

PUBLIC MEETING MAY 23 & 24, 2023

Pearl River Basin Flood
Risk Management



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US Army Corps
of Engineers®



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AGENDA AND PURPOSE

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Meeting Purpose

Purpose: Provide opportunity for public to learn more about and provide feedback for the efforts to alleviate/reduce flooding in the project area.

Non-Federal Interest

Non-Federal Interest (NFI): Rankin-Hinds Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District.

Authorization

Authorization: Sec. 3104 of WRDA 2007 (may construct NED plan, the locally preferred plan (LPP), or a combination thereof subject to certain determinations). Sec. 1176 of WRDA 2018 (required assessment of downstream impacts).

History

History: Flooding along the Pearl River has significantly impacted areas in/around Jackson, MS for over 100 years. This area has been studied many times. NFI submitted locally preferred plan in July 2022.

NFI Report

NFI Report: NFI prepared a feasibility study under Sec. 211 of WRDA 1996 and submitted it to the ASA(CW) in July 2022.

USACE Review Process

USACE Review Process: In Oct. 2022, ASA(CW) charged the Corps with completing the data gaps in the NFI's feasibility study to inform the ASA(CW)'s determinations. The analysis (prepared as a draft environmental impact statement) is scheduled for Sep. 1, 2023. The NEPA process is expected to be completed in Jan. 2024.



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PUBLIC MEETING PURPOSE

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In Person Meeting Schedule

Tuesday

May 23, 2023
1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

1-844-800-2712
Meeting Number:
1992 79 9046

Slidell High School
Auditorium,
#1 Tiger Drive
Slidell, LA 70458

Wednesday

May 24, 2023
1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

1-844-800-2712
Meeting Number:
1992 79 9046

MS Ag Museum,
Sparkman Auditorium,
1150 Lakeland Dr.
Jackson, MS 39216

Virtual Public Meeting Schedule

Thursday

June 1, 2023
1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

- Information to log in or dial in to meeting are available on the web at:
- <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/thomas.r.shaw>

or for phone only
1-844-800-2712
Access Code: 1992799046#

Public Input

- Self-addressed comment cards will be available at the public meetings.
- Traditional Mail
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District
CEMVK-PMP
4155 Clay St., Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
- E-Mail PearlRiverFRM@usace.army.mil



MESSAGE FROM ARMY CIVIL WORKS

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Public Message from Assistant
Secretary of the Army for Civil Works,
Michael Connor





PEARL RIVER FLOODING



- The Jackson, Mississippi metropolitan area has experienced devastating floods for the past 100-years, including as recently as 2020 and 2022.
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been allocated to complete planning and implementation of a plan.
- People of Jackson, MS are a priority to provide effective flood risk solutions.



CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION



Section 3104 Pearl River Basin, Mississippi, of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007

- The Secretary may construct the national economic development (NED) plan, the locally preferred plan (LPP) or some combination thereof,
- Subject to a determination by the Secretary that the LPP provides at least the same level of flood damage reduction as the NED plan and that the LPP is environmentally acceptable and technically feasible.

WRDA 2018 Section 1176

- Assess downstream effects.



HISTORY



- **Jackson East & West Levees constructed 1968**
- **Flood of Record – April 1979**
- **Numerous Flood Risk Studies Conducted**
 - 2007 USACE Preliminary Draft Report
 - Evaluated a Levee Plan and the LaFleur Lakes Plan
 - 2018-2022 Rankin-Hinds (R-H) Feasibility Report Work
 - Prepared under Section 211 of WRDA 1996 authority
 - Released for Public Review in Summer 2018
 - Modified plan to address public comments
 - Modified plan to address OASACW/USACE comments
- **CURRENT STATUS: USACE Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) - Under Development**



USACE ACTIVITIES



Per Section 3104, the Secretary may construct the NED plan, the LPP or some combination thereof.

USACE is preparing a DEIS to inform the Secretary decision.

- Identify NED plan
- Compare level of flood protection of alternatives
- Assess the environmental acceptability and technical feasibility of the alternatives

OVERVIEW OF NFI REPORT

Alternatives considered include:

- Nonstructural Plan
- Levees Plan
- Channel Improvement Plan - NFI preferred project consists of:
 - Construction of channel improvements
 - Demolition of the existing weir near the J. H. Fewell Water Treatment Plant (WTP) site
 - Construction of a new weir with a low-flow gate structure further downstream to enlarge the existing river channel
 - Federal levee improvements (excavated material plan)
 - Upgrading an existing non-Federal levee into a federalized ring levee around the Savannah Street WWTP.

