



## Atchafalaya River Basin Restoration and Enhancement Task Force

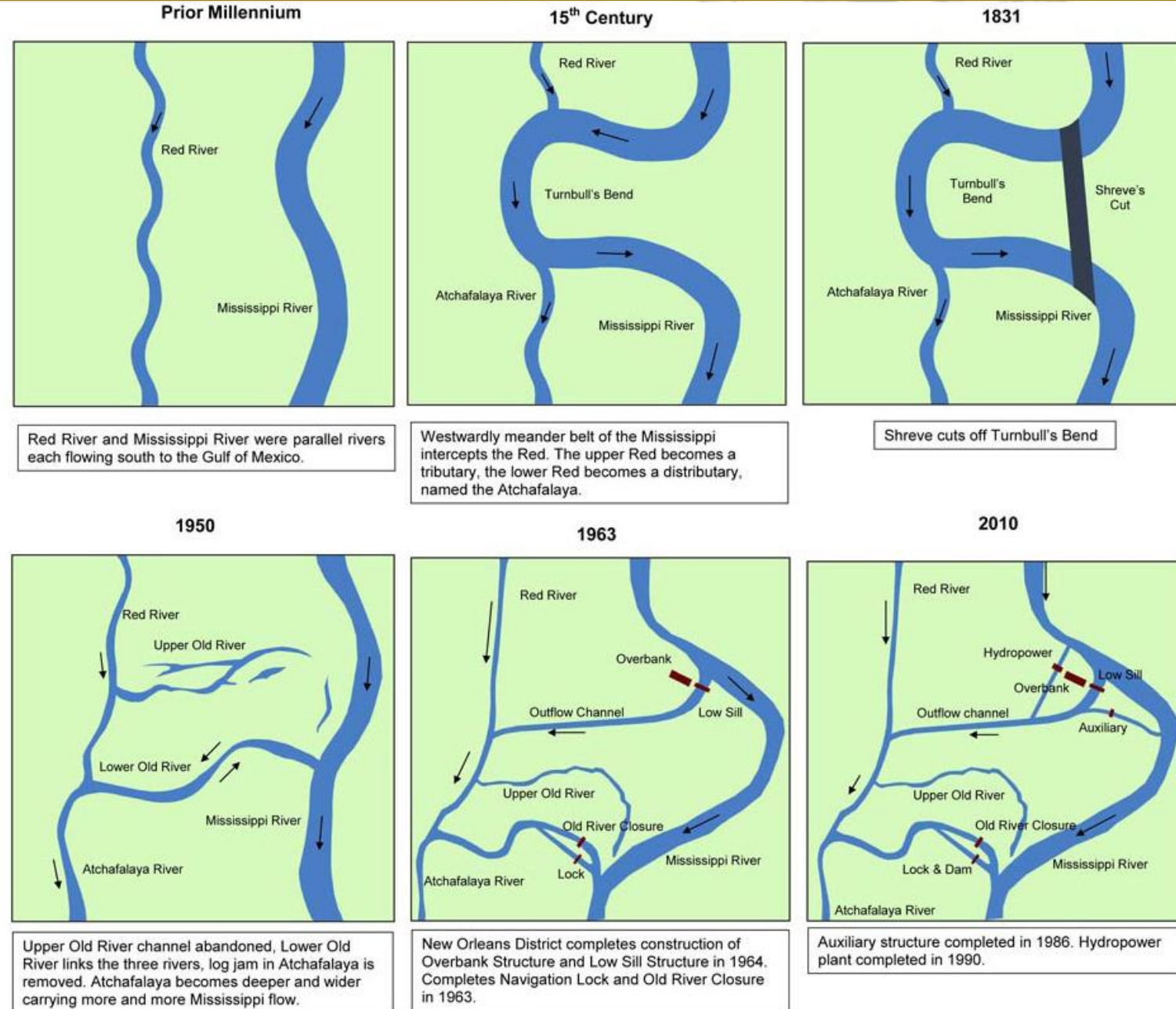


committed to our coast

# Mississippi River & Tributaries (MR&T): 70/30 Split

## Response to the Geomorphology of Old River

- The Atchafalaya – a distributary of the Mississippi River – provides a shorter steeper path to the Gulf of Mexico than the current Mississippi path.
- The Corps of Engineers regulates flow through the Old River Control Structure at a 70-30 split
  - 70 percent of the combined flow of the Red and Mississippi rivers
  - 30 percent passes down the Atchafalaya.
- Sediment and Water Budgets developed by the LCA Science Advisory Panel revealed that sediment is not distributed in a likewise fashion.



