

# NLLD January 2024 Project Report

## **A. Thibodaux – West Project Area**

NLLD is working with High Tide Consultants and the City to potentially identify some projects going forward.

## **B. Thibodaux - Lockport - Bayou Blue Project Area**

### NSU Drainage study:

The construction contract for the NSU Coastal Center came in under budget and NSU was able to accept some alternates.

### Bayou Blue – Hollywood Backwater Flood Protection Project:

Sealevel Construction, Inc. is the contractor for this storm surge protection project for areas around the Hollywood Canal. CPRA is reimbursing over \$6.5M in GOMESA funds for this project that includes drainage & levee improvements along with a closure and a pumping structure.

### Raceland Prairie District 1 of 12 and 2 of 12 Levee Improvements:

This project for levee improvements in these Forced Drainage Area's will receive a total of \$4.225M in state reimbursements through Capital Outlay. The additional Priority 1 award of \$2.75M did not receive a cash line of credit this year, so NLLD has resubmitted the request through Capital Outlay and according to the latest from the Bond Commission, is coming into this session as a Priority 5. Onshore Materials, LLC was awarded the contract for this project.

### Upper Bayou Folsé Watershed Backwater Flood Protection:

Now that NLLD is actively engaged in the Prairie levees and Hollywood Canal project, Dwayne Bourgeois said he will continue to submit funding requests through State Capital Outlay to support this project benefiting a substantial part of NLLD's district.

### **C. Lockport - Larose Project Area**

#### Lockport to Larose Reach B Levee Project:

Low Land Construction Company, Inc. is the contractor on this project designed to increase the stability and the protection elevation to +7' for about 6,400 linear feet of the levee. CPRA provided \$1M State Surplus reimbursement for the construction.

#### Lockport to Larose Reach D2 & D3 Levee Improvements:

Sealevel Construction Inc. is the contractor on this project designed to improve the elevation of the Lockport to Larose Reach D2 & D3 Levee to an 8' elevation. CPRA provided \$827K reimbursement for construction.

#### Lockport to Larose Reach D5 Levee Improvements:

GIS has been working to develop flood protection options for Allied Shipyard to Bayou Lafourche. NLLD is currently working with Delta Coast on formulation and submission of a FEMA BRIC grant application for the current funding cycle. NLLD is also submitting a funding request for this project through the Capital Outlay Request process. Depending on how these funding requests turn out, next year, NLLD will have to make some hard decisions for the protection of this area.

### **D. Choupic Project Area**

#### West Choupic & St. James Project Area Backwater Flood Protection:

NLLD is working with Leonard Chauvin P.E., P.L.S., Inc. (LCI) to realign the proposed levee to reduce negative impacts on landowners while meeting the Corps' and DNR wetland requirements. This re-evaluation is a bit more involved, but both agencies have shown openness to an open system design in recent pre-application meetings. LCI will proceed with preparing a permit application. NLLD has put in a Capital Outlay request for this Project.

#### Bowie Forced Drainage System Levee Improvements:

NLLD is working with Leonard Chauvin P.E., P.L.S., Inc. on a design to improve and repair the current protection from Bayou Onion to Grand Bayou. All work is planned in the footprint of the existing levee.

## **E. St. James Project Area:**

### Woodland Heights Levee:

This project aims to prevent backwater flooding in the Woodland Heights Subdivision and Hwy 20 public housing. After collaborating with landowners, NLLD is developing a solution to meet the area's needs and reduce the risk of future flooding.

## **F. Lake Bouef Watershed Project Area:**

### Zeller/Larousse Forced Drainage Area Systems Improvements:

Leonard Chauvin P.E., P.L.S., Inc. applied to LA Statewide Flood Control for Phase 3 of this NLLD project, aimed at enhancing the levee structures and drainage system safeguarding the Kraemer/Bayou Bouef community. The application has been approved by the committees, securing a \$5 million funding award for the approximately 2,500 linear feet along Kraemer Bayou Road during the last legislative session.

### LBW Backwater Protection Project:

During NLLD's forum last year with local landowners and farmers, NLLD reached a consensus to establish an alignment that avoids wetland impacts, identify the affected property owners, and initiate preliminary discussions based on those findings. Subsequently, NLLD has engaged in conversations with the Mill, which is collaborating with the farmers to explore the possibility of advancing the project through their processes.

