring to identify those impacts. Clearly

41:28 some of the key factors would would hinge on water quality and

41:33 salinity and suitability for the different species that are



41:37 currently in the basement.

41:41 OK, great and she is a second question. What is the

41:45 geographic area? You will be valuating with regard to

41:49 fisheries impact. How would you determine the impact area

41:53 for the fisheries assessment?

41:56 So preliminarily we are looking at the Breton Basin of which

42:02 would extend from. I guess the Mississippi River and extend out

42:08 to essentially the MRGO area. But we we could potentially

42:13 expand that if our analysis warrants it. How far to the East

42:19 and to the Northeast our assessment goes is going to be a

42:25 little bit dependent on.

42:27 Where we see water quality changes through the the modeling

42:30 in the analysis that we do.

42:34 Thank you for that answer. Um, she actually is 1/3 question.

42:38 It's a rather long one, so.

42:42 Let's be patient, not read the whole thing. What is the overall

42:47 goal of the project with regards to fisheries impact? Is it to

42:52 ensure that the quality, productivity and sustainability

42:54 of the fisheries remain in its current state? The fisheries

42:58 ecosystem has been in decline for some time. My recommendation

43:02 is that the overall goal of the project with regard to fisheries

43:07 is that these coastal fisheries provide the highest quality safe

43:11 is wild pot and sustainable

43:13 seafood. Source.

43:15 Alright, thank you were going to ask the state to respond to that

43:20 please. Hey Brad, This is Brian the CRPA a

43:27 we we've had a little bit of interference that if

43:34 you can repeat that question.

43:39 It's essentially asking if US fisheries impacts were

43:43 considered with the operation of

43:45 the diversion. Yeah Hi Bronzino with with CRPA and and thanks

43:51 for the question on there. Obviously in any project in the

43:57 the master plan and we have to take take all of these these



44:04 things into consideration. As you heard Brad mentioned and in
44:09 his presentation about this particular project there's a lot
44:13 of things that go into project selection on there.
44:18 Um, including fisheries production. I think it's
44:20 important to note that we focus sometimes on specific points on
44:24 a map, but we absolutely do take these things into account. I
44:29 will say that that sometimes that means into the future as
44:33 well. That might not be, you know, just tomorrow, but. But
44:36 obviously 30-50 years from now, that's that's the stage charge
44:40 to make sure these things are viable into the future. So so on
44:45 whole, yes, we we do take all of
44:48 these things. To account within the states coastal master plan.
44:50 So thank you for the question.
44:56 Thank you. No, Alex Bucklew would like to know will the
45:01 Mississippi River be included in the EIS?
45:06 Yes, the Mississippi River will be included in the analysis and
45:11 that would have to do with water levels and flow and segmentation
45:16 and those type of issues. The question I'm seeing here is more
45:21 geared towards the state of Mississippi itself an.
45:26 Yeah, so there's a couple of those that are rolling in
45:30 from that concern Mississippi, so again, um,
45:33 how Far East and North East we take our our study will
45:37 depend on where we're seeing the impacts in the water
45:41 quality changes once be modeling outputs are
45:44 provided to us from CRPA.
45:50 Thank you. Where is the Turner? Would like to know what, if any,
45:55 are the impacts of the proposed a version on Mississippi sound
45:59 in the long-term? Fisheries productivity of Breton Sound.
46:04 And Mississippi sound.
46:07 Yep, thanks Marissa and I know that there is a question of
46:12 impacts with freshwater entries from state of Louisiana, and
46:16 that's being examined. And the same would happen here with the
46:21 Mid Breton review to see if there would be any impact to the



46:26 Mississippi Coast or Mississippi Fisheries as a result of this
46:31 new freshwater input.
46:35 Thanks, Ben. Gordon wants to know how will the project
46:39 effect. I believe he means the dead zone in the mouth
46:42 of the Mississippi River.
46:46 Yeah, the Mississippi River or the dead zone that take
46:50 place off the coast of Louisiana periodically. It
46:53 is something that.
46:56 It is something that we would investigate as part of the water
47:00 quality parameters that we're investigating with EIS.
47:04 Great, thanks Ted. Ber would like to know well Mardi Gras
47:08 pass be closed.
47:13 I can't answer that. I don't know. I know that MoneyGram pass
47:17 is currently part of the modeling landscape. It would
47:20 also be part of the existing conditions for the project.
47:25 Review
47:27 Our next question comes from
47:29 Kerry Trapani. He wants to know where the salinity
47:34 levels limits of the affected Breton in Mississippi sound
47:38 before stopping outflow.
47:41 Yeah, I don't. I'm not aware of
47:49 any parameters at this time.
47:58 So Paul would like to know, won't this project severely
48:02 reduced the harvest and viability of shrimp oysters and
48:05 spotted sea trout and Breton sound? Won't it cause shortages
48:09 and greatly increased the cost to the consumer?
48:14 It's possible, so part of our review will go into the impacts.
48:20 Two different fishery resources, as well as the review will also
48:25 get into socioeconomics and what the impacts. Maybe 2
48:29 recreational and commercial fishing to the region.
48:33 And again, you know.
48:35 These these questions that that are being asked right now
48:38 or are perfect examples of some of the things that we're