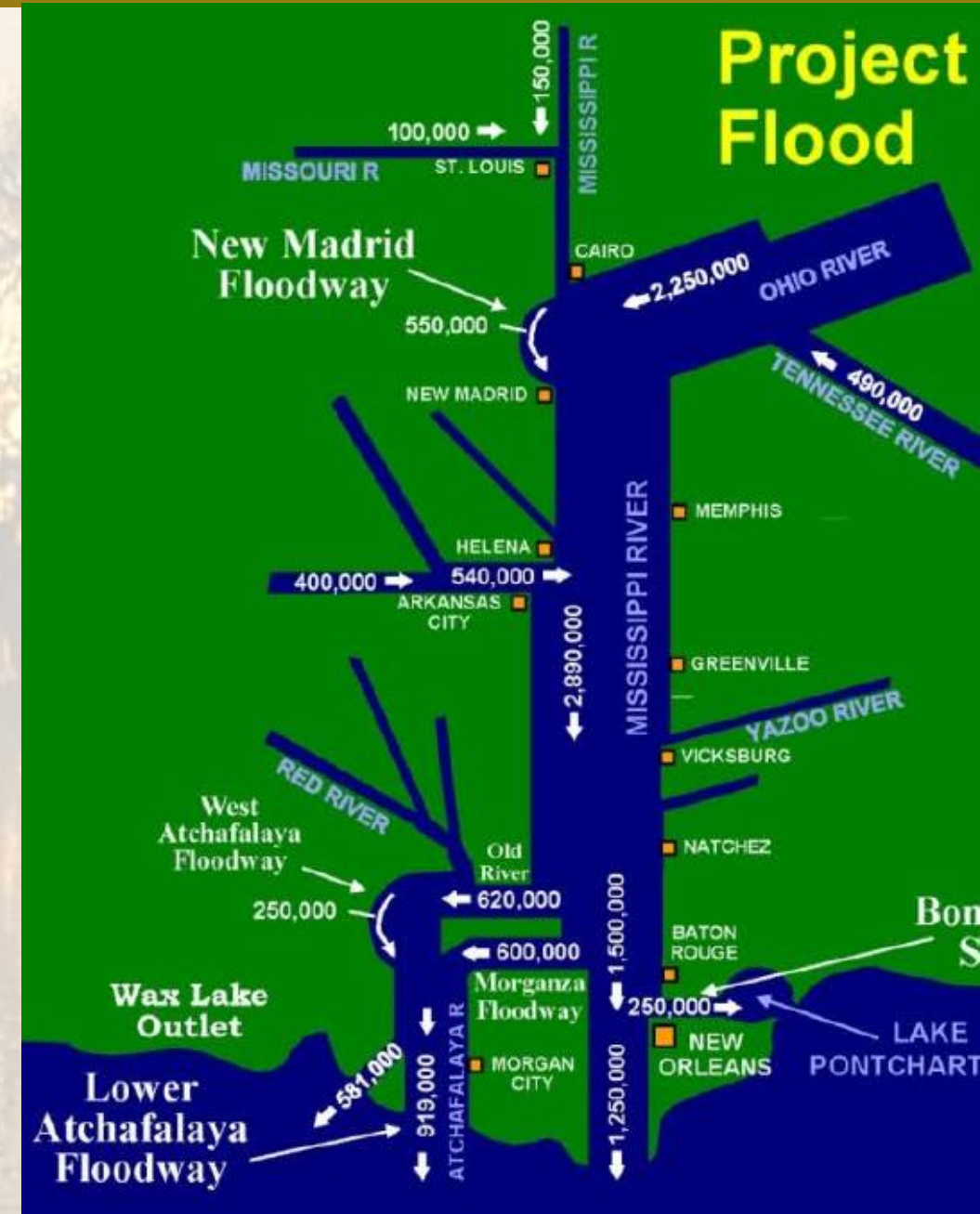


# MR&T: Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System (ABFS)



## Jadwin Plan: Project Design Flood

- authorized by the 1928 Flood Control Act
- system of public works within the lower Mississippi Valley providing flood risk management and a stable, efficient navigation channel
- Uses levees and floodwalls, floodways, channel improvements and stabilization all to ensure that the Project Design Flood can safely pass limiting damages
- The Morganza Spillway is meant to divert 600,000 cfs from downstream communities on the Mississippi River and alleviate stress on downstream levees.







# Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System



Lies within eight parishes:

