

# ATCHAFALAYA BASIN FLOODWAY SYSTEM LOUISIANA PROJECT STATE MASTER PLAN

#### A REPORT TO:

TO: The People of Louisiana Governor M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr. The Louisiana State Legislature

From: Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee
Policy & Planning Working Group
Public Access Working Group
Environmental Easement Working Group
Water Management Working Group
Recreation Working Group

April 1998
Revised: June 1998

#### PREFACE

#### VISION STATEMENT

Any proposal for the future of the Atchafalaya Basin must take a realistic view. This view will necessarily be based partly on projections of current conditions and recognized trends. As in the past, there may be different opinions over uses and management directions; they are routinely part of the democratic process, and when conducted in a constructive spirit are often a good avenue for making informed decisions. If it is actually possible to create, or even envision, a perfectly managed Atchafalaya Basin in which all parties and interest groups are fully satisfied, the following vision of the future can be attained.

As stakeholders and participants in the planning process, we must draw upon the best within ourselves to imagine an idealized future, one that does meet our highest expectations and fulfills our fondest dreams. If we do not, we have failed ourselves, our families, our friends and coworkers. Most importantly, we will have failed future generations. Without high expectations and lofty goals each of us can expect to accomplish little that is truly worthwhile, or perhaps noble, for our communities, society and ourselves. Without a destination in mind, a map, a compass, a direction and determined effort, we are not likely to get there.

If we care about the future of the Atchafalaya Basin, each of us must take responsibility for ourselves and then motivate and lead others. The achievement of goals and realization of a vision depends upon leadership - our leadership.

What follows then, is not unreasonably optimistic. It assumes that the Atchafalaya Basin can serve many people well at the same time that its fundamental values are adequately protected. This vision is based on reasonable expectations of what can be realized within a generation or two with a concerted effort and widespread public support.

Vision of the Future

Future visitors and residents of the Atchafalaya Basin will encounter a landscape:

where natural processes are operating on a grand scale with humans moderating their activities so that they have become less intrusive and a reasonable part of, rather than an encumbrance upon, these processes;

where the built and natural environments are visually attractive, the object of intense human enjoyment, and make manifest the qualities of scenic beauty and aesthetic harmony;

where the photogenic panoramas and vistas of the region will exhibit more than static post-card images, but a truly dynamic landscape, as in ages past, constantly changing and evolving; forests in various stages of succession, seasonal flooding and other natural disturbances; soil erosion and deposition; the minimum necessary control of waterways and unpolluted lakes;

where in these grand settings, ecological processes will be apparent at all scales, from the geological time frame of river course changes and land formation to the momentum moment pace of life in a bird rookery;

where the complex interrelationships of all the components, from the Atchafalaya River to the smallest life forms, will be not only evident but also carefully protected and interpreted;

where human institutions are re-oriented toward a stewardship approach to the region's diverse resource processes, patterns, qualities, uses and values;

where a diversity of livelihoods will continue; commercial fishing, timber harvesting, oil and gas extraction, all activities done in harmony with, and sensitive to, other resource values and land uses;

where people regard the Atchafalaya ecosystem as a single, complex organism, and are working together in concert with widespread public support to plan, manage and interpret the region's intrinsic (natural) and extrinsic (manmade) resources as a unified whole;

where the overriding mood of the Atchafalaya will be a harmonious balance between naturalness and unimpaired ecological processes, and the enlightened and unobtrusive use of the land for needed economic and social purposes;

where, complementing that mood, educational opportunities abound and where the Atchafalaya has become a world model - a showcase of visionary planning and progressive management of public and private resources, and of cooperation among many agencies, groups, and individuals to achieve goals.



M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR. GOVERNOR JACK C. CALDWELL SECRETARY

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

April 23, 1998

Hon. M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr. Governor of Louisiana Post Office Box 94004 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Foster:

This endeavor to develop a State Master Plan for the Atchafalaya Basin is the culmination of many years of state, local and national efforts to preserve and protect the great Atchafalaya Basin. We are fortunate, at this time, to have your leadership, and your directive, to move ahead with the implementation of a project which was authorized by Congress in 1986 with a funding amount of \$250 million. It is now up to the State to get this plan approved and to enter into cost/share agreements with the Corps of Engineers for implementation.

A committee of 75, representing all interest groups in the Basin and working for more than a year, prepared this document. It includes all of the major aspects of the Atchafalaya Basin Project - Public Access, Environmental Easements, Water Management and Recreation. The cost to the State is relatively low, with the Corps picking up 100% of the cost of construction of most of the features, and the State only required to provide 25% of the cost of operation and maintenance. The recreation features will be cost/shared on a 50/50 basis.

The state and federal agencies, led by the Department of Natural Resources and the Corps of Engineers, will coordinate and communicate to an extent not previously experienced. There is no place in the State at this time, or perhaps in the South, more fitting to pioneer this concept. No landscape and its people could benefit more fully than the Atchafalaya Basin. It has the public support, the agency enthusiasm, and the unique spectrum of natural and cultural resources to provide a world class model of what can be done to restore, protect and interpret a working landscape with unique attributes for the benefit of all. It is an opportunity that the Corps of Engineers, the State agencies and the Committee have wholeheartedly embraced.

On behalf of the Department of Natural Resources and the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee, I am pleased to present this Plan to you and to the Louisiana Legislature for your consideration.

Sincerely,

JACK CALDWELL

Secretary





#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT. CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 60267 NEW ORLEANS. LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

April 17, 1998

**Executive Office** 

Honorable Jack Caldwell Secretary Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Post Office Box 94369 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9396

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

The State's draft master plan for the Atchafalaya Basin is a reflection of the extraordinary and successful effort of the State Advisory Committee, and the leadership of the Department of Natural Resources to facilitate a far-reaching, visionary proposal among diverse interests. It is a testimony to consensus-building and deserves commendation.

Should the Congress provide the legislative authorization and funding necessary to accomplish the ambitious proposal requested by DNR, the Corps has the expertise and the capability to participate in every feature of the State's plan. The thrust of the proposed State plan is to broaden the recreational and environmental benefits of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System project. The Corps is actively committed to the enhancement and preservation of the lower Atchafalaya Basin Floodway through the implementation of the currently authorized federal project. Therefore, I embrace and welcome the initiative and ideas that have the potential to complement the Congressionally authorized project as it now stands.

Sincerely,

William L. Conner Colonel, U.S. Army

District Engineer

Sandra Thompson, Chairman Atchafalaya Advisory Committee

There are a lot of people to thank when a document such as this one is produced. First and foremost, we thank Governor Foster for responding to the Corps' request for action, and for designating the Department of Natural Resources as the lead agency. We thank Secretary Jack Caldwell for championing the project and for providing the strong leadership essential to making it work. This Plan would not be possible without his enthusiastic advocacy and the help of so many DNR employees.

We thank the legislators, parish officials and mayors who have supported the effort from the beginning; the eight department secretaries who signed the Memorandum of Understanding which gave this project validity and momentum; Col. Conner for his support and the participation of representatives of the Corps of Engineers at every meeting and their enthusiastic encouragement of our efforts.

We especially thank each and every member of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee for taking time from work or other activities to devote a year to pulling this plan together. Although it is not possible to name all of you here, this is your plan and you deserve the credit. For assistance above and beyond, we recognize the following:

- Ernie Gammon, for chairing the Public Access Working Group, and for getting the pipeline companies together in an effort to open cuts and gaps in spoil banks;
- David Walther, for chairing the Environmental Easement Working Group and for providing the knowledge of the past years' work, and the documents and files to assist us in this effort;
- Ben Skerrett, for chairing the Water Management Working Group and for keeping the project alive for the past ten years when almost everyone else gave up;
- Les Kent, for chairing the Recreation Working Group and for bringing his knowledge and expertise on recreation to use for the benefit of the plan;
- Bobby Wilkinson, for the comprehensive report and pictures of all the boat ramps in the Basin;
- Charlie St. Romain and Clay Carter, for the map of all state-owned lands in the Basin;
- Gary Tilyou, and Wildlife and Fisheries, for the information, meeting rooms and coffee;
- Lu Cutrera, for his beautiful work on the Morgan City features;
- Greg Guirard for his magnificent photos, including the cover shot;
- Charles Fryling, for his suggestions for canoe trails and his beautiful pictures;
- Jay Edwards, GIS at DNR, and Fred Bryan and Lamar Hale, LSU, for the base line maps;
- Mary Courville and Kathleen Hebert, for escorting us to many unique areas around the Basin;
- The people of Catahoula, for opening up their homes and their hearts to us;
- Rod Cobi and Aaron Tuley for providing the Vision Statement and other inspirational materials;
- Mike Lyons for pulling the pipeline companies together;
- Rusty Jabour, for his astute advice on communications, and Roger Magendie for agreeing to advise us on financial matters.

And last, but certainly not least, we thank Ned Cole, for agreeing to come out of retirement to attend all the meetings and to prepare this Plan, using only his typewriter. Ned is 80 years old and while he has done some wonderful work for state government over the years, we think this is his best.



Sandra Thompson, Ned Cole, Kathleen Hebert Lake Fausse Pointe

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#### **ACRONYMS**

ABAC – Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee
ABFS – Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System

ACE – After Current Era (current era: is beginning of Roman Empire)
ADAAG – Americans with Disability Accessibility Assistance Guidelines

AMAC - Atchafalaya Multi-Agency Cultural Center
ANWF - Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge

BCE - Before Current Era (current era is beginning of Roman Empire)

cfs – Cubic Feet Per Second (measure of water flow)
COE – Corps of Engineers (see also USACOE)

COLA - Cost-of-Living Adjustment

DAF - Department of Agriculture and Forestry

DCRT - Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism

DEQ — Department of Environmental Quality
DHH — Department of Health and Hospitals
DNR — Department of Natural Resources

DOTD - Department of Transportation and Development

DWF – Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

FWS - Fish and Wildlife Service (see also USFWS)

GIS - Geographic Information System
LSU - Louisiana State University
MOA - Memorandum of Agreement
MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
NRCS - Natural Resource Conservation Service

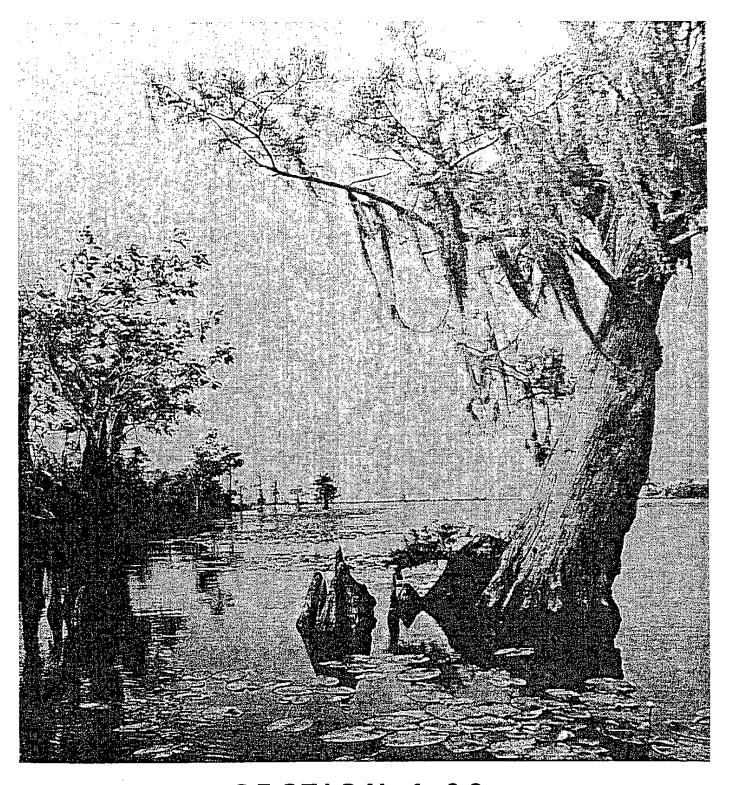
NPS - National Park Service

SCORP - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

SLO – State Land Office SPA – State Preservation Area

USACOE – United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USGS – United States Geological Survey WMA – Wildlife Management Area



SECTION 1.00 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



#### 1.00 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public interest in conserving and restoring, where possible, the unique environmental values of the Atchafalaya Basin, the largest river-swamp in the country, began in the 1960s, was given State sponsorship by Governor McKeithen in 1971, succeeded in developing a consensus of viewpoints in the Treen Agreement in 1981, and received federal support and funding in the Water Resources Development Act, and subsequent legislation, in 1985 and 1986.

The Congress had met its responsibilities and directed the Corps of Engineers to prepare a comprehensive plan and to begin the purchase of land. The sum of \$250.0 million was authorized for purchase of land, certain flood-control projects, and water management, environmental, and recreational features.

The cost/sharing formula outlined in the legislation required the State of Louisiana to provide certain funding:

State agencies involved in the Basin was signed in March 1997 and work was begun on a State Master Plan. See Appendix A.

The State Master Plan preparation required one year and more than forty separate meetings of Working Groups and four quarterly meetings of the Advisory Committee. The Plan was drafted by representatives of the following: eight State agencies, six-Federal agencies (the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as an advisor), city and parish governments in, or adjacent to, the Basin, landowners, fishing clubs, environmental organizations, and interested citizens.

This Master Plan is the first step to meet the State's responsibilities to match federal funds to "...conserve, restore, and enhance (where possible) the natural habitat and give all people the opportunity to enjoy the Atchafalaya Experience."

Two additional steps are required:

1998 - Explain the plan through the written media, TV, direct mail, and speakers available for both formal and informal presentations and discussions. Formal regional meetings will be held throughout the state to present the plan, answer questions, and receive suggestions.

1999 Presentation to the Governor and Legislature for approval and funding.

#### COST/SHARE FORMULA

	Federal	Non-Federal
Public Access: Fee purchase of land, less minerals,_		
from willing sellers	100%	0%
Dedication of State lands + Dow donation	0% ·	100%
Purchase of environmental/development easements	100%	0%
Operation/maintenance of access and easement lands		25%
Purchase of easements for water management projects	100%	0%
Dedication of State lands for water management projects	0%	100%
Construction of water management projects		0% .
Operation/maintenance of water management projects		25%
Land purchase and construction of recreation projects*		50%
Operation/maintenance of recreation projects	0%	100%

\*The State must purchase the land, using its own funds. The cost is then credited against the State's share of the total (land + development) costs.

For ten years the State took no coordinated action to meet its responsibilities. However, many individuals spent time and effort on the State's behalf to keep the the project alive.

Then, in 1996, Governor Foster directed the Department of Natural Resources to be Lead Agency in the development of a plan to meet the State responsibility. Jack Caldwell, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, asked Sandra Thompson, who had been Executive Director of the Atchafalaya Basin Commission in the 1970s, to appoint a citizens' committee and begin working to get the job done. The first meeting of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee was held January 23, 1997.

A Memorandum of Understanding among the eight

The State Master Plan includes:

Public Access:

Managing the land bought by COE; improvements of access roads: La. Hwys. 105 and 975 to the Wildlife Management Areas; the levee road at the foot of the West Protection Levee from Henderson to Verdunville; 3-lanes for La. Hwy. 352 at Henderson; exit lanes for La. Hwy. 70 at Morgan City; La. Hwy. 75 from Bayou Sorrel to Pigeon; and investigate the feasibility of a new road from La. Hwy. 77 at Grosse Tete to the Upper Grand River Flats area.

#### Environmental:

Working with the Corps of Engineers, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (timber monitoring) and the State Land Office (State lands), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to monitor compliance with the Corps' environmental and development easements.

