



Pearl River Basin, Mississippi, Federal Flood Risk Management Project

Appendix K-Significant Environmental Laws



June 2024

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Significance of relevant resources located within the project area.

Resource	Institutionally Significant	Technically Significant	Publicly Significant
Soils, Water bottoms, Prime and Unique Farmlands	Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) memorandum dated August 11, 1980, entitled "Analysis of Impacts on Prime or Unique Agricultural Lands in Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)"; Executive Order 11990 - Protection of Wetlands; Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-98) containing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (PL 97-98; 7 U.S.C. 4201 <i>et seq.</i>).	Technically significant in determining soils engineering and environmental suitability, based on their physical and chemical properties, for proposed activities. Water bottoms are technically significant because the estuarine bottom sediment characteristics (water bottoms) benthic organismal distribution and is an integral component of the benthic boundary layer.	Significant to the public for determining suitability of construction capabilities, agriculture suitability, and suitability for septic tank type disposal of sanitary waste.
Hydrology	NEPA of 1969; Clean Water Act of 1972; Storm damage Control Act of 1944; Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982; Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; River and Harbor and Storm damage Control Act of 1970; Watershed Protection and Storm damage Prevention Act of 1954; Submerged Lands Act of 1953; Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972; Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974; Estuary Protection Act of 1968; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980; Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management.	Civil Works water resources development projects typically impact (positively or negatively) the interrelationships and interactions between water and its environment.	Publicly significant because the public demands clean water, hazard-free navigation, and protection of estuaries and floodplain management.
Water Quality	Clean Water Act of 1972; Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974; Water Resources Planning Act of 1965.	Technically significant to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.	Publicly significant because of the desire for clean water and water-related activities such as boating, swimming, fishing, and as a source of potable water.
Vegetation Resources	Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982; Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972; Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986; Estuary Protection Act of 1968; Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958; NEPA of 1969; North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989; the Water Resources Development Acts of 1976, 1986, 1990, and 1992; Executive Order 13186 - Migratory Bird Habitat Protection.	Technically significant because they are a critical element of the barrier shoreline habitats. Vegetation resources serve as the basis of productivity, contribute to ecosystem diversity, provide various habitat types for fish and wildlife, and are an indicator of the health of coastal habitats.	Publicly significant because of the high priority that the public places on their aesthetic, recreational, and commercial value.
Wildlife Resources	NEPA of 1969; Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972; Estuary Protection Act of 1968; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958; Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929; Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; Endangered Species Act of 1973; Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980; North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989; Executive Order 13186 - Migratory Bird Habitat Protection; Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.	Technically significant because they are a critical element of the barrier shoreline ecosystem, they are an indicator of the health of various coastal habitats, and many wildlife species are important recreation and commercial resources.	Publicly significant because of the high priority that the public places on their aesthetic, recreational, and commercial value.

Significance of relevant resources located within the project area.

