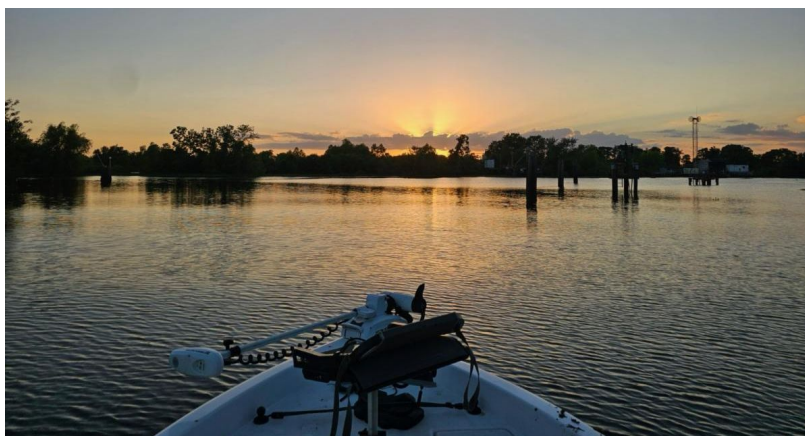




Atchafalaya Master Plan Development

The Atchafalaya Master Plan is a multi-year initiative driven by cutting-edge science and extensive engagement from local interests. Its core purpose is to understand the current state of the Atchafalaya River System, prioritize its future management to maximize ecosystem functions, and support



continued human use. The plan development team, which began its process in 2024 by establishing goals and objectives aligned with the Coastal Master Plan, is now approaching its one-year mark of dedicated work on this vital project.

Current Activities

The plan development team continues to move forward from the project identification phase to the crucial project evaluation phase.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

1. Developing Goals and Objectives

2. Identifying Candidate Projects for WPU's

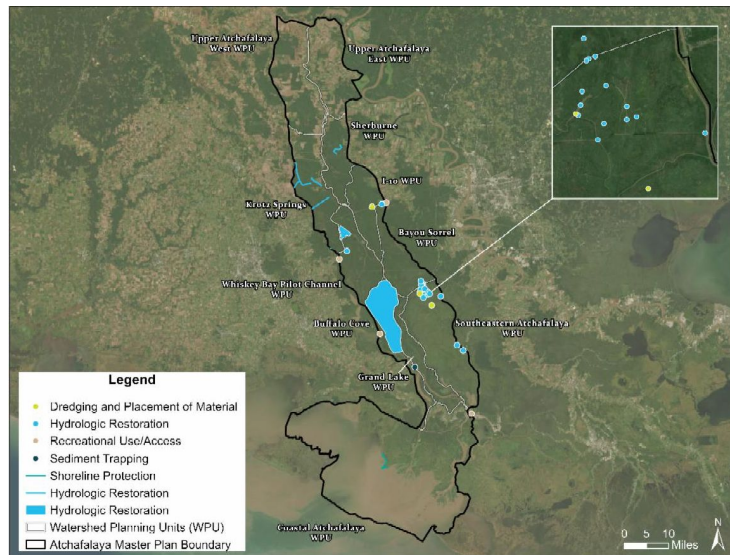
3. Evaluating Projects

4. Prioritizing Projects

5. Developing Master Plan

Candidate Projects

The plan development team is finalizing the list of candidate projects, including those that were submitted during the public project solicitation process. Once the candidate project list is finalized and the attributes for each project developed, initial evaluation efforts to assess these projects based on the objectives, metrics, and targets established for each Watershed Planning Unit will begin.



Modeling

A new vegetation model was developed for CPRA's Atchafalaya Master Plan to show how vegetation may change in the system under wetter or drier flow conditions. This new model is based upon modeling of Atchafalaya River flows and their distributions through the basin. The vegetation model also provides inputs to habitat suitability indices for species of interest recreationally, commercially, and for conservation in this primarily forested region of Louisiana. This vegetation model, along with a variety of habitat models, will be used to evaluate candidate projects against objectives, metrics, and targets.

Engagement

Meetings Held:

- Collaborative Engagement Group
- Steering Committee
- Working Group

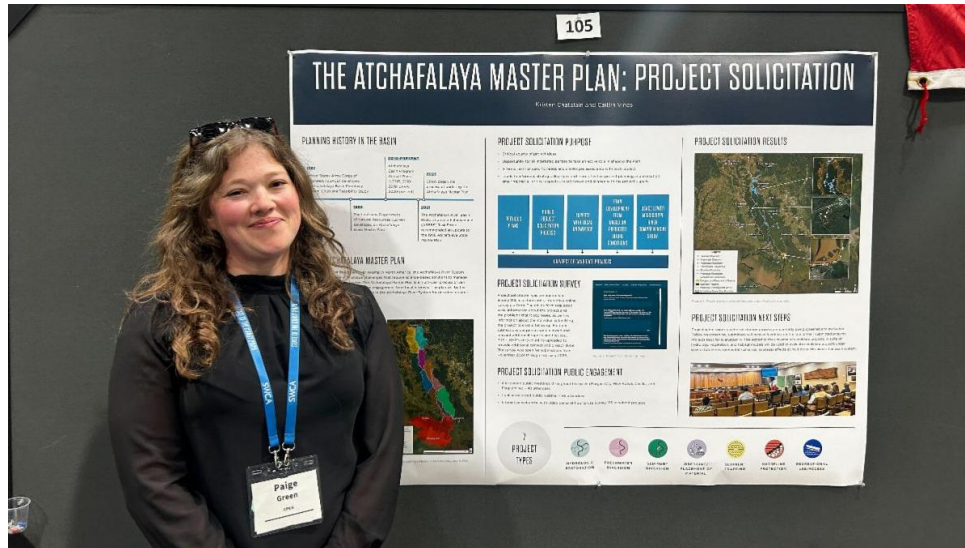
Engagement remains a cornerstone of the Atchafalaya Master Plan process. In Q2 2025, the plan development team held productive meetings with the Collaborative Engagement Group, the Steering Committee, and the Working Group. These sessions focused on presenting and gathering feedback on the objectives and metrics for each Watershed Planning Unit, as well as initial project development and modeling efforts.

State of the Coast 2025

The Atchafalaya Master Plan had a significant presence at the State of the Coast 2025 conference. A comprehensive oral presentation was delivered on the Atchafalaya Master

Plan with details on the modeling and decision framework. Four informative posters were showcased at the Poster Reception, covering key aspects of the project:

- Project Solicitation
- Outreach and Engagement
- Vegetation Model Development
- Decision Support Tool



Upcoming Activities

The plan development team is preparing to present the finalized candidate project list to the CPRA Board in late summer or fall 2025. Additionally, preparation for project evaluation efforts will be a primary focus over the next few months.

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