Water Management:

To save the Basin, problems with water quality and sedimentation must be solved by working with the Corps of Engineers, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana State University, and others to monitor the results of water management features planned by the Corps with assistance from the State and implemented by the Corps. Additionally, the group will coordinate its efforts with the work of other Federal and Federal/State projects which impact, or are impacted by, the Atchafalaya Project - particularly the Coastal Restoration Program.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (fisheries) with the LSU Agricultural Center (water quality) and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (for tree and vegetation condition) will monitor the effects of the Corps' projects and the Department of Natural Resources will assist the Corps in the planning phase and provide



Ricky Verret

Twenty years ago water was 20' deep, now with sediment there is not enough water to float this log off a sand bar.

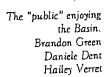
Without action, Buffalo Cove will be dry land.

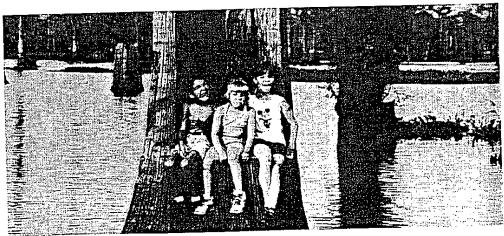
equipment and personnel for maintenance of spoil bank cuts and gaps.



Ricky Verret

Without action, this stagnant water in Buffalo Cove will kill vegetation. A pilot water management project in Buffalo Cove is the action. Similar projects are proposed for East Grand Lake (Flat Lake and Upper Grand River) and studies are proposed for the Alabama Bayou (Sherburne) and Bayou Courtableu (Henderson Lake) projects.





#### Recreation:

#### Mission:

To purchase 1,500 acres of land, in fee, less minerals, for recreational features.

To assist the Corps of Engineers in planning "....to provide a cost-effective range of recreation facilities to optimize public accessibility and use of the floodway while minimizing adverse impacts to the environment."

To expand the Corps' plan as necessary to provide interpretive and educational facilities to enhance the public's knowledge and enjoyment of this unique area.

#### Attraction:

The irreplaceable assets in the Atchafalaya Basin establish it as a recreation area without peer in the nation. The attraction is rapidly gaining the attention of visitors from far and near. Boat tours of the Basin, without publicity or organization, booked over 200,000 visitors last year and book-

ings from tour groups, schools, and family groups for 1998 are "most encouraging and will require an increase in equipment and services."

The Master Plan recommends that gateway communities plan carefully for this expected growth in visitors so that the area's culture, principally "Cajun", rural architecture, and way of life is not compromised by commercialism.

The Master Plan identifies growth areas (principally the west side) for tourism and natural areas (principally the east side of the Basin) and separate entry points for tourists (Morgan City, Henderson, Catahoula) and for sports and nature lovers (Ramah, Bayou Sorrel, Bayou Pigeon, Belle River).

#### Facilities proposed:

Figure 1.00 A identifies the location and type facilities proposed for the recreational phase of this program.

#### PROJECTED STATE COSTS FOR THE TOTAL PROGRAM

	Total	Cost/Share		State
		COE	State	Budget
				Increase
PROJECTED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:			2)	
COE land and				
easement purchases				
and certain water projects	146,637,517	146,637,517	0	0
State Projects:				
Roads to Recreation areas	16,355,000	8,177,500	8,177,500	8,177,500
Recreation features 1)	40,007,630	20,739,749	19,267,881	20,267,881
Total Projected Construction Cost	203,000,147	175,554,766	27,445,381	28,445,381
PROJECTED OPERATING COSTS:				·
Wildlife Management Areas-15yrs	25,758,378	19,318,784	6,439,594	7,612,945
Monitoring Easements - 15 yrs.	9,038,085	6,778,564	2,259,521	B) 1,234,761
Water Management Features-15yrs	48,286,237	. 36,214,678	12,071,559	
Management of Project - 15 yrs.	5,555,053	2,777,527	2,777,526	3) 427,080
Recreation features 1)	49,904,668	9,355,681	40,548,987	40,548,987
Total Protected Operating Costs	138,542,421	74,445,234	64,097,187	55,867,831
Total Projected Construction and				
Operating Costs for 15 Years	341,542,568	250,000,000	91,542,568	84,313,212

## FUNDING FROM OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SOURCES WILL BE INVESTIGATED FOR THOSE PROJECTS WHICH MAY NOT QUALIFY FOR THE ABFS, LA. PROJECT

State Budget Increase includes funds for Atchafalaya Basin Wildlife Refuge, sponsored by USFWS, thus cannot be used for additional federal funding.

- 2) State Budget Increase less Corps cost/share
- 3) Low because many costs are already funded

<sup>1)</sup> Recreation costs are 50% Federal and 50% State. The cost share varies since the Morgan City complex includes a cultural center that is partly used for environmental and water management monitoring by state and federal agencies.

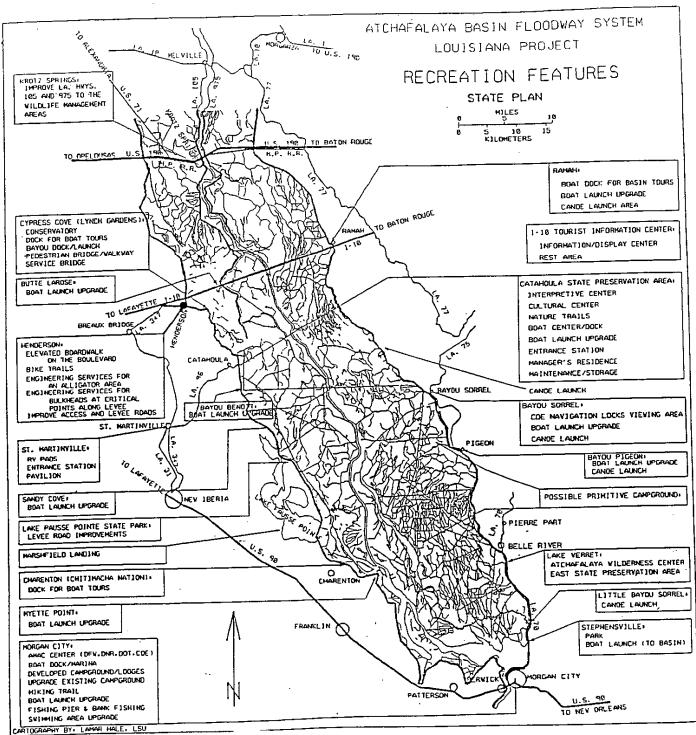


FIGURE 1:00 A: Suggested Facilities and Locations

#### SUGGESTED FUNDING PLAN

This State Master plan is a fifteen year plan. Every five years each major activity will be evaluated and the environmental protection sections (water management and easement monitoring) will be renewed if recommended by this evaluation.

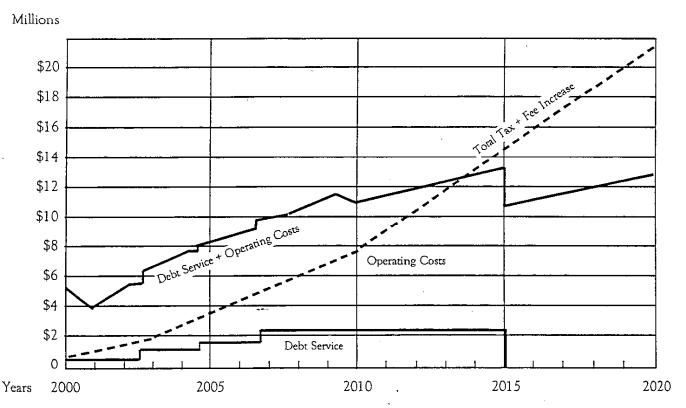
The Plan suggests that construction costs (approx. \$30 million State funds), which include road improvements and two state Preservation Areas (currently planned), be funded by a capital outlay bond issue (15 years with interest and principal payments throughout the 15 years). As

required by capital outlay rules, a detailed plan will be filed for funding in five-year increments.

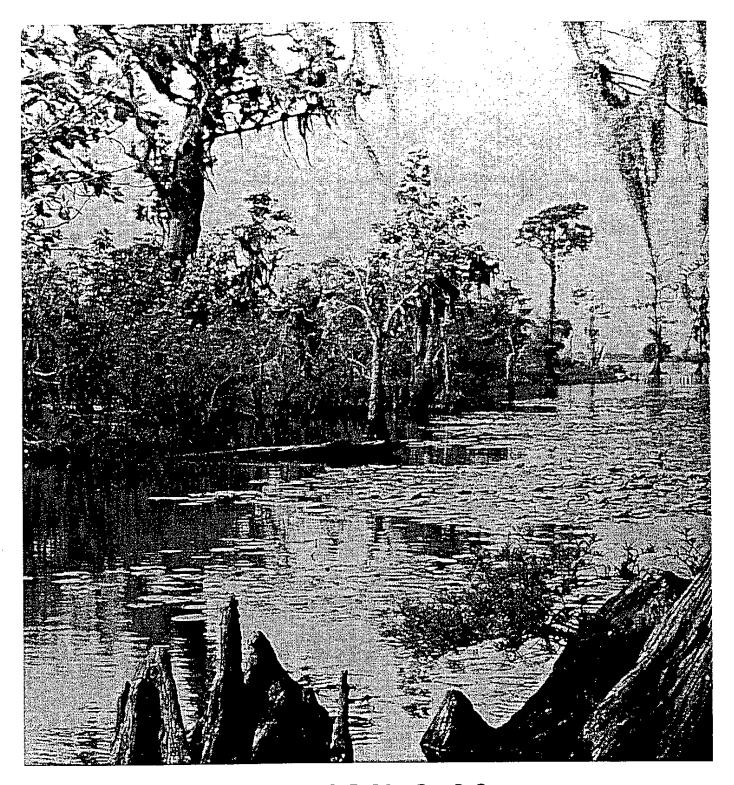
The projected operating costs range form \$3.5 million/year initially to \$4.8 million/year for the 15th year.

The projected increase in state tax revenues (sales tax, gasoline tax, and corporate income tax,) as a result of this project trails the debt service + operating costs for the first 13 years (many of the tourist attractions will not be built until the fourth or fifth year) and is projected to provide a surplus as shown on the following chart.

#### COMPARISON OF INCREASED TAX AND FEE INCOME TO TOTAL COSTS



Tax revenue based on out of state-visitor expenditures only
An added benefit is that the water management and environmental easement projects offer a real hope that the Basin will be preserved, as much as possible, for the enjoyment of future generations.



SECTION 2.00 INTRODUCTION



#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.10 Overview

#### 2.11 Need for a State Master Plan

Interest in preserving the unique environmental values of the Atchafalaya Basin began in the 1960s and was given State-sponsorship by Governor McKeithen in 1971. In 1981, the Treen Agreement united the various factions and in 1985 and 1986 the Congress, in the Water Resources Development Act and in subsequent legislation, authorized and directed the Corps of Engineers to begin land acquisitions, easements, and other actions.

The Corps of Engineers' Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement was completed in 1982 and the Corps' Comprehensive Master Plan, now in the drafting state, as authorized by Congress has "....as its primary goal the protection of Southeast Louisiana from Mississippi River floods by ensuring safe passage of one-half the project flood (1,500,000 cubic feet per second) through the floodway system. In addition, the plan would retain and restore the unique environmental values of the floodway and maintain or enhance the long term productivity of wetlands and woodlands. It also provides for public access to maximize the public opportunity to observe and to utilize the fish and wildlife resources of the floodway."

Since many of the actions relating to protection of the

environment and accessibility for public enjoyment require state matching funds, the Corps' work has been limited awaiting action by the State.

This State Master Plan outlining the public's needs and desires, to be followed by statewide public meetings in 1998, responds to that required action.

#### 2.12 Perceived Benefits

All citizens should have the opportunity to enjoy the Atchafalaya Experience.

That opportunity depends upon several factors:

Maintaining the environmental, cultural, and historic integrity of the area;

Developing controlled public access to the Basin's wonders;

Encouraging all communities surrounding the Basin to follow the lead of other areas in maintain-

ing the interest of their citizens in their heritage, and in the uniqueness of their culture by establishing incentives to refurbish the old, and to provide zoning to control the new, thus maintaining a uniform and appealing community. Examples of areas well-planned for these objectives include: Natchitoches, Sante Fe, Charleston, Williamsburg, and the French Quarter of New Orleans.

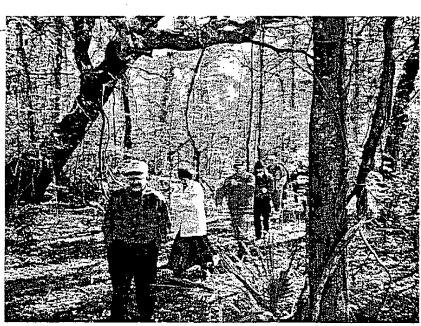
This State Master Plan recommends restricting governmental development within the Basin levees to water management and other environmental enhancement actions and establishing a framework for controlled developments of necessary services for the interested public.

The resulting benefit in environmental, cultural, and economic terms is presented.

Landowner rights are protected. Access is acquired by the Corps from willing sellers by fee purchase of certain lands; and purchase of environmental and development easements is acquired by the Corps on the remainder. Thus the landowners are paid market value for any perceived loss in economic terms.

#### 2.13 Interests and Interest Groups

All individuals and groups with interests in the Basin have been involved as members of the Working Groups who have drafted this report and as members of the oversight committee - the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee.



A Working Group on a field trip

Deliberations have been lengthy and in-depth on every point and at each stage of drafting. Most sections of the report have progressed through at least ten drafts as new factors and new viewpoints were presented.

The list of members of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee is shown in Appendix B.

### 2.20 Report Organization

The organization of this report was influenced by the Corps of Engineers decision to divide the work program into four tasks: Public Access, Environmental Easements, Water Management, and Recreation. Introductory sections prior to the four major sections and a funding program and other sections at the end complete the State Master Plan outline.

#### 2.30 Mission Statement

The mission is to conserve, restore, and enhance (where possible) the natural habitat and to give all people the opportunity to enjoy the Atchafalaya Experience.

#### 2.40 State Authorization

In late 1996 Governor Foster appointed the Department of Natural Resources as the lead state agency to work with the Corps of Engineers on the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project, and directed Secretary Jack Caldwell to complete the State's responsibilities permitting this project to be fully implemented.



Lake Henderson



SECTION 3.00
DESCRIPTION AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

#### 3.00 DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

#### 3.10 Description

#### 3.11 Geographic area

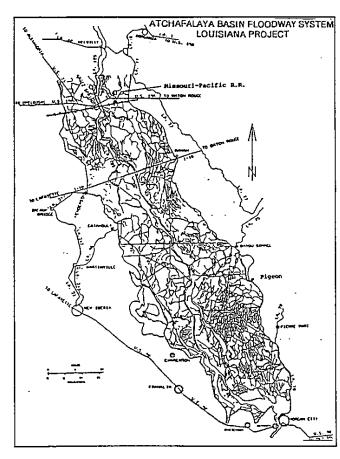
The Atchafalaya Basin encompasses 838,000 acres. The area is bounded by Simmesport on the north, Morgan City on the south, and on the east and west by protection levees.

The Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project encompasses 595,000 acres of the Basin south of the Missouri Pacific railway tracks (at U.S. 190).

The Simmesport project (which received separate funding), Morganza and Old River Locks and museum (proposed) are not part of the Project, but are included in the State Plan due to their importance as recreational and educational features.

The region beyond this area directly affected includes the communities of Ramah, Bayou Sorrel, Pigeon, Belle River, Pierre Part, Stephensville, Morgan City, Patterson, Charenton, New Iberia, St. Martinville, Catahoula, Breaux Bridge, Henderson, Krotz Springs, and Port Barre. Lafayette and Baton Rouge, also, are affected.

