Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development Dam and Spillway Resilience Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
In 2020, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative’s five coordinating state agencies selected 15 projects to receive $163 million in federal funding. The projects were selected because they align with the missions of these agencies and the long-term resilience objectives of LWI. Specifically, the projects will reduce flood risk in communities throughout the state, store floodwaters in ways that enhance natural habitats and move people in flood-prone areas out of harm’s way. As the granting agency of these funds, the Louisiana Office of Community Development reviewed the projects to ensure they meet HUD requirements and align with the state’s $1.2 billion CDBG-MIT Action Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Dams and spillways enhance drainage capacity and serve other critical functions throughout Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development Dam and Spillway Resilience Program is focused on the improvement or hardening of dams and other spillway features at locations throughout the state for the purpose of increasing drainage capacity, improving drainage efficiency and enhancing dam and spillway system resilience.

COST ESTIMATE
$ 51.3 million
PROJECT DURATION
Planning/Engineering and Design  TBD
Construction/Implementation  57 months from groundbreaking, date TBD

PROJECT LOCATION
Vernon, Beauregard, Franklin, Caddo, Jackson, Rapides, Evangeline, Grant, and St. Landry Parish
(State-Identified Most Impacted and Distressed Areas)

SCALE OF INFLUENCE

PLAN CONSISTENCY
LOUISIANA CDBG-MIT MASTER ACTION PLAN (2020)
The project is consistent with the Louisiana CDBG-MIT Master Action Plan’s focus on implementing “state-identified regional retention/detention, natural flood management and infrastructure projects.” OCD identifies flood control projects as unmet mitigation needs.

LOUISIANA STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (2019)
The project is consistent with the Louisiana State Hazard Mitigation Plan’s number one goal, which is to “protect the people, property and natural resources of Louisiana by promoting strategies and policies that increase resiliency and minimize vulnerability to natural hazards.” The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness ranks local flooding as the greatest risk to more than 8,500 state-owned properties.

PROVISIONAL WATERSHED REGION AND PROJECT LOCATION
The projects are located in Provisional Watershed Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, which include 44 parishes throughout the state. Most of the projects are located in central or northern Louisiana.

Location of Watershed Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, with project locations indicated by the green circles.

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