

**Pearl River Basin, Mississippi Flood Risk Management Project**  
**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**  
**Virtual Informational Public Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 27, 2024**  
**6:00PM Central**

Chat Box Transcript

from Ken Parks to everyone: 6:13 PM

I keep hearing about flooding in Jackson and surrounding area, which I understand needs to be addressed, but what about downriver. I have submitted questions about the Slidell area and we have been experiencing major high water issues over the the past 5 years and the river at the mouth from I10 down is slitting in and causing flooding in this area. What are the plans for this area?

from Tres to everyone: 6:16 PM

Please specify what is considered "surrounding areas" of Jackson Rankin county.

from Romona Taylor Williams to everyone: 6:28 PM

Mr Turner, Why is there no specific \$\$\$ amount allocated for Jackson in your presentation? Only ambiguous "funding"?

from Juan Fernandez to everyone: 6:51 PM

WRDA 2007 authorizes the ASA-CW to construct the project "generally in accordance" with the 2007 LeFluer Lakes plan. How is "generally in accordance" defined?

from Tres to everyone: 6:52 PM

When will the sediment studies be available for the down river impacts?

from Andrew Whitehurst to everyone: 6:52 PM

Where is the Economics appendix like you presented in 2018

from Money Powell III to everyone: 6:53 PM

I saw earlier that a levy was proposed for the Canton Club neighborhood, which is great, but why isn't Parkway and McCloud not included?

from Kathleen Hutchison to everyone: 6:53 PM

I have property along the Pearl River in Georgetown. Can you assure me that the decision made will have no damaging effect on my property. Note that there are over 600 property owners along the Pearl River South of Jackson to the Louisiana State line.

from Pearl Riverkeeper to everyone: 6:53 PM

We need a Cost Analysis please.

from Andrew Whitehurst to everyone: 6:54 PM

Why do you not reference WRDA 2018 Sec 1176 as being in effect at scoping. It is not mentioned anywhere in the document nor is how you made a special effort to address economic justification or downstream adverse impacts to the lower Pearl in Louisiana.

from Howard Page to everyone: 6:55 PM

Sedimentation is a chronic problem on the Pearl River. This information is critical. Downriver impacts should be more carefully looked at.

from Ricardo Lopez-Torrijos to everyone: 6:55 PM

Where can the listing and details of dozens of projects addressing Pearl tributary flooding be found? How was their cumulative impacts and interaction with the CTO alternatives determined?

from Virginia to everyone: 6:56 PM

How have the writers of the 2024 DEIS responded to the required assessment of adverse downstream impacts to the lower Pearl according to the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 Section 1176?

from David Pharr to everyone: 6:56 PM

Thank you for continuing to analyze these alternatives based on science rather than fear and ideological agendas.

from Andrew Whitehurst to everyone: 6:56 PM

Many important analyses are missing and are pushed until the PED stage - sediment, water quality and a mitigation plan. The Army secretary can seemingly make a decision of approval or ROD without any of those delayed reports being available to the public for making comments on. It will be pointless to release them after the Secretary makes his ROD.

from Tres to everyone: 6:56 PM

Please ensure that down river impacts include the coastal projects that USFWS has done with BP horizonal funding - depend heavily on freshwater load into the gulf and millions has already been allocated. I'm with the friends of Louisiana wildlife refugees, LLC and we're concerned about that and bouge chitto national wildlife refuge in particular. Thank you for having this presentation.

from Virginia to everyone: 6:57 PM

Analyses of sediment, water quality, mitigation, and how to deal with the toxic sites in the project footprint need to be part of the 2024 DEIS.

from Melissa Samet, National Wildlife Federation to everyone: 6:57 PM

An assessment of downstream impacts during low flow conditions is an essential analysis that, along with many others, appears to be missing. Will this be carried out?

from Money Powell III to everyone: 6:58 PM

Also river channel straightning down stream from the Ross Barnett Reservoir that flows behind Canton Club, Parkway and McCleod? This was done in Downtown Jackson in 1968. If it was modified 5+ decades ago, then the same can be done to protect Canton Club, Parkway and McCleod.

from Audrey Harrison to everyone: 6:58 PM

Can the availability of in-kind mitigation sites within the watershed be guaranteed for any of the alternatives?

from Virginia to everyone: 6:58 PM

Where is the economics appendix that was in the 2018 version?

from Romona Taylor Williams to everyone: 6:58 PM

Today's presentation validates the need for an additional 30 day extension for DAC to have sufficient opportunity to analyze this DEIS.

