



Gulf Coast Resource Coalition

Our Coast. Our Cause.

gulfcoastresource.org





OUR TEAM

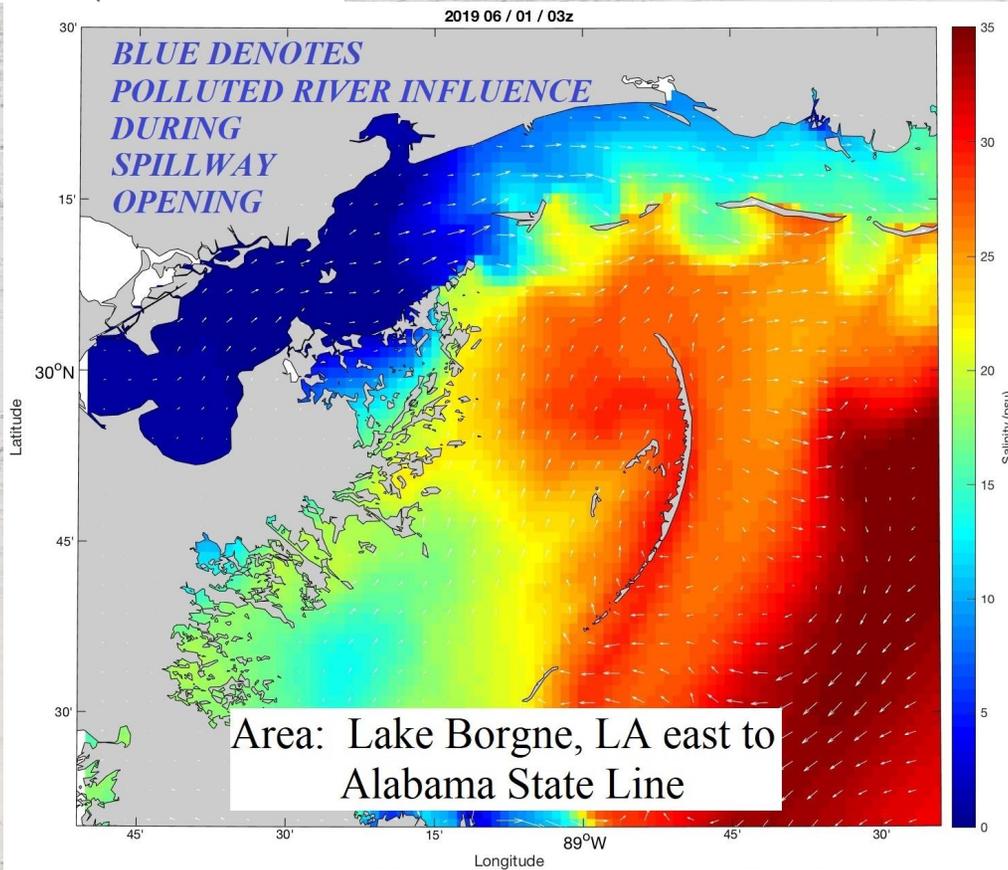


**LOUISIANA'S
PROPOSED
MID-BRETON
LARGE-SCALE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
DIVERSION PROJECT
AND WHAT IT MEANS
TO MISSISSIPPI**