48:42 hoping that you provide to us as scoping, meeting, or
48:45 scoping comments so that we can factor that into our
48:48 review.

48:50 And Mark Winter is also asking about harvesting of oysters and
48:56 Fish. OK.

49:00 Yeah, and it's important to point out that part of the the
49:05 Corps independent review is reaching out to our third party
49:09 contractor in this subject matter experts that they have on
49:13 their team to to properly evaluate facilities for the
49:16 specific resources and what those impacts maybe.

49:22 So Chris Macaluso would like to know prior to levy
49:27 construction on the River River have been connected
49:30 to the Mississippi River.

49:34 It's it's a prior tributary.

49:39 But you know it. It would be hard to predict if it would
49:43 be connected to this day, or even if the Mississippi
49:46 River would still be using the the current Delta loop
49:49 that it's that it's using.

49:53 Ted Ber would like to know will navigable waterways be
49:57 maintained? Magnol waterways with reference to the
50:02 Mississippi River were considering that in our analysis
50:06 we will also be looking at the outfall in any changes to any
50:13 surrounding water water bodies in that area too. As a result
50:18 of either channelization or land building an accretion from the
50:24 project if constructed.

50:28 From Granada he rich. We have a question. What is your estimate
50:32 regarding new land created and the associated reduction of
50:36 hurricane exposure for the city of New Orleans?

50:41 Thank you were going to ask the the state to respond to
50:44 that question please.

50:46 Yeah hey great thanks. Great question in terms of land
50:50 building, I'm looking at some previous efforts prior to this
50:54 permitting effort, we see the opportunity of potentially make



50:58 10s of thousands of acres with the sediment diversion.
51:02 And then obviously with new land in green space between our
51:07 levees in our barrier islands would expect to be a pushing
51:11 back storm surge in some manner or fashion. Those types of
51:15 analysis are forthcoming in this permitting process that will
51:19 will be coordinated with the Corps provides their
51:23 request. Answer the question.
51:26 Thanks, Brad Ted Ber would like to know if a permit for
51:30 dolphins were required.
51:33 Hi Ted, Uhm I can't specifically answer that.
51:37' cause I wasn't involved with that process. However, it's
51:41 worth noting that there is a Marine Mammal Protection Act
51:46 waiver for this project specifically, but that does
51:50 not exclude it from the nipa analysis, so there will be a
51:56 section in the EIS, Chapter 4, three and four addressing
52:00 marine mammals, Dolphins, and the potential impacts to those
52:05 species.
52:07 Thanks for that clarification.
52:10 Mark winter asks you are building on the cut back. Are
52:14 you hoping to take sediment of- the point bar across the
52:17 River as a source of sediment? Or will it be solely the
52:22 sediment load carried by the
52:23 Mississippi River? Thank you were going to ask the
52:27 state to respond, please.
52:30 Hey Mark, Great question. Uhm this project site location is
52:34 actually on Wheels Point which is a point bar side of the River
52:38 so we will be using the Sediment that suspended that's
52:42 concentrated their onto the point bar and build up to that
52:46 point bar for delivering the sediment out to base. Great
52:50 question thanks. Thank you.
52:54 Palomas seller Stano
52:57 Asks what is playing for the area below the white ditch that
53:02 has no back levee protection and floods with every tropical event