The Project, and affected region are illustrated on Fig. 3.00 A



3.12 Natural history and resources

#### A. Geology

The first ice age of the Pleistocene Era formed what is now the Mississippi River. The level of the oceans was lowered, all flow to the north was blocked by the glaciers and drainage from the central land mass and from the melting glaciers dug a deep trench. As the ocean increased in level due to the melting ice, the trench was flooded and a layer of sediment deposited. Following ice ages repeated this process filling the trench to approximately its present elevation. The river which formed to drain this area meandered through this alluvial plain changing its course during flood stage and building natural levees.

The sediment mass in the deltaic plain is approximately 20,000 feet thick. In the Atchafalaya Basin the top layers of this mass include approximately one hundred feet of recent deposits of silt and clay and two to three hundred feet of sand and gravel.

The weight of the load of silt has caused a downwarping, a settling of the mass into the structural trough that extends

through the alluvial plain.

The Atchafalaya Basin, as we know it today, was formed by the natural levees (alluvial ridges) built by the various Mississippi River routes. The west limit of the basin is known as the Teche ridge and the east limit the Bayou Lafourche ridge. In the lower basin the present east and west protection levees are well inside these limits thus reducing the basin to its present size.

#### B. Hydrology

The Atchafalaya River is a typical alluvial stream which became a distributary of the Mississippi River about 1500 ACE (AD in the old designation). It is deep (the bottom is well below sea level in many places), treacherous, and only 135 miles long.

FIGURE 3.00-A: The Project Geographical Area

The Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System is an integral part of the Corps of Engineers' flood control system for the Mississippi River and tributaries. The features of the floodway system include levees, structures, and channels. These features are designed to convey one-half of the project flood flow of the Mississippi River and tributaries or 1,500,000 cubic feet per second, safely to the Gulf.

One of the major problems facing the Corps is the rapid sedimentation - the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System carries more than 57,000,000 cubic yards of sediment annually. Sediment deposits in the basin affect the carrying capacity of the floodway, fish and wildlife habitat, and regeneration of forests and other vegetation.

#### C. Ecology

Factors influencing the ecology of the Basin are: soil, climate, and water. Soil and climate have been relatively constant during the recorded history. Water, however, has been subject to constant and continuing change.

The Corps of Engineers decision to place major emphasis on a main channel for flood-carrying capacity and for reducing sedimentation in the Basin has affected water flow and water levels in the remainder of the Basin.

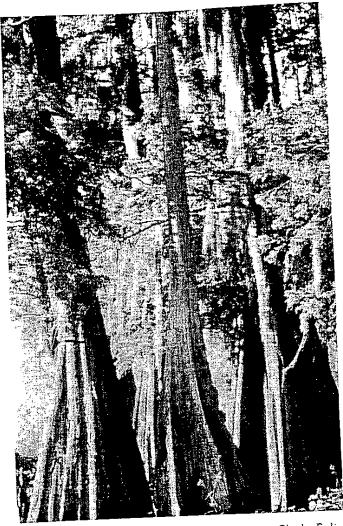
Canals and the spoil banks constructed by the timber and oil industries to support their operations, by highway engineers to construct I-10, by the Corps of Engineers for flood control, navigation, and fresh water distribution, and by pipeline construction have added to this disruption of waterflow.

The forests in the Basin dominated by cypress were harvested by the 1920s. Most of the existing cypress is second growth and while regeneration of vast cypress forests may not be possible, preservation of pockets of old growth is a goal of this Master Plan.

The ecosystem is adapting, supporting new species of trees and vegetation providing habitat for varied wildlife.

While many have blamed human action for the Basin's evolution, it must be noted that had the levees not been built, natural forces would have restricted human population in much of South Central Louisiana and would have resulted in a different wildlife habitat.

Thus, in a captured area we still have a river swampland and a link to our pre-historic past. Such areas have been compared to "wild islands in a sea of cultivated farmlands, furnishing habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife of all kinds, all parts of the live-community that offers joy and pleasure to man and to nature an ecosystem balance." (Robert Harrison, An Alluvial Empire).



Charles Fryling

### 3.13 Cultural history and resources

While many cultures including Spanish and English settled in the Basin, two cultures have dominated the cultural history of the Atchafalaya Basin. These are:

#### A. Native American

Investigations of the distant past have been limited compared with studies of the Inca, the Maya, and the Olmecs each of which left many monuments for study. Discovery of Poverty Point in West Carroll Parish has sparked interest, as have the studies of several scholars who have listed possible cultures present in the Atchafalaya Basin. These cultures are:

Source: Noted above

#### B. Acadian (Cajun)

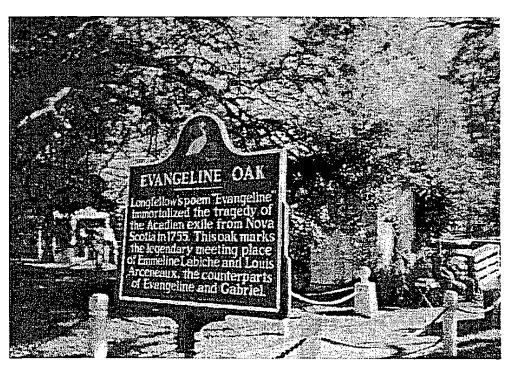
The first Acadians, evicted from Nova Scotia by the English, arrived in Louisiana in 1764 and settled on high

ground west of the Atchafalaya Basin.

Living off the land and the rich harvest from the bayous, the Cajuns retained the culture of the lost homeland and in this area of prairies, marshland, swamp, placid lakes and quiet bayous, developed as a community fiercely independent, deeply religious, industrious and with a hospitality that is seldom surpassed by any culture. "Laissez les bon temps roulez" (let the good times roll) is a leisure time byword.

Lafayette, New Iberia, and St. Martinville all have Cajun exhibits and/or replicas of early villages and real-life panoramas of early life in the Basin. An interpretive and cultural center is planned at the Atchafalaya

Wilderness Center West State Preservation Area near Catahoula which will present basin visitors a view of the Cajun culture and guide them to the three cities for addi-



St. Martinville

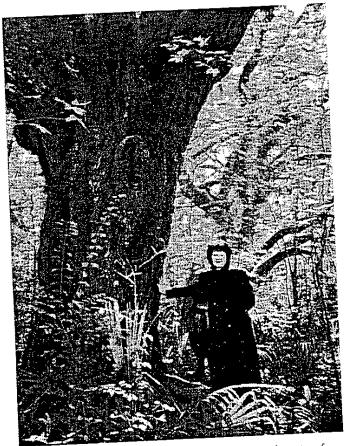
tional interpretation of this culture, and an opportunity to experience the world-famous Cajun cuisine.

#### 3.14 Scenic resources

#### A. Overview

The Atchafalaya scenic experience is enjoyed by relatively few: the hardy canoeists who join one of the organized trips, those with boats who explore the basin for fish and/or pleasure, and the visitors from outside the region who take one of the organized boat tours. Others share a hint of the experience while viewing the photographs of C. C. Lockwood or Greg Guirard, or a narrated slide show presented by a local group involved with the Basin. As interesting as these second-hand experiences are, they do not compare with the "real thing".

The Atchafalaya scenic experience is a feeling of awe, of contentment, of lofty feelings and aspirations, and of a serenity seldom encountered in our everyday experiences.



The "real thing" is personal contact with moss hanging from trees, the stately cypress, flocks of birds circling a lake, the abundant wildlife in the water and on the land.

### 3.15 Other Atchafalaya Basin resources

#### A. Flood control

The Atchafalaya River is the largest of all distributaries of the Mississippi River. Flood protection improvements in the Basin have been authorized and constructed primarily under the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) project and are an integral and extremely important part of the lower Mississippi River.

"At the latitude of Old River, the design project flood has been determined to be 3,000,000 cubic feet per second. The MR&T project allows one-half of this flow down the Mississippi River and half to be introduced into the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway. The Mississippi River below the Morganza Floodway is capable of carrying 1,500,000 cubic feet per second without threatening the integrity of the levees along its banks which protect densely populated areas, highly developed agricultural lands, industries, and the City of New Orleans, as well as a number of lesser populated communities. The diversion of the other 1,500,000 cubic feet per second is made through the Old River Control Structure, the Old River Auxiliary Structure, the Atchafalaya River, and through the Morganza and West Atchafalaya Floodways. In order to prevent diverted waters from spreading over the rich and highly developed agricultural lands outside the Atchafalaya Basin, the rivers and floodways have been leveed to confine the diverted flows. Since this construction program began, farms and industries have developed in the areas adjacent to the floodway with full confidence that they would receive protection. Therefore, overtopping or crevassing of the levees would cause far more damage than anticipated at the start of project construction.

"The Corps of Engineers' flood control project consists of a leveed floodway 15 miles wide and 110 miles long that extends generally from the latitude of Old River to the Gulf of Mexico. The upper basin is divided by the leveed Atchafalaya River. The Morganza Floodway is to the east of the Atchafalaya River and has a capacity of 600,000 cubic feet per second which is introduced into the floodway by a control structure. The West Atchafalaya Floodway, which is located to the west of the river, is placed into operation when the fuse plug sections are overtopped bringing flows from the river that will introduce 900,000 cubic feet per second into the lower basin. After passing through the floodways, the flood waters enter the Gulf of Mexico through the Lower Atchafalaya River and the Wax Lake Outlet. The flood protection works in the Atchafalaya Basin include levees, control structures, locks, pumping stations, floodgates, channel improvements, and floodwalls." (Corps of Engineers)

#### B. Navigation

Navigation activities in the Atchafalaya Basin have traditionally been of great importance to Louisiana and these activities will continue in the future. The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), a major east-west inland waterway route, passes through the lower end of the Basin. The GIWW, Alternate Route connects Morgan City to the Mississippi River near Baton Rouge providing an additional route for the shipment of commodities. The Atchafalaya River, from Morgan City to the Old River Lock, was responsible for 9,810,000 short tons of freight in 1996.

Ports located at Morgan City and Krotz Springs continue to grow and serve the maritime industry. And, with the opening of the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway (Red River), the ports located at Shreveport, Natchitoches, Alexandria, and soon Coushatta in Red River Parish, are linked to Morgan City and points beyond.

#### C. Oil and gas production

The production from many fields adds to the energy supply of the nation. This production tapered off during the 1980s, but with new oil-finding techniques (3-D seismic principally) new finds have materially increased production.

#### D. Timber

Timber harvesting, even under the restrictions of the Corps of Engineers' environmental easements now being purchased for the entire Basin, continues to provide an important source of employment as well as lumber for our growing economy.

#### E. Fish, crawfish, and fur production

Commercial and sport fishing, commercial crawfish harvests, and the fur industries provide enjoyment and/or livelihood to thousands of residents of this region. It should be noted that the value of nutria for food as well as for fur is being promoted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.



Fishing · a family affair

#### F. Recreational and educational resources

These resources are examined in Section 7.00 of this report.

# 3.20 History of the Atchafalaya Basin and Project

### 3.21 Historic Actions

Date	Activity
1927	The 1927 flood prompted Congress to enact several subsequent flood control bills to develop the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System and the construction of the Old River Structures. Dredging, channelization (e.g. Whiskey Bay Cutoff), and bank stabilization projects have been conducted as funds were available.
1968-69	The Louisiana Legislature passed legislation concerning real estate issues and purchased legislature passed legislation.
1972	Louisiana Legislature Act 365 of 1972 established the Atchalalaya Bashi Bushi
	Interpretive Center was begun.  The Corps of Engineers began work on a Comprehensive Plan for preservation and for
	The Corps of Engineers began were management of water and land resources.
	Tolly was formed to provide input
1975-81	Meetings between the Corps of Engineers and landowners and Guide gard.
1981	The Treen Agreement (see Appendix C) was negotiated between the Congress.
	(45,000 agree (30) ()() in Dasin) was announced.
1982	Governor Treen signed legislation which authorized fulfully to parents
	Completion of Corps' Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact -
1983	10,232 acres were purchased by the State from willing selects for creations
1985	Public Law 99-88 was enacted authorizing the Multipurpose Train recommendation of the plan were based on the Treen Agreement.
1986	Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether of Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated that the fish and whether the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated the Public Law 99-662, Section 906, stated the Public Law 99-662, stated the Public Law 99-
	15,255 acres were purchased for the Atcharataya National
1988	The Corps of Engineers began purchase of real estate litterests beginning
1988-94	section of the Basin.  Negotiations between State and Federal Agencies and interested groups to finalize timbers easements.

#### 3.22 Current actions:

Date	Activity
Nov. 1996	The District Engineer of the Corps of Engineers requested Governor Foster to designate a lead agency to coordinate state participation in the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project, authorized by the Congress. The Governor designated the Department of Natural Resources as lead agency and Secretary Caldwell appointed Sandra Thompson, who had been Executive Director of the 1972 Atchafalaya Basin Division, as the Project Director.
Dec. 1996	The Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee was created and members of that committee were appointed.
Jan. 1997	The Advisory Committee held its first meeting to receive reports from represent- atives of the Corps of Engineers concerning Corps' activities and a list of tasks which must be completed by the State.
	Working groups were appointed, meetings held, and work begun on a Memorandum of Understanding to be agreed to and signed by the eight agencies involved. The membership of the working groups included representatives of state and federal agencies involved, industry, landowners, environmental groups, and concerned citizens.
Apr. 1997	The MOU was completed and signed.
Арт. 1997- Dec. 1997	The working groups completed the work program and schedules for developing a State Master Plan, in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers, to present to the public, the Governor, and the Legislature.
	Elements of the plan included: .
	Public access (purchase of land)
	Environmental concerns and purchase of easements
	Water management
	Recreation
Jan. 1998	A draft of the Master Plan was completed and circulated for review and comment to the Working group members, the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee, and others for review and comment. The Corps offered advice.
Spring 1998	The report was printed and plans made for statewide public meetings to secure additional input and to solicit support.
Apr. 1999	The plan will be presented to the Legislature for approval and funding.

#### 3.30 Constraints and Limitations

#### 3.31 Limiting Factors

#### A. Water levels

The Basin is a floodway that experiences high and low water levels. Because the floodway system is

used for flood control and must be capable of carrying 1,500,000 cubic feet per minute, developments, subject to Corps' permitting of real estate authority within the protection levees, must be limited to facilities which do not affect the carrying capacity or can be removed (e.g. primitive campgrounds, nature trails. etc.).

B. Navigation

The Atchafalaya Main Channel and the GIWW, Alternate Route are federally maintained waterways open to barge traffic. Such traffic always has the right-of-way.

C Public accessible land

The public has access to the following lands:

Federal fee-purchase lands 50,000 acres: (Corps of Engineers) U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 15,000 acres Refuge State lands (principally waterbottoms and Wildlife Management Areas) 192,000 acres approximately To be purchased by State for 1,500 acres recreational purposes 258,500 acres Total with public access

The remaining 338,000 acres (approximately) are privately owned over which the Corps is in the process of purchasing environmental and development easements. These easement rights do not require public access, however many landowners allow access.

The public has access to publicly-owned navigable waterways. Public access to privately owned canals and waterways is not required, however many landowners allow access for recreational purposes.