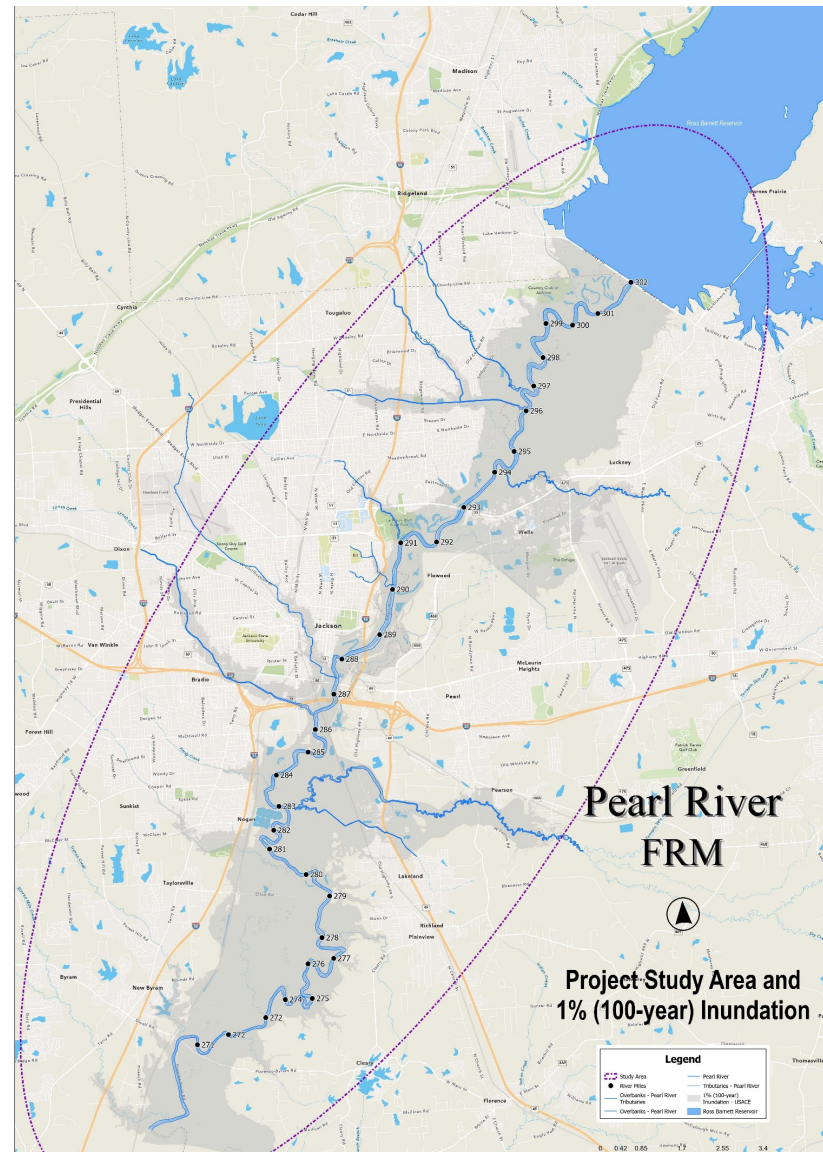
ALTERNATIVES UNDER EVALUATION

- **Nonstructural Alternatives**
 - A: Relocating structures (buy out and relocating)
 - A1: Additional non-structural measures such as elevation, and floodproofing
- **Alternative C – Channel Improvements Plan (NFI Recommended Plan)**
 - Excavate and widen channel, use material to enhance levees, create habitat islands and weir relocation
- **A combination or hybrid alternative is authorized.**
- **Other Potential Alternatives**



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STUDY AREA





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AREAS OF INTEREST

- Flood Risk Reduction
- Water Supply
- Water and Wastewater Treatment
- Ecosystem/Environmental Impacts
- Existing Waste Sites
- Cultural Resources
- Transportation
- Downstream Impacts
- Recreation Access and Opportunities
- Community Impacts (Cohesion, Quality of Life etc.)
- Economic Opportunities

Potential Others?

TIMELINE

May 2023

- Public/Agency Outreach

**Summer
2023**

- Technical Evaluations/Analysis & Environmental Compliance Activities

**September
1, 2023**

- Draft Report/Draft EIS
- The public is given an opportunity to respond to the Draft EIS.

**December
2023**

- Final Report/Final EIS

**January
2024**

- Secretary Determination & Record of Decision



TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK / PROVIDE INPUT

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Feedback/input will be accepted through June 30, 2023

Email: PearlRiverFRM@usace.army.mil

Address for feedback via Mail:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CEMVK-PMP
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435

Project Website:

<http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Programs-and-Project-Management/Project-Management/Pearl-River/>