53:20 Great question, thanks and with this permit process will be
53:24 going through and looking at storm surge analysis with the
53:28 project and looking at that specific area that you're
53:31 referencing too, so that would be an area that we would
53:35 definitely look at in terms of of the project. Thank you.
53:42 And carry again asks about the marine mammal provision,
53:45 which I think you already answered that question and asks
53:49 that you remove the waiver.
53:53 Hum, that looks like.
53:56 I don't have any other new questions while we're waiting
54:00 for more questions, I just want to make a reminder that all
54:05 questions received will be reviewed by members of the
54:08 panel. We are hopeful that the responses given will encourage
54:12 you to develop your official scoping comments and submit them
54:15 in the manners we have indicated previously by email, Mail or
54:19 telephone. We will put that information up again.
54:23 If we do not hear from you today, you may choose to join
54:28 the next live event, which is tomorrow evening at 6:00 to 7:30
54:32 PM central Daylight Time.
54:35 And I do have another question coming in from Jennifer.
54:41 Will this project existing condition in through the Mid?
54:45 Barataria diversion being operational.
54:50 Hi Jennifer, no it would not. It would still. The
54:54 project would still be in development or
54:57 construction, so therefore it would be a reasonably
55:00 foreseeable project that would be in the cumulative
55:03 impact right up.
55:10 And Karen this is Stacy will let you catch your breath for just a
55:15 moment. I'll remind the the panel as well as Karen the
55:18 moderate are we do have 35 minutes left in today's events.
55:22 So for those of you who are attending, there are plenty of
55:26 moments to uhm.
55:29 Find the Q&A feature and submit your questions today.



55:35 And just a reminder, if we don't hear from you today, I see that
55:41 several of you have joined up by phone only today. So again,
55:46 attending tomorrow's live event via the Internet is helpful. Or
55:51 on the left side of.

55:53 The Corrs project page. Uhm, you're able to email your
56:00 questions for response before submitting your formal comments.

56:07 It's basically yes.

56:10 I'd like to go ahead and address one of the questions we may have
56:15 just jumped over a little bit from a Carey Trippany at 252 YN
56:19 marine mammals provision way. Or please remove the later. We just
56:23 felt it was important to note that that is an act of Congress
56:27 and the Corps cannot just so we

56:30 just. Go ahead and set that out there, thank you.

56:39 Thank you very much from the state ankaran all at you. I'm
56:43 return. Are you seeing new questions come in I am.

56:47 Mark winter asks what is the anticipated lifespan of
56:51 this diversion?

56:54 Thank you, we're going to let the state respond to that
56:57 please. Hey, great question now like any other major
57:01 infrastructure project, this thing would be designed for a
57:05 very long time and in particular design life of approximately 50
57:09 years in the service life. Approximately 100 years.

57:13 Just like you would see a major major infrastructure
57:17 project. Lakebridge thanks.

57:20 And we have another question from Ted Ber.

57:24 Relative to the navigable waterways will buy use be
57:28 maintained, IE back living Oak, River, Grand Bayou, etc.
57:36 Thanks, Ted. I think the the intention would be to allow the
57:41 outfall area to whatever natural processes would take place in
57:46 that area too.

57:48 Just just work without any maintenance. I do know that
57:52 there is the potential for maintenance on CRPA a side, but
57:56 I don't think it's specific to a waterway. If you do I see in



58:01 your question here, you do have specific waterways that
58:04 you'd like addressed, so it would be good to get that in a
58:09 comment for us so that we can further investigate that.
58:15 Thank you Alex. Bucklew asks, I apologize for the Redundancy.
58:21 Could you briefly comment again in the IIS
58:25 Mississippi's participation so he's
58:27 asking about the states participation I believe.
58:35 So uhm, participation wise. I mean, we we do have these
58:41 meetings will also have additional meetings for the
58:45 DEIS&FEIS or final EIS, but I I think your question is more.
58:52 Geared towards the potential for
58:55 impacts and. Right now I'm not sure that we we are under the
59:00 impression that there would be impacts as a result of this
59:04 project, but we're going to allow the science and the
59:07 material that we get to to guide us and determine whether
59:11 or not we would expand our review footprint into the
59:14 Mississippi basin.
59:20 Ben Gordon asks, will the rise of sea levels because of climate
59:25 change? With the rise of sea levels because of climate
59:30 change, do you think we have a good chance of seeing
59:33 success in this struggle?
59:37 Thanks Ben. Sea Level Rise is a factor in the the modeling
59:42 effort, so it is something that we're anticipating and
59:46 preparing for. So with the the impacts or the the benefits of
59:51 the project, it would be factoring in steel over eyes.
59:58 And I just want to remind everyone you can sign that
01:00:02 Q&A feature by hovering your up arrow in the Middle of your
01:00:07 screen. I had a little bit of a delay with it opening up, so be
01:00:13 patient with it and get that Kewene opened and send in your
01:00:17 questions. Stacy, how much time do we have left?
01:00:22 Hi Karen, we have exactly 30 minutes left so will will remain
01:00:26 on the line will remain a will have the Q&A feature remain
01:00:3 open. Right now we're gonna share again the way on the



