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Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Public Scoping Meeting Transcript

Session 1 - July 14, 2020

Opening Remarks

00:01 Hello and welcome. Thank you for joining the Mid-Breton Sediment

00:05 Diversion Public Scoping meeting number one and thank you for

00:09 your interest in the project. I am Stacy Mueller from GHD and

00:14 will be hosting today's event. Karen Miller and Simonia Ramirez-

00:17 Dias, also from GHD will assist in the production and the

00:22 moderation of today's event.

00:25 As we are all likely adapting to new technology, I would like to

00:29 cover some items to expect while viewing or listening to our

00:32 event today. First, today's event is being recorded and

00:36 recordings from all three public scoping meeting sessions will be

00:40 made available for future viewing through links on the

00:44 project webpage. Secondly, you have joined us in listen only

00:48 mode. Through the Webex Event Center platform, there will be a

00:52 period during today's event when those of you who have joined

00:55 by Internet will be able to ask questions through a Q and a

00:59 feature on your screen.

01:01 We will share instructions on how to submit questions just

01:05 before the question and answer session begins. Please note that

01:09 questions that you submit today may be published for all

01:13 attendees to view during today's event and will be eventually

01:17 available on the project's web

01:19 page. If you are familiar with Webex or with other similar

01:23 video conferencing products, we'd like to remind you that

01:27 this Webex Event Center platform is different from a meeting

01:30 platform. You will not be able to share your audio or video

01:34 feeds and we will be not. We will not be using other features

01:39 such as chat, pulling or raise hand. Again, we will only be

01:43 using the Q&A feature.



01:45 If you are not familiar with Webex or the Q and a feature, we
01:50 will be providing verbal an on-screen instructions on how you
01:54 may participate prior to beginning the moderated question
01:57 and answer portion of today's
01:59 event. If you have dialed into the audio conference
02:03 only, you will not be able to submit questions today
02:06 through the QA feature and you will remain in listen
02:10 only mode if you visit the project web page you are able
02:14 to click a button on the left hand side of the web page to
02:19 submit your questions. Responses to questions
02:21 submitted through the project web page may be addressed
02:24 outside of today's event.
02:27 The presenters today will be sharing several ways for you to
02:31 submit official scoping comments outside of today's event. We are
02:35 sharing these ways on your screen now and we will also
02:40 share them again throughout
02:41 today's event. Email may be sent to CEMVN-Mid
02:48 breton@USACE.army.mil or you
02:55 may call 1-855-643-2738. At this time I would like to
03:02 introduce Rene Poche of the US Army Corps of Engineers,
03:09 Rene, you may begin.

Rene Poche (USACE) Begins Opening Remarks and Presentations

03:16 Thank you Stacy and Good morning everyone. Thank you
03:21 for joining us for today's scoping meeting concerning the
03:25 Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion project, the Coastal Protection
03:28 and Restoration Authority of Louisiana has applied to the US
03:32 Army Corps of Engineers for permits and permission to
03:36 construct, maintain and operate the Mid-Breton Sediment
03:39 Diversion project on the East Bank of the Mississippi River
03:43 near Willis point, in
03:45 Plaquemines Parish. In compliance with the National
03:49 Environmental Policy Act, the Corps will prepare an
03:52 environmental impact statement to inform its permitting



03:56 decisions. We're seeking public comment to assist in determining
04:01 the scope of issues, resources, impacts, and alternatives to be
04:05 addressed in this document.

04:07 And you are extremely important to the process. We want to hear
04:13 from you. Comments will be collected from July 2nd through
04:17 August 16th, 2020.

04:19 And at anytime during the scoping period, interested
04:23 parties can provide their official comments using one of
04:28 the following in the slide is up there. There's a Mail address,
04:34 but you can submit email as well at CEMVN-MidBreton
04:40 @USACE.Army.mil and you could submit oral
04:46 comments via toll free number
04:49 1-855-643-2738 that's 1-855-643-2738 today. They'll be 3
04:53 recorded presentations. First you'll hear from Colonel Steven
04:58 Murphy, the Commander of the New Orleans district, with some
05:04 opening remarks, then Bradley LaBorde, Army Corps of Engineers or
05:09 regulatory project manager will provide an overview of the Corps
05:15 permit process. Should be followed by Brad Barth,
05:20 Louisiana Coastal Protection
05:21 Restoration Authority. Who will provide an overview of the mid
05:26 Breton Sediment Diversion project. After that will take
05:30 questions and will answer as many questions as possible. Any
05:34 unanswered questions maybe
05:36 responded to on the project web page. Again, thank you for
05:41 joining us today.

Welcome Video from Colonel Steven Murphy

05:45 Hello, I'm Colonel Steven
05:48 Murphy, the Commander of the New Orleans district I want to
05:53 thank you for participating today in this first series of
05:58 virtual meetings regarding the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion.
06:01 Environmental impact. Today's participation is
06:04 invaluable to us because your participation and the questions
06:08 you provide us will help us come to the best decision possible.



06:13 For us, that is a custom protection and restoration of authority
06:17 and the Corps of Engineers and today we hope to provide new
06:21 insight into the process and the authorities that govern this
06:24 process and really to address your questions and hear your
06:28 feedback. We're doing this at virtual environment because of
06:31 everything we've been experiencing with COVID-19, so I
06:34 want to ask you for your patience as we move forward.
06:38 This is a new process and I'm sure they will experience just a
06:42 few bumps along the way. So thank you again.
06:46 For participating, we appreciate it very much and I look forward
06:49 to your feedback is you provide input to help the Corps come to
06:53 the best decision possible.

USACE Presentation, Brad LaBorde, Regulatory Project Manager

06:55 Hello and welcome to the virtual scoping meetings for the
07:00 proposed Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion project. My name is
07:05 Bradley LaBorde. I am the Corps Regulatory Project Manager.
07:10 Project review and environmental impact
07:12 This statement or EIS. This presentation is available to
07:15 you on the Corps Mid-Breton Web page. It will also be
07:20 part of our live events.
07:23 However you choose to participate myself and the Corps
07:26 Mid-Breton Review Team thank you for sacrificing some of your
07:30 time to actively participate and provide input on the proposed
07:34 project. Ideally, the Corps would host these meetings in person.
07:38 However, do the challenges with the ongoing public health
07:41 crisis. We cannot do that at
07:43 this time. The goals of this presentation in the scoping
07:48 meetings are two. One provide you with brief details on CPRA
07:53 or the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of
07:56 Louisiana's proposed Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion
07:59 project. Following my presentation, Brad Barth of CPRA
08:04 will provide more details on their proposed project and CPRA,
08:08 raised overall mission to explain the Corps review process