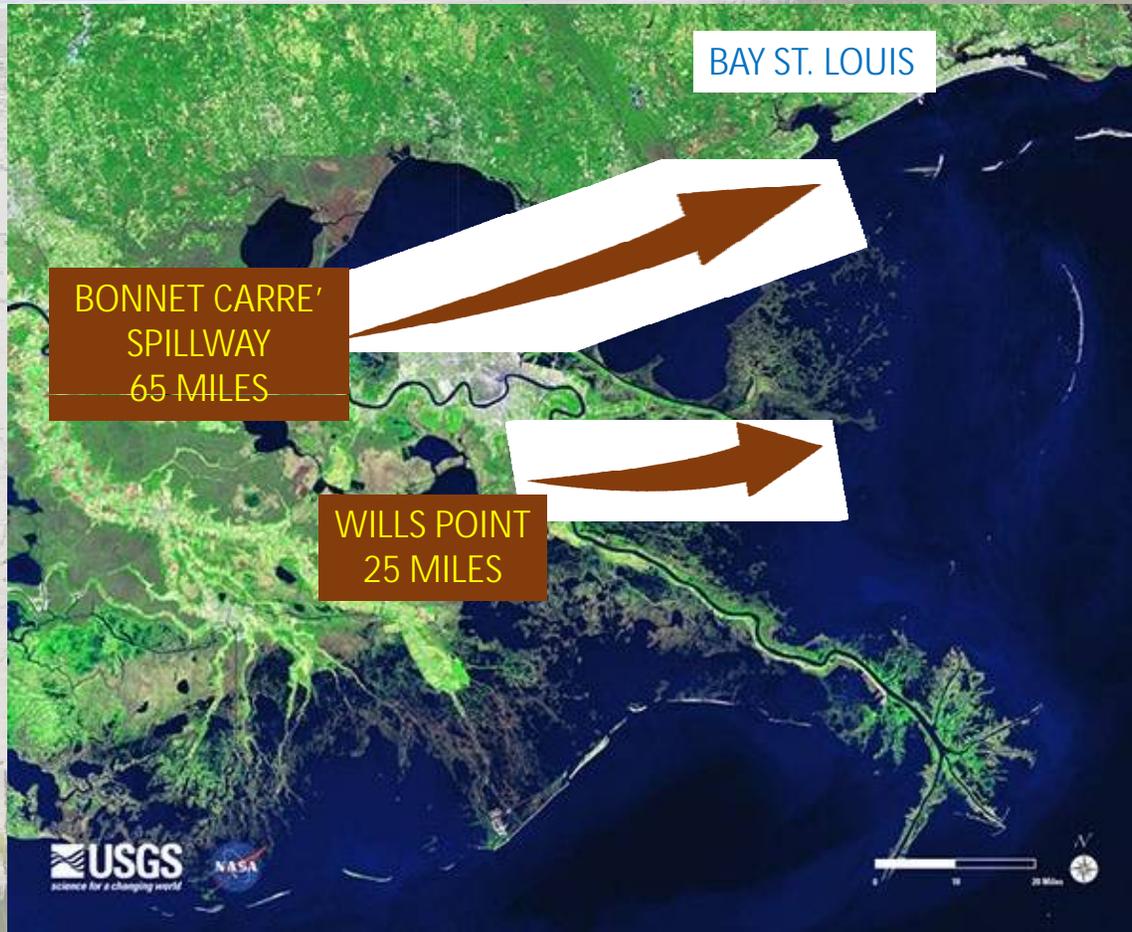
2019 BONNET CARRE' SPILLWAY OPENING



- **BONNET CARRE' SPILLWAY OPENED FOR 123 DAYS**
- **TOTALLY FRESHENED THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND**
- **EXTREME HARM TO MISSISSIPPI FISHERIES, INCLUDING TOTAL MORTALITY IN OYSTER CROPS**
- **EXTREME NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT TO MS COASTAL COMMUNITIES**
- **HUNDREDS OF MARINE MAMMAL DEATHS**



LOUISIANA'S PROPOSED LARGE-SCALE MISSISSIPPI RIVER DIVERSION, WILLS POINT, PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LA





- PERMIT HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND IS IN PROCESS

- 75,000 CUBIC FEET/SEC CAPACITY TO RELEASE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATER



**MID-BRETON
PROJECT DESIGN
CAPACITY OF
75,000cfs**

=

**33,000,000 GALLONS
OF MISSISSIPPI
RIVER WATER
RELEASED/MINUTE**

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

March 18, 2019



United States Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch, ODR-E
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Project Manager
Brad LaBorde
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State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Water Permits Division
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

Project Manager
Elizabeth Hill
(225) 219-3225



**OPERATE AT A MINIMUM BASE FLOW OF 5,000 CFS NON-STOP;
VARYING LEVELS OF OPERATION WHEN THE MS RIVER GAGE
AT BELLE CHASSE REACHES 450,000 CFS [AVERAGING 30,000
– 50,000 CFS PER CPRA PUBLIC STATEMENTS]; MAXIMUM
DISCHARGE WOULD BE 75,000 CFS WHEN THE BELLE CHASSE
GAGE IS AT 1,000,000 CFS**

Latitude: 29.751531, Longitude: -90.011947

Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090100 – Lower Mississippi – New Orleans
08090203 – Eastern Louisiana Coastal

Character of Work: CPRA is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain a multi-component river diversion system intended to convey sediment, fresh water, and nutrients from the Mississippi River into the mid-Breton Basin in an attempt to reduce coastal land loss and sustain surrounding wetlands.

Operation: The proposed Mid-Breton SD is considered to be a large scale, complex ecosystem restoration project that would operate at a base flow of 5,000 cubic feet per second (CFS); when the Mississippi River gage at Belle Chasse exceeds 450,000 cfs the diversion structure would “open” and



BREAKING DOWN THE DIVERSION'S OPERATION STATEMENT

MINIMUM 5,000 CFS ALL YEAR LONG

EXISTING DIVERSIONS
(MAN-MADE AND NATURAL CREVASSES)
ALREADY GIVE US A SOLID EXAMPLE OF
WHAT THE 5,000 – 10,000 CFS RANGE IS
CAPABLE OF