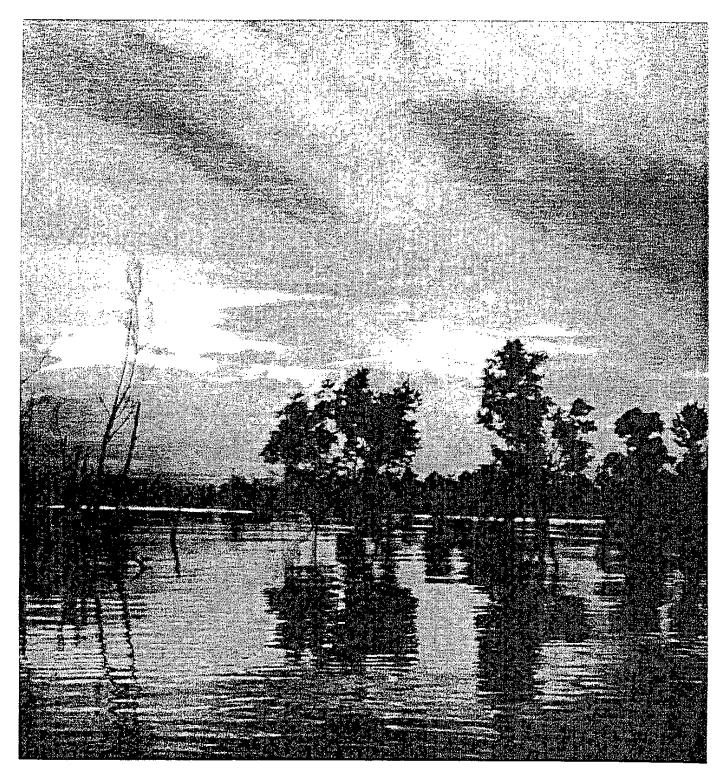
#### D. Sedimentation

Plans for long-term use or enjoyment in many areas may be limited by build-up of sediments which may eliminate water access and which changes the character of trees and vegetation.

#### 3.32 Constraints

Conformity with federal and state laws and regulations is required. Particular attention is directed to the following areas of concern:

> Environmental protection Public health and safety Funding requirements Special laws and Corps' regulations governing this project



SECTION 4.00 PUBLIC ACCESS

#### 4.00 PUBLIC ACCESS

#### 4.10 Introduction

One of the primary goals of both State and Federal Legislation and plans concerning the Atchafalaya Basin is to provide for public access for fish and wildlife oriented recreation in a manner which protects the environment and does not unduly encroach on landowner rights.

To achieve this goal, the Congress directed the Corps of Engineers to purchase in fee title, less minerals, from willing sellers, 50,000 acres of land in the Basin.

#### 4.20 Status of Public Land Acquisition

#### 4.21 The Corps of Engineers

The Corps of Engineers, to date, has purchased fee title (ownership, less mineral rights) for approximately 33,000 acres of land in the Atchafalaya Basin from willing sellers. This area is illustrated on Fig. 4.00 A.

As shown, this land is located, primarily, north of I-10 and south of U.S. 190 and will be jointly managed wildlife management areas, already designated and/or under development in the area.

15,000 acres has been designated Indian Bayou

Wildlife Management Area. Within Indian Bayou, 4,000 acres of land has been designated, through the Louisiana Natural Area Registry Program as the Bayou Fordoche Natural Area. This area is composed of a series of lowland bayous surrounded by second-growth hardwood and bald cypress forests. The area will be cooperatively managed by the Corps of Engineers, with advisory support from the Nature Conservancy which is the primary force behind this designation, and the Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries.

### 4.22 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Service owns 15,000 acres designated as the

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Area Refuge and operated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Though not officially a part of the Corps' Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project, it does provide public access and is important to include in the State Master Plan.

The Refuge was established for the following purposes:

To provide for the conservation and management of fish and wildlife within the refuge;

To fulfill the international treaty obligations of the United States with respect to fish and wildlife; and

To provide opportunities for scientific research, environmental education, and fish and wildlife-oriented recreation, including hunting, fishing, and trapping, bird watching, nature photography, and others.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been requested by Congressman Livingston to study the Atchafalaya Basin with the objective of locating lands for acquisition. The Service will study the entire area of the project, including the land above Hwy 190 for possible purchase as a national wildlife refuge. The Trust for Public Land will be assisting the Service in the effort.

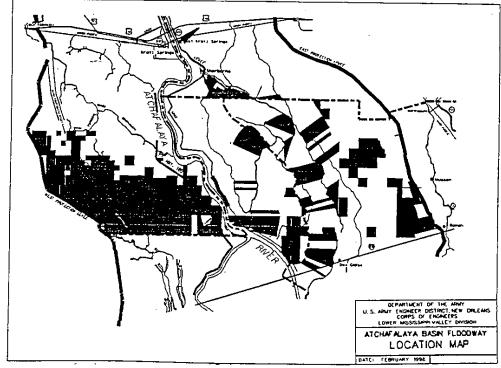


FIGURE 4.00 A: Fee land purchases by the Corps of Engineers

### 4.23 The State of Louisiana

The State established the 26,000 acre Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area in 1975 and, in 1983, purchased 10,232 acres of land for the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. Both areas are operated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and both are dedicated to the Project.

### 4.24 Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has shown a willingness to take part in both fee simple and easement acquisition projects that, when completed, would protect the biological diversity of the Atchafalaya Basin. Their involvement in the Basin to date has included negotiating natural area registry agreements with private landowners and the Corps of Engineers. These nonbinding agreements have been established in the Lake Verret and Bayou Fordoche areas. The registry agreement with the Corps of Engineers includes a management plan designed to protect the natural communities that occur within the area. The Nature Conservancy has experience throughout Louisiana crafting and closing conservation real estate transactions. Many of TNC's projects in the state have been cooperative projects including private individuals and federal and state agencies. The expansion of the Attakapas WMA in the lower basin is such an example. TNC has initiated discussions with the Corps of Engineers to assist with the acquisition of old-growth cypress swamp. It is TNC's strict policy to work only with willing sellers of private property.

# 4.30 State Lands Dedicated to the Project

### 4.31 The Treen Agreement

Under the Treen Agreement of 1982 (see Appendix C), the State agreed to dedicate the following lands in the Atchafalaya Basin to the project for recreational purposes:

- A. Non-severed lands (acquired from the Bureau of Land Management which title was never severed from the State) 450 acres;
- B. Lake beds and navigable waterways claimed by the State approximately 150,000 acres;
- C. The Dow donation lands approximately 30,000 acres (in the Basin); See Fig. 4.00 B for State and Dow lands.
- D. Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area (part of "B" above).

### 4.32 Ownership of Dedication

This dedication by the State to the Project does not change the ownership of the lands. The State retains title to all the lands and will continue leasing for mineral production, selective harvesting of some timber, and campsite leasing on designated sites.

# 4.40 Remaining Acres to be Purchased

### 4.41 Corps of Engineers

### A. Fee title purchases

The Corps of Engineers is authorized to purchase a total of 50,000 acres in fee title, less minerals, of land for public access in the Atchafalaya Basin. With 33,000 acres purchased, 17,000 acres remain to be purchased and this purchase is targeted to cypress/tupelo stands to retain vestiges of that original forest that dominated the lower Basin.

The Corps has made an offer to purchase the 17,000 acres in the Flat Lake area, less mineral rights, and negotiations are ongoing.

All working groups have shown an interest in the location of this cypress/tupelo area and have recommended additional areas if the landowners of the first choice do not sell. See Fig. 4.00 C for location of the first choice and additional areas which have been suggested.

# B. Operation and maintenance of Corps fee title lands

Under the Congressional plan, the Corps is to enter into a management agreement with the State (with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as the responsible State agency) for operation and maintenance of the areas which will be designated as wildlife management areas, if acceptable arrangements and agreements regarding management philosophies can be reached.

Currently, the Corps and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are jointly managing the Sherburne and the Indian Bayou wildlife areas, with the Department doing the majority of work on Sherburne, with the Corps' major emphasis on the Indian Bayou area.

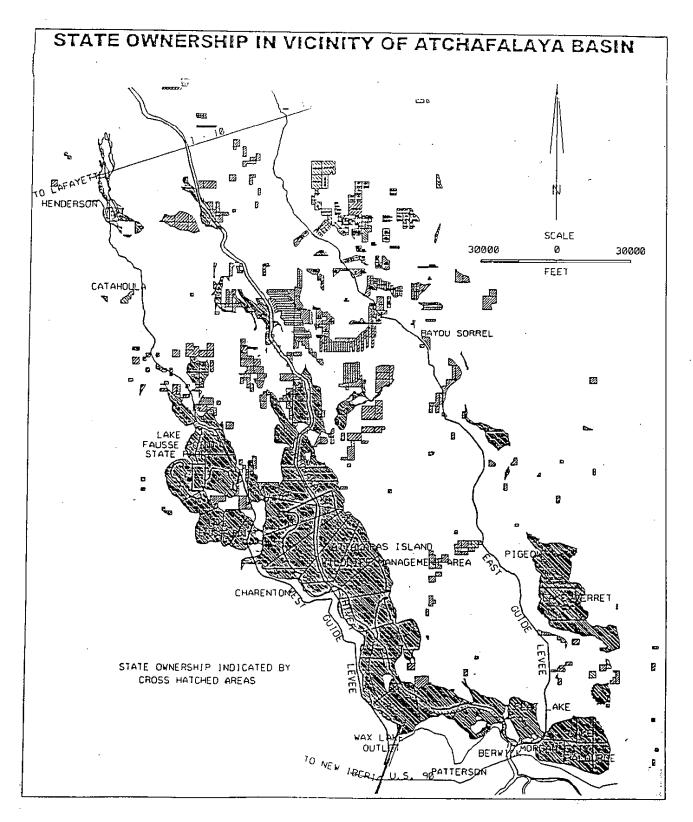


FIGURE 4.00 B: Location of State Lands Under Jurisdiction of the State Land Office

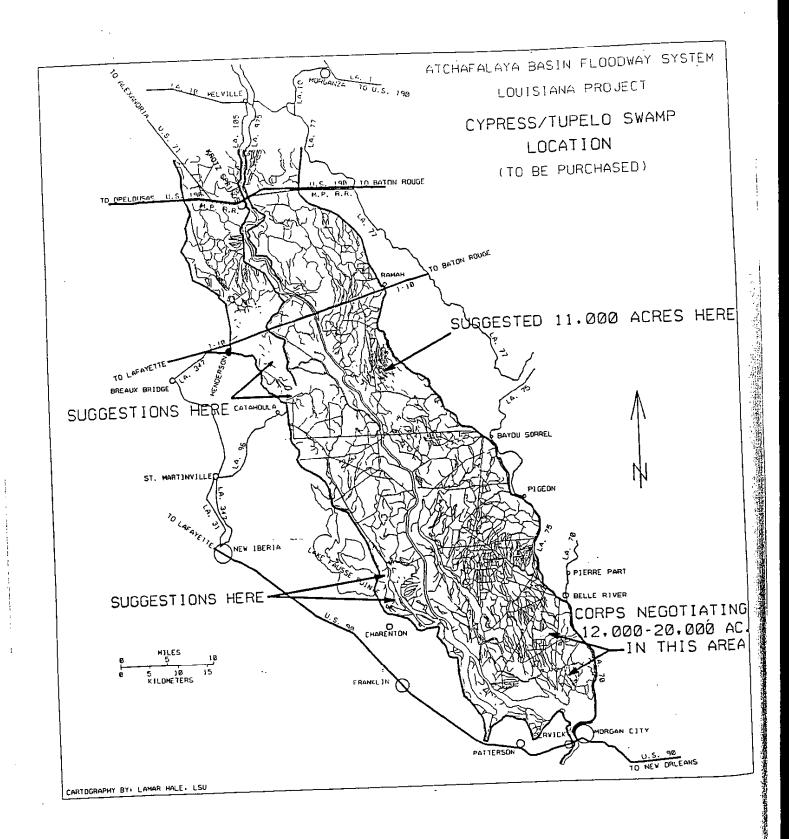


FIGURE 4.00 C: Cypress/Tupelo Swamp Location

When a Project Cooperative Agreement is in place, this joint management will continue with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries conducting management as specified in the agreement. The Corps is ultimately responsible, since they cannot abrogate this responsibility. Detailed annual and five year estimated management plans will be submitted to the Corps' Operations Project Manager, along with the Corps' management plans to be approved and incorporated into the Operational Management Plan. See Appendix D.

Quarterly updates will be submitted, reviewed and discussed in quarterly management meetings. The management of these lands will be funded on a 75% Federal and 25% State ratio.

#### 4.42 The State of Louisiana

- A. Under the plan the State will select and purchase 1,500 acres of fee title land for recreational purposes. The cost of this purchase will count as part of the State's cost-share (towards the total recreational development costs including acquisition and construction) provided the location and use conforms to guidelines set forth by the Corps of Engineers.
- B. This land will provide space for the following recreational activities:

Developed campgrounds Primitive campgrounds Boat launch sites Interpretive center Nature trails Unique and scenic areas

The suggested location of these sites is illustrated in Section 7.00 of this report.

#### 4.50 Public Access to Waterways

#### 4.51 Jurisdictional issues

#### A. General

Currently, public access is available to waterways on State-owned lands, on Corps fee purchase lands, on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands, and on all natural navigable waterways owned by the State.

#### B. Conditions

Excerpts from a communication from Attorney Newman Trowbridge, representing the Louisiana Landowners' Association:

- 1. Not all navigable waterways, however, are owned by the State, since pipeline canals and other man-made waterways which are navigable remain in private ownership.
- 2. That portion of State-owned waterways between the ordinary low water mark and the ordinary high water mark (the "bank") is owned by the riparian landowner. Banks, even when covered with navigable waters, are subject only to public use for very limited purposes.

EDITORIAL COMMENT: Land between ordinary low water and ordinary high water on lakes is owned by the State.

3. Issues relating to which waterways are available for public access, as well as the nature and extent of permissible access, are very fact sensitive and can be extremely complex.

The LSU Law Institute prepared a report, dated March 23, 1995, demonstrating the nature of the issues and limitations to public access to waterways.

4. Many of the State-owned scenic waterways are bordered by private lands, a fact which may limit public access to the adjacent lands and the banks of the waterway. While some private landowners have, either expressly or tacitly, allowed the public to access the banks of the stream and the adjacent lands, many others object to even temporary public use of privately owned lands and waterways. The objections are for a variety of reasons, which include: interference with the landowners' activities, littering of the area, damage to trees and other vegetation, and liability issues. It may be anticipated that, as public use of the waterways of the Atchafalaya Basin increases, tolerance of the public's use of privately owned lands and waterways may diminish unless the concerns of private landowners are addressed and potential adverse impacts of temporary public use of private lands are eliminated or drastically diminished.

#### 4.52 Suggested Remedies

#### A. Assigning responsibility to Boat Tour Operators

Adverse impacts to the use of private waterways can be eliminated, in part, by utilizing organized boat tours. These tours can prevent passenger landing except at authorized areas and can prevent, or clean up, any littering which may occur. Tour operators, by posting a a bond and providing insurance, can encourage landowners to enter into agreements which allow access to certain areas on private lands.

Organized boat tours will handle most of the tourist demand, but will not accommodate the local and regional demand from those who bring their own boats or canoes or rent craft from local suppliers.

#### B. State actions

Possible actions by the State to address local and regional use of waterways include:

Informing the public, through this report and other means, that some waterways are private.

Encourage private landowners to allow limited public use of privately owned lands and waterways by enacting legislation which specifically limits liability to persons accessing these areas. Some legislation has been passed recently, but it is recommended that legislation referring specifically to the Atchafalaya Basin be proposed.

### 4.60 Highway and Road Assessment

#### 4.61 Roads within the Basin

#### A. Jurisdictional issue:

Private service roads on top of levees are construction roads for use by heavy levee maintenance equipment under the jurisdiction of the Atchafalaya Levee District, in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers and, in some cases, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Minimum highway requirements are not met, since heavy equipment would destroy the roads. Thus, public use, while generally allowed, is not favored for safety and conflict-with-maintenance operations reasons.

#### B. Access Road Recommendations:

Two roads within the Basin are State Highways: La. Hwy. 105 from Butte LaRose intersection at I-10 to Krotz Springs, and La. Hwy. 975 from Krotz Springs to the Whiskey Bay Interchange on I-10.

Both roads give access to Wildlife Management Areas, thus are heavily used by sportsmen, hikers, birdwatchers, and nature lovers.