08:13 including our NEPA or National Environmental Policy Act review
08:17 three and most importantly, provide you with a platform to
08:22 answer any questions you may have seen can adequately prepare
08:26 your scoping comments.
08:29 This presentation, along with additional visual aids and a
08:33 project fact sheet are available on the Corps of Engineers New Orleans
08:37 District Main Bretton webpage. If interested please review this
08:41 information and if you can participate and will not allow
08:45 my events scheduled for July 14th, 15th, and 16th.
08:49 During these three live events,
08:53 listen using the number and access code shown here.
08:56 Additionally, participants using the Internet can go to the Corps
09:00 Mid-Breton Web page and click on the appropriate link to
09:04 direct you to the web meeting from there, questions can be
09:09 submitted using the chat box and the Webex online platform.
09:13 During live events, the moderator
09:15 will relay questions for Corps or CPRA representatives to
09:20 answer. All three meetings will be recorded and posted on the
09:25 web page. Your participation our scheduled live events are just for
09:29 informational purposes. It does not count as your official
09:32 scoping comment you're scoping. Comments can be submitted by
09:36 traditional mail, email or by telephone and shown here.
09:41 Here's a screenshot of the Mid-Breton webpage. The main
09:45 section has summary and schedule information. All scoping meeting
09:49 info will be on the left. You can click the submit scoping
09:53 question box prior to our live events to send us a question to
09:58 be answered during the live meetings on the right side of
10:03 the web page you will see information about how to submit
10:07 your official scoping comments. The two lines at the bottom are
10:11 are for the Corps Mid-Breton Web page and the
10:15 permanent dashboard, these two wings should be the top two
10:18 results if you Google for Mid-
10:20 Breton. The permitting dashboard allows interested parties to



10:24 track our progress during the big brands in the Diversion
10:28 project review. Periodically check this link.
10:32 After the scoping process to monitor on progress.
10:37 CPRA has proposed to construct, operate and maintain the
10:41 Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion project. The concept of the
10:44 Diversion has been studied at the coastal restoration tool for
10:48 sometime now, coastal Louisiana currently has two fresh water
10:51 Diversion in operation. Davis pawn on the West Bank and Corman
10:55 on the East Bank.
10:58 CPRA is proposing it Brendan Sediment Diversion, designed
11:02 to convey water at volumes up to 75,000 cubic feet per second, or
11:07 CFS, depending on Mississippi River level and flow rates. When
11:12 the Diversion structure is closed. A base well about two
11:16 5000 CFS is proposed. If constructed, the project flow
11:20 print would be on the East bank. In Willis
11:25 Parish, Louisiana. At this point, you may be asking
11:29 yourself if this is a CTR, a project. Why is the Corps of
11:33 Engineers involved? Well, the Corps is directed to by Congress
11:37 via the rivers and harbors act and the Clean Water Act. If a
11:41 member of the general public has an action or project that may
11:44 impact of course of a works
11:46 project. One must obtain a section 408 permission
11:50 from the Corps. This includes any federally mandated levy or water
11:57 activity will not be injurious to the public's interest in will
12:01 not impair the usefulness of the
12:03 federal projects. If a member of the public has an action or
12:09 project that obstructs their altars and Addable waterway,
12:12 such as a doctor or water convenience, it would require
12:16 ascension 10 permanent as the Corps regulatory program is
12:19 tasked with maintaining navigation in US waters.
12:22 Similarly, if a member of the general public has an action or
12:26 project that requires excavating and or failing into
12:30 jurisdictional wetlands, but Section 404 permit would be



12:33 required, it must be demonstrated that the project is
12:36 in the Public Interest.
12:38 And steps have been taken to taken to avoid and minimize
12:42 adverse impacts to our nation's wetlands and, if required,
12:46 provide mitigation for any outstanding
12:49 level impacts to proceed during all product reviews and during
12:53 the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion. Review the Corps
12:56 regulatory staff remains neutral in independence and one decision
13:00 making on mission is to make permanent decisions on best
13:04 available science engineering standards and professional
13:06 judgment. Again, the Corps is neither for or against this or
13:11 any other application
13:12 Review OK, so here is CPRA proposed project
13:20 Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion footprint using Mardi Gras
13:25 colors. OK, you have the full
13:27 construction footprint. Within that and LSU gold you can see
13:32 the outline of the actual structure and changes to LA 39.
13:37 In Tulane, green CPRA anticipates modifications to
13:40 the existing pump station along this back living.
13:45 If you think back to the previous slide CPRA a hit the
13:50 permitting trifecta requiring a section 1044 permit and a
13:53 Section 4 await permission to better understand, you can break
13:58 the project into three segments. One the area within an along the
14:03 Mississippi River to the Mississippi River Levee has
14:26 conveyance. Structure extends through Wetlands Till River.
14:31 This one offers two zoomed out shots of the project area on the
14:36 left you can see the project footprint in CPRA as anticipated
14:41 transition area and white. This is where deltaic processes can
14:46 be expected based on CPRA as preliminary estimates,
14:50 additional water quality and salinity impacts are anticipated
14:53 outside this area.
14:56 On the right you can get a better view of the project



14:59 location with reference to the New Orleans Metropolitan area to
15:02 the top left. Following the Mississippi River, you can see
15:06 the project location, the Breton Sound Basin and the
15:09 Mississippi River basin. In Plaquemines and Saint Bernard
15:12 Parish is or where most impacts will be, how far impacts may go
15:17 to the East and North East into the Pontchartrain Basin
15:21 chandelier Sound, if at all is unknown at this time. The Corps
15:26 is independently reviewing all of CPRA as models to better
15:29 understand the extent of impacts including land building, an
15:33 accretion storm surge and aquatic resources to determine
15:36 the overall. Beneficial in adverse impacts associated with
15:40 CPRA as projects.
15:42 So now that we've discussed Section 4 way permissions and
15:46 the section 10 and 404 permits, it's important to know what our
15:51 decision making tool is then that is NEPA, the National
15:55 Environmental Policy Act in the
15:56 process. And documents serve as our evaluation and decision
16:01 making tool. The Corps is the lead federal agency. For this
16:05 effort, a third party contractor has been selected to help write
16:09 an independently review.CPRA's Mid-Breton Sediment
16:12 Diversion project. The level of our NEPA reviews is dependent
16:12 Diversion project. The level of our NEPA reviews is dependent
16:20 that this project could significantly affect the quality
16:23 of the human environment, requiring an EIS or Environmental
16:27 Impact Statement. An EIS is a detailed study of a
16:32 project. Potential impacts to the human environment.
16:35 The Corps as the lead federal agency is in charge of drafting
16:40 the EIS, in coordination with the central cooperating
16:43 agencies. The scoping comments you provide will help us
16:46 determine the appropriate amount of detail for each specific
16:50 resources to be impacted.
16:52 The end results or outputs from the EIS will be included into a



16:58 record of decision or Rod, which would announce the per the Corps
17:02 permitting decision in conjunction with other federal
17:05 laws. Typically the most important details in an EIS can
17:09 be found in chapters one through four. Chapter 1, outline of
17:13 projects, purpose, and mean statement that explains why a
17:17 particular project is being pursued. Chapter 2. The
17:20 alternative section outlines the alternative projects that will
17:23 be examined. In the EIS Analysis, Chapter 3 affected
17:27 environment is a description of the project areas, existing
17:32 conditions, conditions in trends, Chapter 4, environmental
17:35 consequences, and perhaps the most important part of the EIS,
17:39 analyzes the impacts of the proposed project and
17:43 alternatives, including the no
17:45 action alternatives. So the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion EIS
17:49 the Corps with coordination with our federal cooperating
17:53 agencies, established a purpose in the statement based off the
17:57 one provided by CPRA a in their permit application. From there,
18:02 we evaluated potential alternatives. CPRA has provided
18:06 an alternatives analysis for cool review. The Corps, in
18:10 coordination with the federal cooperating agencies, did an
18:13 independent review of alternatives from prior studies.
18:17 The CPRA race in middle and evaluated other potential
18:21 coastal restoration tools are alternatives. Analysis is not
18:25 complete. It is not complete until we also evaluate
18:29 alternatives provided during the scoping process. Reasonable
18:32 alternatives received during scoping will be given the same
18:36 considerations established during our preliminary review.
18:40 After preliminary review, the list of alternatives to be evaluated
18:44 in the EIS are
18:46 Sediment Diversions with maximum flows of 35,000 CFS.
18:52 75,000 CFSP applications preferred alternative and 100
18:57 and 15,000 CFS.