EXISTING CAERNARVON DIVERSION OUTFALL AREA - BRETON BASIN



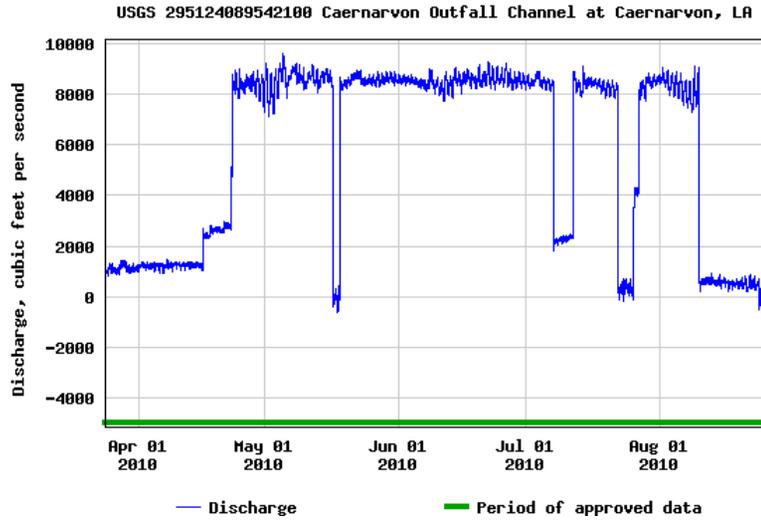
PRE-KATRINA



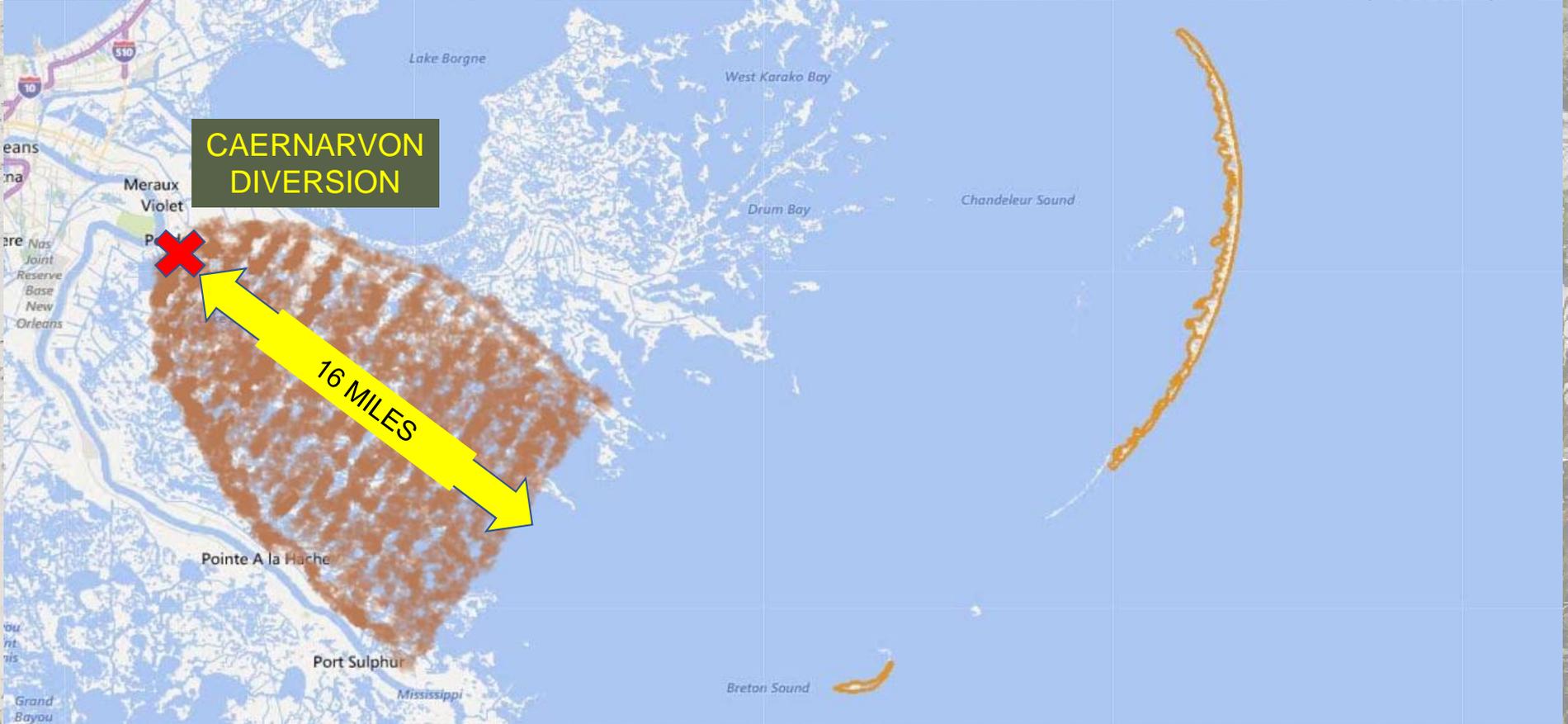
POST-KATRINA



CAERNARVON DIVERSION AT 8,000 CFS

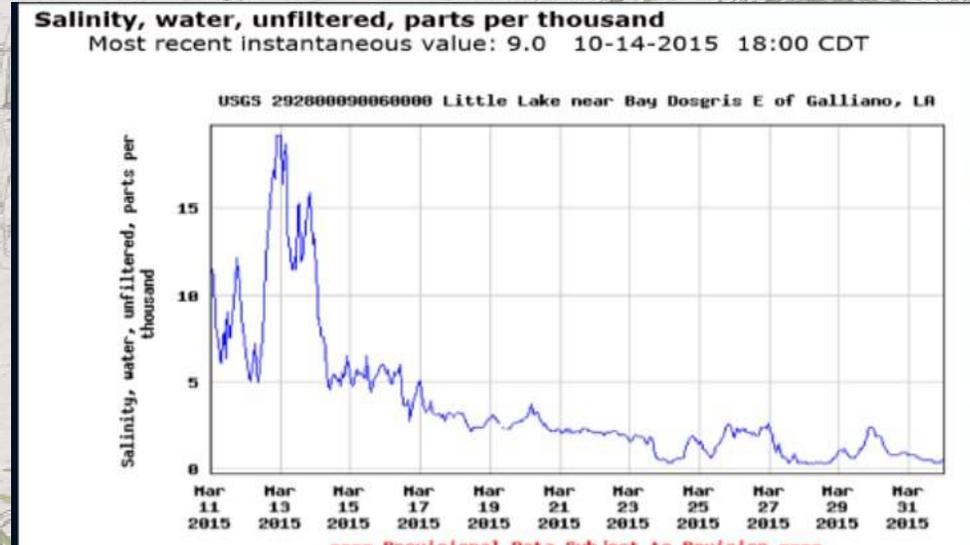
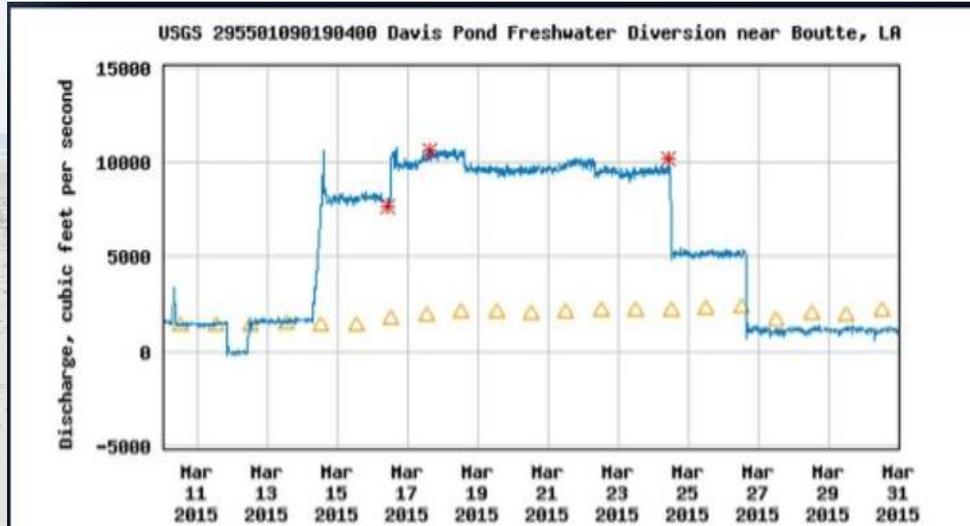


