



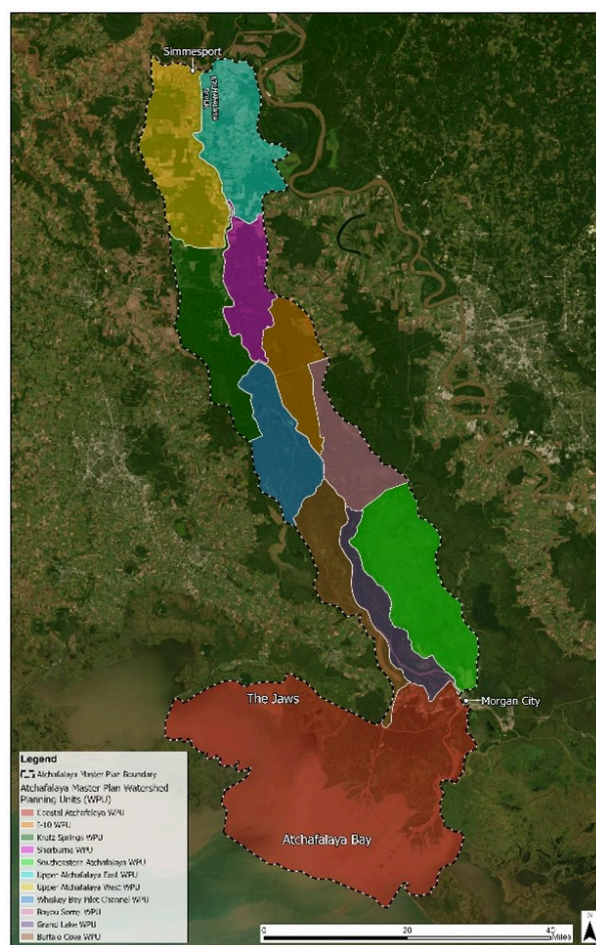
Atchafalaya Master Plan Development

The Atchafalaya Master Plan is a multi-year process driven by cutting-edge science and extensive engagement from local interests. The Plan will work to understand the current state of the Atchafalaya River System and prioritize its future management to maximize ecosystem functions and support continued human use.

Recognizing the diverse needs across Louisiana in the Atchafalaya River System, the planning team split the plan area into eleven geographic regions called Watershed Planning Units (WPUs). Each of these WPUs has unique needs, and the specific objectives of projects are tailored to their specific WPU.

Current Activities

CPRA began the planning process in 2024, establishing goals and objectives aligned with the Coastal Master Plan. Based on previous planning efforts, new ideas from experts with local knowledge, and the public project solicitation, the planning team is currently developing a candidate project list.



Once the candidate project list is established, projects will be evaluated based on the objectives and metrics established for each Watershed Planning Unit (WPU) and prioritized for inclusion in the Plan. *Figure 1: Watershed Planning Unit Map*

Evaluation of the candidate projects includes Hydrologic and Hydraulic, Vegetation, and Habitat modeling efforts to measure project outcomes against objectives.

Public Project Solicitation

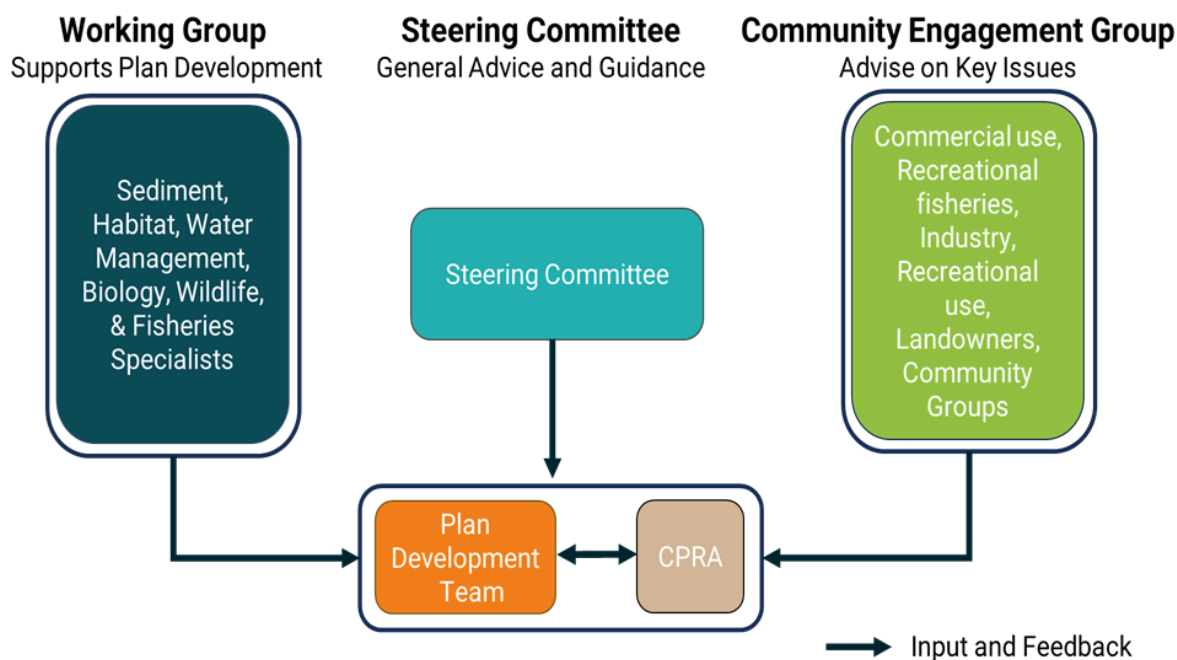
The public project solicitation period, held from November 2024 – February 2025, engaged members of the public to submit specific project ideas for the Atchafalaya Master Plan. Four public meetings and a public webinar, which engaged over 100 individuals in total, and a broad email campaign were held to promote project solicitation.

Twenty-three project concepts were submitted through the project solicitation process and will be evaluated along with other project concepts that were identified from past planning efforts that included the Atchafalaya River System.

These projects are currently being screened for inclusion in the Plan's list of candidate projects.

Engagement

In addition to the public outreach for project solicitation, the Atchafalaya Master Plan team has met multiple times with each of its specific interest groups to discuss broad issues within the ARS, opportunities and potential solutions, and to evaluate the objectives and metrics established for each WPU.



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