Both roads require upgrading in some sections and new overlay.

See Fig. 4.00 D.

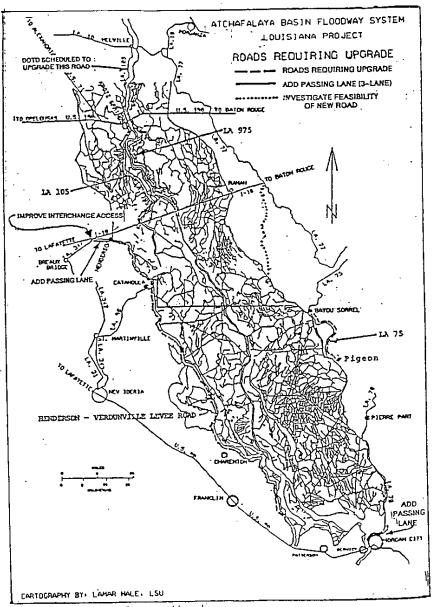


FIGURE 4:00 D: Roads Requiring Upgrade

#### 4.62 Roads to the Basin

#### A. New roads recommended:

- Investigate feasibility of new road from La. Hwy.
   at Grosse Tete to the East Protection Levee at Upper Grand River for access to the Upper Flat River area using Federal Trace guidelines;
- 2. Access road to tracts of land purchased by the Corps north of I-10 which currently have no road access. Access and road construction are the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers.

### B. Upgrading recommended:

- 1. Pave unpaved sections of Henderson Levee Road (at foot of levee on west side) from Henderson to Verdunville and resurface entire road:
- 2. Add turning lane (3rd lane) on La. Hwy. 352 at Henderson from La. Hwy. 347 (at I-10) to Henderson Levee Road and improve La. Hwy. 347 from Interchange to La. Hwy. 352. Rep. Sydnie Mae Durand has asked the Federal Highway Department to investigate building a new frontage road from the I-10 Interchange at Henderson to the Henderson Levee Road. This endeavor would not be part of the ABFS,LA Project.
- 3. Add turning lane (or exit lanes) on La. Hwy. 70 at Morgan City at Lake End Park and to the new parking areas from Lake End Park to the boat race viewing stand.
- 4. Overlay La. Hwy. 75 from Bayou Sorrel to Pigeon and improve roadside drainage.

#### 4.63 Access to Basin from Entry Points

Required access is included in Recreation Section (7.00) as part of boat launch and other recreation feature requirements.

#### 4.64 Acquire Rights-of-Way

1. Henderson - The Boulevard from opposite boardwalk point La. Hwy. 352 intersects the Henderson Levee Road to Cypermart Crevasse - approximately 20 feet in width by 2 miles long. (see Section 7.00)

#### 4.65 Land for Recreation Features:

Location of the 1,500 acres having a potential for recreation development is shown in Section 7.00 of this report.

#### 4.66 Standards for Basin Access Roads

It is recommended that local governing bodies adopt standards governing access roads at all\_entry points. Standards should include:

### A. Design requirements

- Pull-offs with adequate parking should be installed for views and photo-ops at all points of scenic, cultural, or special interest:
- Bicycle trails located on the opposite side of the drainage ditch for safety should be included.

### B. Aesthetic requirements

- Signage should be consistent in size and design and should provide information concerning directions and explanation of cultural and historic points of interest. Maximum size of 2'x4' is recommended;
- 2. Trees and vegetation planted should be native species;
- Permits should be required for all roadside developments to control type, location, and use thereby eliminating developments or use that would detract from the natural setting.

#### C. Maintenance requirements

- To achieve and maintain aesthetically pleasing entries to the Basin, a high level of maintenance will be required, thus it is recommended that the local authority responsible for such maintenance enter into an agreement with the operating agency for each entry point transferring grass mowing, landscape enhancement, and litter clean-up operations for the entrance roads to the operating agency.
- 2. Road maintenance and drainage control should remain the responsibility of the State or local governments.

### 4.70 Capital Costs (land)

The land purchases by the State are limited to sites for recreational purposes. See Section 7.92 for lists.

4.80 Capital Costs (Roads to Recreation Projects)

Location	item	Miles	Cost/Mile	Total
Krotz Springs	La. Hwy. 105 - Butte LaRose La. Hwy. 975 - Whiskey Bay at 1-10	19 18	170,000 170,000	3,230,000 3,060,000
Ramah	Feasibility of road to Upper Grand River area			50,000
Bayou Sorrel	La. Hwy. 75 to Pigeon	12	160,000	1,920,000
Morgan City	La. Hwy. 70 - 3-lane	1.5	250,000	375,000
Henderson to Verdunville Henderson	Henderson Levee Road 1) La. Hwy. 375 - 3-lane La. Hwy. 347 improve link	45	160,000 (aver.) 140,000	7,200,000 420,000 100,000
	from I-10 to La. 352 Total roads			16,355,000

Note: Costs based on average current costs plus allowance for cost increases to date of construction.

1) Study is underway for all sources of Federal funds for this road, including the Hurricane Evacuation Route already under discussion.

Capital costs for roads are included in this section of the State Plan, since such roads, appropriately, are for public access. However, since the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, LA Project considers only land purchases as public access, the costs will be accumulated in the Recreation Section (7.00).

# 4.90 Operation and Maintenance of Corps' fee-title Public Access Lands

4.91 Cost/share ratio

O&M costs for the 50,000 acres of land to be pur-

chased by the Corps and jointly managed with the State will be shared at a ratio of 75% Corps and 25% State. There is debate concerning whether State lands dedicated to the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project will qualify for the 75%/25% funding. If these two WMAs are determined not be be a part of the ABFS, La. Project, the State is prepared to seek additional Federal authorization from the Congress to include them.

4.92 Projected operation and maintenance costs for all the WMAs (Sherburne, Attakapas, Indian Bayou, and the proposed cypress/tupelo area) and the Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge, owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and jointly managed with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, if current plans are executed, are shown on the following tables:

### PROJECTED ANNUAL OPERATING COST SHERBURNE WMA

Item	No.	Subtotal	Total	State
Personnel:				İ
Area Manager	1	54,000		1
Area Biologist	1.	48,000	}	Ì
Total		102,000		
Benefits @ 23%		23,460		
Total Personnel & Benefits		125,460		125,460
Indirect Costs (administrative, support,				
space, utilities, etc. @ 40%)		50,184		
Hired labor - 4820 hrs @ 25.16/hr		121,271		121,271
Total Personnel & Indirect			296,915	
Contractual:				
Building replacement		23,600		
Misc. land maintenance		26,600		
Equipment replacement		9,070		
Total Contractual			59,270	59,270
Expenses:			<u>-</u> :	
Misc. supplies		10,000		
Travel & Per Diem (meetings)		4,000		
Total Expenses			14,000	14,000
Total Operating Cost FY 97/98			370,185	320,001

### Annual Operating Cost Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge

	Total Cost/	State Budget
<u> </u>	Share	Increase
Assumed to be the same as Sherburne	370,185	320,001

Operated by DWF for USFWS, a federal agency which owns the land, thus not available for additional federal funding. However, since current operating budget is inadequate, the State's share is included in the State budget.

### Projected Annual Operating Costs Attakapas WMA

Item	No.	Subtotal	Total	State
Personnel:		Ü		1
Manager	1	54,000		
Biologist (1/2 time)	1	24,000		
Total State Service		78,000 ·		78,000
Benefits @ 23%	•	17,940		17,940
Indirect Costs (administrative, support	,			
space, utilities, etc. @ 40%		38,376		
Hired labor 2834 hrs @ 13.87		39,295		39,295
Total Personnel & Indirect			173,611	135,235
Contractual:				
Land/facility maintenance		33,500		
Equipment replacement		11,000		
Total Contractual			44,500	44,500
Expenses:				
Misc. supplies		5,000		
Travel & per diem (meetings)		3,000		
Total expenses			8 000	8,000
Total Operating Cost FY 97/98			226,111	187,735

## Projected Annual Operating Costs Cypress/Tupelo Refuge

Į		Total	State
1		Cost/	Budget
	•	Share	Increase
	Assumed to be the same as Attakapas WMA	226,111	187,735
	Assumed to be are		

## Projected Annual Operating Costs Indian Bayou WMA

			Total Cost/ Share	State Budget Increase
Personnel:				
Manager	1	54,000		
Biologist (1/2 time)	1_1_	24,000		78,000
Total State Service		78,000		17,940
Benefits @ 23%		17,940		17,540
Indirect Costs (administrative support, space, utilities, etc.) @ 40% Hired labor 2834 hrs @ 13.87		38,376 56,000		56,000
Total personnel & Indirect			190,316	151,940
Contractual: Land/facility maintenance		35,000		
Normal road/trail/equipment maintenance 1)		20,000		
Total Contractual			55,000	55,000
Expenses: Misc. supplies		10,000		
Travel & per diem (meetings)			15,000	15,000
Total expenses Total Operating Costs FY 97/98			260,316	221,940

<sup>1)</sup> Initial road construction costs- add-\$100, 000/year for 5 years (Corps' cost - not cost/share)

## PROJECTED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS ALL WMAs

	Total	State
· ·	Cost/	Budget
_	Share	Increase
Sherburne WMA	370,185	320,001
Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge		320,001
Atchaialaya National Wilding Tong	226,111	187,735
Attakapas WMA	226,111	187,735
Cypress/Tupelo Refuge/WMA	260,316	221,940
Indian Bayou WMA	1,082,723	1,237,412
Total FY 97/98 Add 5% cost increase to beginning date (2 years)		
Add 5% cost increase to beginning data to you	1,193,702	1,364,247
Total FY 99/00		

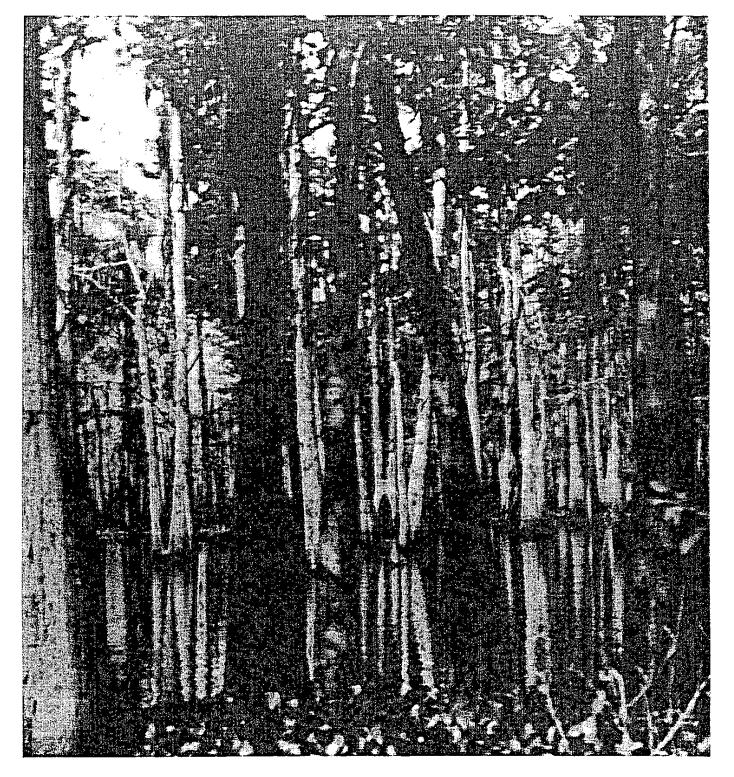
State Budget Increase includes funds for the Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge operation which are not available for additional federal funding cost/share.

## PROJECTED 15 YEAR TOTAL OPERATING COSTS OF CURRENT AND PROPOSED WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND REFUGES

	Total	State
	Cost/	Budget
	Share	Increase
DWF Operating Costs FY 99/00	1,193,702	1,364,247
DWF Operating Costs FY 00/01	1,253,387	1,432,459
DWF Operating Costs FY 01/02	1,316,056	1,504,082
DWF Operating Costs FY 02/03	1,381,859	1,579,286
DWF Operating Costs FY 03/04	1,450,952	1,658,250
DWF Operating Costs FY 04/05	1,523,500	1,741,163
DWF Operating Costs FY 05/06	1,599,675	1,828,221
DWF Operating Costs FY 06/07	1,679,659	1,919,632
DWF Operating Costs FY 07/08	1,763,642	2,015,614
DWF Operating Costs FY 08/09	1,851,824	2,116,395
DWF Operating Costs FY 09/10	1,944,415	2,222,215
DWF Operating Costs FY 10/11	2,041,636	2,333,326
DWF Operating Costs FY 11/12	2,143,718	2,449,992
DWF Operating Costs FY 12/13	2,250,904	2,572,492
DWF Operating Costs FY 13/14	2,363,449	2,701,117
Total DWF Operating Costs 15 yrs.	25,758,378	29,438,491

Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year

Note: DWF refers to joint management between the Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.



SECTION 5.00 ENVIRONMENTAL EASEMENTS



### 5.00 ENVIRONMENTAL EASEMENTS

### 5.10 Congressional Plan

### 5.11 Background

U.S. Senate and House of Representatives resolutions (23 March 1972 and 14 June 1972, respectively) stated that the Corps should examine the Atchafalaya Basin project with other State and Federal agencies to develop "....a comprehensive plan for management and preservation of the water and related land resources of the Atchafalaya River Basin, Louisiana."

The results and key details of the recommended plan were facilitated by Governor David C. Treen in 1981 and the following goals were adopted.

## 5.12 Goals of the Developmental Control and Environmental Protection Easements:

The goal of the Developmental Control portion of the easement is to prevent development within the floodway that would interfere with the continued unrestricted use of the floodway for flood control purposes and help preserve the environmental values of the Basin by preventing destruction of fish and wildlife habitat (e.g. clearing of forests for industrial development and permanently habitable structures).

The goal of the Environmental Protection portion of the easement is preservation of fish and wildlife habitat and maintaining the "wet and wild" environmental appeal of the lower floodway by prohibiting the destruction of habitat through the conversion of land to other uses (e.g. clearing of forests for agricultural development) and providing control over the method of cutting timber by controlling clearcutting and promoting sustained yield forestry practices.

### 5.20 Environmental Protection and Developmental Control Easements Purchased by the Corps of Engineers

#### 5.21 Purchases to date

The Corps of Engineers has purchased from landowners the right to enforce certain developmental control and environmental protection restrictions governing the use of land on approximately 31,500 acres. This land is located in the Basin between U:S. 190 and I-10 (see Fig. 5.00 A).

### 5.22 Additional easement purchases

Additional environmental protection and developmental control easement purchases will include all the remaining land in private ownership, except for certain natural ridges which have been developed, totalling approximately 338,000 acres.

In addition, approximately 190,000 acres of Stateowned lands, including the Dow donation and Sherburne, are subject to similar restrictions which will be equal to, or stronger than the Corps' restrictions.

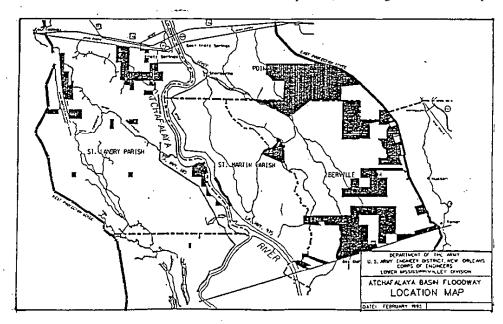


FIGURE 5.00 A: Easement Land Purchases by the Corps of Engineers

### 5.23 Flowage easements

Flowage easements have been purchased for 9,000 acres of land not subject to frequent overflow with an additional 59,000 acres of flowage easements to be purchased.

