




Region 1

RSC Meeting #13

June 8, 2021

LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience



Reduce flood risk, improve floodplain
management throughout the state and
maximize the natural and beneficial
functions of floodplains

OUR MISSION



AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Minutes
3. Committee Membership
4. Governance Recommendation Discussion
5. Round 1 Regional Project Selection
6. Closeout





ROLL CALL

Bienville • Rodney Warren

Bossier • Butch Ford

Caddo • Ali Mustapha

Claiborne

DeSoto • Steve Brown

Grant • Morgan Briggs

Natchitoches • Rick Nowlin

Rapides • Matt Johns

Red River • Shane Young

Sabine • William Ruffin

Webster • Nick Cox

Winn

at-large • John Michael Moore

at-large • Lindsey Gouedy

at-large • Zazell Dudley



Adopt Minutes

- Sent out for review on 3/2/2021
- Adopt as-is
- Corrections or additional information needed



Committee Membership

Winn Parish

- Frank McLaren, appointed by Winn Parish





Governance Recommendation Discussion

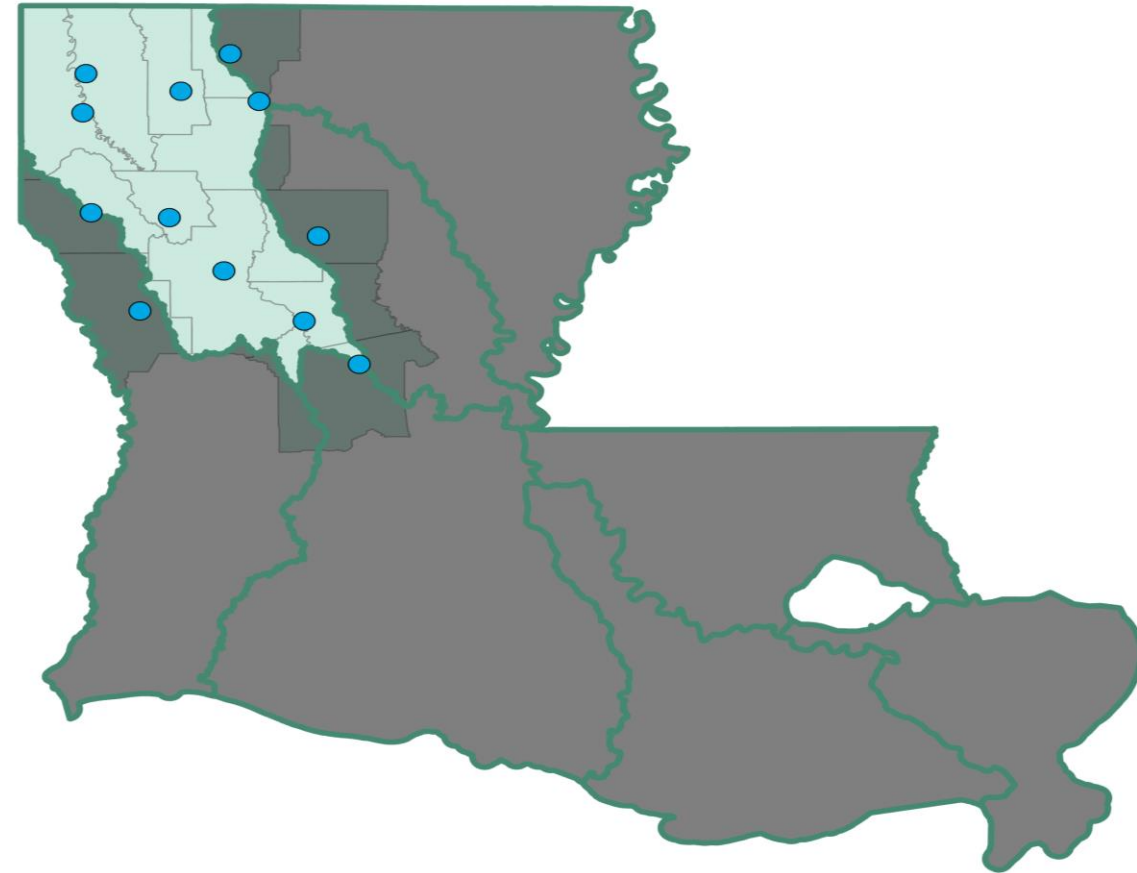


Regional Outreach Efforts

17 Meetings held across 12 parishes

66 in attendance

In addition, email blasts and a website with a feedback survey were set up by staff. No feedback was received electronically.



Feedback Summary

Modelling Effort

- Everyone who expressed an opinion was in favor of models being housed regionally.