18:59 baselow are also being evaluated a 2500 CFS and
19:06 5000 CFS Baslow scenario.
19:09 To wrap up, the scoping process, is the Public opportunity to
19:14 tell the Corps would you want to see addressed in the EIS you
19:19 play a central role in the regulatory process, particularly
19:22 if you've listened to my presentation this long.
19:26 Please submit your comments by email or traditional
19:30 snail mail. You can also submit a verbal comment at 1855 Mid-
19:34 Breton. The number allows 4 minutes for your comment.
19:38 Comments will be transcribed and included into the permanent
19:42 record. Verbal comments can be provided in multiple different
19:45 languages and later translated. Also if you're viewing this
19:49 before our lives events, please participate in one. If you can
19:53 we will be addressing your questions during these times.
19:58 Public involvement does not end with scoping. While preliminary
20:01 work on the EIS has begun, we are early in the EIS process
20:06 process, which starts with public scoping. Once coping is
20:10 complete, CPRA will provide all project modeling material in a
20:14 series of technical reports. The Corps, with the help of the third
20:19 party contractor and cooperating federal and state agencies, will
20:22 independently review CPRA as material along with other best
20:26 available signs to draft the
20:28 EIS. The draft EIS is scheduled to be complete in fall 2022.
20:33 Shortly after the draft EIS, the Corps will host the public
20:38 hearing. The Corps will never revise the draft EIS based on
20:42 public hearing feedback to produce the final currently
20:46 scheduled in the fall of 2023.
20:49 Then the final EIS will go from public review before the all
20:54 important permit and record of decision currently scheduled for
20:58 January 2024. The permit decision can be a denial,
21:02 proffering a least damaging alternative, examining the
21:05 EIS or approval of CPR as preferred alternatives.
21:10 Lastly, I want to leave you with a list of potential issues that



21:15 we will address along with your concerns. This list is part of
21:20 the visual aids we have available to you on the core mid
21:24 Breton webpage. When providing your Scott scoping comment,
21:27 please consider the following questions. What important
21:30 issues, resources and impacts should be considered in the EIS?
21:34 What alternatives would modifications to the existing
21:37 proposal should be considered in the EIS, and?
21:40 But there are other problems or opportunities. The Corps
21:43 should be aware of. This concludes my presentation.
21:46 Thank you for your participation and these safe
21:49 during these Times Now hand it over to Brad Barth from CPRA.
21:53 Thank you.

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

22:00 In the Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion Public Scoping
22:05 Meeting. I am Brad Barth with the Coastal Protection Restoration
22:11 Authority. In this setting, I am the Diversion Program Manager and
22:16 also in the operations group with CPRA, the
22:23 operations assistant
22:24 administrator. Real quick, we will go over an introduction to talk a little
22:29 bit about our coast or land loss will talk about.
22:34 Addressing the root cause and reconnecting at River.
22:39 Brandon said with version and then Lastly will hit upon and
22:44 talk a little bit about our operations management.
22:49 So let's think back to
22:53 Post 2005 Hurricane Katrina,
22:57 Legislator looked at how the state was handling
23:01 restoration and what goes through
23:03 protection. We went into one group or one agency to do
23:08 integrated approach to handling restoration and protection
23:11 efforts leading to the creation of coastal protection.
23:15 Let's look forward to restoration.
23:19 So you may be familiar with this map, may have seen it before since 1930 so 80



23:25 years of actual data that we've observed from USGS of land loss
23:31 over 2000 square miles.

23:35 Or look it going forward over the next 50 years.

23:42 If you're familiar with these maps, We look at it couple different sea level

23:46 rise in areas. This would be the medium scenario. Potentially we

23:49 are an order of 4200 square miles that we have the potential

23:53 to lose over the next 50 years. Should we do nothing?

23:59 So what is take here?

24:03 Well, look at coastal Louisiana Purchase. Take is our flag

24:08 protection are natural processes of the of the lower coast of

24:13 Louisiana. High costs habitats are cultural heritage.

24:18 And I work in constraints take.

24:22 A master plan is required by the legislator every

24:26 six years. It's 50 billion dollar plan. Equally split

24:30 between restoration and protection or risk reduction. 25

24:34 done into each. It is required for us to look at this every six

24:40 years. And really what this is?

24:44 It's very how we rank in select projects for implementation

24:48 every six years it gives us the ability to put the best projects

24:53 on the landscape. Considering the information science analysis

24:56 available to rank projects, that's really what it is. We

25:00 don't have \$50,000,000, but this is gives us a pool of projects

25:05 to select from. To put the best projects on the ground with

25:10 changing environmental

25:11 conditions. What are

25:15 are the costs? Early

25:18 1900s. Completing the lower Mississippi River

25:24 protection system. Great seats in terms of protecting our

25:29 nation, our citizens and in our navigation address interest in

25:34 terms of economics of the entire United States. So what that's

25:39 done is less reliant areas that don't have that access to the

25:44 freshwater. This sediment from the nutrients, and that's really



25:49 been starving those areas in waiting those areas into
25:53 regulating nature or degrading
25:55 wetland environment. I'm looking for imagery acrossed cost of
26:01 Louisiana. We can look to our neighbors to the last in the
26:07 Atchafalaya Wax Lake. Delta area was the only areas in
26:11 coastal area that is experiencing land gaing and not
26:14 land loss in these areas and neither is have that direct
26:19 access to freshwater sediment and nutrients all combined
26:22 together, we go look at areas further to the start button
26:27 found basing. We don't have that same access to freshwater
26:31 sediments in their trance.
26:34 That's why you look at this. You see the moon from the wax
26:38 like Atchafalaya called at the happy face. You look at the
26:41 Breton soundside Frowny face.
26:44 So let's talk a little bit more specifically why you are here
26:50 today. Breton Sediment Diversion Project, some basic
26:53 details. River mall locations in 68 on the Mississippi River on
26:58 the East, power the left descending bank rolled point
27:02 Bartonsville area. The funding is through all spill dollars
27:06 task currently that are being worked on right now are the
27:11 engineering design and permitting tasks associated with
27:14 this permit application.
27:16 Why are attending and watching this very scoping meeting? So
27:20 the details of this project will be looking to have an inlet
27:25 along the River in the minus 20 - 35 foot elevation range. The
27:31 overall quarter or with for permanent construction features
27:34 or proximally 1400 feet wide price make half mile long. The
27:39 capacity for the diversions estimated up to 75,000 CFS, so
27:43 it's a passive system, so it relies on the water level of
27:48 the river in water level the base into something that what
27:53 are the nutrients and sediment out into the basement. So add
27:57 flow River flow in the beginning of the spring flood season. The



