



REGION 1 STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING #3

Date: July 14, 2020

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Natchitoches City Council Chamber, 716 Second St., Natchitoches, LA 71457

Note taker: Heidi Stewart, GIS analyst/environmental planner, Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments

ROLL CALL

		Present	Absent
Rodney Warren	Bienville	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Butch Ford	Bossier	<u>In person</u>	<u> </u>
Ali Mustapha	Caddo	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Dennis Butcher	Claiborne	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
Steve Brown	DeSoto	<u>In person</u>	<u> </u>
Morgan Briggs	Grant	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Rick Nowlin	Natchitoches	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Matt Johns	Rapides	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Shane Hubbard	Red River	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
William Ruffin	Sabine	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
Nick Cox	Webster	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Mike Carpenter	Winn	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
John Michael Moore	At Large	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
Lindsey Gouedy	At Large	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u> </u>
Zazell Dudley	At Large	<u> </u>	<u>Absent</u>
		9 total	
		Quorum	



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FLOOD RISK PRESENTATION NOTES

[Extreme rainfall section]

Butch Ford (Bossier Parish) stated that this data underrepresented the actual rainfall in Bossier and Webster parishes. The forecast predicted 10 inches of rain the day before the flood, actually received 20 inches. Five days later the forecast was 4 inches, another 10 inches occurred. March 7-14, total of 30 inches is not even on charts. This is from the National Weather Service. The forecasting models are not accurate. Discussed giving a range or river level, instead of number.

Robert Tomasek DOTD: Webster Parish had even more rainfall the Bossier Parish.

Butch stated this could represent the forecast. There was 30 inches over five days in Bossier Parish. OCD stated this data is from NOAA.

Rick Nowlin (Natchitoches): Is Cane River flooding fluvial or pluvial? During rainfall events the water in Cane River cannot flow out into the Red River because the Red River is already at capacity.

Mat explained you can have multiple flood risks happening in conjunction.

[SFHA]

Red River doesn't participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, and therefore doesn't have designated flood zones, though they clearly have areas prone to flooding.

[Nature]

Butch Ford (Bossier Parish): Bossier has uncontrolled river sections in the north end near LA 537, the south end of the parish and near Bodcau Dam. Possibly from the El Niño effect-The river rises more frequently than in the past. In the northern parish, low lying area the of farmland with scattered homes, that are cut off when flooding occurs. This is not a high growth area.

It is beneficial for areas downstream, because they divert and hold some of the water. However, on the north end there are bank stabilization issues. LA 537 is about to fall into the river. Not much can be done to save it.

Bodcau Dam in the eastern side of the parish can build up and hold 20 or 30 feet of water behind the dam.

[Other floods events]

Butch Ford (Bossier Parish): June 10, 2015, no rain in northwest Louisiana, but rain in Oklahoma and caused a major fluvial flood event of the Red River. Didn't flood many homes, Flooded I-220, the brand-new interchange of I-49 at MLK. Issues of backwater flooding Loggy Bayou and Lake Bistineau. Casinos were disrupted (they sit in holding tanks along the Red River in downtown Shreveport and Bossier City). Flooding issues: water plants, sewer plants, the War Veteran's Home on Arthur Teague Parkway, the Boardwalk. Several locations almost topped the levee. Bossier City used balloon structures to protect some areas. 250,000 sandbags were used. The subdivision of River Bluff had some homes were successfully protected others did flood (this neighborhood is between the river and the levee).



John Richmond (Natchitoches Parish): This event affected Natchitoches as well, but to a lesser extent. Primarily farmland, cattle and camps. The parish pays attention to Texarkana, Oklahoma and Shreveport/Bossier to know what to expect is coming down river.

In the city of Natchitoches when the river is so high that they must close the small gates to the river, nothing can be done but hope and pray because there is no where for the water to go. Therefore, they are applying for funding for pumping stations, to pump over the levee into the Red River. The water can only go into Cane River, then south of town the smaller communities of Natchez and Cloutierville are inundated. Cane River Lake is dammed on both ends and is 27 miles long and fairly shallow. Attempts have been made to dredge, but they have not been able to find places to put the materials removed.

Robert Tomasek (DOTD): Plenty of natural areas like Lake Bistineau to expand. However, to raise any of these water levels, you'd have to go far upstream and it would be expensive and take up many waterfront properties buyouts.

Steve Brown (DeSoto Parish): Clear Lake and Smithport are less developed and may have potential. Currently there are dam issues but there I work being done. Fairly shallow lakes with a levee separating them.

Butch Ford (Bossier Parish): Retention/detention policies on new development have been adopted. In Shreveport, Bayou Pierre 100 yr. policy. Bossier adopted their policy in 2005. It seems to successful so far.

[Areas listed during exercise]

Bayou Dorcheat (Webster near Minden)

Lake Bisteneau (Webster)

Loggy Bayou (Bossier)

Flat River (Bossier)

Clarke Bayou (Bossier/Webster border)

I-20 near (Bossier/Webster border)

KCS Rail line

Lake Iatt (near Colfax)

Posey Rd (into Natchitoches)

City of Natchitoches is on high ground and essentially becomes an island in severe floods

Natchez (Natchitoches)

Cloutierville (Natchitoches)

Sibley Lake (Natchitoches)

Wastewater facility Laird Fletcher Rd (Natchitoches)

*Rick Nowlin said more via zoom that I couldn't hear

PRE-PRESENTATION COMMENTS RECEIVED

[Caddo Parish]

- Which major waterbodies have had the largest impact on flooding in your area? 1- (Ockley Ditch in the City of Shreveport – From Kings Hwy to Southfield Road). 2- (Wallace Lake/ Boggy Bayou – I-49 to Mansfield Road 3- (Twelve Mile Bayou- Downtown Shreveport to I-220 and Russell Road
- Which areas have been impacted the most by **fluvial flooding**, when a river or bayou exceeds its capacity overtopping the banks? 1- (Russell Road Area – from I-220 to Shreveport including Ledbetter Heights) 2- (Ockley Ditch in Shreveport from I-49 to Southfield) 3- (Boggy Bayou Linwood to Mansfield)
- Which areas have experienced **pluvial flooding**, when intense rains cause urban or flash flooding? 1- (Youree Drive from East Washington to Sand Beach Blvd) 2-(Dixie Garden Loop – Dixie Garden Area) 3-
- Which areas if any have experienced **backwater flooding**, where water rises from a direction not usually expected? 1- (Twelve Mile Bayou from Downtown Shreveport in LA 173 West of I-49) 2-(Wallace Lake/Boggy Bayou from I-49 to Mansfield Road) 3- (Bayou Pierre area below the Wallace Lake Dam – Ellerbee Road) 4- (Bayou Pierre Area from Lenard Road to LA 511/70th Street).
- Do you have any **Special Flood Hazard Area** (SFHA) stories or examples?
- Do you have any areas of wetlands preservation or restoration?
- Are there any other types of flooding that you'd like to discuss?

[Natchitoches Parish]

My preliminary thoughts are as follows:

1. Largest impact on flooding: Red River, Black Lake, Sibley Lake (downstream when water is released), Cane River
2. Fluvial areas: Black Lake
3. Pluvial areas: east side of City of Natchitoches
4. Backwater flooding: same as 3 above plus the Village of Natchez
5. Special Flood Hazard Areas: unknown
6. Wetlands preservation or restoration: unknown
7. Other flooding: not at this time