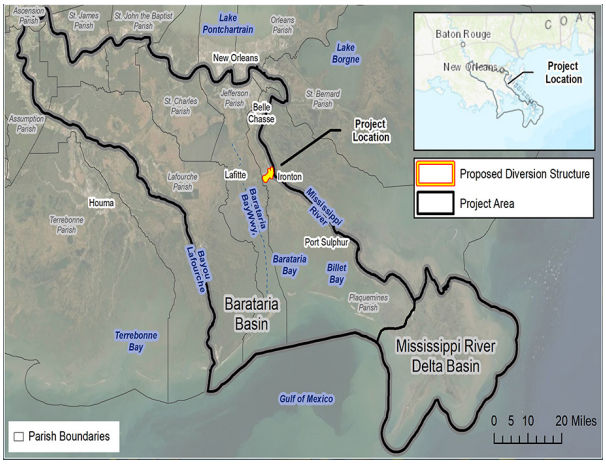
FACT SHEET

MID-BARATARIA SEDIMENT DIVERSION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

What is the proposed Project?

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (CPRA or the Applicant) is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion (MBSD) Project. The proposed Project consists of a multi-component river diversion system intended to convey sediment, fresh water, and nutrients from the Mississippi River at approximate river mile (RM) 60.7 in the vicinity of the town of Ironton, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana to the mid-Barataria Basin. After passing through a proposed intake structure complex on the right descending bank of the Mississippi River, the sediment-laden water would be transported through a conveyance channel and discharged to an outfall area within the mid-Barataria Basin in Plaquemines and Jefferson Parishes.



Some additional proposed project details include:

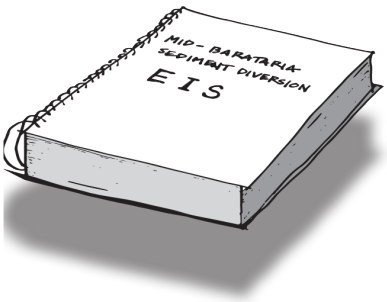
- Modification to NOGC railroad and State Highway LA 23
- Utility and pipeline relocation
- Drainage for a portion of the project site
- Tie-ins to the MR&T levee, NOV-NF-W-05a.1 levee reach, and the existing Plaquemines Parish back levee
- Direct construction impacts to approximately 182.9 acres of wetlands and 305.5 acres of Other Waters of the U.S. subject to USACE jurisdiction

What is the purpose of the proposed project?

Consistent with the LA TIG's Strategic Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #3 and the Louisiana Coastal Master Plan, the purpose is to restore for injuries caused by the DWH oil spill by implementing a large-scale sediment diversion in the Barataria Basin that will reconnect and re-establish sustainable deltaic processes between the Mississippi River and the Barataria Basin through the delivery of sediment, fresh water, and nutrients to support the long-term viability of existing and planned coastal restoration efforts. The proposed Project is needed to help restore habitat and ecosystem services injured in the northern Gulf of Mexico as a result of the DWH oil spill.

What is the NEPA Process?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires all federal agencies to evaluate major federal actions and inform decision makers and the public of the likely environmental consequences of proposed actions and alternatives. CPRA has submitted applications to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Department of the Army permits and permissions to construct, maintain, and operate the proposed MBSD Project. USACE's permit evaluation is considered a major federal action under federal law.



A federal agency must prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) if a major federal action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. An EIS is a detailed study that analyzes the potential effects, both positive and negative, that a proposed project or action may have on the environment and local community. USACE prepared the MBSD EIS that evaluated the potential impacts on the natural and human environment resulting from the proposed MBSD project.

In addition to informing USACE decisions, the EIS will be used to inform decisions under any additional regulatory or permit processes. The DWH Natural Resource Damage Assessment Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (LA TIG) is supporting the development of this EIS with it serving as the EIS in future restoration planning, specifically for the Draft Phase II Restoration Plan #3.2: Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion.

What alternatives were considered?

Seven alternatives were evaluated for their ability to meet the overall purpose and need for the proposed Project including:

- No Action Alternative: None of the action alternatives evaluated in the EIS would be permitted or built;
- Alternative 1: variable flow up to 75,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion (Applicant's Preferred Alternative);
- Alternative 2: variable flow up to 75,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion including marsh terracing outfall feature;
- Alternative 3: variable flow up to 50,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion;
- Alternative 4: variable flow up to 50,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion including marsh terracing outfall feature;
- Alternative 5: variable flow up to 150,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion; and
- Alternative 6: variable flow up to 150,000 cfs maximum sediment diversion including marsh terracing outfall feature.

Who/How to contact us

Your comments and concerns are important. Please submit your comments in one of the ways listed below. You only need to submit your comment via one of these methods.

Please submit comments by May 4, 2021

Ways to Comment

Submit comments electronically at the following link:
https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MBSD

Submit written comments by mail to:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2012-2806-E00
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70118

Submit oral comments via the toll-free phone number:
866-211-9205

Visit the Project Website:
www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Mid-Barataria-Sediment-Diversion-EIS/

Public Meetings

CEMVN and LA TIG will jointly conduct three Public Meetings to solicit comments on the Draft EIS and Draft Restoration Plan; however, due to COVID-19 safety precautions, these meetings will be virtual. Parties interested in participating in the NEPA process and who would like to learn more about the proposed MBSD Project and/or provide comments on the Draft EIS and/or Draft Restoration Plan are encouraged to participate in one of the following WebEx virtual meetings:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
April 6, 2021	April 7, 2021	April 8, 2021
9 AM CDT	1 PM CDT	6 PM CDT

Instructions on how to access the virtual meetings by computer or telephone will be provided on the CEMVN's Project webpage approximately two weeks prior to the first meeting.

The NEPA Process Timeline