01:00:35 screen. The outside of today's event. An outside of asking
01:00:39 questions if you're looking to submit your official scoping
01:00:42 comments. Uhm, the Corps is taking those by mail. There's a
01:00:46 a lengthy mailing address on the screen. Uh, for those of you who
01:00:51 have joined on the Internet.
01:00:53 And, uhm, you can take a moment to jot that down or screen
01:01:00 capture it. For those of you who would like to send your official
01:01:06 scoping comments by email again, that email address is CEMVN Dash
01:01:12 Mid Breton at IDBRETON.
01:01:15 At USACE. Dot army dot MIL.
01:01:22 Or if you wish to contact the Corps by phone, you are able
01:01:30 to leave a recorded voice message with your comments and
01:01:35 the phone number. To do that would be 1855 Mid Brett or one
01:01:42 8556432738. Those are the three different ways that the Corps is
01:01:48 accepting those official scoping comments. An again that is
01:01:53 outside of. Today's.
01:01:55 Question and answer session with the panel.
01:02:00 Thanks Stacy Purse Macaluso has sent us a question.
01:02:05 Are we ready to move on?
01:02:08 Oh yeah, Karen, just real quick. I just wanted to offer the state
01:02:12 of Louisiana CRPA a chance to respond with sea level rise in
01:02:17 question. Six. OK, great.
01:02:19 Thank you. Yeah hey Brad Barth here with CRPA. Thanks for the
01:02:24 question there Jeff. Um yes we we do think we can see success
01:02:29 with sea level rise. We are aware of sea level rise. We look
01:02:34 at multiple scenarios to sea level rise and that's really at
01:02:38 the Corps of the coastal master plan and looking at that every
01:02:42 six years in terms of putting the best projects on the ground
01:02:47 and with our coastal master plan we know that we have.
01:02:51 Many, many tools in our toolbox in terms of restoration and
01:02:55 protection to give us the big the biggest bang for Buck in
01:02:59 terms of economic damage reductions there. In terms of
01:03:02 the types of projects we we tackle, we do know and relative



01:03:06 to the 1930s that that's a big big ask in terms of what's been
01:03:11 lost since the 1930s. But we think we can make a significant
01:03:16 change given the tools that we have in the different type of
01:03:20 projects that we can tackle. So
01:03:22 great question. Thanks.
01:03:25 Thank you for that answer.
01:03:28 Chris Macaluso asks to what extent is the state looking
01:03:32 at other areas that get annual freshwater an
01:03:36 sediment input to determine potential affect? Sunfish and
01:03:39 wildy, from the diversion.
01:03:43 Thank you were last got the state please to respond.
01:03:50 Yeah hey thanks Chris for the question. All of the the simple
01:03:55 answer, so anything that might have sort of sporadic inputs
01:03:58 there that you would see so we can judge what what, what we
01:04:03 might have to something like the Chapali Delta area code 14
01:04:08 million. Those kind of things that something that sees the
01:04:12 more the more seasonal input. So we we put a lot of stock into
01:04:17 what we can see outside the
01:04:19 window. From a observational data, so we're taking advantage
01:04:22 of a lot of that. God is a lot of a lot of what we do.
01:04:27 I understand how do you systems work, so thanks for
01:04:30 the question.
01:04:33 And thank you for the response.
01:04:35 Out. You're not a cure it.
01:04:39 Asks considering anticipated sea level rise,
01:04:42 which would bring more sleep, Saline water closer
01:04:46 into our wetlands. What is the capacity of this
01:04:49 project countered? Be honest, this impact.
01:04:54 Thank you were going to ask the state police to respond.
01:05:02 Hey, that's a great question. We know that, uh, the current
01:05:06 environment we're in. We're in a, uh, a sea level rise kind of
01:05:11 event sequence and the geological time speaking, so
01:05:14 we're seeing where steel over rises, slowly increasing and