Grant Writing

- Everyone was interested in having regional staff pursue and administer grants.

Education

- Everyone thought having regional staff doing outreach and education would benefit their community.

In general, most people favored a regional approach, and agreed the region is an appropriate size.



Feedback Summary

Regulatory Authority

- Most supported **enabling but not mandated** regulatory function for the future coalition.
 - Some were interested in turning over responsibility and authority to the coalition.
 - Some were hesitant but would consider if it was as good or better than their current process.
 - **Do not want to add more red tape, or time to the process.**
 - Interested in more efficiency and consistency.
 - Some wanted the ability to opt in/out as desired.
 - In a few cases staff was in favor in turning over responsibility but felt that their voting bodies would not support giving up authority.



Feedback Summary

State Oversight and Boundaries

- Most agreed there needs to be some state agency providing oversight for the future coalition.
 - Many did not have an agency preference.
 - Some thought DOTD would be the best choice.
- A few were concerned with the vagueness and wanted state oversight to be specifically over boundary disputes.
 - **Consider defining the state agency and/or their role.**
- Most parishes split between regions understood the reasoning but splitting municipalities between multiple regions is more complicated and should be reconsidered.



Feedback Summary

Funding

- Most were against millages and taxes or thought they would be impossible to pass.
 - A few thought sales tax would be the fairest, but most said areas are maxed out.
- Some favored very small stormwater utility fees or development fees across the entire region.
 - Some said one-time development fees seemed most fair.
 - Some said storm water utility fees might work, a few have tried to pass these and failed.
- Some supported water usage fees for industry
 - There was concern this could halt economic development
 - This being done across the state lessened the concern



Formal Recommendations

- The future main oversight committee for regional coalitions be made up of appointments from each regional coalition.
- The coalition has a say in the distribution of funds in the future.
- The State says how long the Regional Capacity Building Grant will pay administrative staff so an informed decision can be made about whether municipalities agree fund staff in the future.
- Administrative cost be covered by the state for as long as the program is in existence, not just through the current RCBG.



Region 1 Potential Coalition Structure

Voting Body (18 Members)

Watershed Coalition- *Votes on recommendations provided by committees.*

- Parish President, Parish Administrator or their designee, one per parish [12]
Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Red River, Sabine, Webster, Winn
- Mayor or their designee, one per municipality with population over 10k [4]
Shreveport, Bossier City, Natchitoches, Minden
- DOTD Administrator or their designee [2]
District 04, District 08
- At-Large members, representing large regional entities [1-5]
Added by Coalition vote as needed.

Technical Advisory Committee

Technical Advisory Committee- *Identifies opportunities and challenges. Makes recommendations to the voting body.*

- Levee Boards and Drainage Districts [5]
Bossier, Caddo, Natchitoches, Nineteenth, Red River
- Other Government Agencies
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, LWI, DOTD, LDWF
- Community Organization Reps
Ex. Sparta Ground Water Conservation District Commission, The Port of Caddo Bossier, Red River Compact, Red River Waterway Commission, Caddo Lake Institute etc.
- Out of State Representatives
East Texas, Southern Arkansas, Southeast Oklahoma

Regional Coordinating Entity (CDC & NLCOG)

Staffed by The Coordinating Development Corporation & the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments

- Coordinates all regional activities
- Assists in the development of recommendations to voting membership





Round 1 Regional Project Selection



Watershed Projects Grant Program

LOCAL AND REGIONAL – ROUND 1

Objective

Implement low-risk, high-impact projects that will mitigate flood risk and encourage the prioritization of projects through regional collaboration

- The state awarded \$61.6 million to the 16 highest-scoring projects on May 27.
- The remaining eligible projects move on the regional selection process, in which \$40 million will be divided among LWI's eight watershed regions.



41 full applications

Projects by Type

- Drainage infrastructure: 26
- Flood storage: 7
- Planning: 3
- Physical nonstructural mitigation: 3
- Levees: 2