Resource	Institutionally Significant	Technically Significant	Publicly Significant
Aquatic Resources	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972; Estuary Protection Act of 1968.	Technically significant because plankton provide a major, direct food source for animals in the water column and in the sediments; are responsible for at least 40 percent of the photosynthesis occurring on the earth; important for their role in nutrient cycling; plankton productivity is a major source of primary food-energy for most estuarine systems throughout the world; and phytoplankton production is the major source of autochthonous organic matter in most estuarine ecosystems (Day et al. 1989).	Publicly significant because plankton constitute the lowest trophic food level for many larger organisms important to commercial and recreational fishing. There is also public health concern with noxious plankton blooms (red and brown tides) that produce toxins, and large-scale blooms can lead to hypoxic conditions, which can result in fish kills.
Fisheries	Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958; Endangered Species Act of 1973; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976; Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972; Estuary Protection Act of 1968.	Technically significant because they are a critical element of many valuable freshwater and marine habitats, they are an indicator of the health of various freshwater and marine habitats, and many fish species are important commercial resources.	Publicly significant because of the high priority that the public places on their esthetic, recreational, and commercial value. Fisheries resources in the project area include marine and estuarine finfish and shellfish.
Essential Fish Habitat	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.	Technically significant because it includes those waters and substrate necessary to Federally-managed fish species for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.	Publicly significant because of the high value that the public places on seafood and the recreational and commercial opportunities it provides.
Threatened and Endangered Species	Endangered Species Act of 1973; Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972; Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940.	Technically significant because the status of such species provides an indication of the overall health of an ecosystem.	Publicly significant because of the desire of the public to protect them and their habitats.
Cultural and Historic Resources	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987; Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979; National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.	Technically important because of their association or linkage to past events, to historically important persons, and to design and/or construction values; and for their ability to yield important information about prehistory and history.	Publicly important because preservation groups and private individuals support their protection, restoration, enhancement, or recovery.
Recreational Resources	Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965; Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965.	Technically significant because of the high economic value of recreational activities and their contribution to local, state, and national economies.	Publicly significant because of the high value that the public places on fishing, hunting, and boating, as measured by the large number of fishing and hunting licenses sold in Louisiana, and the large per-capita number of recreational boat registrations in Louisiana.
Air Quality	Clean Air Act of 1963, as amended, and the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act of 1983, as amended.	Air quality is technically significant because of the status of regional ambient air quality in relation to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).	Air quality is publicly significant because of the desire for clean air and public health concerns expressed by many citizens.
Socioeconomic and Human Resources	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; Estuary Protection Act of 1968; Clean Water Act of 1972; Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; Watershed Protection and Storm damage Protection Act of 1954. Executive Order 12898 of 1994 – Environmental Justice.	Technically significant because the social and economic welfare of the Nation may be positively or adversely impacted by the proposed action; the social and economic welfare of minority and low-income populations may be positively or disproportionately impacted by proposed actions.	Publicly significant because of the public's concern for health, welfare, and economic and social well-being from water resources projects; also public concerns about the fair and equitable treatment of all people



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Appendix L - Environmental Laws



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**Relevant Environmental Federal Statutory Authorities and Executive Orders. (Note:
this list is not complete or exhaustive.)**

<p>Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987 American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 Anadromous Fish conservation Act of 1965 Antiquities Act of 1906 Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 Archeological and Historical Preservation Act of 1974 Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940 Clean Air Act of 1970 Clean Water Act of 1977 Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990 Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (EO 13175) of 2000 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 Emergency Wetlands Restoration Act of 1986 Endangered Species Act of 1973 Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970 Estuaries and Clean Water Act of 2000 Estuary Protection Act of 1968 Estuary Restoration Act of 2000 Exotic Organisms (EO 11987) of 1977 Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations & Low-Income Populations (EO 12898) of 1994 Federal Emergency Management (EO 12148) of 1979 Federal Facilities Compliance Act of 1992 Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934 Flood Control Act of 1944 Floodplain Management (EO 11988) of 1977 Food Security Act of 1985 Greening of the Government Through Efficient Energy Management (EO 13148) of 2000 Historic Sites Act of 1935 Historical and Archeological Data-Preservation Act of 1974 Indian Sacred Sites (EO 13007) of 1996 Invasive Species (EO 13112) of 1999 Land & Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976</p>	<p>Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 Marine Protected Areas (EO 13158) of 2000 Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929 Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 Migratory Bird Habitat Protection (EO 13186) of 2001 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 2000 Noise Control Act of 1972 Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1996 North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 Oil Pollution Act of 1990 Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953 Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 Prime and Unique Farmlands, 1980 CEQ Memorandum Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (EO 11593) of 1971 Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality (EO 11991) of 1977 Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Issues (EO 13045) of 1997 Protection of Cultural Property (EO 12555) of 1986 Protection of Wetlands (EO 11990) of 1977 Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustments Act of 1992 Recreational Fisheries (EO 12962) of 1995 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds (EO 13186) of 2001 Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1899 and 1956 River and Harbor and Flood Control Act of 1970 Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 Submerged Land Act of 1953 Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 Water Resources Development Acts of 1976, 1986, 1990, 1992, and 2007 Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 Watershed Protection & Flood Prevention Act of 1954 Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 Wild and Scenic River Act of 1968 Wilderness Act of 1964</p>
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Relevant Environmental State Statutory Authorities. (Note: this list is not complete or exhaustive.)	
Air Control Act Archeological Treasury Act of 1974 Louisiana Coastal Resources Program Louisiana Scenic Rivers Act of 1988	Louisiana Threatened and Endangered Species and Rare & Unique Habitats Protection of Cypress Trees Water Control Act