28:02 diversion may only be able to flow on order of 30 or 40,000
28:07 CFS as it approaches Max flood stage and reaches 1,000,000
28:11 million plus on the flow of the River will be up closer to
28:17 75,000 CFS and how it operates.
28:19 Base flow up to 5000 CFS is, well. We're pretty for asking
28:24 for in the permit with that window based flow is a more of an
28:28 environmental conditionality future really only want to flow
28:32 with make some sense environmentally going forward
28:34 into the future based on conditions at the time they were
28:39 operating. Major components and features of the project will
28:43 consist of an inlet to convey in structure and how wet it will
28:48 require us to do. Some interior drainage modifications to
28:52 maintain strange within the
28:53 interior. In the virtual World Point area and then
28:57 also requires the relocation Highway 23.
29:01 This slide kind of gives you a footprint of the project area.
29:07 The main footprint includes temporary and permanent right
29:10 of ways at this point. That's of the engineering
29:15 design process, but this give you idea perspective of the
29:19 footprint of the project in terms of both temporary and
29:23 permanent features. The lower bill docked down to the right would
29:27 be the pump station where we're
29:30 looking at for some potential improvements to the pump station
29:35 for that interior drainage element diversions. What's
29:38 involved here? The goal is just
29:41 selecting a location along the river that's got a super
29:45 concentrated amount of sediment highly streaming from
29:48 deposition under a point bar and we can use that material and
29:53 concentrate that material off that point bar. Then we can
29:57 maximize that settlement, diverting out into the basin and
30:01 minimize that fresh water.
30:06 Looking at over project operations, this is a 3D



30:10 rendition. Obviously the project is on the East bank
30:13 or the left descending bank. You can see here the flow for
30:18 the intake into the gated structure and then out into
30:22 the Breton sound face.
30:25 Looking at Plainview, you can see a little bit more detail
30:30 here with permanent features and then potential temporary areas
30:34 for construction, lay down or staging areas. Again, major
30:38 major features or intake channel. The gate structure,
30:42 LA39 relocation in the channel conveyance, and then out to the
30:47 outfall area with apology, channel activated version or Oak
30:51 River. I'm doing another 3D rendition here. Looking at
30:56 this, you see some kind of the bottom left at the top
31:00 right, the Mississippi River levee are Inlet
31:03 Channel. The gate structure services they controlled
31:06 gated facility, so we're not operating, the gates will
31:09 obviously be closed. channel conveyance out for the
31:12 outfall area and then head into the basement.
31:16 Kind of look in the mid South. You are looking at the gate
31:23 complex and the conveyance
31:26 channels. So let's talk a little bit about operations. So as part
31:33 of this permanent, unusual operations plan is included in
31:37 such that the Corps can evaluate this project are trigger for the
31:44 on off the start and stop of the Diversion. Is Forman 50,000
31:50 CFS in Belle Chase.
31:52 That also includes an up to 5000 CFS based flow. When will below
31:58 that form and 50,000 CR fast that based flows is for future
32:03 changing environmental conditions. And again it's up to
32:06 number. We would expect the base load to only operate and flow at
32:17 confinement conditions we see in the base, and we expect that to
32:22 be lower than the 5000.
32:24 Adaptive management plan. So this is a key part of



32:29 dealing with environmental changes in the future and
32:33 really gets at the heart of our mission is to be able to
32:39 consider our changing environment to be able to
32:43 manage above or below those levels stated above based on
32:47 the conditions we see.
32:50 Additional emergency stops. Tropical activity, spills and
32:56 navigation. It's part of our charge as CPRA is flood
33:01 protection and we don't want to have conflicting messages there
33:05 in terms of like protection so no desire or intention to have
33:10 this thing operating during a tropical storm or hurricane and
33:14 thus won't have a plan in place to close the gates during any
33:20 kind of hurricane or tropical storm activity.
33:25 Adaptive management again, this is all the information on our
33:29 real time monitoring information that's gathered for anything
33:32 from looking at the performance of our project to providing this
33:36 data information on our changing environment for which will allow
33:40 us to make operational changes as needed. Based on our current
33:49 our incitement load. The flow in the River swimming in the basin
33:54 on the stage in the River, and another water. Quality
33:58 parameters and such.
33:59 As we go forward in these
34:02 permitting process. I will continue to have some both out
34:07 in the River regular basis to do some River sediment sampling.
34:12 The community gathered the information necessary for us to
34:15 have an efficient design in terms of understanding the
34:19 hydraulic hydrology, the hydraulics, and the Sediment
34:22 transport so we can maximize the excitement. Capture source site
34:26 specific data information leading into our effort. There
34:29 will, continuing in 30% line effort that 30% design effort
34:33 will then directly support.
34:35 Integrating process and provide the necessary information to the
34:39 public in terms of what the project looks like. The features



34:43 of the project, the components of the project, such that the
34:47 Court can assess those things based on this public scoping
34:51 meeting in your input.

34:53 Model testing is part of Hydrology and hydraulic testing.

34:56 One of the things we want to do is also have a physical scale
35:02 model of the project as well, so that way we can look at both
35:07 numerical and physical modeling and be able to have input there
35:12 in terms of getting the best design and that way it's also
35:17 tested as well.

35:19 We would have the experiments already done that physical scale
35:24 model testing. And obviously will continue for outreach and
35:27 engagement where we try to put as much information that we
35:31 can maintain the transparency of information we have and
35:34 where we're asking the process of the project.

35:39 Thank you.

Panel and Q&A Introduction

35:48 We're going to thank everyone who's in attendance for paying
35:53 attention to both of those presentations at this time
35:58 before we begin our question and answer session, we would
36:03 like to take a moment to introduce the panel.

36:10 I will ask our panel to unmute themselves and share their
36:14 webcams at this time.

36:17 Add front US Army core of Engineers. We have Bradley
36:24 LaBorde, Jeff Varisco, Landon Parr, Brenda Archer and Rene Poche.

36:33 From the coastal protection and
36:36 Restoration Authority. We have

36:38 Brad Barth, Brian Lezina,

36:41 Liz Davoli, Guerry Holm, Heather Layrisson, and Tim Smith.

36:48 We will now begin the question and answer session. We have
36:52 opened the Q&A feature.

36:55 You may begin submitting your questions now and while we wait
36:58 for questions to come in,



37:00 Karen our moderators will give us some instructions on how to
37:05 use the Q&A feature. Karen, Are
37:07 you ready? Yes, thanks Stacy and good morning everyone.
37:12 We hope to respond to all questions today. It is important
37:16 to the Corps and CPRA to help clarify CPRA as proposed project
37:20 and the Corps review of that project so that everyone can
37:24 develop their official scoping comments. Any questions not
37:27 addressed today may be answered on the project web page. We have
37:31 included instructions on the screen from how to participate
37:34 using the Webex Q&A feature. So if you'll take a moment to
37:34 using the Webex Q&A feature. So if you'll take a moment to
37:38 find the Q&A feature by hovering your mouse or tapping the middle
37:43 of the screen.
37:44 You may see a question mark icon if you don't, you may need to
37:48 find the icon with the three dots, which is the more options
37:52 icon and from that icon select Q&A. These icons may be
37:55 located on the right side of your screen or in the center of
38:00 your screen, and for those of you who are on a mobile device,
38:04 they may be it either at the top or the bottom of your screen.
38:09 Type in your question, then select all panelists and finally
38:13 select send will acknowledge receipt of questions with the
38:16 general response will publish the question so that other
38:20 attendees may view them during the live event.
38:24 Please use appropriate language. We will monitor messages as well
38:27 as give warnings to those who do not comply with this request.
38:31 Repeat use of inappropriate language will be cause for
38:34 removal from today's event.
38:37 As a reminder, and for those who have joined late, if you have
38:41 dialed into the audio conference only, you will not be able to
38:45 submit questions today and will remain in listen only mode.
38:49 We will encourage you to submit official scoping comments
38:52 through the channels that were mentioned during the previous



38:55 presentations and that we will share again near the end of

Q&A

38:58 today's event. So

39:02 Our first question actually came in through the website.

