



# Region 1 RSC Meeting #9

January 12, 2021

Jenae Arceneaux, Planner  
Heidi Stewart, Floodplain Manager  
Randel Elliott, Grant Administrator

LOUISIANA  
**WATERSHED**  
INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience

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

OUR MISSION

LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE

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# AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Minutes
3. Review Governance Recommendation
4. Discuss Updated Program Timeline
5. Intro to CRS, the Community Rating System
6. Project Inventory Update
7. Closeout

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# 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
- Sabine • William Ruffin
- Webster • Nick Cox
- Winn
- at-large • John Michael Moore
- at-large • Lindsey Gouedy
- at-large • Zazell Dudley

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# Adopt Minutes

## December

- Sent out for review on 1/6/2021
- ~~Adopt as-is~~
- Corrections or additional information needed

## Edits from Staff

- Morgan Briggs should be listed as present.
- Carolyn Hayes should be listed as others in attendance.

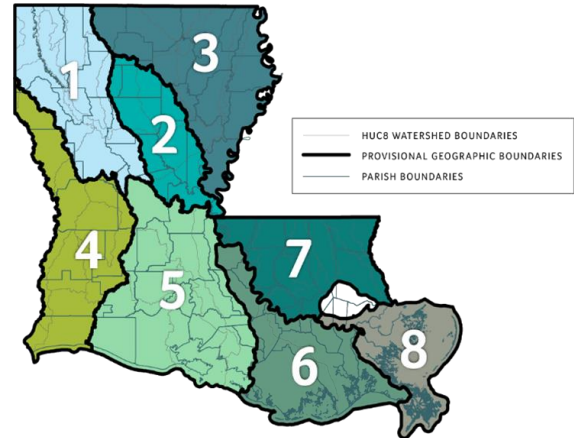


## Review Governance Recommendation

# Governance Recommendation

## Introduction

- The Region 1 Steering Committee hereby offers the provisional recommendation that a long-term Watershed Coalition be formed within the current boundaries of Region 1.
- The following details constitute a provisional recommendation, subject to final review of the Region 1 Steering Committee and the Council on Watershed Management.



# Governance Recommendation

## Regional Summary

The Regional Watershed Coalition or Coalition should conduct regional watershed management and assist local entities with watershed planning, policy, project prioritization, and data/modeling in the following ways:

### Planning and Development Regulation

- The coalition should conduct regional planning to preserve some areas, retain water, and coordinate and prioritize O&M of river systems in region
- The coalition should potentially be tasked with facilitating updates to NFIP maps and building standards



# Governance Recommendation

## Regional Summary

The Regional Watershed Coalition or Coalition should conduct regional watershed management and assist local entities with watershed planning, policy, project prioritization, and data/modeling in the following ways:

### Project Implementation

- The coalition should facilitate the development of passive projects (low O&M)
- The coalition should promote or require natural channel design to prevent further silting processes and allow for natural channel meanders and retention areas
- The coalition should coordinate with upstream states to improve channel health before it gets to Louisiana



# Governance Recommendation

## Regional Summary

The Regional Watershed Coalition or Coalition should conduct regional watershed management and assist local entities with watershed planning, policy, project prioritization, and data/modeling in the following ways:

### Data and Modeling

- The Coalition should be enabled to house and operate the LWI watershed models in Region 1

### Outreach and Engagement

- The coalition should provide public outreach and education to residents and local leaders



# Governance Recommendation

## Regional Summary

The Regional Watershed Coalition or Coalition should conduct regional watershed management and assist local entities with watershed planning, policy, project prioritization, and data/modeling in the following ways:

### Recommended Authorities for the Coalition

- Authority to cooperate or contract with other governmental agencies
- Authority to finance, fund, plan, establish, acquire, construct or reconstruct, enlarge or extend, equip, operate, and maintain systems and infrastructure
- Authority to generate revenue (e.g.: issue/sell bonds, borrow money or accept grants, collect fees, levy tax/special assessments)
- Authority to adopt and enforce development codes



# Governance Recommendation

## Roadmap To Implementing This Recommendation

In order to successfully implement the recommendation above, the RSC recommends the following implementation steps:

- **The Coordinating and Development Corporation/Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments** shall facilitate all meetings of the Coalition and shall perform administrative functions related to the work of the Coalition.
- All of the watershed coalitions in the state should be authorized by a single charter that includes a list of standards and authorities identified by all regions, wherein each region is able to choose which standard or authority to implement and at what degree within individual coalition bylaws/regional charters.
- The regional watershed boundaries should be recognized or approved by a legislatively authorized state agency, board or commission that has the authority to amend the boundaries at the request of the coalitions through a public process.