01:05:18 backing up the Mississippi River. So we think this project
01:05:22 has some some great benefits and counterbalancing that. And as we
01:05:26 go through this permitting process will be able to capture
01:05:30 some more of those positive benefits in relationship to
01:05:33 counterbalancing saltwater
01:05:34 intrusion. And sea level rise, whether it's from the basin or
01:05:38 within the River itself. Very question, thanks.
01:05:43 Thank you. Kerry Japan asks, where can we? The concerned
01:05:48 residents of Mississippi find the modeling data with
01:05:52 regards to water flow and Marsh restoration.
01:05:57 Thanks, Kerry Anne, uh, before I answer I just want to say that I
01:06:02 am pleased that through these meetings we are able to reach
01:06:05 people along the Mississippi
01:06:06 coast. So thanks for your question and so all the modeling
01:06:12 data that. I guess the process that we go through to start the
01:06:18 models as well as the modeling outputs will be summarized in a,
01:06:23 uh, a modeling appendix, so you'll be able to see both the
01:06:27 inputs and the outputs of the material that went into the
01:06:32 model, as well as the output. So the DIS would be your
01:06:37 opportunity to review all the work that we put into the EIS, and
01:06:42 that's currently scheduled to
01:06:43 be. Provided to the public in the fall of 2022.
01:06:48 So that looks like we're on a little ways on questions, but we
01:06:54 want to remind you that the questions will be reviewed by
01:06:59 members of the panel, and we hope that your response that the
01:07:05 responses given will encourage you to develop your official
01:07:09 scoping comments. Those are really important to the future
01:07:14 of this project, so make sure that you get your.
01:07:18 Scoping comments together and get them in by Mail, email or
01:07:23 telephone and will share that information on how to put those
01:07:28 scoping comments in again later in our presentation.
01:07:32 Um, if it's not up already now, I believe it is not yes.
01:07:38 So, uhm. Just a reminder, hover over the Middle of your screen



01:07:43 and you'll find that Q&A
01:07:46 and we'd like to see more of your questions. Uhm, if
01:07:51 we don't hear from you today, we will be having another event
01:07:55 live event tomorrow evening from 6:00 o'clock to 7:30 PM, central
01:07:59 Daylight Time, and maybe I'll pass it back to Stacy. She can
01:08:03 remind us of our time left.
01:08:06 In other details.
01:08:10 Hi Karen, we still have 23 minutes left in today's
01:08:14 events so we will just take a moment to pause a man. Those
01:08:18 of you who aren't speaking can remain on mute.
01:08:23 And will give everyone a just a few moments. Um, I'll ask that.
01:08:29 Maybe we get up tomorrow's schedule for the planned event.
01:08:34 Um, tomorrow this would be the you're attending. Today's
01:08:38 second of three live events that the UM, Corps.
01:08:44 Is offering to.
01:08:48 Gather questions and respond to those questions in an effort for
01:08:53 you, the public to develop your official scoping comments so the
01:08:57 third session again will be tomorrow, which is Thursday.
01:09:02 July 16th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in the evening um.
01:09:09 You may be curious about yesterday's events, or would
01:09:13 like to see a recording of today's event in the Corps will
01:09:17 be making that available.
01:09:20 On the project by page, just as soon as possible, we typically
01:09:25 have gotten those posted or the Corps gotten those posted within
01:09:30 24 hours so.
01:09:37 We want to thank everyone for taking the time to ask
01:09:42 questions. Uhm, it's really important to the currency CPRA.
01:09:46 That you get your questions out there and get your comments out
01:09:49 there. You're you're part of the process in your very important
01:09:52 part of the process.
01:09:51 I'm so. Again, hover your arrow in the Middle of your screen if
01:10:00 you're gonna. If you're on a mobile device, it might be the
01:10:04 top of the screen bottom of the screen. If you need help finding



01:10:09 the acuminate feature, you can message us and let us know and
01:10:13we can help you out.
01:10:16 That seems Stacy.
01:10:24 Very good. I think we have one new question coming in
01:10:28 Karen from Ted Ber so I'll let you take a moment.
01:10:33 Yeah, I can see it now, yes.
01:10:36 I'm Ted, Ber sent a question since Mardi Gras pass opened
01:10:42 and has gotten larger. Nails are filling in. Marsh is
01:10:47 being lost and saltwater species disappeared.
01:10:52 Why is this not a model of what the version will do?
01:11:02 Thanks um, I think with the Mardi Gras past
01:11:06 discussion you know.
01:11:09 Aside from this project, the monograph pass closure is one
01:11:14 that we reviewed a few years back for Plaquemines Parish and
01:11:20 that permit wasn't pursued through the process, but the
01:11:24comments that we did get concerning Mardi Gras pass
01:11:29 somewhere for it and somewhere
01:11:31 against and. It is a pretty good model for Mid barataria or Mid
01:11:37 Breton. Sorry I'm working on another diversion as well, but I
01:11:40 think when you talk about.
01:11:43 Mississippi River introductions into a base and I think you're
01:11:47 going to get people for an against and it's one of the
01:11:52 things that we're trying to weigh with our public interest
01:11:56 review and factoring into our overall permit decision. You
01:11:59 know, when looking at your
01:12:01 question? You do see did point out some of the the different
01:12:07 impacts that you could see with the River introduction both
01:12:11 being some Skylar and some new land appearing, so those would
01:12:16 be the types of.
01:12:17 Processes that you could expect to see with this
01:12:21 larger propose diversion.
01:12:27 Thanks for
01:12:32 that