SALINITY TO 0 AT CROOKED BAYOU 16 MILES AWAY





DAVIS POND DIVERSION AT 10,000 CFS



SALINITY TO 0 AT LITTLE LAKE NEAR BAY DOS GRIS 35 MILES AWAY



BREAKING DOWN THE DIVERSION'S OPERATION STATEMENT

**AVERAGING 30,000 – 50,000 cfs IF
450,000 CFS RIVER FLOW**

Monthly mean in ft ³ /s (Calculation Period: 2008-11-01 -> 2018-03-31)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mean of monthly Discharge	536,000	558,000	688,000	710,000	726,000	697,000	551,000	418,000	314,000	321,000	346,000	473,000

**USGS 10 YEAR MONTHLY AVERAGE MISSISSIPPI RIVER
DISCHARGE AT BELLE CHASSE 2008 -2018**



Mid-Breton Sound Diversion
Sediment Diversion
Project ID: 001.DI.104

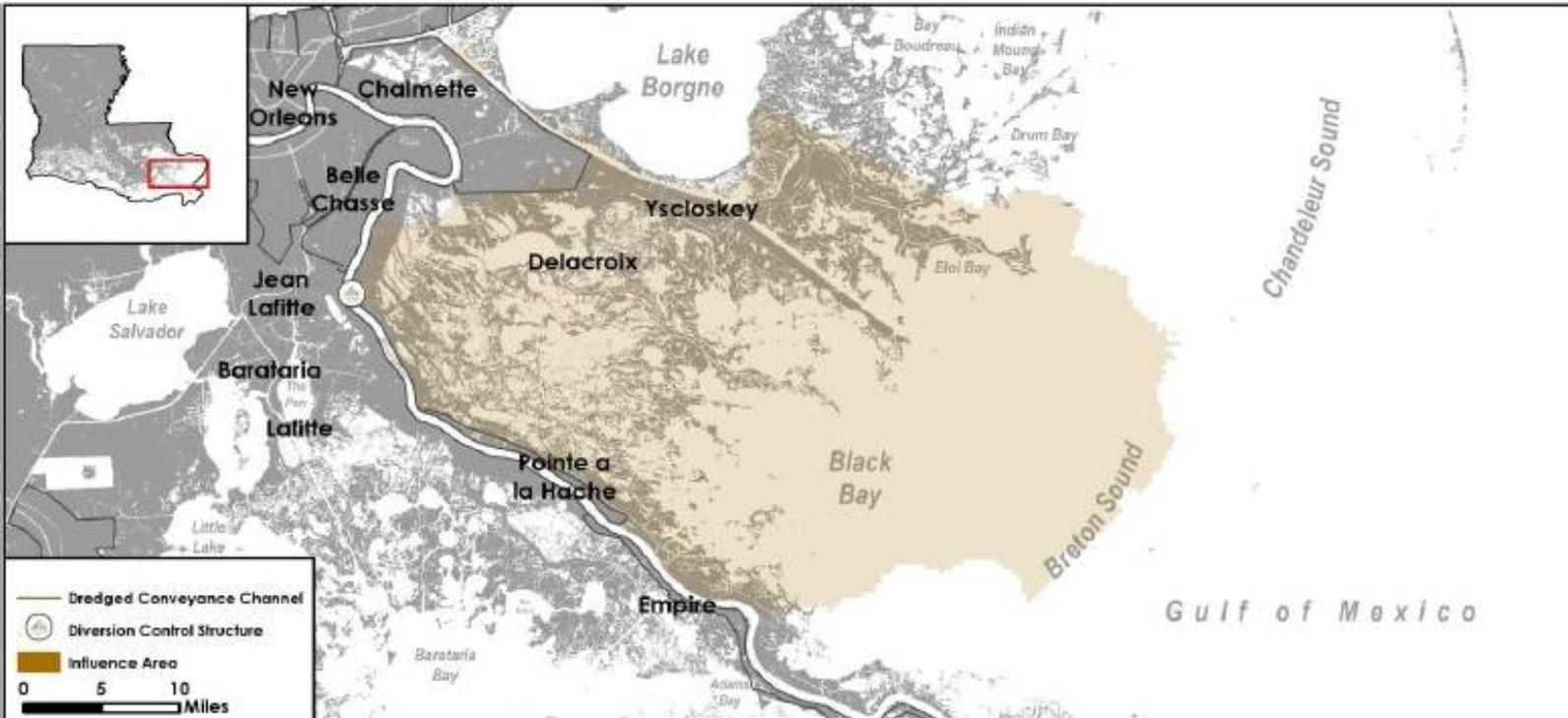


Mid-Breton Sound Diversion Sediment Diversion

Project ID: 001.DI.104



MID
DIV
PR
FAC
FR
LO
CO
MAS





**SIMPLE CALCULATIONS AT CPRA'S
LOWEST AVERAGE OF DIVERSION OPERATION
COMPARED TO SPILLWAY'S RECENT
10 TRILLION GALLONS**