# Governance Recommendation

## Roadmap To Implementing This Recommendation

In order to successfully implement the recommendation above, the RSC recommends the following implementation steps:

- The coalition should be enabled by legislation ~~under state charter~~ via a state agency, board or commission.
- The coalition should be composed of ~~public representatives, with a technical advisory committee~~ primarily public representatives and include a technical advisory committee. The technical advisory committee members should not be a part of the watershed coalition, but should act as subject matter experts and make recommendations to the coalition.
- The coalition should have the ability to obtain ~~external funding and maintain stable local funding~~ funding through external sources, stable local sources and collect special assessments.



# Governance Recommendation

## Roadmap To Implementing This Recommendation

In order to successfully implement the recommendation above, the RSC recommends the following implementation steps:

- The coalition should have oversight by a state agency that provides consistency and state-level management.
- The state should lead the effort in drafting the legal elements that reflect these recommendations while the regions collect feedback on provisional recommendations and the regions should be kept aware of continued progress.



# Region 1 Proposed Coalition Structure

## Watershed Coalition

*Votes on recommendations provided by committees.*

- Parish President, or their designee, one per parish [12]  
Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Red River, Sabine, Webster, Winn
- At-Large members, representing large regional entities [1,3,5]  
Chair of TAC, Sparta Ground Water Conservation District Commission, The Port of Caddo Bossier, Red River Compact, Red River Waterway Commission etc.
- Non-Voting Members [?]  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, LWI, DOTD

Voting Body  
(15 Members)

## 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
- Representatives of municipalities [4, more?]  
Shreveport, Bossier, Alexandria, Natchitoches (population 15,000+)
- Other Government Agencies [?]  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, LWI, DOTD
- Out of State Representatives [2, 3]  
East Texas, Southern Arkansas, Southeast Oklahoma?
- Community Organization Reps [1-5?]  
Ex. Sparta Ground Water Conservation District Commission, The Port of Caddo Bossier, Red River Compact, Red River Waterway Commission, etc.

Technical Advisory Committee

## Staff / Administration

Regional Coordinating Entity (CDC & NLCOG)

- Provides logistical and technical support.
- Coordinates all regional activities
- Assists in the development of recommendations to voting membership



Discuss Updated Program Timeline





## Governance Outcomes

### PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

### OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

### REFINED RECOMMENDATIONS

An iterative planning process requiring vetting and revisiting recommendations

#### November – January

Make recommendations based on best available data, practices, expertise and information

#### January – April

Engage parish leadership, stakeholders and the public to gather feedback

RESOURCE: O&E TOOLKIT

#### May – June

Consider feedback from outreach and engagement and refine recommendations



## Round 1 Projects Program Timeline

Event	Date
State issues NOFA and solicits project applications	Nov. 22, 2019
Deadline to submit project pre-applications	Jan. 17, 2020
Round 1 application period opens	Sept. 18, 2020
Deadline to submit project full applications	<b>Feb. 26, 2021</b>
Awards announced for \$60 million in statewide projects*	<b>April 2021</b>
Recommendations for \$40 million in regional projects	<b>July 2021</b>

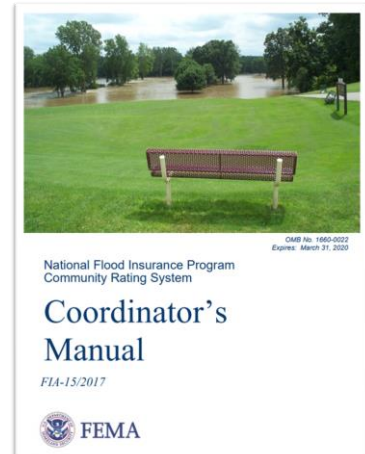
\* Note: The number of applications received may impact projected timelines.



# NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS)

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Over 1,500 communities participate nationwide.

<https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance/rules-legislation/community-rating-system#>



# NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS)

Lower cost flood insurance rates are only one of the rewards a community receives from participating in the CRS. Other benefits include:

- Citizens and property owners in CRS communities have increased opportunities to learn about risk, evaluate their individual vulnerabilities, and take action to protect themselves, as well as their homes and businesses.
- CRS floodplain management activities provide enhanced public safety, reduced damage to property and public infrastructure, and avoidance of economic disruption and loss.
- Communities can evaluate the effectiveness of their flood programs against a nationally recognized benchmark.



# NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS)

A community accrues points to improve its CRS Class rating and receive increasingly higher discounts.

Points are awarded for engaging in any of 19 creditable activities, organized under four categories:

- Public information
- Mapping and regulations
- Flood damage reduction
- Warning and response.

