



Region 1 Steering Committee Meeting

JUNE 9, 2020

Robin Ramagos, Facilitator of Steering
Committee

Jenae Arceneaux, Planner

Heidi Stewart, Floodplain Manager

Randel Elliott, Grant Administrator

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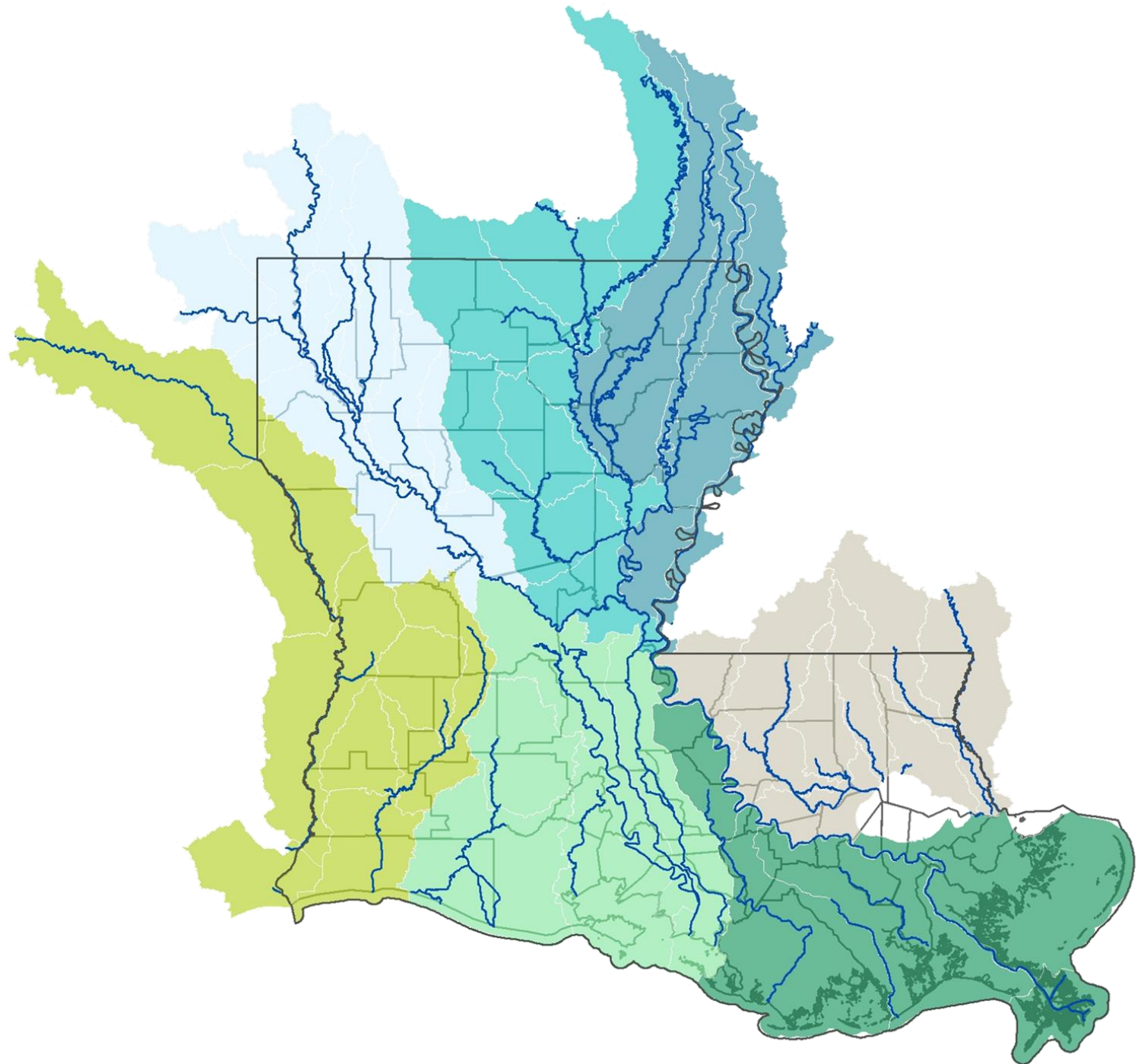
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What is the Louisiana Watershed Initiative?

The challenge

- Flooding does not follow political boundaries, as major watersheds cross parish and state lines.
- Actions in one community can impact entire systems.



Our mission

Gov. John Bel Edwards launched the LWI in 2018 to:

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



MISSISSIPPI RIVER, DARROW



Council on Watershed Management

“It’s harder. It requires more work. It’s politically risky, but it is the right thing to do.”

- GOV. JOHN BEL EDWARDS



LOUISIANA
Office of
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

Strategic areas of focus



DATA



STANDARDS



ENGAGEMENT



INTEGRATED
PLANNING



CAPABILITY &
CAPACITY



FUNDING

Regional Steering Committee

Primary Tasks



1. Adopt a work plan
2. Compile a prioritized project list
3. Submit Round 1 award recommendations to OCD
4. Select a governance model for Regional Watershed Coalition & consider watershed boundaries



Statewide Program

watershed.la.gov

Click on the “Regional Capacity Building Program” under the “Programs” tab.

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RCBG Program Goals

PRIMARY: **Establish watershed coalitions**

Form steering committees (*first year*)

Choose management framework for coalition (*first year*)

Establish coalitions (*second and third years*)

Maintain long-term support for coalitions

SECONDARY: **Cultivate staff capacity** in the region to enhance the impact of outreach and floodplain management activities

Regional Steering Committee Meetings

Should adhere to Louisiana Open Meetings requirements (La. R.S. 42:11-28):

- Observable to the public
- Provide opportunity for public comments
- Opportunity to increase public's trust and awareness of the work of the RSC
- Importance of transparency and decision-tracking
- OCD requires at least 5 business days of notice
- Allow for recording of the meeting by the audience
- Record minutes of the proceedings for public record

Expectations for RSC Members

- **Represent values, contribute expertise and express short and long-term concerns of stakeholder groups represented**
- Attend bi-monthly meetings
- Meeting “readiness”
- Understand the challenges in their region and/or parish/jurisdiction

REVIEW

&

ADOPT

- 1. Minutes from RSC Meeting #1**
- 2. Bylaws**
- 3. Work Plan**

ELECT CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON



DISCUSSION

1. Regional Project Inventory
2. Project Inventory Database (add link)

CLOSING



- **Brief overview of Flood Risk**
- **Q & A**
- **Comments**



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