Monthly mean in ft³/s (Calculation Period: 2008-11-01 -> 2018-03-31)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mean of monthly Discharge	536,000	558,000	688,000	710,000	726,000	697,000	551,000	418,000	314,000	321,000	346,000	473,000

***BASED ON USGS 10 YR RIVER FLOW AVERAGES OVER 450,000 CFS AT BELLE CHASSE GAGE
(8 MONTHS PER YEAR)**

30,000 CFS = 19.4 BILLION GALLONS PER DAY X 8 MONTHS =

4.7 TRILLION GALLONS/YEAR

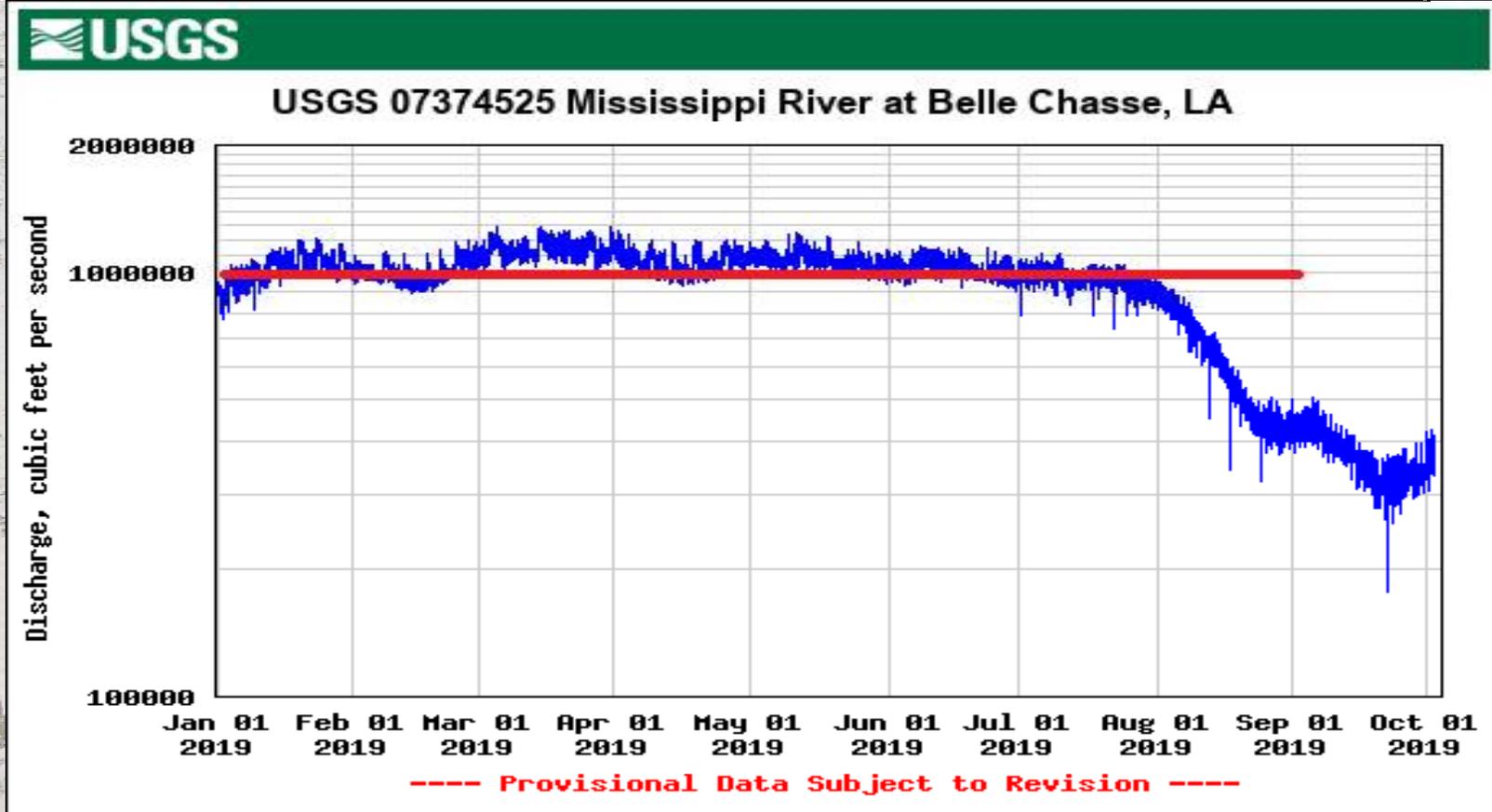


BREAKING DOWN THE DIVERSION'S OPERATION STATEMENT

***FULL CAPACITY OF 75,000 cfs IF
1,000,000 CFS RIVER FLOW***



2019





**TOTAL SPILLWAY VOLUME =
10.07 TRILLION GALLONS**

**TOTAL MID- BRETON VOLUME
201 DAYS =
9.74 TRILLION GALLONS**



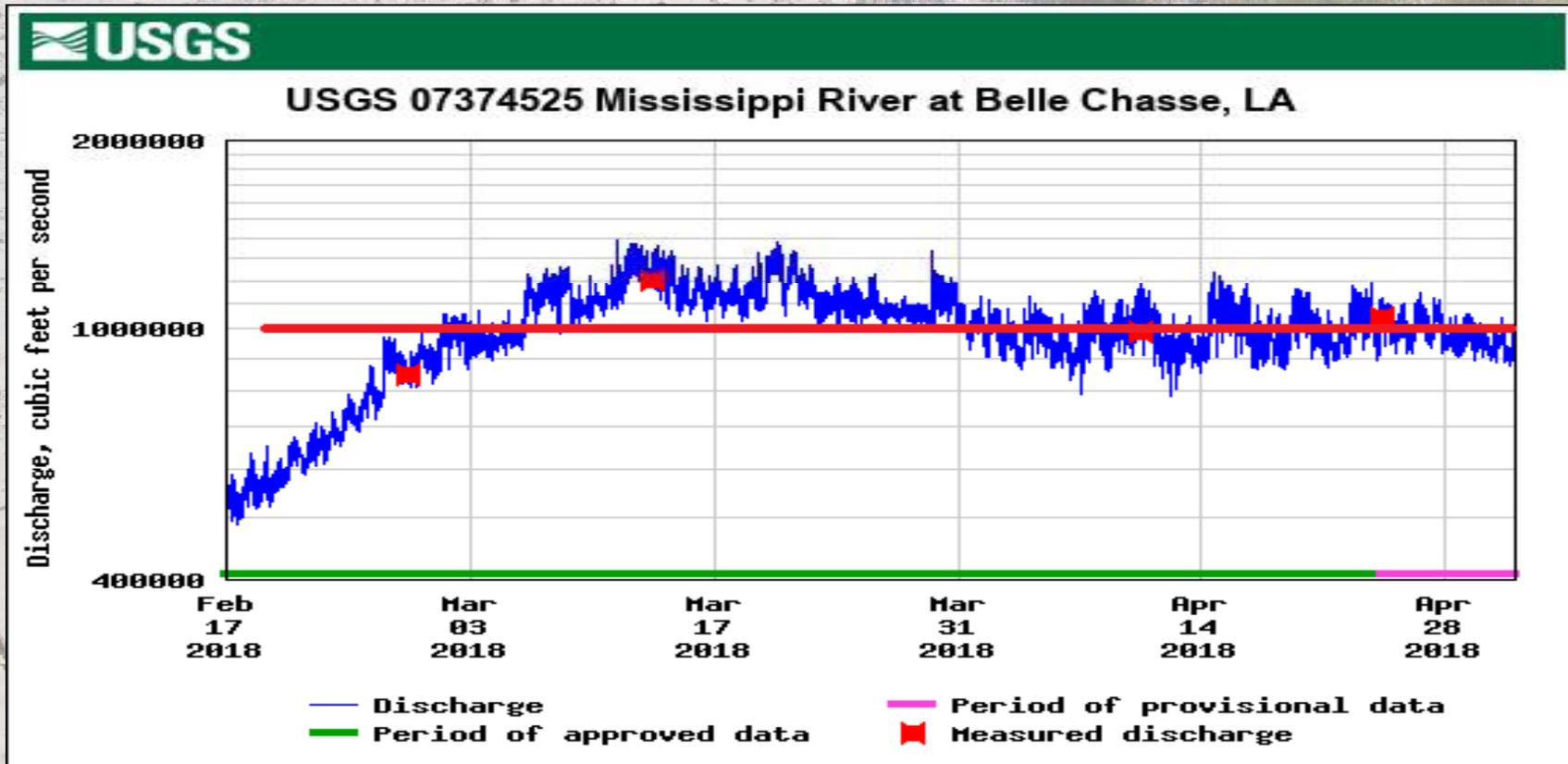
BAY SAINT LOUIS
A PLACE



2018



APPROX. 3 TRILLION GALLONS



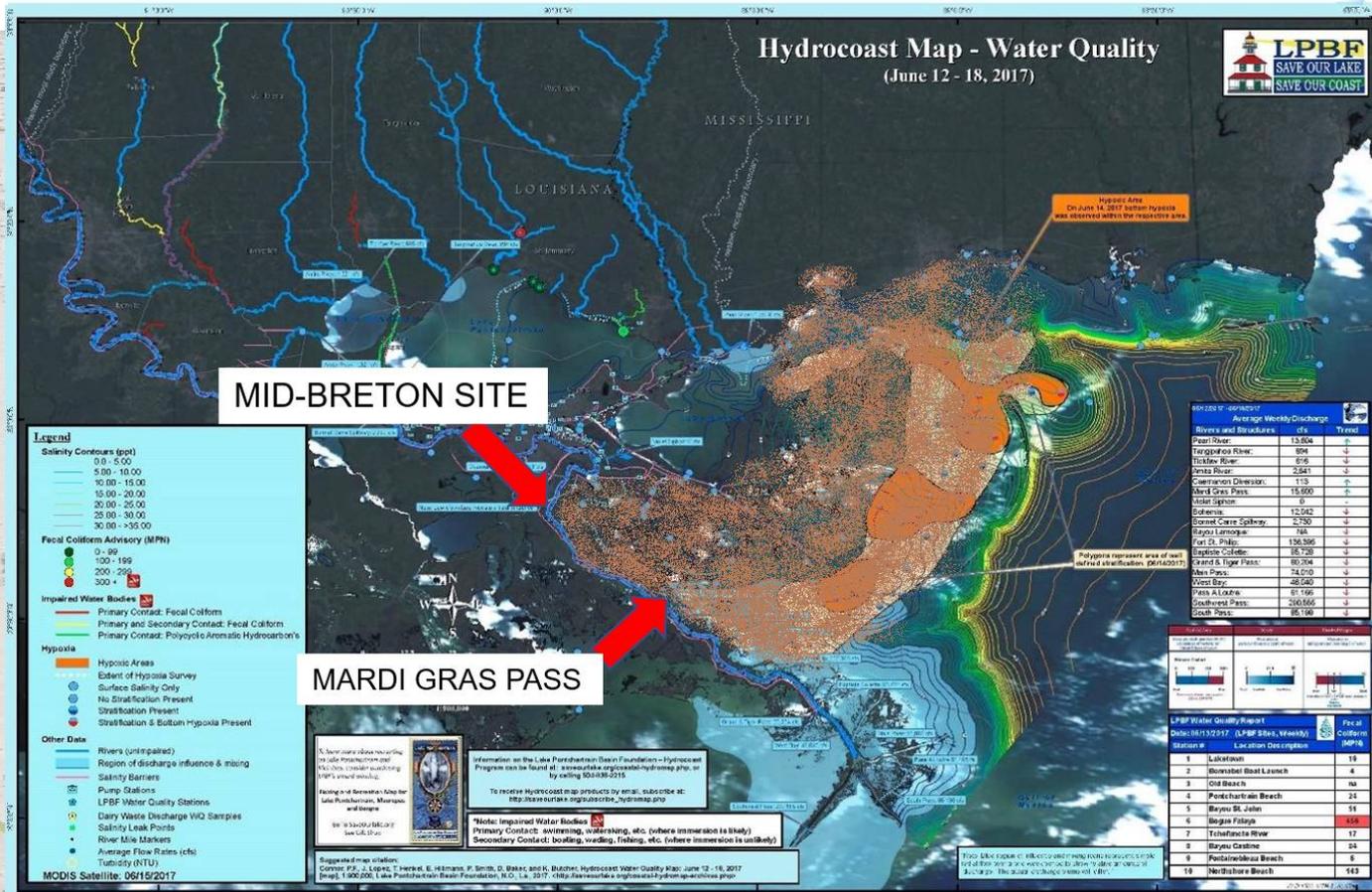