01:12:34 answer. Looks like we're at another pause. I get a little
01:12:39 bit of a delay, so there might be questions coming through and
01:12:43 will wait and see if they do.
01:12:45 Hum.
01:12:47 And Karen, while you take a pause, uh, for those questions
01:12:51 to come in, I will let the Corps and CRPA. I know that, uh, we did
01:12:57 have 86 attendees at the start of the Q&A session. We're
01:13:01 starting to see just a few of them leave their 73 attendees at
01:13:05 this time. Um, we still have plenty of time to, uh, continue
01:13:11 to take questions.
01:13:14 About 17 minutes before the end of our scheduled events so we
01:13:18 will hang on for the full amount of time and.
01:13:23 We may remain silent and wait for those questions to come
01:13:28 in, and we do have some common, then Jerry Trapani
01:13:33 asks, is there a Ms army Corps engineer representative?
01:13:39 That part of Mississippi falls under the mobile district.
01:13:44 So you would need to contact them for any specific
01:13:47 questions you might have.
01:13:52 Simon G, He asks what type of
01:13:57 environmental conditions would allow for maximum
01:13:59 operation of the diversion.
01:14:03 Thank you for the question. Will ask the state please to respond.
01:14:07 Hey, great question. The the version is a passive operation
01:14:12 system so relies on the water in the River and head differential
01:14:17 to the base and so the Max operation of 75,000 CFS would
01:14:22 not occur until the River reach approximately 1 million CFS. In
01:14:26 terms of that operation, thanks for the question.
01:14:39 So I'm I'm gonna give it a pause and see if a few more questions
01:14:44 come through. Like I said, there's a little bit of a delay,
01:14:48 so it's good to be patient. Your questions are very important, so
01:14:52 don't be shy. Send them into US.
01:15:05 I'm looking through the Q&A and I'm I'm saying maybe
01:15:12 some questions that we either Mr could elaborate on further.



01:15:20 Had asked another question here further up at 239 about
01:15:24 Mardi Gras pass and would it be closed?
01:15:30 We would, I mean, if that's a project that was submitted to
01:15:34 the Corps, we'd certainly analyze it. There is no intention for
01:15:37 the court to close montegro pass at this time, so that requests
01:15:41 would have to come from a third party or Plaquemines Parish.
01:15:46 I saw a question concerning
01:15:50 project life. And currently were reviewing the Mid Breton
01:15:55 Sediment Diversion to being operation for 50 years.
01:16:07 Thanks for doing those
01:16:13 questions.
01:16:16 Sometimes they come in quickly
01:16:18 and. If we missed your question, feel free to resubmit it.
01:16:23 We do not want to miss any of
01:16:25 them. And it's good that we have a lot of eyes looking at them.
01:16:33 So it looks like.
01:16:40 Do you have another question coming in?
01:16:43 Something Kerry Japan.
01:16:45 With regards to the Mardi Gras
01:16:47 past project with. Would that be project be considered a success
01:16:52 or a failure?
01:16:54 With plain sight be in 2020, should it had been done?
01:17:00 So yeah, thanks for the question and I I don't think we should
01:17:07 frame Mardi Gras passes, you know, give it a pass fail. I
01:17:12 mean it's just a function of River operation and there was a
01:17:18 structure currently at that location, the Bohemia Spillway.
01:17:22 There was a washout around that structure which led to that re
01:17:27 introduction of the Mississippi River into that.
01:17:31 Portion of the base, and so, as far as whether it's successful
01:17:36 or not I I know that Um Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
01:17:41 does a pretty good job at monitoring that that area I'm
01:17:46 not aware of any published reports that to expand the pawn
01:17:50 that but. I I don't think that we should consider it.



01:17:54 A project like this and and more towards looking at it is just a
01:18:00 natural function of the River.

01:18:02 And you know River River Function?

01:18:06 So we have another question from Ted Ber, why not

01:18:12 dredge? It's been very successful in Mississippi.

01:18:18 It will ask the state please to respond.

01:18:23 Hey, that's a great question. Um, for those that that may or

01:18:27 may not be familiar with the coastal masterplan. UM, in our

01:18:31 uhm, restoration bucket of the pie there, um, a significant

01:18:35 portion of our coastal master plan projects are dredging

01:18:38 somebody asked earlier about sea level rise and getting back to

01:18:42 where we may have used to ban and so forth. And this is where

01:18:47 we see praise and the firm belief that we have to use all

01:18:51 tools in the toolbox. So we dredge, we dredge alot. This

01:18:55 predominantly the majority of the projects we.