## **G. Gheens Project Area:**

### Upper Barataria Risk Reduction (UBRRP) Project:

This project, via the Corps, received \$8M in funding for PED and MVP is working on the PED under the oversight of MVN. As it stands right now, the Corps will not provide reasonable protection for this area in any reasonable time frame. Dwayne Bourgeois has been meeting with the Lafourche Basin Levee District and has spoken to CPRA and Corps leadership at MVN. After some discussion about better communications, standards, NLLD made some progress with the Corps expediting some things (Agreements) that need to be modified or completed so that NLLD can improve protection while waiting for them to complete their parts.

## **H. Valentine - East Project Area:**

### Industrial Ave Floodwall-North American Shipyard to Bayou Lafourche:

NLLD was working with Picciola and Associates on a project to enhance protection along Industrial Park Road to Bayou Lafourche by elevating it to approximately 9 feet. NLLD segmented the project into four phases based on construction needs and is optimistic about securing funding for the initial stages. NLLD is also actively advocating for more substantial state-level funding and investigating various grant opportunities. In a collaborative effort, the parish has committed to contributing funding to support both road stabilization and flood protection aspects of the project.

### Morganza to the Gulf Eastern Tie-in, Reach 1 Eunice Allemand:

NLLD has been working with Delta Coast on a project to improve some existing inside flood protection levees that allowed some flooding of homes and property in this FDA during Hurricane Ida. Due to its location, NLLD is having to look at this protection project as it might have future benefits to the adjacent alignment of future reach 1 of the MtoG Eastern Tie In. NLLD is working to advance the MtoG Reach 1 with some Surplus funds NLLD received as part of this project with a potential haul road to push the Corps in NLLD's direction and advance their ability to have meaningful protection when the Sector Gate is installed in the GIWW.

### Morganza to the Gulf Eastern Tie-in, Reach 2 Interim Improvements:

Now that NLLD has completed the initial levee project to provide immediate protection in this area, the district is moving on with the next phase of the project which is the improvement to the drainage channel. All of this work is based on moving the MtoG Eastern alignment forward while giving the USACE a "yellow brick road for a construction path".

### Morganza to the Gulf Eastern Tie-in, Reach 3 Interim Improvements:

Funding for this project is included in the State's Annual Plan this year. NLLD had originally met with the USACE on November 7<sup>th</sup> of last year regarding the Eastern alignment including Reach 3 and NLLD had the follow up meeting with them June 12<sup>th</sup>. There have been positive movements from USACE taking into consideration the alignment NLLD has suggested, and this project will be moving along.

### Ludevine Pump Station Replacement:

This project was developed out of the poor condition of the existing station and a conflict with the Reach 2 levee alignment. Recognizing this conflict and need, CPRA through GOMESA funding, committed an initial \$2.8M and an additional \$1.62M in its annual plan for construction of this project.

### T-Bois Ludevine Levee Tie In:

This project will connect the T-Bois Levee to the Ludevine Levee and build a new bridge across the Blackwater Canal funded by Lafourche Parish Government for Eunice Allemand residents. In March, the board approved a CEA for NLLD to construct both projects, with LPG reimbursing NLLD for their share of the work. This arrangement benefits both parties and provides controlled interconnectivity between the two FDAs.

## **I. Maintenance and other Regional Projects:**

### Maintenance Projects:

1. NLLD is working on scheduling a meeting with Lafourche Parish Government and GIS to discuss the drainage issues at Allied Shipyard and Ledet Lane.
2. The Linkbelt 350 is continuing to clear Grand Bayou.
3. NLLD cleared the RoW for Humble Canal and is continuing the excavation to improve this drainage artery to the Valentine Forced Drainage Area.
4. The TAZ unit should be completing the work to open back the drainage canal through the Greenwood mitigation bank a little north of Thibodaux over the next couple of weeks.
5. Butch Hill pump station which is expected to be advertised later this year.
6. NLLD identified areas to obtain borrow along Reach D1 to fix an area where the material was having accelerated settlement. NLLD has a dragline excavating material from the canal for future installation on the levee.
7. NLLD is working with Leonard Chauvin, Inc. to fix some culverts in the Larousse Forced Drainage Area near the pump station that are restricting the water.

Morganza to the Gulf: Morganza to the Gulf Action Coalition (MAC) is pursuing additional ongoing funding from the Federal Government and is generally encouraged in what is being heard. Everything is falling into place; but MAC has to keep pushing for ongoing funding and to match its efforts and needs with the Corps.

As previously reported, \$8M was recently received in surplus funds more or less directed towards the MtoG project. So, MAC is working to try to advance that effort by looking at projects that can be credited at some point or otherwise provide improvements in protection immediately. Dwayne Bourgeois is actively ramping up efforts in this regard with the Corps.

Finally, MAC is looking for legislation that will do more parallel work with the Corps to be in a position to complete this vital flood protection as rapidly as possible.