## 5.24 Activities allowed on Corps' Easement Lands

Private ownership without required public access;

Future sale and/or lease of private property subject to easement;

Timber harvesting, except for certain species at particular sizes;

Oil, gas and mineral production and leasing;

Existing camps and/or structures to remain and new ones, if consented by the Corps of Engineers;

Continued use of the property as it currently exists;

Hunting;

Fishing;

Camping;

Other recreational activities, and

Any activity which does not conflict with the terms of the easement/servitude agreement.

### 5.25 The easement restricts the following:

Construction or placement of new permanently habitable dwellings;

Construction or placement of all other new structures, including camps, unless a consent is granted by the Corps of Engineers; excluding structures used in the exploration, development, and/or production of oil, gas, and other minerals.

Conversion or development of the land from its existing use to another use (e.g. woods to cropland); and

Harvesting certain sizes and species of timber.

## 5.26 Timber restrictions concerning the harvesting of certain sizes and species of timber include:

Prohibition of removal of any bald cypress greater than 42 inches in diameter at 10 feet above the ground;

Prohibition of removal of oak, ash and sweet pecan less than 20 inches in diameter at 12 inches above the ground, and water tupelo and bald cypress less than 24" in diameter at 2 feet above the ground, unless an average of 40 square feet of basal area per acre in any combination of these species is maintained (see Fig. 5.00 B).

Prohibition of removal of trees less than 16 inches in diameter at

12 inches above the ground within 200 feet from the woody vegetation along both banks of certain channels; however, at least one clear-cut of 350 feet in width every

The channels referred to above are as follows:

Bayou LaRompe/Tensas Bay/Spice Island Chute;

Lake Long/Bayou L'Embarrass/Lake Long/Grand I

Atchafalaya River Main Channel;

Lower 2/3 of West Access Channel (Little Bayou/Alligator Bayou);

Little Tensas Bayou/Upper Grand River;

Jakes Bayou/Bloody Bayou/Bayou Sorrel;

Little Bayou Pigeon (East of Bayou Pigeon C Bayou Pigeon).

These restrictions were negotiated and agrethe early 1990s by landowners, State and agencies, and major environmental groups.

### 5.27 Exceptions to timber harvesting restric

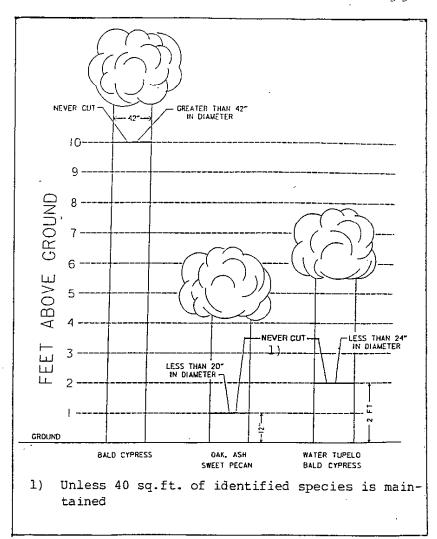
A. A procedure has been proposed for the reand granting of exceptions to the timbering restrictions. The exceptions as drafte be limited to purposes that are in the pullest and also the best interest of forest he sustainability of the Atchafalaya Basin e and include the following:

Removal of trees to control the spread of a disease infection upon recommendation Department of Agriculture and Forestry, the Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Se

Salvage removal of trees damaged or destroural disaster (fire, wind, hail, ice, animals, i eases, saltwater, extended flooding);

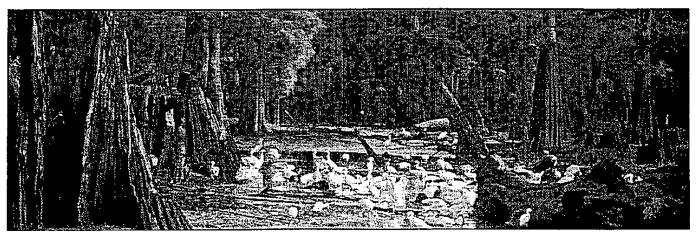
Wildlife habitat improvement requires a m 100 stems per acre in any combination of sweet pecan, bald cypress, or water tupelo, go 3 feet in height to be established on the area; by the Department of Agriculture and Fo Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish at Service.

- B. Because the Corps of Engineers, the Wildlife Service and the State all have pu est mandates, all three will have a role mining if specific exception requests s granted.
- C. The Environmental Easement Workir will continue working to further defir tions and proposed penalties.



The restrictions promote good forestry management practices...
PLUS
Protect the habitat for our feathered friends..

FIGURE 5.00 B: Tree Removal Restrictions



Egress and Ibis Feeding near Bayou Benoit

Greg Guitard

# 5.28 Corps of Engineers' Camp Consent Policies and Guidelines for camps in the Atchafalaya Basin on Corps' easement lands:

Existing structures on lands that have no prior Corps' easements will be given a consent:

Movable structures, such as recreational vehicles, will require consents if they remain in one location for more than 14 days in a 30 day period;

Permanent campsite locations where RVs are placed on a regular basis, e.g. campgrounds, will require a consent;

Camps will be located adjacent to existing water bodies;

Camps will be spaced no closer than 5,000 feet apart;

Camp sites are limited to one-half acre in size;

Structures are limited to a combined total of 2,000 square feet. The structure must be movable or raised to a level above the elevation designated by local ordinances;

All structures must comply with other state and federal regulatory programs, such as Corps of Engineers Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act permits. These permits will be issued separately by the responsible agency;

All structures and activities associated with them must comply with the Endangered Species Act guidelines;

Floating structures will be consented in a similar manner to campsites; and

New docks with enclosed sides are prohibited.

#### 5.29 Land Use Conversion Restrictions

Conversion of easement land from its current use to any other use is prohibited unless the conversion returns the land nearer to its natural state.

## 5.30 Monitoring and Enforce Requirements on Corps Easement

### 5.31 Monitoring

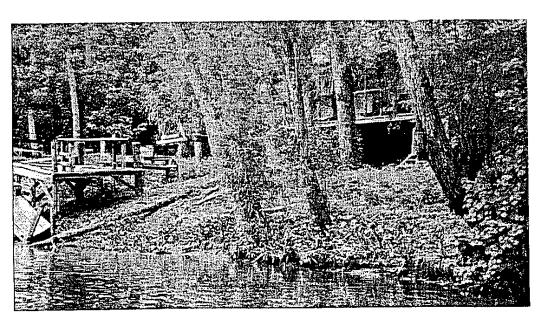
A. State responsibility

The State's responsibility concerning development a ronmental easements is to supply personnel and set monitor compliance with the easements. The State 4 the Department of Agriculture and Forestry as the la agency for monitoring easements.

Federal legislation requires that the State provide the cost related to the project's environmental feature could include, but is not limited to, regular inspedetermine if the easements are in compliance. Cooperative Agreement will be developed to provide cost/share mechanism.

- B. The State (DAF) proposes to assume the fortasks:
  - Aerial and/or ground inspection of all easement at Basin at least twice a year;
  - 2. Required administrative and support services inspections;
  - 3. Participation in monthly one-day meetings with C resentative(s) to discuss violations or requested et and to make field trips if necessary to resolve a determine extent of violations, or justification at tions:
  - 4. Minimum quarterly reports of areas inspected: tions noted. Violations will be immediately repreports shall include:

Camera shots of violations Location (GPS) Description of violation Date and time of observation



### C. Federal responsibility

It is recommended that the following tasks be assumed by the Corps of Engineers:

- 1. Aerial and/or ground inspections at least twice a year;
- Inspections to determine if the new structures regulations have been violated;
- Furnish location and facilities required for monthly meetings:
- Determine ownership of areas where violations occurred or exemption is requested;
- Conduct all contacts with owners concerning violations or exemptions and maintain all records concerning all contacts and resolution of violations or exemptions.

#### 5.32 Enforcement

A. Federal responsibility

Since federal easements are involved, all enforcement actions are the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers acting, if legal means are necessary, through the U.S. Justice Department.

### B. State Responsibility

The State's responsibility is limited to:

- 1. Assisting in determining the extent of the violation;
- 2. Serving as a witness at hearings;
- 3. Participation in pre-trial conferences.

### 5.33 Suggested penalties

For timber easement violations, a reparation policy is recommended such as requiring the planting of site-suited native bottomland hardwood seedlings having a minimum 50% hardmast producing species, and with the remaining percentage containing a diverse assemblage of native species, requiring any future timber harvests to be in compliance with the easement regulations unless an exemption is granted.

### 5.40 State Lands Dedicated to the Project

All state-owned properties in the Basin are dedicated to the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project. This dedication does not involve transfer of ownership.

#### 5.41 Lands involved

Non-severed - 450 acres (approx.)

Dried lakebeds, navigable waterways - 150,000 acres (approx.)

Dow Donation - 45,000 acres (not all in Basin)

See Fig. 5.00 C for location of these lands

### 5.42 Activities on State-owned lands

### A. Timber harvesting

Timber harvesting guidelines on state-owned lands (Louisiana R.S. 41:1001-1009) include:

- 1. Any person who desires to purchase any timber located on property under the jurisdiction of the Division of State Lands, shall file an application to purchase, giving the exact location, section, township and range and the types of timber he desires to purchase. The applicant shall deposit the sum of one hundred dollars as evidence of good faith.
- On receipt of an application to have timber offered for sale, the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Forestry shall evaluate the current market value and quantity that could be harvested based on sound forestry practices.
- 3. An advertisement shall be published in the official journal of the parish wherein the land is located setting forth the description of the land on which the timber to be sold is located, the type and quantity of timber, and the time and place, and terms of the sale.
- 4. The timber so advertised shall be sold to the highest bidder by the sheriff of the parish wherein the timber is located, at the time mentioned in the advertisement for the consideration of bids.
- 5. The adjudicatee of the timber sold shall have the right of ingress and egress at any time for the purpose of removing the timber from the land; provided that the time stipulated to cut and remove the timber shall be fixed in the advertisement and in the act of sale, as well as the type and size of trees to be cut.
- 6. Should the State advertise and sell timber on State lands, the title to which is in dispute, a provision may be made that the consideration to be paid the state by the adjudicatee of the timber sold shall be deposited in escrow to be held pending the final determination of the validity of the title to the land or until the State and the grantee otherwise agree the payment should be made or released as provided for in the agreement.
- 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cutting or sale, or both, of standing cypress timber located on any water bottom owned by the State of Louisiana is hereby prohibited except in the exercise of rights under a state lease, right-of-way or permit.
- B. Camp lease current policies and guidelines on State owned lands in the Atchafalaya Basin:
  - 1. Camps will be located adjacent to existing water bodies;
  - Camps will be located only in the 40 designated sub-divided areas managed by the State Land Office;
  - 3. Camp sites are allowed up to a maximum of two acres;
  - Structures are limited to a combined total of 2,000 square feet. The structure must be movable or raised to a level above the elevation designated by local ordinances;

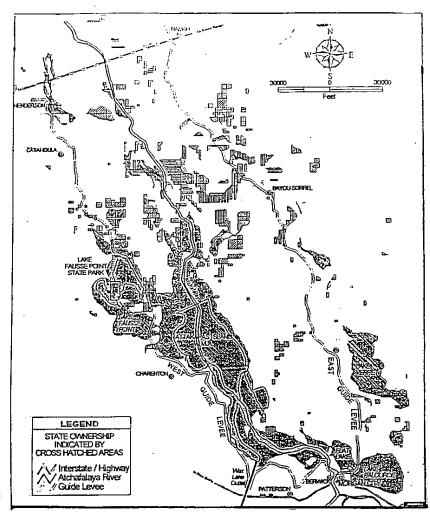


FIGURE 5.00 C: State Land Office Monitoring Lands and State Lands Dedicated to the Project

- All structures and their associated utilities must comply with local, state and federal regulations;
- 6. All structures must comply with other state and federal regulatory programs such as Corps of Engineers Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act permits. These permits will be issued separately by the responsible agency;
- All structures and activities associated with them must comply with the Endangered Species Act guidelines;
- 8. New docks with enclosed sides are prohibited.

## 5.43 Monitoring and Enforcement on State-owned Lands

It is recommended that the State Land Office and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (for State-owned Wildlife Management Areas) assume the following tasks:

- A. Inspection of all State lands in the Basin at least twice a year;
- B. Required administrative and support services for those inspections;

- C. Violations immediately reported and reports include:
  - Camera shots of violations
  - Location (GPS)
  - Description of violation
  - Date and time of observation
- D. Enforcement methods are recommended to include fines, increased lease costs and/or reparation if necessary. As a part of the legislative package to be prepared as a result of this master plan, rules and regulations including proposed penalties and fines will be developed and presented to the Louisiana Legislature for approval.

### 5.50 Capital Cost Estimates

The State has no responsibility for any of the capital costs incurred in securing the easements or otherwise setting up this program. The State does agree to establish rules and regulations on State lands that are equal to, or greater than, the Corps' easements.

## 5.60 Maintenance and Operating Costs

### 5.61 Maintenance costs

Maintenance is considered part of Operating Costs (O&M).

### 5.62 Operating costs (O&M)

Operating costs are divided 75% Federal and 25% State. Procedures for achieving these percentages will be outlined in a Project Cooperative Agreement.

A. Monitoring tree harvesting easement regulations by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

### 1. Projected Start-Up Costs (replacement every 5 years)

Item	No.	Unit	Amount		
Geographic Positioning System units:					
Aircraft type	1		2,800		
Hand held type	2	1,100	2,200		
Computers, lap top	2	2,500	5,000		
2-way radios					
Truck mount	2	500	1,000		
Hand held	2	500	1,000		
Boat, motor, trailer			15,000		
Trucks, 4-wheel drive	2	20,00	40,000		
Total equipment costs FY 97/98			67,000 71,080		
Costs projected (@ 3%/yr) to start FY 99/00					
Replacement costs FY 03/04	80,000				
Replacement Costs FY 08/09			92,742_		
Total equipment costs 15 years			243,822		

### 2. Projected annual operating costs (DAF)

o.	Unit 35,800 12,800	71,600 25,600 13,600 110,800	Total	State Budget Increase 71,600 25,600 13,600
		25,600 13,600 110,800		71,600 25,600
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		25,600 13,600 110,800		25,600
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			16,000	16,000
			230,798	176,284
n*			325,535	265,433
sts		•	267,178	204,071
sts		FY 01/02	280,537	214,275
sts		FY 02/03	294,564	224,989
sts*	*	FY 03/04	389,292	316,238
sts		FY 04/05	324,757	248,050
sts		FY 05/06	340,995	260,453
sts		FY 06/07	358,045	273,476
sts		FY 07/08	375,947	287,150
sts*	* *	FY 08/09	487,486	394,250
sts	•	FY 09/10	414,481	316,583
sts		FY 10/11	435,205	332,412
sts		FY 11/12	456,965	349,033
sts			479,813	366,485
sts		FY 13/14	503,804	384,809
-		· .	5,734,604	4,437,707
	ir lies  lies  sts sts sts sts sts sts sts sts sts	ir lies  FY 97/98  ** sts sts sts sts sts sts sts sts sts	FY 97/98  TY 97/98  TY 97/98  TY 97/98  TY 99/00  Sts FY 00/01  Sts FY 01/02  Sts FY 02/03  Sts FY 04/05  Sts FY 05/06  Sts FY 06/07  Sts FY 07/08  Sts FY 08/09  Sts FY 09/10  Sts FY 10/11  Sts FY 11/12  Sts FY 11/12  Sts FY 12/13	FY 97/98  TY 01/02  TY 10/12  TY 10/11  TY 10/

Cost increases calculated at 5%/year

<sup>\*</sup> includes 67,000 start-up equipment costs
\*\* includes 80,000 equipment replacement
\*\*\*includes 92,742 equipment replacement

- B. Projected Costs of Monitoring Easement Regulations on State Land by the State Land Office:
- 1. Initial Start-Up Costs Replacement Every 5 Years

Item	NO.	Unit	Amount
Air Boat	1		23,000
4-Wheeler	111		5,000
GPS Unit (portable)	1		11,000
4-Wheel Drive Vehicle	1		30,000
Total equipment costs FY 97/98	69,000		
Costs projected (@ 3%/yr) to start	73,202		
Replacement costs FY 03/04	82,390		
Replacement Costs FY 08/09	95,513		
Total equipment costs 15 years	-		251,105

Costs for State Land Office are based on current personnel and benefits costs, plus cost increases of 5%/yr. to starting date FY 99/00.

