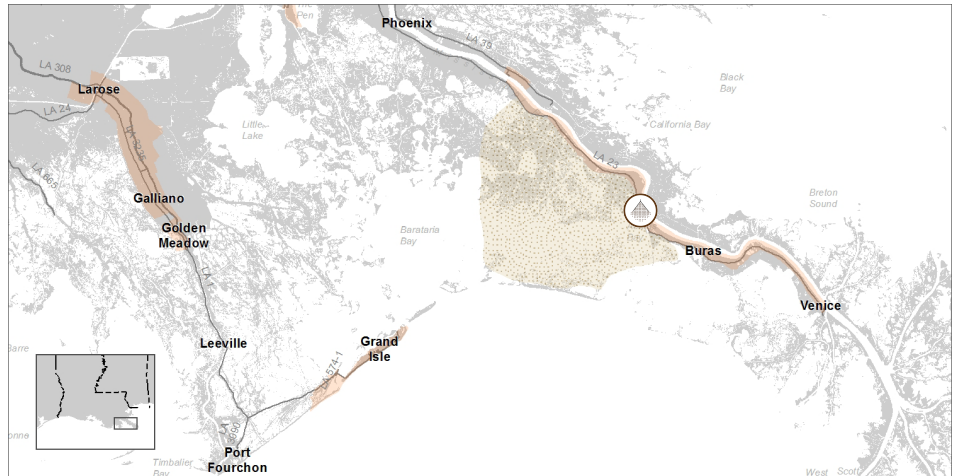




Lower Barataria Sediment Diversion

Sediment diversion into lower Barataria Bay in the vicinity of Empire, 50,000 cfs capacity.



Purpose

- ▶ The purpose of this project is to construct a sediment diversion to transport sediment from the Mississippi River into the Lower Barataria Basin to reestablish deltaic processes in order to build, sustain, and maintain wetlands.
- ▶ The project is needed to restore the connection between the Mississippi River and the Lower Barataria Basin to address land loss within the basin caused by reduced sediment input from the river.
- ▶ The project is estimated to create, sustain, and maintain between approximately 9,000 – 12,000 acres of land over 50 years compared to the Future Without Action.

History

- ▶ This project is an iteration of a project concept first developed in 1993 as part of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act. The concept continued to evolve under various programs. Previously proposed diversions in this area ranged from 5,000-150,000 cfs.

Timeline

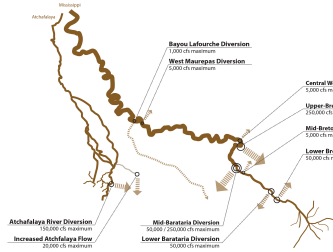
planning
spring 2013-fall 2014

engineering & design
fall 2014-fall 2016

construction
fall 2016-fall 2021

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

2012 Coastal Master Plan Analysis



- ▶ The 2012 Coastal Master Plan conducted a planning level analysis which was developed to allow for coastwide comparison of over 400 projects; specific project details were not intended to be captured during this planning level effort.
- ▶ The resolution of the Master Plan models is fairly coarse as projects were modeled on a coastwide basis. The data resulting from this effort provides information on general trends or changes over large areas rather than localized effects.
- ▶ Additional project-specific analysis is needed to understand the site-specific changes for a number of factors. These details will be refined as each project moves into the project-specific planning and engineering and design phases of project development. Examples of details that will need to be defined or further refined include:
 - ▶ Diversion location, size, and operation regimes;
 - ▶ Information related to sediment transport capacity, salinity patterns, water level fluctuations, vegetation changes, fisheries impacts, land loss or gain, and other variables; and
 - ▶ Information on the effects of the project on the Mississippi River.

How Can You Get Involved:

- 1 CPRA Board Monthly Public Meetings**
 - ▶ The CPRA Board holds monthly meetings to provide the public with updates related to projects, programs, and policies. A public comment period is included at the close of each monthly meeting allowing the opportunity for citizens to ask questions or provide comments for the record.
 - ▶ CPRA staff regularly attend these meetings and are available before and after to chat with members of the public about agency initiatives.
 - ▶ Meeting details, including itemized agendas, are posted to CPRA's online calendar which is located at www.coastal.la.gov
- 2 National Environmental Policy Act / Permitting Project-Specific Opportunities**
 - ▶ Throughout project development there are a number of project-specific opportunities for public engagement and comment incorporated into the National Environmental and Policy Act (NEPA) and permitting processes.
 - ▶ For additional information on these opportunities, please contact Chuck Perrodin at Chuck.Perrodin@la.gov.
- 3 Community Meetings**
 - ▶ As the project progresses, the state will be available to meet with local groups and leaders to provide information. The CPRA also has staff available to meet with citizens in smaller groups, so that we can answer questions and share updates. To request a meeting on the status of this project or to be added to our mailing list, please send an email to: Coastal@LA.gov.