HYPOXIA AND STRATIFICATION



**MARDI GRAS
PASS
BREACHED
LEVEE IN 2012
AND BEGAN
FLOWING
RIVER WATER
AT 5,000 – 6000
CFS**

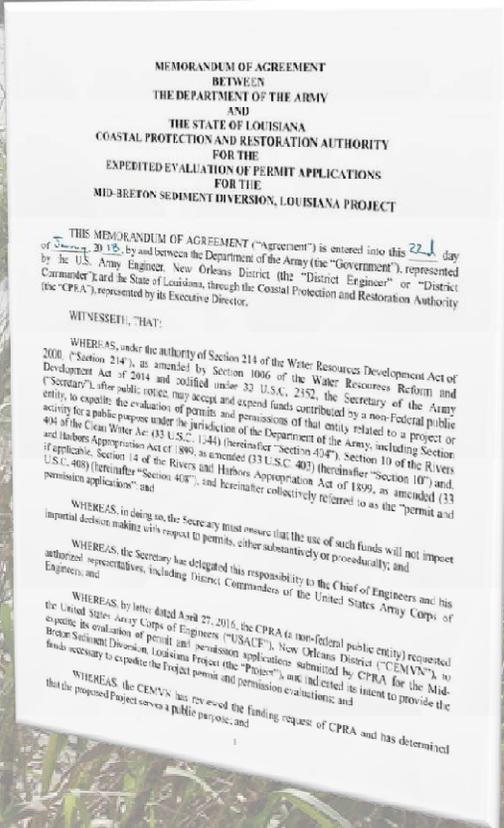






PERMITTING PROCESS TIMELINE HAS BEEN FAST-TRACKED

**EARLY LAST YEAR, UNDER
FEDERAL REGULATIONS, THE
LOUISIANA CPRA ENTERED INTO
A \$1.1 MILLION DOLLAR
AGREEMENT WITH THE CORPS
OF ENGINEERS TO EXPEDITE
THE PERMITTING PROCESS**





THE LA CPRA AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS THAT SUPPORT THE DIVERSION PROJECTS VERY PUBLICLY SUPPORT THE IMPORTANT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS DURING THE PERMITTING PROCESS

The Center Square|March 20, 2019|On time length of the Environmental Impact Statement:

“Having a sense of urgency is important here, getting it right is more important.”

Chip Kline, Chairman, LA CPRA

MEANWHILE IN CONGRESS...



MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT WAIVER

**(PUBLIC LAW 115-123)
BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2018**

***-- A SINGLE PARAGRAPH WAS SLIPPED INTO THE MIDDLE
OF A LARGE BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THIS BILL AT THE
LAST MOMENT BEFORE PASSAGE***

***--PARAGRAPH FORCED THE ISSUANCE OF A WAIVER
FOR THE PROJECT TO THE MARINE MAMMAL
PROTECTION ACT REVIEW REQUIRED DURING THE
PERMITTING PROCESS WITH "NO RULEMAKING, PERMIT,
DETERMINATION, OR OTHER CONDITION OR LIMITATION"***



CHANGE IN DEFINITION OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT *(HR 3697, SECTION 409)*

-- A SMALL AMENDMENT ADDING SECTION 409 TO ANOTHER BILL (HR 200/115TH CONGRESS) BY LOUISIANA CONGRESSMAN GARRET GRAVES HAS CARRIED OVER TO THIS NEW CURRENT BILL