39:06 So I'm going to read the question here and hand

39:10 it over to Rene so that our team can answer it.

39:15 I'm a former Louisiana resident and I understand

39:18 protecting homes and people, but this is done. How is it

39:22 not going to affect the fishing here in Mississippi?

39:26 We have had dead animals on the shores after spillway openings.

39:30 How is the water of one state OK to divert to another and kill

39:36 wildlife? That which some rely on for a living. I'm just trying

39:40 to understand the project.

39:42 In the projections of the impact on both states.

39:47 So, Rene, I am going to hand that to you.

39:50 Thank you for that question. Then I'm gonna let Bradley

39:54 LaBorde responds.

39:57 Yeah, and 1st thank you. I'm glad to hear folks on the

40:02 Mississippi Coast have, or at least are aware of our process

40:06 here with. The scoping meetings for Mid-Breton Sediment

40:10 Diversion, so thanks for your questions. The answer is we

40:13 don't really know how Far East the impacts to water quality

40:17 make go, so that'll be something that's part of the

40:21 EIS analysis and your questions are actually very good ones,

40:25 and ones that we would like to see as official scoping

40:28 comments.

40:30 Thank you.

40:32 OK, we have another question coming in from Tommy Elkins.

40:36 Has there been any study comparing Mardi Gras pass

40:40 with this Diversion?

40:45 So none that I'm aware of. I know that Mardi Gras pass will

40:50 be something that's considered and CPRA raise modeling effort,



40:54 but that will be also something that we look into as part of
40:59 gathering information and drafting the Mid-Breton EIS.
41:04 OK, thank you and Thomas asks, is the design of this
41:08 Sediment divergent taking into account potential updates
41:11 to how you USACE manage is the river specifically the
41:16 updates to the flow line in any change to how the Bonnet
41:21 Carre Spillway operates?
41:25 Hi, this is Jeff Varisco from Corps Engineers section, 4 in
41:28 coordinator. Yes, we would be looking at anyway. That version
41:40 review and will be working that extensively with CPRA. A part of channels
41:44 in this process.
41:50 OK, see some comments coming in, but not any questions right now.
41:57 Thanks Karen, we did have a question come in that I'll
42:00 direct to the Corps we are going to be making with these
42:04 recordings of today's session as well as the other two
42:08 sessions available on the Corps website. Um, Brad or
42:11 Rene, would you like to make a commitment on when these
42:15 recordings might be available?
42:19 As soon as possible I will post it out. There will post
42:23 through social media as well and let folks know when
42:27 they're available.
42:29 Excellent and thank you.
42:32 OK Rene, I do have another question coming in from Sam
42:36 Soulless. How do you predict the salinity of Lake born in Lake
42:41 Pontchartrain will be affected?
42:47 Alright, thank you.
42:51 Yeah. So Sam.
42:54 That's another thing that will be taken into consideration. As
42:57 the presentation pointed out, we're not exactly sure how Far
43:01 East or to the northeast impacts maybe to water quality. And that
43:05 includes salinity, so that is something that is part of the
43:09 analysis that you would expect to see addressed in the draft



43:13 EIS. Again, if there are no impacts of those areas and we
43:18 will stay in touch.
43:21 OK, thank you Tommy Elkins asks has an economic impact statement
43:26 and made you show the impact on fishing in the area,
43:32 Delacroix, Hopedale etc.
43:34 In the fact that this area is an estuary.
43:40 Alright, thank you for that
43:42 question Brad. So we have not done in economic impact
43:46 statement which what will happen is CPRA will provide
43:51 a socioeconomics submittal to us will take that into
43:54 consideration as part of our independent review, which
43:58 would then be represented in the socioeconomic
44:02 section.
44:04 Thank you, Barbara Johnson asks, what are the factors you will
44:08 look at in analyzing the impact
44:11 of the project and fisheries. The fisheries of the area had
44:16 been under siege and improve productivity in decline.
44:20 Productivity is declining in the years. It seems like we
44:24 have an opportunity to revitalize a declining
44:27 industry.
44:30 Thank you again for that question, Brad.
44:34 Yeah, and again I think this is another good example of a
44:39 comment that we should get through the scoping process, so
44:44 please make that part of your official scoping comment just to
44:49 briefly elaborate. We are having CPRA a provide a series of
44:53 studies and models to try and gauge the impact that may take
44:58 place in the basin, which again would then be independently
45:02 reviewed, and then we take that into consideration and drafting
45:07 the. Environmental impact statement.
45:11 Thank you um joke winter.
45:15 Asks is the water quality of the Mississippi River really good
45:19 enough to do what this project is supposed to do?



45:25 Thank you for that question.

45:29 Right?

45:32 It's again another thing that we will look into. I know that CPRA

45:38 a certainly believes that that that's the case, which is why

45:42 they are proposing the project. the Mississippi River has been,

45:47 you know, it's the reason why New Orleans exists through its

45:51 segmentation processes. So CPRA is trying to mimic that with

45:56 their project and we will take into

46:14 he's kind of asking is the water clean enough to do what

46:17 the project is supposed to do, which I'm assuming your

46:20 answer address that correct.

46:23 Yes, that should be. That should be something that's analyzed in

46:27 our water quality section.

46:29 OK, and then Thomas is asking is there a plan to install new

46:34 gauges such as water levels and salinity measurement devices on

46:37 both? Both in the inlet in the outlet of the structures.

46:42 And thanks again for that question number. Let the CPRA a

46:46 respond to that.

46:51 Hey thanks. So if we get the Reaper pics here.

46:58 Great question. Yes, as part of the project we will rely on a lot

47:02 of existing gauge network system that we use across our codes

47:06 from USGS decor, Noah and then also CPRA have gauges which are known

47:10 Scrim, close wide reference monitoring system and then in

47:14 addition to that I would fully expect will have project

47:17 specific gauging stations set up as well in terms of the at the

47:22 product level at Test time in terms of where they're located

47:25 at is not been determined.

47:29 So Brad, Thomas wants to know. Also with the gauges

47:32 be permanent.

47:35 Most likely for the for the project specific yes, and

47:39 then we also have crimped gauge stations as well over

47:43 several hundred across the entire coast and



47:46 specifically there's engaging locations out into

47:49 the Breton sound bases well, which are permanent.

47:54 Great, thank you.

47:56 So Mike

47:59 Asks can you provide any information related to the

48:03 reasoning intent outcomes for the amendment to the marine

48:07 mammal species act?

48:10 So uhm, as its alluded to here, there is a waiver for this

48:15 project for an MPA or the marine mammals Protection Act. However,

48:20 the impact do Dolphins in the specific dolphin pod located in

48:24 the Breton Basin will be something that's analyzed as

48:27 part of the draft EIS.

