### Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion (MBSD) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Jeff Varisco Senior Project Manager Programs & Project Management Division Projects and Restoration Branch United States Army Corps of Engineers - New Orleans District April 13th, 2021









PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT** FOR THE PROPOSED MID-BARATARIA SEDIMENT DIVERSION PROJECT







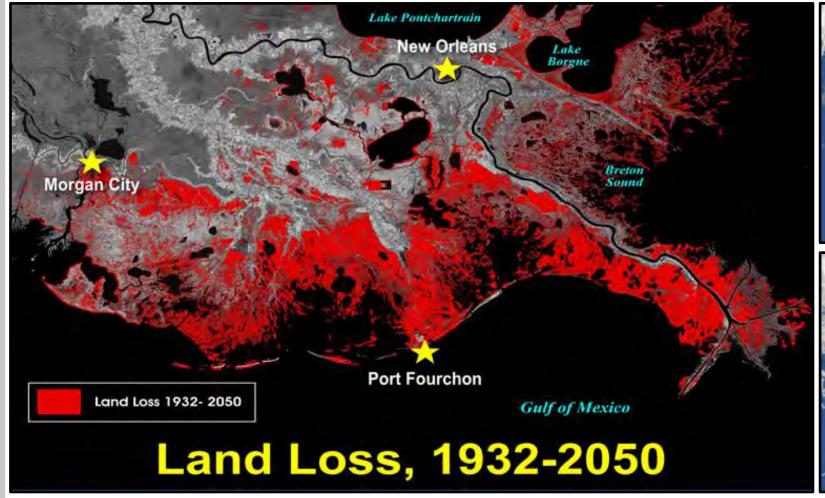


**MARCH 2021** 



## THE RESULT OF NO ACTION





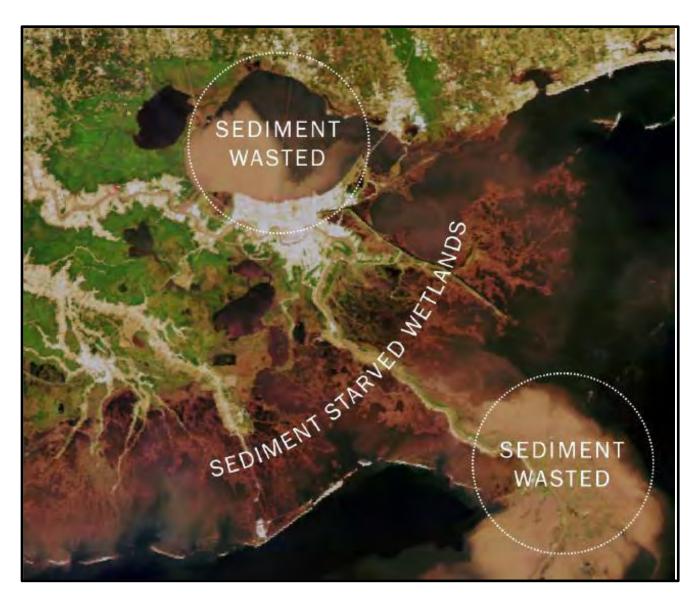




## U.S. ARMY

## **WETLANDS**





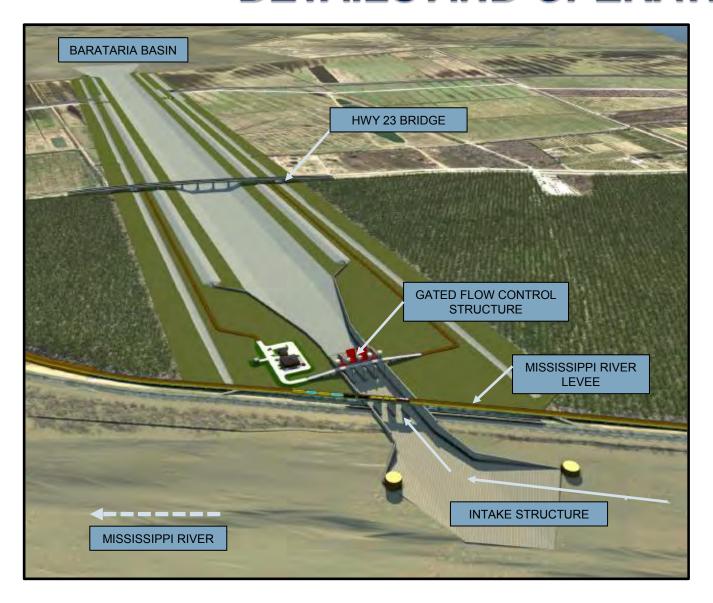
## THE PROBLEM

- Levee System Restricts Rivers natural process
- Lack of Sediment Delivery to starved wetlands
- Barataria Basin has lost 276,000 acres (OVER 430 square miles) of marsh since the 1930's



## **DETAILS AND OPERATIONS**





# OPERATIONAL SCHEME

- Controlled Diversion with Gated Structure
- Maximum flow: 75,000 cfs
- Width: 1,600 ft corridor
- Length: Approximately 2 miles
- Cost: Approximately \$2 Billion



### **MBSD KEY MILESTONES**





#### **Public Scoping**

- 870+ scoping comments
- Modeling and technical reports submitted by CPRA
- Multi-agency working groups
- Peer/Independent third-party review
- Draft EIS development
- National Level Memorandum of Understandings Draft EIS Virtual Public Meetings

April 6, April 7, April 8

Comment Period

March 5 to May 4, 2021

March 2022 Final EIS Comment Period

April 2022 Record of Decision (ROD)



## **ENGAGED PARTIES**



PUBLIC		Input from the public will be considered for the EIS
US Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District	Lead Agency	Section 10/404 permit and 408 permission
S S S	Cooperating Agencies	There are other agencies that may use the EIS to inform decisions on necessary permits/approvals (see
Other Cooperating & Coordinating Agencies		Chapter 5, Table 5.1-1 of DEIS) USACE is coordinating with these agencies on a regular basis.
	TIG Agencies	Draft Phase II Restoration Plan #3.2: Mid-Barataria Sediment DiversionProposed MBSD Project
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority	Applicant	Applicant
GEC Team	Third Party Contractor	Preparing the MBSD EIS



### CONCLUSION



https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MBSD **Comment Portal:** 

Mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**New Orleans District** 

Attn: CEMVN-ODR-E #MVN-2018-1120-EOO

7400 Leake Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118

Phone: 866-211-9205

Virtual public meetings Live:

The 60-day public review and comment period ends on May 4, 2021.

### **Live Virtual Meeting Schedule**

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
April 6, 2021	April 7, 2021	April 8, 2021
9 a.m. CDT	1 p.m. CDT	6 p.m. CDT





**QUESTIONS?** 