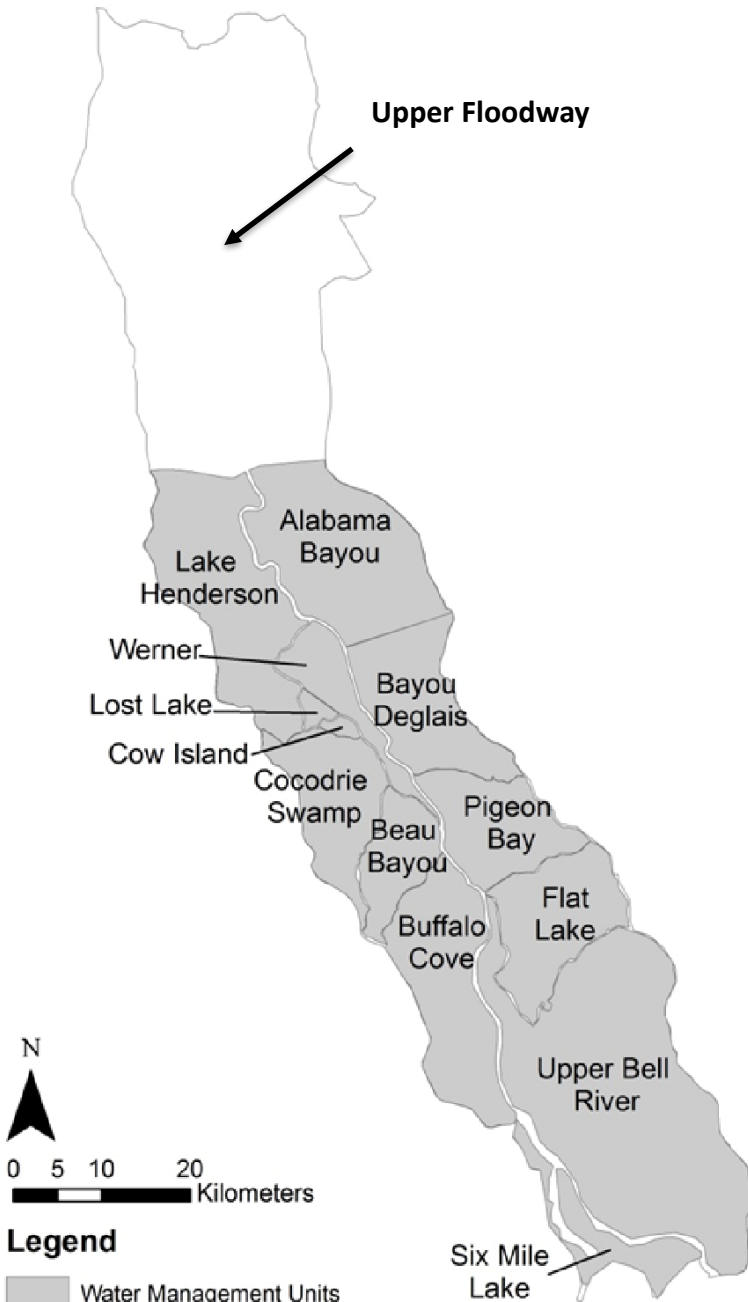
1. Assumption
2. Avoyelles
3. Iberia
4. Iberville
5. Pointe Coupee
6. Saint Landry
7. Saint Martin
8. Saint Mary

Atchafalaya  
BASIN  
PROGRAM



## Water Management Units

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alabama Bayou     | 7. Cocodrie Swamp |
| 2. Lake Henderson    | 8. Pigeon Bay     |
| 3. Werner            | 9. Beau Bayou     |
| 4. Bayou des Glaises | 10. Buffalo Cove  |
| 5. Lost Lake         | 11. Flat Lake     |
| 6. Cow Island        | 12. Six Mile Lake |



1. Poor water quality which occurs because poor connectivity leaves many areas stagnant and with low dissolved oxygen.
2. Sedimentation: sheet flow over the basin has been fragmented meaning that areas that do receive flow come to dead ends within the confines of the levees, energy drops and with it large amounts of sediment.
3. Invasive, aquatic plants such as water hyacinth and hydrilla.
4. Stakeholder Conflict



# Atchafalaya Basin Timeline

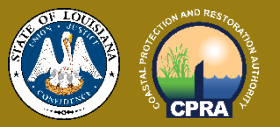
YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1960's	Increased Interest in establishing the basin as a national recreation area and protecting its fish and wildlife resources in light of imminent hydrologic modification
1971	Governor McKeithen agrees to be a sponsor for efforts to conserve and protect fish and wildlife resources as part of ABFS and creates Atchafalaya Basin Commission
1981	Treen Agreement settles dispute after elements of proposed multiuse plan pits landowners against environmentalists
1982	USACE EIS completed, Comprehensive Master Plan drafted
1985/6	WRDA Authorizes land acquisition, easements, and other actions as part of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System
1996	Governor Foster identifies DNR as lead agency as the non-federal sponsor to the ABFS
1999	State Basin Master Plan adopted with the mission to "conserve, restore, and enhance (where possible) the natural habitat and to give all people the opportunity to enjoy the Atchafalaya experience"

- Capital Outlay
- Trails Grant Program
- Natural Resource Inventory and Assessment System, CPRA
- Donations
- Act 541 of 2009



- CPRA Board
- Technical Advisory Group
- Legislative Oversight Committee

# Atchafalaya Basin Program – Issues to be addressed



- Perception of urgency and severity of habitat change in the basin
- Paucity of funding
- Stakeholder conflict and stagnation of ABFS program



- Elevate the critical issues facing the basin today
- Identify and create support for new funding streams, including working closely with the Corps to reinvigorate the MR&T ABFS program
- Identify shared goals and values for restoration and enhancement of the basin
- Serve as a proactive means to build consensus and advise the ABP



# Questions?

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