Federal Update

Legislative Action, Disaster Supplemental Funding, and IIJA Information

NEAL MCMILLIN, DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES

GOMESA Revenue Sharing Coalition DC Fly-In

Fly-in supported legislation to increase revenue sharing from offshore energy development with affected states through increasing GOMESA payments and setting up a system for offshore wind.

65 participants conducted 41 in-person Congressional meetings. An additional 11 virtual meetings are being scheduled.

Participants were from LA, TX, MS, and AL.

Sen. Cassidy, Rep. Scalise, Rep. Carter, Rep. Graves, Rep. Letlow, and Rep. Johnson met with the coalition. Additionally, Sen. Kennedy agreed to cosponsor the bill.

Water Resources Development Act of 2022

WRDA 2022 (HR 7776) passed the House of Representatives on June 9th with a 384 to 37 vote. Louisiana's delegation voted Yes.

The Senate version of WRDA 2022 (S. 4137) passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on May 4th with a unanimous 20 to 0 vote.

Each bill awaits consideration by the Senate.

Notable WRDA 2022 Provisions Under Consideration
Authorize Upper Barataria Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction ($1.5 billion total)
Authorize modification of Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity ($1.2 billion total)
Authorize modification West Bank and vicinity ($663 million total)
Provisions to allow state projects to count for crediting for HSDRRS payback
Affirming cost share of MRGO Ecosystem Restoration as full federal
Cost share for Lower Mississippi River Comprehensive Study as full federal
Cost share of Algiers Canal Levees OMRRR as full federal
Elevate priority of coastal restoration within the Army Corps' mission
Allow emergency funds to be used to increase resilience, instead of just to previous condition
Extends authority for USACE to adjust LPV and WBV for settlement, subsidence, and sea level rise
Use the beneficial use of dredged material plan for Port Fourchon

$122 million for Grand Isle

USACE, in partnership with CPRA, will undertake $122 million in work to address Hurricane-Ida related damage to the Grand Isle Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction Project.

Repairs will begin in August 2022 by installing interim measures such as placing supersack sandbags at 12 locations.

A 2,200 foot stone dune core, repairs to existing breakwaters, and repairs to the western jetty will commence in 2023. Additionally, a geotextile clay tube will be installed in the west, the eastern geotextile sand will be repaired, and the 7-miles dune and beach will be restored.

NFWF Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund Awards

In partnership with NOAA, NFWF announced 16 projects totaling $25.2 million in grants to coastal communities affected by hurricanes or wildfires.

Louisiana received 3 projects totaling $15.4 million, approximately 61% of the distributed funds.

CPRA received $5 million for the Bayou Grand Cheniere Marsh Creation Project.

2022 GRANT SLATE

NFWF

Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund

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FUNDING PARTNERS

- NOAA
- Bezos Earth Fund

LOUISIANA

Bayou Grand Cheniere Marsh Creation (LA)
Grantee: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Grant Amount:.....$5,025,000
Matching Funds:..... N/A
Total Project Amount: $5,025,000
Create approximately 42 acres of tidal salt marsh along Bayou Grande Cheniere in the influence area of the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion through hydraulically dredging sediment from the Mississippi River. Project will be adjacent to and under the same construction as 490 acres of marsh and ridge restoration funded by NRDA and help protect coastal communities.

Increasing Community Resilience through Restoration of Dularge Marsh (LA)
Grantee: Ducks Unlimited
Grant Amount:.....$4,952,800
Matching Funds:..... N/A
Additional Project Funds: $2,302,500
Total Project Amount: $7,255,300
Construct earthen terraces, plant marsh hay cordgrass, construct a new water control structure, and refurbish a portion of levee in fragmented, deteriorated marsh in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Project will enhance and protect 3,764 acres, including creation of 150 acres of marsh habitat, and contribute to the resiliency of Bayou Dularge and Dulac communities.

Living Shoreline Installation on Lake Chien (LA)
Grantee: Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government
Grant Amount:.....$5,455,700
Matching Funds:.....$175,000
Total Project Amount: $5,630,700
Install a living shoreline along 1.85 miles of the shoreline of Lake Chien in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana near the Gulf of Mexico to preserve at least an estimated 20 acres of marshland in the first 20 years and 50 acres in 50 years. Project will build over 5 acres of land and will buffer infrastructure investments and estuaries that provide habitat to important fisheries, species of concern, and traditional subsistence customs.