Projects by Region

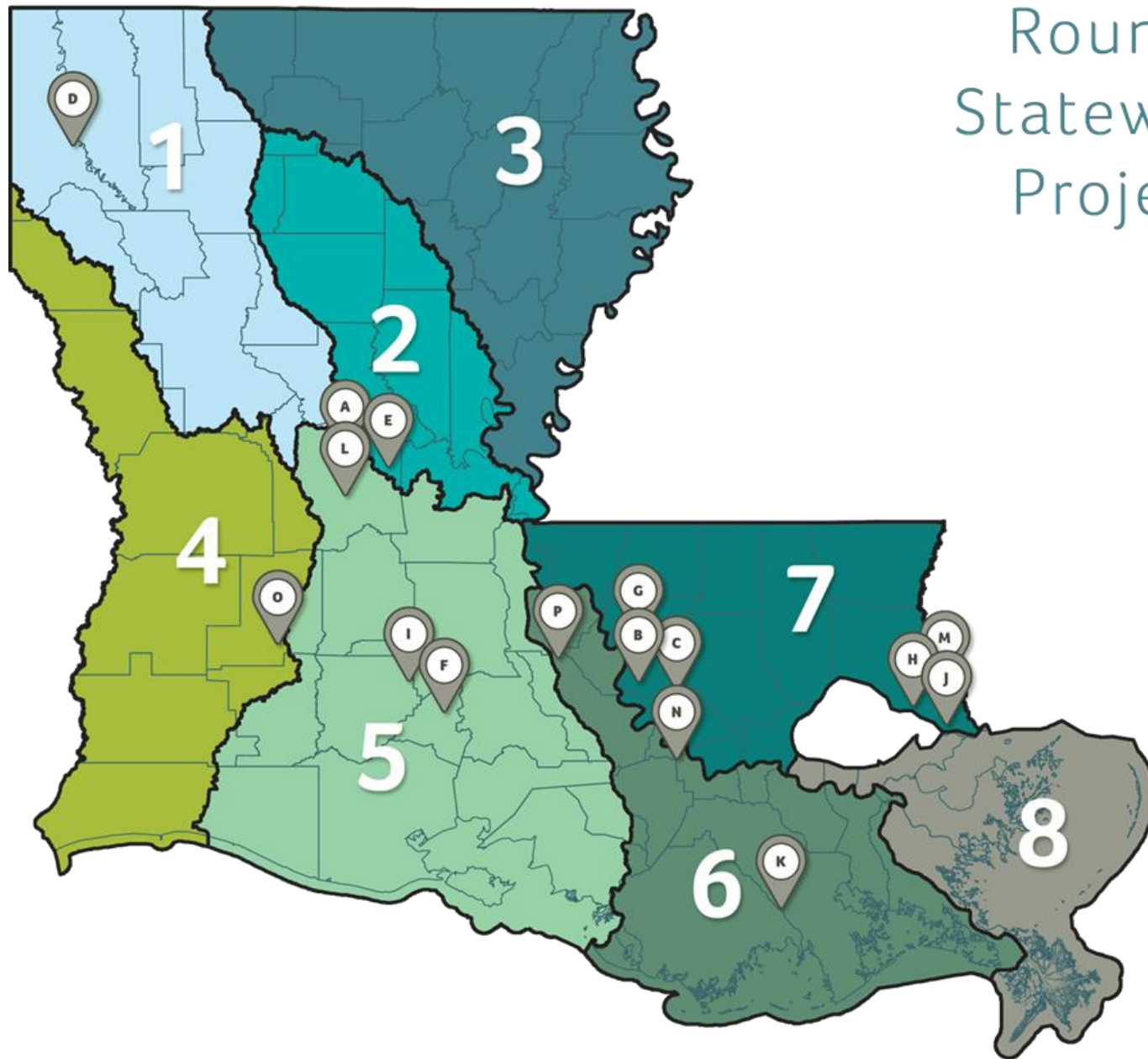
Region 1: 5
Region 2: 2
Region 3: 6
Region 4: 2
Region 5: 7
Region 6: 7
Region 7: 12
Region 8: 0

Projects Awarded

Region 1: 1
Region 2: 1
Region 3: 0
Region 4: 1
Region 5: 4
Region 6: 3
Region 7: 6
Region 8: 0



Round 1 Statewide Projects



- A** CHATLIN LAKE CANAL BACKWATER OVERFLOW RELIEF STRUCTURE
- B** BAYOU DUPLANTIER FLOODPLAIN ACQUISITION
- C** WARD CREEK FLOODPLAIN ACQUISITION
- D** OCKLEY BASIN STORAGE PROJECT
- E** HUFFMAN CREEK PUMP STATION AND OUTFALL IMPROVEMENTS
- F** COULEE MINE EAST DETENTION PROJECT
- G** CYPRESS BAYOU GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
- H** DELLWOOD DRAINAGE PUMP STATION HARDENING
- I** CHURCH POINT DETENTION AND FLOOD PROOFING
- J** EAST SLIDELL RING LEVEE
- K** EMERGENCY BACKUP PUMPS FOR PUMP STATIONS
- L** HORSESHOE CANAL HARDENING PROJECT
- M** LEE STREET DRAINAGE PUMP STATION HARDENING
- N** BONADONA-CATALDO SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE PUMP IMPROVEMENTS
- O** COUSHATTA CASINO RESORT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FLOODWALL
- P** TOWN OF MARINGOUIN DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS



Regional Selection Process Guidance

- All meetings must be public. Do not have discussion in a quorum outside of a public venue.
- Formal presentations on projects are not allowed.
- Public comment must be invited prior to vote on recommendation.
- The RSC can recommend up to \$5 million of projects to the Council on Watershed
- The RSC must vote on the project recommendation.