01:18:58 You are dredged projects on the restoration side. In

01:19:01 addition to that, though, we do understand the need for

01:19:05 restoring the root cause of the damage that we see from

01:19:09 the basins not being able to be estuaries, so not being

01:19:13 able to receive fresh water nutrients and sediment to

01:19:17 Compat are saltwater intrusion. Are subsidence and

01:19:19 such. So with that leads us to Sediment diversion, so

01:19:23 sending diversions or additional projects beyond

01:19:25 what the state is already doing for dredging.

01:19:29 Thanks.

01:19:32 Thank you.

01:19:34 So we have a little bit of a pause. I'm gonna do my usual. I

01:19:40 apologize if I mispronounced any names. I'm doing my best and we

01:19:45 want to say your name so that that your acknowleged. Your

01:19:49 questions are important. If somehow we've misunderstood the

01:19:52 question or skipped over a piece of what you wanted to know,

01:19:57 please feel free to ask it again. We don't mind repeating

01:20:02 ourselves or or hearing different versions of the



01:20:05 question. Uh, we have another one coming in from Ben Gordon.

01:20:09 Are you all familiar?

01:20:12 With the book the ravaging tide by Mike Tidwell.

01:20:16 Free Free Press, 2006.

01:20:19 So through the entire panel had known about that book.

01:20:24 Familiar with rising tide? I'm not. I'm not familiar with this

01:20:29 this title though.

01:20:39 So it looks like we have another pausing when to pass it to Stacy

01:20:44 to check on time and go over some other details.

01:20:48 Thank you Karen. We do have 10 minutes left in today's events

01:20:53 so will continue to ask the panel to remain patient so we

01:20:58 can scout for those questions coming in. Just a reminder.

01:21:03 Uh, for those of you who are still here, I see 71 of you

01:21:07 still hanging in there with us through the end of our van. We

01:21:10 are very grateful. That you joined us today.

01:21:15 Uhm, it's very important. Uh, to be part of the official scoping

01:21:21 process. And will share some information again on this screen

01:21:25 about ways to submit your official scoping comments. So

01:21:28 again, the goal of today's question and answer session was

01:21:32 so that you could have your

01:21:34 questions answered. In an effort to develop and finalize your

01:21:40 official scoping comments, which can be submitted by Mail by

01:21:45 email to see MVN dash Mid Breton at USA CE dot army dot MIL.

01:21:54 Or if you prefer to leave a recorded voice comment, you can

01:22:00 call the 1-855-643

01:22:03 2738 number and carrying all throw it back to you

01:22:08 for the next question.

01:22:11 Thanks Stacy. Jennifer Moulton says why the 5000

01:22:17 CFS preschool.

01:22:19 Thank you for the question. Will last the state to please

01:22:23 respond? Hey, great question. So we're looking at a future

01:22:28 with this project. Not just what happens tomorrow, but in

01:22:32 the future window that will still be battling sea level



01:22:37 rise and looking at it based flow for the ability to adapt
01:22:42 Lee manage for future environmental changing
01:22:45 conditions in the base. Your question thanks.
01:22:52 Thank you so.
01:22:55 Will give it a few more minutes. It looks like there may be some
01:22:59 more questions coming in. Apologize for the delay
01:23:02 Anna P would like to know what the base flow still brings
01:23:07 sediments into the basin or just water at that low flow.
01:23:13 Thank you were going to ask the state please to respond.
01:23:18 Hey, great question. Now the base flow would still Bering
01:23:21 sediments, so during the year you consistently have a level
01:23:25 of Wash load within the River itself. Uhm, so you would see
01:23:30 some benefits from there, but like Brad said, as we go
01:23:34 through this process the Corps will be requesting upon us
01:23:37 information that will provide to them with with that type of
01:23:41 modeling information that they can analyze for their
01:23:44 analysis. But great questions. So yeah, we would see watch
01:23:48 mode in that material.
01:23:54 Great, thank you.
01:24:06 And while we have a pass, we do want to remind anyone who's on
01:24:11 the phone in listen only mode. If you'd like to, uh.
01:24:15 Return again tomorrow evening, 6:00 o'clock to 7:30 PM central
01:24:18 Daylight Time. We will be doing another session and then be
01:24:23 happy to hear your questions then. Or you can go to the
01:24:27 website and put your questions in that way.
01:24:31 And I will be happy to answer them. We we've got a few
01:24:35 questions through the website that we've addressed at these
01:24:38 sessions, so it's a great way to do it as well.
01:24:42 I will take a pause and try to see if a few more
01:24:45 questions coming through.
01:25:08 And this is Stacy. I'll remind the panel that we have about 6
01:25:13 more minutes. If the panel can hang in there for today's
01:25:17 events, we're seeing a total of 61 attendees, so a few of our



01:25:21 attendees have dropped of.-.