ECRF funding provided through the 2021 federal disaster supplemental law (P.L. 117-43).

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Rural Playbook

Rural Playbook aims to help rural communities understand available funding from IIJA.

- Identifies programs and sources of funds with rural set asides.
- Provides overview of flexibilities and waivers related to cost sharing, as well as other benefits for rural communities.
- Includes rural fact sheets from 7 key agencies, including Dept. of Commerce, EPA, Dept. of Interior, FEMA, and USDA.

Links to Rural Playbook homepage and PDF.

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Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Rural Playbook:
A roadmap for delivering opportunity and investments in rural America

Last Updated - April 2022

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will invest billions of dollars in rural communities across the country. Supporting Americans living in rural areas remains a top priority for the Biden Administration, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law delivers on the President's promises to work toward delivering affordable, high-speed internet, safe roads and bridges, modern wastewater systems, clean drinking water, reliable and affordable electricity, and good paying jobs in every rural community. In an effort to deliver on these promises, the Biden Administration is committed to improving transparency into the availability of federal infrastructure resources to support rural communities' ability to access these critical funds.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Technical Assistance Guide

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Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Technical Assistance Guide

A list of federal resources to help communities deliver infrastructure projects.

May 18th, 2022

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law unlocks billions of dollars in opportunity for states, territories, Tribes, and local governments to make a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's infrastructure. Over 90% of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's historic funding will be deployed by non-federal partners. The Biden Administration has put together this technical assistance guide to help make it easier for communities across the country to navigate, access, and deploy infrastructure funding that will build a better America.

The Technical Assistance (TA) Guide provides direction on programs, processes, and resources that would provide targeted support to an entity to help the potential beneficiary access and deploy federal funding.

TA ranges from hands-on, intensive planning to self-directed resources such as webinars and websites.

Some available TA focuses on securing funds; other TA focuses on effectively deploying funds.

TA Guide has sections on Water Programs, Resilience Programs, and Place-based/General Initiatives.

Biden-Harris Permitting Action Plan

Released on May 11th, the action plan is largely led by the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (known as FPISC or the Permitting Council). The plan is focused on clean energy and infrastructure.

5 Key Elements

- Accelerating permitting through early cross-agency coordination
- Establishing clear timeline goals & tracking progress
- Engaging in early, meaningful outreach
- Improving agency responsiveness and technical assistance
- Adequately resourcing (funding & staffing) federal agencies

Priority Areas

Offshore wind, renewable energy, broadband, critical minerals, transportation, and **climate-smart infrastructure**.

Build America, Buy America Act

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

FEDERAL REGISTER

The Daily Journal of the United States Government

Notice

Construction Materials Used in Federal Financial Assistance Projects for Infrastructure and End Products Manufactured in the United States Under the Build America, Buy America Act; Request for Information

A Notice by the Management and Budget Office on 05/26/2022

The IIJA included the bipartisan "Build America, Buy America Act" which applies "Buy America" to all taxpayer-funded infrastructure and public works projects.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released guidance to implement the act and align it with President Biden's "Made in America" executive order (EO 14005).

Requirements went into effect May 14, 2022.

OMB has an active Request for Information on affects.

Many federal entities are seeking 6 month waiver (delay) to assess potential impacts.

America the Beautiful Challenge RFP

On May 4th, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the America the Beautiful Challenge for 2022 to support locally led, voluntary ecosystem restoration projects.

The streamlined application process provides a one-stop-shop for applicants to get funding from Dept. of Interior, USDA, Dept. of Defense, as well as private philanthropy.

Conserving rivers, coasts, wetlands, and watersheds is a top priority.

$85 million is available for this year. Proposals are due **July 21, 2022.** The RFP can be found here.

ASACW Visit Louisiana from April 20 - 21

Governor Edwards and CPRA leadership discussed key Louisiana coastal priorities with Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Michael Connor, Major General William “Butch” Graham, and Colonel Stephen Murphy.

In addition to meeting with stakeholders, the Army Corps leadership took flyovers along the Mississippi River and across the coastal area.

LouisianaCPRA @LouisianaCPRA · Apr 21

CPRA Chairman Chip Kline and Executive Director @BrenHaase joined Gov. Edwards, @ASACivilWorks, and @USACEHQ to discuss continued federal investment for hurricane protection and coastal restoration projects.

Corps of Engineers and 5 others