UNFUNDED PROJECTS MOVING TO REGIONAL SELECTION PROCESS

Project Ranking (##/41)	Organization	Project Name	Project Description	Total Project Cost	Funding Request
18	Town of Haughton	Foxskin Bayou Drainage Improvements	Construction of channel improvements along about 6,600 linear feet of Foxskin Bayou and a stormwater retention pond	4,110,356	2,274,656
21	Bossier Parish Police Jury	Lucky Estates Drainage Project	Installation of culverts, flap gates and weirs at several locations near and around the Lucky Estates subdivision	1,000,000	1,000,000
23	Natchitoches Parish	East Natchitoches Drainage Improvements	Construction of a stormwater conveyance ditch from the East Natchitoches Drainage Canal northward to an improved outfall at Cane River Lake	3,430,653	3,430,653
26	Webster Parish Police Jury	Dorcheat Road Bridge	Replace an existing bridge and its approach sections on Dorcheat Road at Cow Creek and elevate above the 100-year-flood level	603,750	603,750

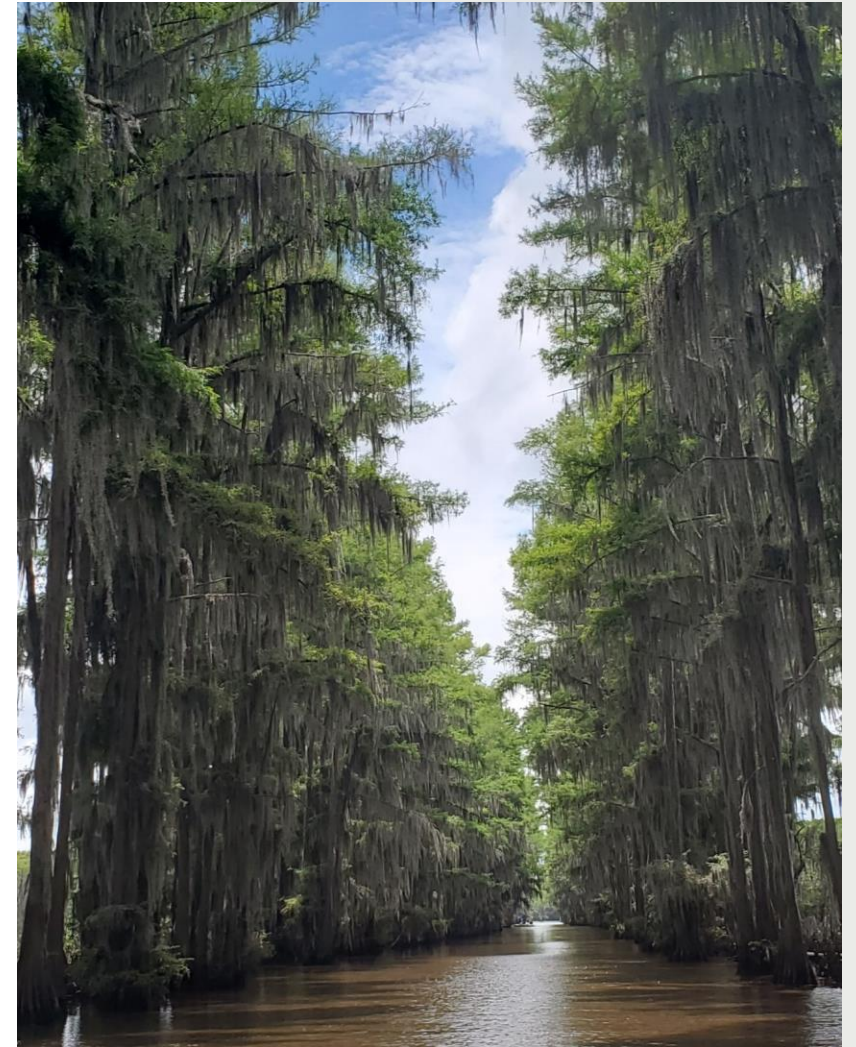


Public Comment on Round 1 Regional Project Selection



Closeout

- Q & A
- Public Comment
- Adjourn





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