01:25:23 But for those of you who are

01:25:25 still. Uh, joining us will remain patient while you.

01:25:31 Submit your final questions.

01:25:40 And this is Karen, we looks like we've answered about 30

01:25:44 questions today, so it's it's been a really good discussion.

01:25:48 Some of you may have had comments that weren't questions

01:25:52 we want to remind you that those will be recorded and they will

01:25:57 be made a part of the official.

01:26:00 And they will be reviewed by our animals. So um, note that all

01:26:05 you have is a comment. We're happy to take it.

01:26:14 And just just a couple of reminders to you see this slide

01:26:19 up there. It says ways to submit official scoping comments. You

01:26:23 can do that via the regular Mail, and the address is there.

01:26:28 You can also send an email to CEMVN Dash Mid Breton. That's

01:26:33 MIDBRETON at USA CE dot army dot MIL. And if you wanna leave a

01:26:39 verbal comment, you can call toll free for a four

01:26:43 minute message at

01:26:45 1-855-643-2738. That's 1-855-643-2738 these videos of these meetings

01:26:49 were also be available on the project web page and also

01:26:54 available on the Corps of Engineers. New Orleans district

01:26:58 YouTube page as well.

01:27:02 In Stacy via email, we do have a question from Lynette dash that

01:27:09 has to do with areas on the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain

01:27:15 Hopedale, Parish Bernardo.

01:27:18 When it comes to flooding and those those areas as a result of

01:27:25 the project. For that to be, for that to be the case, we would

01:27:30 have to fax water level changes, potentially in Lake Ponchartain

01:27:34 as a result of the Mid Breton sediment to version. And I

01:27:38 don't believe that we we see that being the case at this

01:27:43 point, but certainly if the analysis expands to that region

01:27:46 then it would be something that we would look into.

01:27:53 Thank you Brad, and thank you to the Corps for keeping an eye on



01:27:57 that question in box that is separate from today's event.
01:28:02 We appreciate. The public feedback in the comments. Uhm,
01:28:07 we've responded, as Karen mentioned to 30 questions we do
01:28:12 have. Uhm, Seven additional messages that are more comment
01:28:16 related or clarify quick skews me clarifications to uhm
01:28:21 Questions that we have
01:28:22 addressed. Uh, the participation today I still see 57 in
01:28:27 attendance and with two minutes left to go, I'll go ahead and
01:28:32 start making some closing remarks. We will leave the Q&A
01:28:36 feature open, however, um, until time expires. So if you have
01:28:40 some last minute thoughts, uh, we don't see anything I knew
01:28:44 coming in. So Karen, I appreciate your help. If you'd
01:28:48 like to meet yourself and panel thank you very much for
01:28:53 responding to these important questions today will let you
01:28:56 also meet yourselves if you
01:28:58 haven't. Already, and you're welcome to discontinue the use
01:29:02 of her webcam at this time, and thank you to those who attended

Closing Remarks

01:29:07 today. We appreciate the attendance. We appreciate your
01:29:11 questions and participation. This is certainly not the
01:29:14 preferred way that the Corps and CRPA a would like to meet with
01:29:20 you, but under the circumstances in the consideration for the
01:29:24 guidelines for public health, we appreciate you being adaptable.
01:29:28 The questions and the responses today will become part of the
01:29:33 project record. Then they can be made available for public
01:29:37 review, a reminder that all the questions we received will be
01:29:41 reviewed by members of the panel, and we're hopeful that
01:29:45 those responses that were given today encourage you to develop
01:29:48 your official scoping comments and submit them in a manner as
01:29:53 we indicate here on this screen, again by Mail or sending email
01:29:57 to CEMVN Dash. Mid Breton at USA CE dot army dot MIL, or by
01:30:02 calling you can leave a
01:30:04 Voicemail, at 1-855-643-2738. If we did not



01:30:08 hear from you today, maybe you joined in listen only mode. Uh,
01:30:14 more. If you'd like to join another live event this week,
01:30:19 that final session session three will be tomorrow. That's
01:30:23 Thursday, July 16th from 6:00 to
01:30:26 7:30 PM. And I have 30 minutes after the hour. I don't see any
01:30:33 new questions coming in. So um, with the Corps in CRPA, raise
01:30:39 blessing. We will, uh, conclude today's event. I will ask the
01:30:43 panel to stand by an. I will let our attendees know. We
01:30:48 appreciate your attendance again. You may exit today's
01:30:51 event by clicking the red icon with an X and selecting leave.