from Andrew Whitehurst to everyone: 6:59 PM

The Congressmen who wrote section 1176 of 2018 are wondering why their language in section 1176 was active at time of scoping and was not mentioned in the Draft EIS after the sunset on their language happened in October, three months after scoping. It was in force at the start of scoping and for three months thereafter. What happened???

from David Pharr to everyone: 7:01 PM

Thank you for clarifying that a determination has been made that the downstream impact of Alternative D would be negligible.

from Pearl Riverkeeper to everyone: 7:01 PM

Alt D cost is above the Maximum Project Cost Limit of \$440 million. How will this be addressed? Local cost share for Alternative D is \$140-\$178 million. The local sponsor is prohibited from using federal funding for this cost share. Has the local sponsor determined how they will pay for this?

from Money Powell III to everyone: 7:01 PM

Also river channel straightening can be utilized to protect the Savannah Wastewater Treatment facility as well.

from Andrew Whitehurst to everyone: 7:02 PM

A special section low flow impacts during the dry months of the year was requested by many commenters in 2018, and those comments could not have been more clear. From Downstream governments and from organizations. The conclusions on negligible effects on low flow by C, and CTO D are not explained.

from David Pharr to everyone: 7:03 PM

Are the inducement areas that you mention (52 structures for Alt D) in the designated 100 year floodway and or 100 year floodplain or some other kind of flooding event. Those structures would not be flooded by construction of the project would they?

from David Pharr to everyone: 7:03 PM

Would any hazardous environmental sites be disturbed by construction of Alternative D?

from Tamitha Dill to everyone: 7:04 PM

Why isn't Purple Creek, which is located behind McLeod , Parkway and Canton Club, part of the solution to aid in flood control? Ridgeland has it included in their Flood Mitigation plan. Hinds County doesn't have it included in their Watershed Project. Why is Purple Creek left out?

from Katie Coates to everyone: 7:06 PM

Why are you literally excluding the majority of Jackson in the cost benefit analysis, ie south & west Jackson.

from Pearl Riverkeeper to everyone: 7:06 PM

52 structures (43 residential homes and 9 other structures) located in federally-designated "disadvantaged communities" will experience first-floor flooding of 5" or greater caused by the CTO Alternative. (source: Main Report, PDF pages 243-244) "These structures could experience more flooding if Alternative CTO is constructed than they would experience if Alternative CTO was not constructed." PDF pages 246-247

Most of these structures are located south of I-20, in South Jackson (Ward 7) and Richland.

from David Pharr to everyone: 7:08 PM

If a non-structural alternative is chosen, what is the financial burden on the homeowner/ resident or business owner if they choose to participate? Does access to their home or business still flood and will their power be cut off? Who pays when they need a place to stay for a week or so when their power is out?

from Lindsay Reeves to everyone: 7:10 PM

Does assessment of recreational benefits examine the effects to existing public lands, including downstream, including the Pearl River WMA and Bogue Chitto NWR?

from Jill Mastrototaro to everyone: 7:11 PM

The Army Corps is required to consider natural and nature-based flood solutions, yet none are included in the DEIS. This despite the fact that for many years, including 2023 scoping, Audubon and many others have raised NBS as a priority. And yet we're expected to believe that today the Corps is so genuinely interested in public input.

from Lindsay Reeves to everyone: 7:13 PM

How can the Corps appropriately determine cost and cost to benefit ratios for the alternatives without having determined the cost of habitat mitigation?

from David Pharr to everyone: 7:13 PM

Are the structures mentioned on PDF pages 246-247 inside the 100 year flood plain? Why wouldn't they flood if nothing is built?

from Melissa Samet, National Wildlife Federation to everyone: 7:15 PM

Can you please explain the legal justification for delaying all the proposed studies to the PED phase.

from Romona Taylor Williams to everyone: 7:15 PM

It is incongruent with logic to expect DAC to analyze and make informed comments in such a limited time. We need an additional 30 days to prepare our comments. Fairness is needed.

from craig pyron to everyone: 7:16 PM

There is a tremendous need to have a beginning of the Pearl River to the end of the Pearl River study of the complete river watershed there are not enough water gauges South of Jackson to know what the volume of water that is in the Pearl River during flooding.

from Kathleen Hutchison to everyone: 7:16 PM

Will we be given access to the recording of this session to share?

from Jill Mastrototaro to everyone: 7:17 PM

I request a copy of the PPT and transcript be made available as soon as possible on the project website. Thank you.