Equipment cost increases are calculated at 3%/yr.

## 2. Annual Operating Costs (State Land Office)

	No.	Unit	C. J 1	<del></del>	<del></del>
	INO.	Onit	Subtotal	Total	State
1			1		Budget
Personnel:	<del>-</del> -	<del> </del>	<del> </del>		Increase
Field Officer (GS17)	1		41.000	İ	
Field Inspector (GS17)			41,000		41,000
Total personnel	-		66,000		25,000
Benefits @ 23%			15,180		15100
Total Personnel &	Benefi	te	13,100	91 100	15,180
Indirect Costs (space, equi	nment		-	81,180	81,180
utilities, etc. @ 40%)	pillelle	,	-	20,272	
Expenses:			<del> </del>	20,212	
Maintenance/fuel - vehic	le		8,600		
Maintenance/fuel - air bo	oat		2,250		
Travel and per-diem			16,000		
Total expenses	***		1,11	26,850	26,850
SLO Operating C			FY 97/98	128,302	108,030
Total to start operation	in *		FY 99/00	214,655	192,306
SLO Operating C	Osts		FY 00/01	148,526	125,059
SLO Operating C			FY 01/02	155,952	131,312
SLO Operating C	osts		FY 02/03	163,750	137,878
SLO Operating C	osts**		FY 03/04	254,328	227,162
SLO Operating C			FY 04/05	180,535	152,011
SLO Operating C	osts		FY 05/06	189,562	159,612
SLO Operating C			FY 06/07	199,040	167,593
SLO Operating Co			FY 07/08	208,992	175,973
SLO Operating Co		*	FY 08/09	314,955	280,285
SLO Operating Co			FY 09/10	230,414	194,011
SLO Operating Co			FY 10/11	241,935	203,712
SLO operating Co			FY 11/12	254,032	213,898
SLO Operating Co	osts	1	FY 12/13	266,734	224,593
SLO Operating Co			FY 13/14	280,071	235,823
Total SLO Operating	Costs	for 15 y	rs.	3,303,481	2,821,228

<sup>\*</sup> includes 73,202 start-up equipment costs

<sup>\*\*</sup> includes 82,390 equipment replacement costs

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> includes 95,513 equipment replacement costs

3. Projected Total Monitoring of Easement Regulations for 15 Years

Item	Cost/Share	State Budget Increase
Department of Agriculture and Forestry State Land Office	5,734,60 <del>4</del> 3,303,481	4,437,707 2,821,228
Total	9,038,085	7,258,935

The State Land Office has excess self-generated funds which could be utilized for this project, if authority to spend these funds is granted.



SECTION 6.00 WATER MANAGEMENT



### 6.00 WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

### 6.10 Introduction

### 6.11 Background

Water management of the Atchafalaya Basin began in the mid 1800s with the removal of a log jam at the head of the Atchafalaya River, and accelerated after the 1927 flood with numerous COE dredging and levee projects designed to improve flood control and navigation.

These projects served their purpose but produced a side-effect - an expedited change in the environmental character of the Basin.

This change in character was further hastened by numerous activities, including petroleum exploration and pipeline and other canals which altered the flow of water to areas in the Basin, thus interfering with the watering and dewatering cycle This alteration in water flow is illustrated in Fig. 6.00 A.

The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives resolutions (23 March 1972 and 14 June 1972, respectively) stated that the Corps should examine the Atchafalaya Basin project with other State and Federal agencies to develop: "...a comprehensive plan for management and preservation of the water and related land resources of the Atchafalaya Basin, Louisiana, which would include provisions for reductions of siltation, improvement of water quality, and possible improvements of the area for commercial and sport fishing".

### 6.12 Stated Goal

The State's principal interest is to restore, where possible, and to preserve, where feasible, the natural habitat that has made the Atchafalaya Basin a national treasure, a part of Louisiana's culture, and an educational, economic and recreational asset for the public.

Therefore, the goal of the management units is to prolong the expected life of some habitats that may become scarce through time (primarily aquatic and cypress/tupelo habitats) by managing sediments, while

at the same time achieving a healthy water circulation pattern that will maintain or restore water quality. Sedimentladen water would be directed to areas that would naturally be undergoing accretion (e.g. natural levees, overbank areas) or to maintained areas designed to trap sediments, thus prolonging the existence of swamp and aquatic habitats.

Since other Federal and Federal/State programs impact, or are impacted by, the Atchafalaya Project, careful coordination with these programs will be required to achieve optimum results in the public interest.

## 6.20 Selection of Water Management Projects

### 6.21 Background

Many environmental and conservation groups were organized to call attention to siltation and water circulation issues. Ben Skerrett became one of the leading spokespersons advocating a re-evaluation of projects in the Basin that affected natural water flow.

The Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-662) recognized the importance of environmental enhancement in the Basin and authorized the construction of two pilot water management units with implementation of future units to be at the discretion of the Chief of Engineers, after evaluation of the operational success of the pilot units. The Corps is advocating the use of adaptive management principles in the implementation of the management units meaning that certain actions will be taken and then evaluated. Future recommendations may be changed based on these evaluations



The Natural Habitat

Charles Fryling

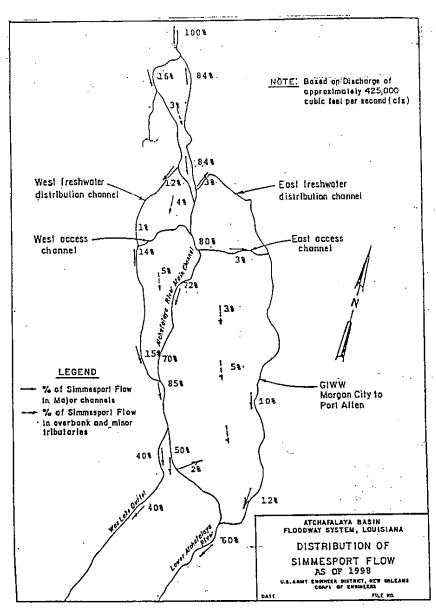


FIGURE 6.00-A: The Corps' Water Distribution Plan

and possibly some actions may be reversed or altered.

Future management units will be individually evaluated to determine their potential effectiveness for retaining or restoring desirable environmental values. Some improvements may be achieved by selective closing of canals that allow sediment-laden waters to reach backswamp areas, and by selective opening of dredged material banks or natural levees to improve water flow patterns.

### 6.22 Initial Selections

A. The Corps of Engineers, in part of the Environmental Impact Statement (1982) noted the necessity to restore some water flow into areas iso-

lated from the river by levees, and recommended that structures should divert water from the river into both Henderson Lake and Alabama Bayou.

Currently design of those projects has not been completed. The Alabama Bayou (also known as Sherburne) structure work is being pursued.

B. The Impact Statement also delineated 13 proposed water management units (see Fig. 6.00 B). Later Corps studies indicated that 5 of those units "have the best potential for implementation". These units are:

Buffalo Cove Henderson Lake East Grand Lake Beau Bayou Cocodrie Swamp

These 13 water management units were proposed in the first feasibility study of the Atchafalaya Basin completed in 1982.

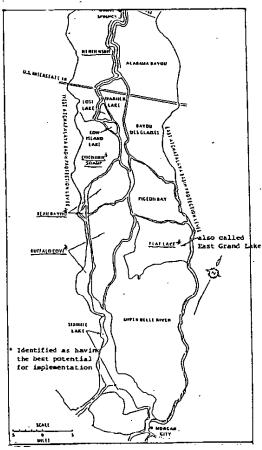
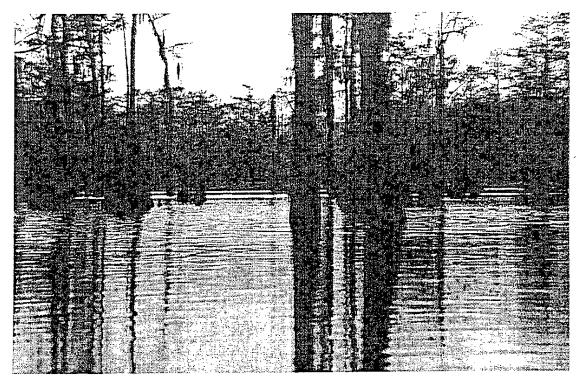


FIGURE 6.00 B: Proposed Water Management Units



Buffalo Cove is primarily located State lands on which were dedicated to this and other project purposes. Other State lands required for other water management projects are similarly dedicated; however, the Corps will purchase appropriate rights from landowners if the project is located, or affects, private lands.

6.23 Water Management Working Group Recommendations

C. In the funding bill, the Corps was authorized to work on two pilot water management projects:

Buffalo Cove

Henderson Lake

Subsequent input from local groups convinced the Corps to accelerate the Buffalo Cove unit as a pilot unit to be implemented and work is underway at this time to complete surveys and studies. Construction of this project, pending funding, can then proceed. See Fig. 6.00 C

A. The Group recommends that the proposed draft rating factors be utilized to determine if the five other units selected still have the best potential for implementation. See Appendix E.

B. The Group recommends that the second water management unit to be implemented (concurrent with Buffalo Cove) should be:

Flat Lake Management Unit (currently referred to as the East Grand Lake study area which is the Flat

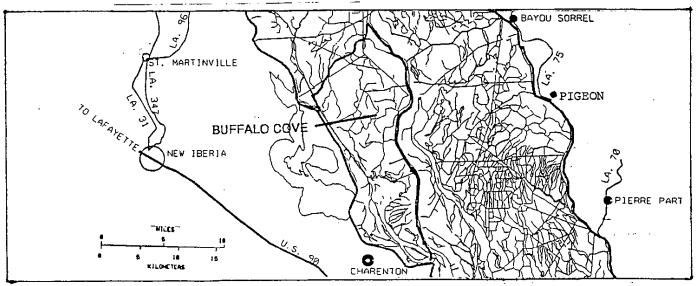


FIGURE 6.00 C: Buffalo Cove

Lake unit expanded to include the area within the Upper Belle River unit).

- C. The Group also recommends that the completion of the Alabama Bayou (Sherburne) project be accelerated and that planning for the Bayou Courtableu (Henderson Lake) project commence under separate authorities.
- D. The group recommends that Cow Island and Lake Warner Units receive a Corps review.

The Corps has emphasized that the success of future water management units, to a great extent, is dependent on the success of the pilot water management unit projects.

### 6.24 Recommendations for Buffalo Cove Water Management Unit

A. A study is underway within the Corps of Engineers regarding the Buffalo Cove water management unit.

In the interim, some steps can be taken to begin providing benefits before the project is completed. It is recommended that the following actions be taken as soon as possible and be coordinated with public input:

Actions should include gapping spoil banks in the northern and middle portion of the management unit, repairing weirs that are allowing sediments into interior swamps, and removing sediments and debris from waterways or gaps in spoil banks.

### Examples:

- a. Open one of the closures along the river to provide water flow into Mile Point Chute when river stage is approximately 13 feet elevation on the Butte LaRose gauge. See Fig. 6.00 D for location.
- b. Excavate/maintain gaps in the banks of the Phillips Canal (west of the weir and east of Si Bon Canal) and in the oil field canals south of there. Repair Phillips Canal and Crook Chene Cove weirs.
- c. Excavate gaps in the Florida Gas Canal on the eastern side of the Buffalo Cove unit.

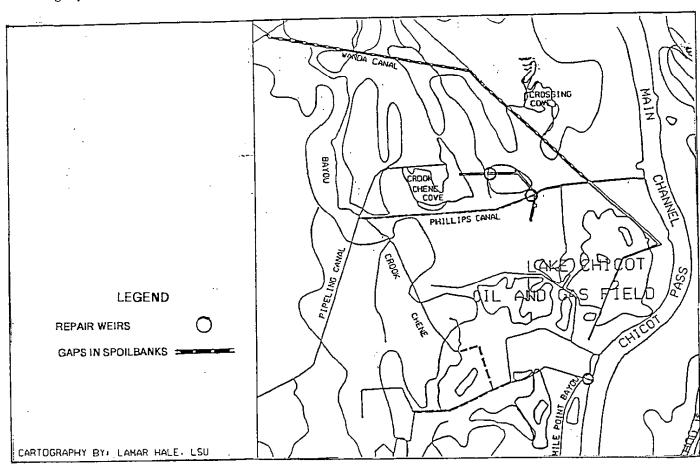


FIGURE 6.00 D: Weirs and Gaps for Buffalo Cove

## 6.25 Recommendations for East Side Water Flow Problems

Members of the Water Management Working Group investigated the Upper Belle River area and found simi-

lar water flow problems. An example of one solution is illustrated on Fig. 6.00 E. Productive meetings with pipeline owners are ongoing to secure support for spoil bank cuts and gaps. Landowner support will be sought also.

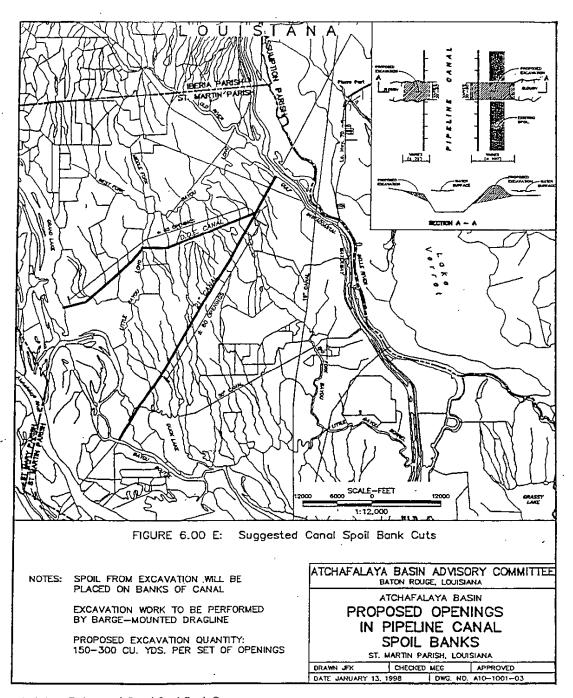


FIGURE 6.00 E: Suggested Canal Spoil Bank Cuts

## 6.30 State Responsibilities

The Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-662) authorized the federal government to pay 100% of the first cost of environmental enhancement features, since the benefits were national in scope. The Act also authorized the federal government to pay 75% of the operation and maintenance cost of these features.

## 6.31 State Responsibility for Design of units:

The State will provide technical and engineering advice on the design and construction (if necessary) of water management units and will provide a letter of intent to the Corps indicating the State's commitment to a cost/share agreement. See Appendix F.

## 6.32 State Responsibility for Operation and Maintenance

The State will provide the following:

A. Monitoring of conditions by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to determine effectiveness of the project, including:

Sampling of water quality and food-web organisms; fish sampling

See Section 6.51 for complete program

B. Monitoring of conditions by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry to determine effectiveness of project, including:

Tree and vegetation condition

C. The Department of Natural Resources will work with the oil and gas industry to accomplish the following:

Encourage selective cutting of gaps in spoil banks of canals and restoration of the canals' cross sectional areas in instances where sediment has restricted the canals' ability to transport water to the interior of the Basin. It is recommended that the Department of Natural Resources set up a section, with equipment and staff, to provide this service and that an oversight committee, composed of Corps, USFWS, DWF, DAF, and oil and pipeline representatives, be formed to advise DNR in this operation.