A Class 10 community is not participating in the CRS and receives no discount.

Rate Class	Discount For SFHA	Discount for Non-SFHA	Credit Points Required
1	45%	10%	4,500 +
2	40%	10%	4,000–4,499
3	35%	10%	3,500–3,999
4	30%	10%	3,500–3,499
5	25%	10%	3,000–2,999
6	20%	10%	2,500–2,499
7	15%	5%	1,500–1,999
8	10%	5%	1,000–1,499
9	5%	5%	500–999
10	0	0	0–499

How much discount property owners in your community can get?



# NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS)

## Coordinator's Manual, 2017 Edition

The current Coordinator's Manual is the 2017 Edition.

- Section 100 gives general background information on the CRS.
- Section 200 explains the application and verification procedures.
- Sections 300 through 700 explain the credit points and calculations that are used to verify CRS credit.

## 2021 Addendum to the Coordinator's Manual

In January 2021, an addendum to the Coordinator's Manual becomes effective.

- The 2021 Addendum and the 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual together will constitute the official statement of CRS credits and procedures.
- These two documents will remain effective until a fully revised edition of the Coordinator's Manual is issued in the future.





## Project Inventory Update

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## Project Inventory List

The inventory is a living document which can be continually updated as projects or plans are conceived.

Compiling the inventory will guide development of our **regional priorities**, understanding of how projects and activities might **relate or interact** with one another and help us **find additional funding sources**.



Caddo Lake

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# Project Inventory List

## ALL Watershed-Related Projects and Plans

- Planned
- Underway
- Recently Completed within past 2 years

## Comprehensive List

- Anyone may submit
- Includes Round 1 Projects but not limited to

## No specific funding source attached

- Round 1, 2, & 3; local funding; any other sources



Caddo Lake



# Project Inventory Survey Form

<https://arcg.is/11KbO9>

**What can be submitted:** Any watershed-related project or plan in any stage. Including: ideas, those already under construction, and any projects that have been constructed in the last two years.

**Who can submit:** Anyone

**Note:** The submission of a project does not mean that it will be funded, and the submission *is not* the same as a formal submission for funding.

## Regional Project Inventory

Region 1

Inclusion of a project on this list is not an indication that funding will be provided to any particular project. The projects shown or described herein are merely a summary of requests that have been submitted to OCD as part of Round 1 Pre-Applications or during the regional project inventory process and incorporated into this dataset to increase public awareness of a broad range of proposed watershed project development activities. The state has not verified data collected, bears no responsibility, and advises the public this information is subject to change as the Watershed Project and Programs - Local and Regional - Round 1 and other grant programs progress.

All fields are limited to 255 characters

### Point of Contact

First Name\*

Last Name\*

Title\*

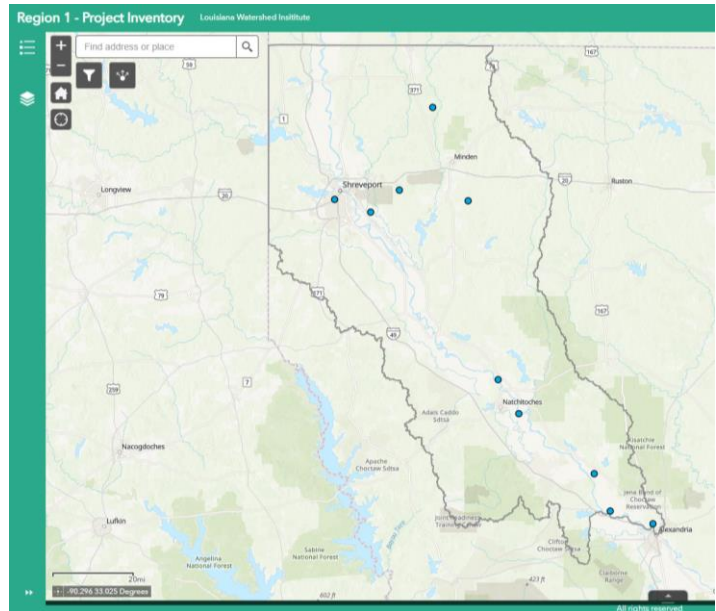


# Project Inventory Viewer

<https://arcg.is/n0nzK>

**What are these locations:** Round 1 submissions have already been entered by OCD staff. If a project you submitted is missing or has errors, let us know.

**Updates:** The viewer will automatically update as projects are submitted in the survey form.



# Closeout

- Q & A
- Public Comment
- Adjourn

Join us next time on February 9, 2021.





## Contact Information

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