48:31 OK, thanks David Muth would like to know can you describe

48:36 how you will evaluate the future of fisheries and Esther Green

48:40 and Wildlife Resources? If the project is not move?

48:46 Yes, David, so we do have, uh, as part of our

48:51 in the alternatives analysis, we will review

48:53 the no action alternatives which should

48:56 layout the the impacts to those resources. If we

49:00 were to do nothing.

49:03 OK, thank you. Rachel Road asks, have you started

49:07 developing an adaptive management plan for the

49:11 Diversion and you plan on releasing it in advance of

49:15 the DEIS?

49:18 That's gonna be a question for the state, please.

49:35 Hi, me name is Brian from is CPRA a appreciate question? Yes we have

49:39 a long with any of these large projects. Are all our projects

49:44 obviously for a project like this is a very robust adaptive

49:49 management plan. You heard from Brad, parts presentation and

49:53 you'll see a.

49:55 Uh, the particular first iteration of that, released

49:58 with the DIS sure will. So we want folks to be well



50:03 aware of all the intent of the state in operation of the
50:08 project. For for success of the project in, to make sure
50:12 all these things are addressed. Thanks for the
50:15 quick.
50:17 Thank you. And from Holly D. With the Mississippi Aquarium.
50:23 We are developing studies to look at how fresh water
50:27 impacts Bottlenose Dolphins in the Ms sound. Do you have
50:30 plans on how you will determine how this diversion
50:34 project may impact Bottlenose Dolphins?
50:38 Hi Holly Ann, just to point out if if you
50:43 studies, if they do become available during our review,
50:47 please submit those to the Corps so that we can take them into
50:52 consideration. But as far as plans, we haven't exactly
50:56 outlined that at this point, but we do have no as a cooperating
51:01 agency and they will be the authority on, you know,
51:05 reviewing and help us developing that. That portion of the EIS.
51:12 Thank you Tommy. Elkins asks, is there a quantitative measurement
51:16 of how much fresh water is acceptable into the sound?
51:25 OK.
51:27 I don't totally understand the question, but we looking at and
51:32 analyzing salinity's will be part of our review.
51:37 Um? And any of those changes will definitely will be
51:42 quantified to show as a result of operation of the Discard Save
51:46 divergent so.
51:51 And I'm having trouble reading the next.
51:54 Name Oh no, it's Ryan Lambert.
51:58 It says the real question is with the continued land loss on
52:02 the East side of the River. Is it possible to live in New
52:06 Orleans East without doing a Diversion? Such? Is this the
52:09 protection from storm surge has been decimated in the last 90
52:13 years. I guess it's more of a statement than a question, but
52:17 maybe you'd like to comment.



52:19 Yeah, hi Ryan, that is something that we'd like to see. Is a
52:24 scoping comment and I sure hope so. We're able to continue to
52:28 live here is being a resident, but the continued land loss will
52:32 be addressed in the no action alternative right up in the EIS.
52:39 I don't see any other questions coming in, um, just a reminder
52:43 you can click in the middle of your screen and find
52:48 that Q&A panel.
52:50 and if you're having any problems finding it, let us
52:53 know. We can help you.
52:56 Thanks Karen, this is Stacy and I'll just remind everyone that
53:01 it's about 7 minutes to the hour. A man will be concluding
53:06 at 30 minutes after the hour so we have plenty of time for those
53:11 who are attending today to continue submitting their
53:14 questions. Karen back to you.
53:17 I just had a few come in so Thomas would like to know is
53:22 there consideration to using salinity level as operating
53:25 trigger?
53:27 Thank you for that question. I'm gonna ask the state to respond.
53:39 So currently. Here uh, currently right now, uh, what
53:45 we're looking at is if we want to make sure that we come
53:50 through and you saw the operation plan is designed to
53:54 maximize Sediment input into this system. Really, that's
53:57 that's what we're seeing. Here is, uh, a Sediment storm
54:01 system. What we haven't already. A lower salinity system. So
54:04 certainly the Adaptive Management Plan may look down
54:07 the road at a whole suite of things. But really, what we're
54:12 talking about? Here is a Sediment Diversion, so
54:15 obviously we want to ensure that we're capturing the maximum
54:19 amount of Sediment and that means in this particular case,
54:23 operating this Diversion when it's a when the rivers is
54:27 obviously at some of the highest peaks and clothes, and in some
54:32 cases that might be a counterproductive to using the



54:35 salinity target. For example, if some of these were high in
54:40 August and say Sediment with lower, that that wouldn't be.
54:44 Very good for projects. A second successful Sediment
54:46 Diversion. So obviously a bunch of different things could be
54:50 potentially looked at, but but really we want to take the cut
54:54 of this is a Sediment Diversion we want to operate this thing
54:58 to mimic the natural process that flooded the River. So the
55:02 first, the first operational goal is operated Diversion.
55:05 When the Sediment concentration is up is there.
55:07 But thank you for the question.
55:11 Thanks Brian and Tommy Elkins. Wanted to clarify his
55:15 earlier question. How much Mississippi River water
55:19 coming through this diversion?
55:22 Before. Losing oysters, shrimp and fish in the area. So so
55:27 that's really what he wants to know. How is it going to affect
55:31 oysters, shrimp and fish?
55:33 OK, thanks Tommy. It's too will. We will be analyzing the impacts
55:38 to those resources with each of alternatives in the EIS than you
55:43 could expect to see that in Chapter 4 the.
55:47 Just to go back to the presentation when the
55:50 draft EIS is available.
55:54 In Tracy Widom
55:58 And I apologize to anyone who's name I've mangled today,
56:01 but I'm doing my best here. Tracy would like to know
56:06 how long would it take to make this Diversion operational,
56:09 and what is the life expectancy of this project.
56:14 All right, thanks for that question. We're gonna ask the
56:18 state to respond.
56:21 All right, hey Tracy, thanks a great question. So looking at
56:25 the schedule that, uh, Bradley LaBorde spoke of earlier were
56:28 looking at a potential record of decision in proximately 2024
56:32 major civil works construction project of like this would be on



56:36 the order of five years, so I put it into 2029 right time
56:40 brain and then this project is a 50 year design life and 100 year
56:45 service life. So this is this is treated as were like a large
56:49 bridge structure where it's going to be there for us left in
56:53 amount of. Thanks for the question.
56:58 Thanks, Brad. John Lopez asks what can be done to accelerate
57:03 the permitting review process.
57:07 Hi doctor Lopez. So when thinking about this review it's
57:11 it's worth considering that the Corps doesn't have all the
57:15 information at hand. Right now there is a back and forth
57:20 between CPRA a in the Corps with the transmission of their
57:24 technical reports in their modeling feedback, so you know
57:28 that that's a time consideration for us. And as far as weight,
57:33 speed it up.
57:46 will there be details on buying out the camps and business
57:50 owners in the affected areas.
57:54 Thank you we're gonna pass that. Went to the state to respond to.
58:01 Hey, excellent question. This is Brad Barth was CPRA and um we're in
58:05 the early stages of engineering and design so during that
58:09 process our engineers and designers will layout the right
58:12 away that's necessary to build, construct and operate the
58:15 project and then from there will start to engage land owners in
58:19 terms of land acquisitions that are required for the project. So
58:23 if you have a specific question after this you can feel free to
58:28 try to contact CPRA, a fair landowner in the area obviously.
8:32 Uh, but it's it's we're probably a couple years out
58:35 from that process. Really kind of kicking off in terms of
58:38 right away that would be necessary for the project,
58:41 thanks.
58:42 Thank you Jerry Trapani asks with so many questions on the
58:46 effect on the water quality unanswered with the project.
58:50 How can we be concerned residents of the affected area



58:54 be assured that the project will not go forward.

