

Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Terrebonne

Austin Feldbaum Coastal Resource Scientist

State of the Coast March 19, 2014

committed to our coast

Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Terrebonne Study Area



Purpose and Need

CPRA

Purpose:

 Utilize freshwater and sediment from the Atchafalaya River in order to build, maintain and sustain wetlands within the Terrebonne Basin.

Need:

- Needed in order to achieve, in part, the goals of the 2012 Louisiana Coastal Master Plan and to address hydrologic alterations within the Terrebonne Basin.
- The lack of both freshwater and sediment inputs have resulted in increased saltwater intrusion and high subsidence rates, contributing significantly to wetland loss rates within the Basin.

Photo: Maarten Kluijver



Land Loss Drivers Subsidence



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Land Loss Drivers Hydrologic Modifications





Future Without Project Landloss Projections

Factors Accounted for by Our Scenarios

Moderate Scenario

- Sea Level Rise
- Subsidence
- Storm Intensity
- Storm Frequency
- River Discharge / Sediment Load
- River Nutrient Concentration

Rainfall

- Evapotranspiration
- Marsh Collapse Threshold







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Master Plan

Increase Atchafalaya Flow to Terrebonne

- 20 cfs Capacity Diversion near Bayou Boeuf Lock
- Dredging of GIWW to -25'
- Marsh Creation using dredged material

Year 50 Land Area: + 8295 acres



Other Major Projects

Bayou Chene Floodgate

Will provide flood risk reduction to Morgan City Area

Bayou Boeuf Lock

- Part of the MR&T levee network
- Proposed location for diversion structure



Other Major Projects

Houma Navigation Canal Lock

- Part of the Morganza to the Gulf flood risk reduction project
- Operating for ecological restoration as well as flood control



Plan Formulation: Components



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Water Balance Existing Conditions



Plan Formulation: Components

- Bayou Boeuf Diversion
- Avoca Island Diversion
- Bayou Boeuf Lock Operations
- GIWW Dredging
- Bayou Chene Floodgate
- HNC Lock
- Grand Pass Structure
- Southward Flow Distribution



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Next Steps

Refine Plans to a Focused Array

Hydrodyamic Modeling

DHI Mike FM 2-D Hydrodynamic Model

- Data collection
 - Bathymetry
 - Water Level, Salinity, Discharge

Wetland Morphology Modeling

 Adapt methodology from 2012 Coastal Master Plan models to evaluate the effects of the diversion on vegetation and wetland morphology







Photos: Maarten Kluijver



Questions?

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