--SECTION 409, IF PASSED, REMOVES THE ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR THE PROJECT DURING THE PERMITTING PROCESS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-6505
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

F/SER4:RH/PW

JUN 26 2013

Ms. Elizabeth L. Davoli
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Environmental Section
Post Office Box 44027



“(1) DISPLACE MARINE FISHERY SPECIES FROM CURRENTLY PRODUCTIVE HABITATS TO LESS SUPPORTIVE HABITATS, (2) REDUCE MARINE FISHERY PRODUCTIVITY, (3) CONVERT ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH) TO AREAS NO LONGER SUPPORTIVE OF SOME FEDERALLY MANAGED MARINE FISHERY SPECIES OR THEIR PREY ITEMS, (4) RENDER WETLANDS IMPACTED BY DIVERSIONS MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO EROSION FROM STORMS, (5) DEGRADE WATER QUALITY, AND (6) CAUSE SOCIO-ECONOMIC HARDSHIP TO THOSE INVOLVED IN THE COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRIES.”

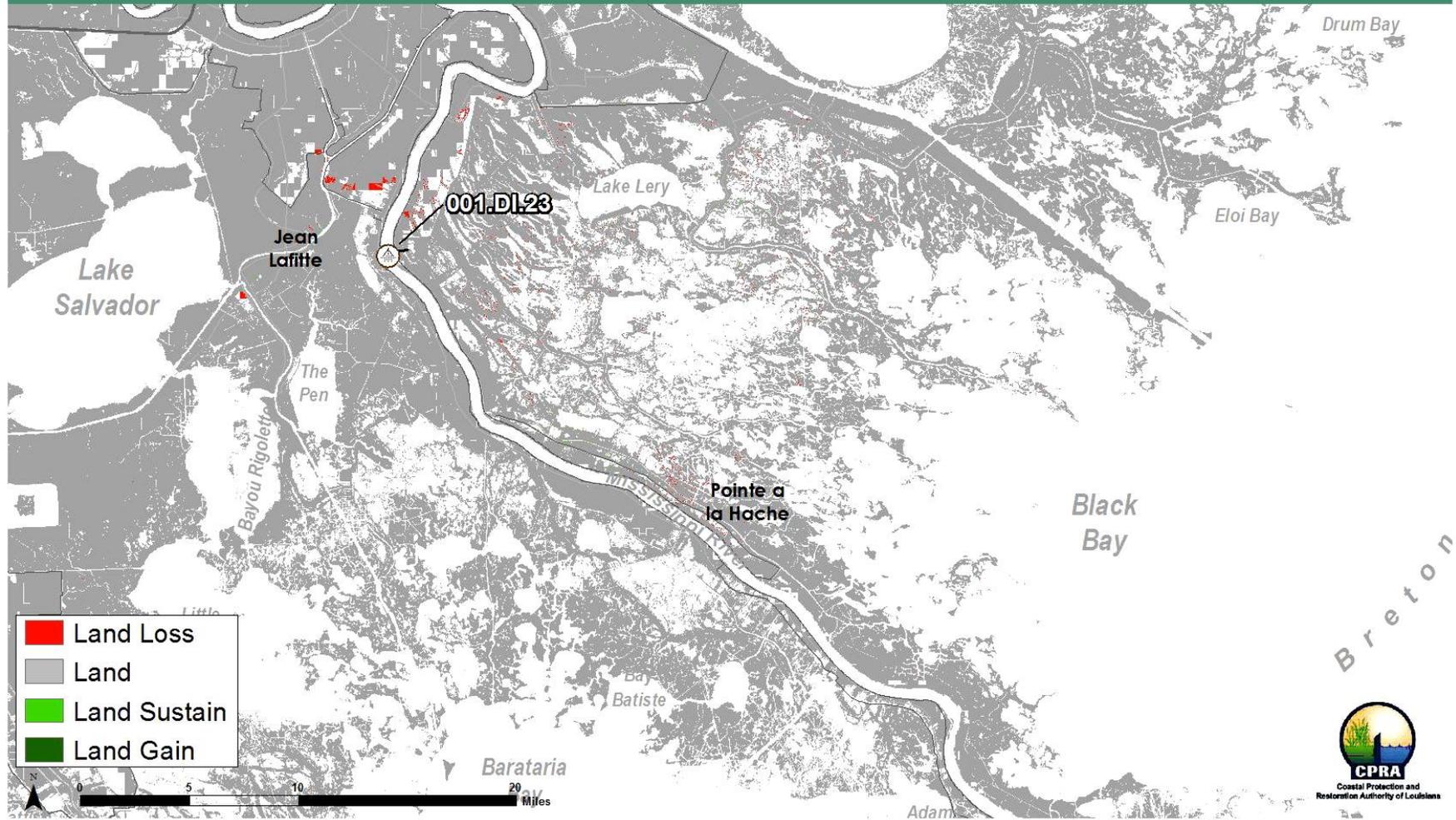
species or their prey items, (4) render wetlands impacted by diversions more susceptible to erosion from storms, (5) degrade water quality, and (6) cause socio-economic hardship to those involved in the commercial and recreational fishing industries.) To allow for informed decision-making, these issues should be thoroughly evaluated by methods acceptable to NMFS and the results incorporated into the planned EIS.

Areas within the influence of the proposed diversion are designated as EFH under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; P.L. 104-297). Categories of EFH in the Barataria basin include emergent wetlands; mangrove



2017 Coastal Master Plan Land Change Map

High Scenario, 001.DI.23, Year 10





Dredge....Don't Divert

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