59:00 Hi Kerry, um so.

59:04 With the unanswered questions, I mean that's a That's a microcosm

59:08 of what we're trying to answer with the EIS, right? And we're

59:12 trying to gain your input through your scoping comments so

59:16 any water quality questions that you may have, please submit

59:20 those to us. I know that the Corps and a lot of our

59:24 cooperating agencies have similar questions about the

59:27 water quality and changes in the basin, which we will hope to

59:31 adequately respond to in the

59:33 draft EIS. Once the draft EIS is published, you'll have the

59:37 opportunity to review that material. An re-engage with

59:40 this as part is the part of the public hearing scheduled

59:43 in the fall of 2022.

59:47 Great, thank you. Ryan Lambert asks, is there a plan

59:51 to maintain a minimum flow in the River is low to protect

59:55 aquatic vegetation from saltwater intrusion?

59:59 Thank you were going to ask.

01:00:02 Yes, excellent question. Uhm and then on flood season time

01:00:07 of the year there is expected to be a maintenance flow that

01:00:13 we've asked for in the permit application. Brad spoke that

01:00:19 earlier open up to 5000 CFS maintenance flow.

01:00:26 Thank you Sam. Soulless asks, why wasn't dredging in piping in

01:00:38 Held up after storms.

01:00:42 And thank you for the question.

01:00:46 So the dragon fill option is the coastal restoration tool

01:00:52 is one that we considered. It's also one that were currently

01:00:57 still considering. I think that.

01:01:00 If you look at the coastal master plan and I might be uhm.

01:01:05 I guess steering into see PRA is laying a little bit here, but I

01:01:09 think they would tell you that they are planning to do some of

01:01:13 those projects in the hopes or that the sediment Diversions



01:01:17 along with the dredge and fill option will work in tandem to
01:01:21 help protect the coast.
01:01:23 Thanks for that answer a Stacy. I'm oh there I got I'm seeing
01:01:30 and another question now.
01:01:32 Denise Reed says, is the expectation that the
01:01:36 maintenance flow of 5000 CFS occurs under all River
01:01:41 conditions. Even low flows. Will the structure be
01:01:45 specially designed to allow for that?
01:01:50 Thank you for the question. We're going to ask the state
01:01:53 to respond please.
01:01:55 Hey great question Denise know that's a maximum
01:01:58 maintenance flow. Obviously this is a passive system. Rely on the
01:02:02 head driven from the River to the basin for that flow. So more
01:02:07 analysis as we go through the engineering and the EIS process
01:02:11 will be would be looked at in terms of two. What that flow
01:02:15 would be. Obviously it really, really extreme low rivers. The
01:02:19 gates may need to be shot and there may not be no maintenance
01:02:24 flow in a real world situation.
01:02:29 Thank you Brad. Cherry Trapani asks, are there any
01:02:32 provisions in the proposal to exclude marine life an
01:02:36 estuary help? If so, why would such a provision be
01:02:40 added?
01:02:44 So there are no provisions at
01:02:46 this time. First, with the EIS process will gauge the actual
01:02:52 impacts to marine mammals and marine life, and then as part of
01:02:57 the process will then go to CPRA and see what measures there
01:03:02 are to avoid and minimize the potential impacts there. Once we
01:03:07 get to that point, the Section 404 review and regulatory has a
01:03:12 public interest review where we layout and 20 three factors
01:03:16 don't make me say all of them to ya
01:03:19' cause. I would fail that test right now, but basically we would
01:03:22 weigh those factors and make a determination on whether or not



01:03:26 the project is in the best interest of the public.

01:03:34 Thank you. And it looks like I haven't had any new questions

01:03:39 come in. Stacy, Maybe you can update us on where we sit as

01:03:44 far as time and.

01:03:48 I have 3 after that.

01:03:5 Stacy, this is Brad your we. You're very low on the here.

01:04:02 Thank you. I apologize for that. Is this better?

01:04:07 Yes, excellent. I have 4 after the hours so we have 26 minutes

01:04:13 before our event ends today. So I'm gonna give up our panel a

01:04:17 pause in our moderator, a pause, and I'm going to ask that we

01:04:21 switch back to the slide that reminds us how we can.

01:04:25 Submit our official scoping comments. Just a reminder that

01:04:29 the question and answer session today is to assist you in

01:04:35 developing your official scoping comments, so there are ways to

01:04:39 mail or email or call to submit your official scoping

01:04:46 comments. Again, you can send email to CEMVN- MidBreton.

01:04:53 That's MIDBRETON at USACE.army.mil, or there is

01:05:01 a recorded voice line you can call and leave your recorded

01:05:08 comments at 1-855-643-2.

01:05:11 738 and we're sharing the mailing address on the screen.

01:05:16 It's also available on the Army Corps project page.

01:05:21 Karen, do you see any additional questions that have come in?

01:05:26 I have not had any new ones come

01:05:28 in. OK, will go ahead and continue to pause.

01:05:33 A while we wait for those to come in, and, uh, will switch

01:05:38 back to the how to ask the question in answer.

01:05:44 Slide. And just a reminder, if you were unable to.

01:05:51 Ask your question using the Q&A feature today. There is a

01:05:56 submit question button on the left hand side of the.

01:06:02 Army Corps project page. So that is another way that, uh,

01:06:08 they're taking questions.

01:06:14 And Stacy, let remind the audience that if you've called



01:06:18 in in our in listen only mode, there are two more sessions this
01:06:22 week that you can attend.

01:06:25 And if he attend on line, you'll be able to ask questions.

01:06:35 Yes, and to add to that, on our Corps website we also have

01:06:40 the opportunity for you to click and submit questions

01:06:43 box on the left hand of our website and it will open your

01:06:48 browser and you can submit a question that way as well.

01:06:53 John Lopez sent in a question he's

01:06:56 asking is it possible to submit

01:06:59 recommendations and how to conduct these

01:07:01 meetings? Considering the Covid situation?

01:07:07 Absolutely John.

01:07:10 And Ryan Lambert asks with the land building success in the

01:07:15 Fort Saint Phillips area. Is there any plan to put in

01:07:20 terraces or other projects that

01:07:22 will access?

01:07:25 building process. Expedite land building prices.

01:07:31 Thanks, Brian, that's certainly an alternative that

01:07:35 if provided during scoping, we can we can analyze further.

01:07:42 I believe another question should answer all kind of

01:07:49 6:00 AM.

01:07:53 Oh yes, I'm sorry Paul asks. Is it my opinion? It is my

01:07:58 opinion, the current version his caused marsh damage in the

01:08:02 Delacroix area. Won't this diversion cause similar damage

01:08:06 further from the site?

01:08:11 Paul, that's a question we hope to answer as part of

01:08:14 the EIS process.

01:08:33 So again, we can take your questions if you ever in

01:08:36 the middle of your screen and find that Q&A Button.

01:09:03 So Stacy, I don't see anymore questions. Maybe I'll turn it

01:09:06 over to you again.

01:09:10 Question.



01:09:13 Sure thanks Karen. Uhm I have 9 after the hour so we are winding
01:09:19 up here towards the end of today's events up again, we're going to
01:09:25 share the information on how to
01:09:29 Share your official scoping comments by Mail, email or
01:09:33 calling. Again, the email address is CEMVN-
01:09:40 Mid-Breton MIDBRETON@ USACE.army
01:09:47.mil. Or you can call the recorded voice
01:09:54 line is 1-855-643-27.
01:09:56 38
01:09:59 And we do have another question from Kerry Japan.
01:10:03 Is the project's goal to rebuild the Sediment or relieve the
01:10:08 Mississippi River levels with efficacy in question on
01:10:12 rebuilding the law Sediment? Why risk the salinity dilution?
01:10:19 Drudge the passes.
01:10:22 Thank you for that question. We're gonna ask the state to
01:10:26 respond please.
01:10:36 yeah, thanks for the question. The projects goal absolutely is
01:10:41 to build, maintain, and sustain Marsh in the Breton
01:10:45 Sound Basin on there. That is the primary goal of this project
01:10:50 on it. And it is the The Mid Breton sound Sediment
01:10:56 Diversion. And that's what it's being engineered, designed and
01:11:00 operated for. And that's what the plans are. Obviously you
01:11:05 hear about other efforts. That's certainly the
01:11:09 responsibility of. The agency running this meeting and
01:11:13 then see CPRA, but this particular project, the
01:11:16 primary and design goal is is for just that, the health and
01:11:20 welfare is one of our integrated coastal protection
01:11:24 projects. Restoration protection projects. Thanks
01:11:25f or the question.
01:11:28 Thank you and Rachel. Rachel Road asks, what is the expected
01:11:33 land last of Breton basin without this project?
01:11:37 Hi Rachel we are unsure at this time, but as part of the EIS



01:11:42 right up we will take that into consideration and all that
01:11:46 information would be in the EIS, under the no action alternative.
01:11:58 So we have another
01:12:03 delay in questions.
01:12:09 Thanks
01:12:13 Karen. Go ahead.
01:12:20 This is Rene Poche. I just want to take the opportunity
01:12:24 to remind folks that we do have another virtual public
01:12:27 meeting scheduled tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 PM and then
01:12:31 Thursday at 6:00 PM. They can also log into those meetings
01:12:35 and ask questions there too.
01:12:40 Thank you Rene, and thanks for those of you attending with
01:12:45 your patients today. We know that we're all getting used to
01:12:51 new technology. Uhm, I appreciate the heavy
01:12:56 participation. Um, from our attendees today through the
01:13:00 question and answer session.
01:13:05 We've been able to get to
01:13:08 almost all of our questions that have come in. I believe
01:13:11 there have been just a few comments that we've published
01:13:14 but have not uhm, hitched up to the panel will make sure
01:13:18 that those get published along with all of the other
01:13:22 questions.
01:13:24 So I have 13 after the hour.
01:13:31 Hey. Just want to reiterate that anyone who did post a comment to
01:13:38 please submit that as part of your scoping comment, so.
01:13:42 Anything here will have record. Is it being part of the
01:13:46 meeting but for it to be an official scoping comment we do
01:13:49 need it to be submitted to us in one of the three ways that we
01:13:54 outlined either traditional mail, email or the verbal
01:13:57 option with the call in number.
01:14:00 Thank you Brad and we will review those weights on the screen again to
01:14:06 submit official scoping comments. You can submit those



01:14:10 officials scoping comments again by mail, email or by calling the
01:14:15 recorded voice line. This information is also on the Army
01:14:20 Corps Project Web page. You can submit official scoping comments
01:14:24 on the right hand side of the screen. If you still need to ask
01:14:31 questions after today's event.
01:14:33 Uh, as mentioned, there are two other live events this week, or
01:14:37 you can submit questions on the left hand side.
01:14:42 Of the army Corps project page.
01:14:48 And we'd like to thank everyone for the question. So far, it
01:14:53 looks like we've answered about 20 three questions. And again,
01:14:58 if I mispronounced your name, I would like to apologize.
01:15:04 I'll practice
01:15:08 more for
01:15:12 next
01:15:14 time. I see Kerry has a question about the chat being
01:15:21 on the record. It certainly will be part of the scoping meeting
01:16:50 device. And make sure that when you type your question
01:16:55 that you select all panelists up and send it.
01:17:28 And Karen, I'm not seeing any more questions coming in. I'll
01:17:32 let you confirm that.
01:17:34 Not that I can see.
01:17:58 So I'll ask the, UM, the Corps and CPRA A with the lack of
01:18:03 questions that are coming in. I do see another question
01:18:08 from Carrie? Will the next meetings be live as well? And
01:18:13 the answer to that is yes. Um, if we could get the other
01:18:18 scheduled sessions a slide up on this screen, there is a session
01:18:23 scheduled for tomorrow. That's Wednesday, July 15th from 2:00
01:18:26 to 3:30 in the afternoon Central
01:18:28 time. As well as an evening session, that is scheduled on
01:18:34 Thursday, July 16th.
01:18:36 From 6:00 to 7:30 in the evening, and, um, just to
01:18:41 elaborate on that schedule, the Wednesday and Thursday meetings



01:18:45 will also be similar to this. They will be live through.

01:18:50 There's a potential for new inquiries and new questions to

01:18:54 be answered. In addition, the Corps will be publishing all

01:18:58 three session recordings to the project web page.

01:19:07 And it looks like we've actually had 32 questions come in.

01:19:14 Good discussion, thank you.

01:19:18 Very good and just for uhm.

01:19:22 The Corps and CPRA. I'll let you know that at a high point

01:19:27 we had about 85 attendees and 14 of those are, uhm, just

01:19:32 dial in or teleconference only so, um. Very good. Good

01:19:36 feedback and participation from our attendees today. I

01:19:39 have 19 minutes after the hour. Karen, if you can

01:19:43 confirm that there are no additional questions coming

01:19:46 in, we will begin or closing remarks.

01:19:50 Curious question. Looks like the last one that we had.

01:19:55 OK, and again Carrie, we will be carrying those Wednesday

01:20:00 and Thursday scheduled meetings live as well.

Closing Remarks

01:20:07 OK, we're gonna thank the panel for responding to these

01:20:11 important questions. Today, uhm panel, you can mute yourselves

01:20:14 and if you'd like to switch off your webcams at this time, you

01:20:19 may do so. Uh, thank you to all of you who submitted questions

01:20:24 today. The questions in the responses will become part of

01:20:27 the project record and being made available for public

01:20:31 review. Reminder that all questions received will be

01:20:34 reviewed by members of the panel that are not considered

01:20:37 officials scoping comments that were hopeful that the responses

01:20:42 that were given will encourage you to develop your official

01:20:47 scoping comments and submit them in a manner as indicated on the

01:20:54 screen, again, by Mail, by email to CEMVN-Midbreton

01:21:00 MIDBRETON at USACE.army.mil or the voice line calling

01:21:07 in by telephone.



01:21:08 To leave your recorded verbal comments, 1-855-643-2738- Mid
01:21:13 Brett. If we did not hear from you today, you may also
01:21:20 choose to join another live event this week on either
01:21:26 Wednesday or Thursday.
01:21:28 And this concludes today's event. You may exit the event by
01:21:33 clicking the red icon with an X and selecting leave. Thank you.