Research the possibility of establishing a mitigation bank so that cooperating oil and gas companies may earn credit against some future projects.

- D. The adjustment of responsibilities and funds transfer procedures will be worked out in a General Agreement to be negotiated with the Corps in mid-1998.
- E. Some of the units could be pursued under different authorities, such as the Water Resources Development Act, Section 1135 or Section 206 authority, and if so, the ratio of costs may be different (up to 35% State).

### 6.40 Capital Cost Estimates

All capital costs are the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers.

## 6.50 Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation Cost Estimates

### 6.51 Program Management

Three state agencies will be involved and will manage their own activities under the overall general oversight, coordination, and administration of the Project Manager.

Project Manager costs are listed in Section 8.00.

### 6.52 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (DWF)

A. Sampling of Water Quality and Food-Web Organisms

This work will be conducted by Louisiana State University Agricultural Center (LSU) under contract with DWF.

LSU Ag. Center (Louisiana Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Louisiana State University) was selected because, during the last 25 years, more than 80 scientistyears of aquatic research effort have been invested in the Atchafalaya Basin. The most recent work, for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has involved an investigation of possible ways to diminish fish kills that result from hurricanes. That work led to the development, by the LSU Ag. Center and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries of a water quality and fisheries monitoring plan. That plan will be used in this Project.

### Purpose:

Water quality monitoring to determine impact of water management projects on the water environment.

Number monitoring sites:

20-50 depending upon size of water management units.

Sampling frequency: (keyed to flood pulse)
2/month (spring through early fall)
1/month (winter)
daily (at locations during flooding to monitor impact of construction activities)

Analysis (for all sites):

temperature, specific conductance, pH, dissolved oxygen, oxidation-reduction potential, flow velocity, and light attenuation (all using in situ sampling equipment), and water levels (reading Corps' monitors), accretion and depth data;

Analysis for selected sites: (relative to flow patterns) essential nutrients, minerals, determination of phytoplankton, zooplankton, vegetable dwelling invertebrate densities.

\_\_\_\_\_

### 1. Equipment start-up costs

ltem	No.	Unit	Amount
Equipment (laboratory &			
field upgrades, shockboats,			
computers, in situ water			
monitors)			:
Buffalo Cove Project			25,000
Replacement FY 03/04			29,852
Replacement FY 08/09			34,607
East Grand Lake Project			125,000
Replacement FY 03/04			149,257
Replacement FY 08'09			173,030
Total for 2 projects 15 years			536,746

Operations estimated costs (two management units) (water quality - LSU)

Buffalo Cove East Grand Lake	311,760 380,416	234,400 283,440
Total FY 97/98	692,176	517,840
Total FY 99/00	763,124	570,919

Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year.

Equipment costs increases are calculated at 3% yr.

### 2. Annual Operating Costs (LSU under contract to DWF) for two management units simultaneously

	No.	Unit	Subtotal	Total Costs/	State Budget
				Share	Increase
Personnel:					
Buffalo Cove:					
Personnel		1			
Research Associate	2	40,000	80,000		
Benefits @ 23%			18,400		
Total			98,400		
Secretary (PT)			10,000		
Research Asst.	5	15,000	75,000		
Technicians (PT)	5	2,000	10,000		
Total Personnel			. =	193,400	193,400
Indirect Costs @ 40%				77,360	77,360
LSU Ag Center waive	r				-77,360
Expenses.					
Travel & per diem		6,000			
Supplies/Services		35,000			
Total Expenses		<del></del>		41,000	41,000
Total Buffalo Co	ve			311,760	234,400
East Grand Lake:					
Personnel:					
Research Associate	3	40,000	120,000		
Secretary (PT)			8,000		
Total			128,000		
Benefits @ 23%			29,440		1
Research Assistant	5	15,000	75,000		
Technicians	5	2,000	10,000		
Total Personnel	& Be	nefits		242,440	242,440
Indirect Costs @ 40%		•		96,976	96,976
LSU Ag. Center waiv	ет		,		-96,976
Expenses:					
Travel & per diem			6,000		
Supplies/Services			35,000		1. 555
Total Expenses				41,000	41,000
Total East Grand	d Lake	<u> </u>		380,416	283,440

LSU AG. CENTER PROJECTED 15 YEAR OPERATING COSTS OF WATER QUALITY MONITORING (for Buffalo Cove and East Grand Lake - or their equivalent)

	Total	State
	Costs/	Budget
	Share	Increase
LSU Operating Costs FY 99/00*	913,124	720,919
LSU Operating Costs FY 00/01	801,280	599,465
LSU Operating Costs FY 01/02	841,344	629,438
LSU Operating Costs FY 02/03	883,411	660,910
LSU Operating Costs FY 03/04**	1,106,691	873,065
LSU Operating Costs FY 04/05	973,961	728,65 <del>4</del>
LSU Operating Costs FY 05/06	1,022,659	765,087
LSU Operating Costs FY 06/07	1,073,792	803,341
LSU Operating Costs FY 07/08	1,127,482	843,508
LSU Operating Costs FY 08/09***	1,394,493	1,096,320
LSU Operating Costs FY 09/10	1,243,049	929,967
LSU Operating Costs FY 10/11	1,305,201	976,465
LSU Operating Costs FY 11/12	1,370,461	1,025,288
LSU Operating Costs FY 12/13	1,438,984	1,076,552
LSU Operating Costs FY 13/14	1,510,933	1,130,380
Total Operating Costs 15 Yrs.	17,006,865	12,859,359
	_	

<sup>\*</sup>includes 150,000 equipment purchases

Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year for operation.

B. Fish Sampling

This work will be conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (DWF).

Purpose:

To determine the effects of the water management projects by monitoring changes in adult fish and crawfish distribution and abundance.

Number sampling sites:

8-15 depending upon size of water management project.

Sampling frequency:

Weekly or bi-weekly depending upon river stages, season, and changing water conditions

Monthly sampling of fish (experimental gill nets and electrofishing) and crawfish (traps).

Analysis:

Temperature, specific conductance, pH, and dissolved oxygen (using in situ water quality monitor).

Monitor biotic assemblages and abiotic habitat characteristics to determine whether hypoxic regions in the Management Units have been reduced in volume, either vertically and/or horizontally, due to construction and water management activities.

Increased diversity and abundance of resident fishes and invertebrates will indicate that the project has improved water quality.

Operations estimated costs (two management units)

1. Initial start-up costs (equipment replacement every five years)

Fish Sampling-DWF

NO.	Unit	Amount				
2		60,000				
2	15,000	30,000				
2	6,000	12,000				
2	16,000	32,000				
1		40,000				
2	3,000	6,000				
Computer 2 3,000  Total Buffalo Cove and East Grand Lake						
or equivalent units (FY 97/98 costs)						
FY 99/00 increase @3%/yr (purchase)						
Replacement FY 03/04						
Replacement FY 08/09						
5 yrs.		655,055				
	2 2 2 2 1 2 Gran	2 30,000 2 15,000 2 6,000 2 16,000 1 2 3,000 Grand Lake 98 costs)				

Equipment cost increases are calculated at 3%/year.

<sup>\*\*</sup>includes 179,109 equipment replacement

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>includes 210,637 equipment replacement

### 2. Annual Operating Costs (Fish sampling)

	No.	Unit	Subtotal	Total	State Budget Increase
Buffalo Cove;				}	
Personnel			Ì	[	
Biologist	1		40,000		
Specialists	2	12,500	25,000	ì	
Secretary (PT)	1		3,300		
Total			68,300		
Benefits @23%		!	15,700		
Total Personnel	& Ber	nefits		84,000	84,000
Indirect Costs @ 40%				33,600	·
Expenses		· · · ·			
Travel & per diem			2,600		
Supplies/Services			13,400		
Total Expenses				16,000	16,000
Total Buffalo Co	ve			133,600	100,000
East Grand Lake:					
Personnel:				•	
Biologist	1		40,000		
Specialists	3	12,500	37,500		
Secretary (PT)	1		2,500		
Total Personnel			80,000		
Benefits @ 23%			18,400		
Total Personnel (	St. Ben	efits	-	98,400	98,400
Indirect Costs @ 40%				39,360	
Expenses:					
Travel & per diem		į	2,600		
Supplies/Services	<u></u> .		14,000		
Total Expenses		<u> </u>		16,600	16,600
Total East Grand	Lake			154,360	115,000

DWF Projected Costs for Monitoring Buffalo Cove and East Grand Lake (or Equivalent Water Management Units)

	Total Costs/ Share	State Budget Increase
Buffalo Cove	133,600	100,000
East Grand Lake	154,360	115,000
Total FY 97/98	287,960	215,000
Total FY 99/00	317,476	237,038

\*includes 190,962 equipment purchases

DWF Projected 15 Year Costs

2 WT Trojected 13		
	Total	State
	Costs/	Budget
·	Share	Increase
DWF Operating Costs FY 99/00*	508,438	428,000
DWF Operating Costs FY 00/01	333,350	248,890
DWF Operating Costs FY 01/02	350,018	261,335
DWF Operating Costs FY 02/03	367,519	274,402
DWF Operating Costs FY 03/04**	600,825	503,052
DWF Operating Costs FY 04/05	405,190	302,528
DWF Operating Costs FY 05/06	425,450	317,654
DWF Operating Costs FY 06/07	446,723	333,537
DWF Operating Costs FY 07/08	469,059	350,214
DWF Operating Costs FY 08/09***	741,675	616,888
DWF Operating Costs FY 09/10	517,138	386,111
DWF Operating Costs FY 10/11	542,995	405,417
DWF Operating Costs FY 11/12	570,145	425,688
DWF Operating Costs FY 12/13	598,652	446,972
DWF Operating Costs FY 13/14	628,585	469,321
Total Operating Costs for 15 yrs	7,505,762	5,770,009

<sup>\*\*</sup>includes 214,930 equipment replacement

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>includes 249,163 equipment replacement Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year.

### C. Control of Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation

## ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS FOR CONTROL OF AQUATIC PLANTS

This work will be conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Nuisance Aquatic Plant Section, whose employees have been certified to apply the restricted use of pesticides necessary to control aquatic vegetation and have extensive experience in the Basin.

Left uncontrolled, water hyacinths and hydrilla will curtail many of the outdoor activities that are part of this plan and also have a deleterious impact on water quality.

	No.	Unit	Subtotal	Total	State Budget Increase
Personnel			j		ļ
Biologist Supervisor (parttime)	1		30,000		
Workers, Aquatic Control	8	22,700	181,600		
Total State Servi	ce	<u> </u>	211,600		211,600
Benefits % 23%			48,668		48,668
Indirect Costs (admir space, utilities, etc.@	istrativ 40%	ve support	104,107		
Total Personnel	& Inc	lirect		364,375	260,268
Expenses: Supplies & chemicals Travel			100,410		
Total expenses				106,410	106,410
Total Operating	Costs	FY 97/98		470,785	366,678
Total Operating	Costs	FY 99/00		519,040	404,263

### **EQUIPMENT COSTS**

Boats. Trailer, trucks spray equipment, ect. FY 97/98 prices FY 99/00 prices Replacement FY 03/04 Replacement FY 08/09	206,500 219,076	219,076 246,572 285,845	219,076 246,572 285,845 751,403
Total Equipment Costs 15 years		751,493	751,493

Cost increases for operating costs calculated at 5%/year. Cost increases for equipment costs calculated at 3%/year

Note: This aspect is currently not a part of the ABFS, LA. Project. Additional Federal authority may be sought

D. DWF PROJECTED 15 YEAR TOTAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND FISH SAMPLING FOR BUFFALO COVE AND EAST GRAND LAKE (or their equivalent) and AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL

	Total Costs/ Share	State Budget Increase
LSU Ag. Center Water Quality Monitoring DWF Fish Sampling	17,006,865	12,859,359
Monitoring  DWF Aquatic Plant	7,505,762	5,770,009
Control	11,951,682	9,737,403
Total for 15 years	36,464,309	28,366,771

# DWF PROJECTED 15 YEAR OPERATING COSTS FOR A QUATIC CONTROL FOR THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN WATER AREAS

	7	
	Total	State
	Costs/	Budget
	Share	Increase
DWF Operating Costs FY 99/00*	738,160	623,339
DWF Operating Costs FY 00/01	544,992	424,476
DWF Operating Costs FY 01/02	572,242	445,700
DWF Operating Costs FY 02/03	600,854	467,985
DWF Operating Costs FY 03/04**	877,469	737,956
DWF Operating Costs FY 04/05	662,442	515,953
DWF Operating Costs FY 05/06	695,564	541,751
DWF Operating Costs FY 06/07	730,342	568,839
DWF Operating Costs FY 07/08	766,859	597,281
DWF Operating Costs FY 08/09**	1,091,047	912,990
DWF Operating Costs FY 09/10	845,462	658,502
DWF Operating Costs FY 10/11	887,735	953,922
DWF Operating Costs FY 11/12	932,122 -	725,998
DWF Operating Costs FY 12/13	978,728	762,298
DWF Operating Costs FY 13/14	1,027,664	800,413
DWF Operating Costs for 15 years	11,951,682	9,737,403

<sup>\*</sup>includes initial equipment costs (219,076)

## 6.53 Department of Agriculture and Forestry (DAF)

A. Monitoring tree and vegetation stress resulting from construction and water management activities

### 1. Initial start-up costs

All equipment required is included in the DAF's environmental monitoring duties (Section 5.00).

### 2. Annual Operating Costs:

### Purpose:

To determine what impact, if any, the construction and operation of water management projects has had on trees and vegetation.

### Number inspections:

Aerial monitoring-l/year to detect stress Water/land monitoring as required to inspect stressed areas, but no less than annually

### Analysis:

Growth rate, regeneration, and stress characteristics for scientific and photographic record.

### **OPERATING COSTS (DAF)**

	No.	Unit	Subtotal	Total Costs Share	State Budget Increase
Personnel Forester (PT)	1		10,000	****	
Technician (PT)	1		3,500		
Secretary (PT)	1		1,000	_	
Total personnel Benefits @ 23%			14,500 3,335		
Total Personnel & Be				17,835	17,835
Indirect costs (administr		apport,		···	
space, utilities, etc. @	40%)			7,134	
Contractual:					
Aerial detection 4hrs @	120			480	480
Supplies:					
Office			300		
Fuel			800		
Travel & Per Diem	7.0	,	1,000		
Total supplies				2,100	2,100
Total Operating Cost				27,549	20,415
Projected to probable					
Total Operating Cost				28,926	21,436
Total Operating Cost	FY 99,	/00		30,372	22,508

Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year.

<sup>\*\*</sup>includes equipment replacement costs (246,572) Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year. (285,845)

## DAF PROJECTED 15 YEAR OPERATING COSTS FOR MONITORING WATER MANAGEMENT UNITS

	Total	State
	Cost/	Budget
	Share	Increase
DAF Operating Costs FY 99/00	30,372	22,508
DAF Operating Costs FY 00/01	. 31,891	23,633
DAF Operating Costs FY 01/02	33,486	24,815
DAF Operating Costs FY 02/03	35,160	26,056
DAF Operating Costs FY 03/04	36,918	27,359
DAF Operating Costs FY 04/05	38,764	28,727
DAF Operating Costs FY 05/06	40,702	30,163
DAF Operating Costs FY 06/07	42,737	31,671
DAF Operating Costs FY 07/08	44,874	33,255
DAF Operating Costs FY 08/09	47,118	34,918
DAF Operating Costs FY 09/10	49,474	36,664
DAF Operating Costs FY 10/11	51,948	38,497
DAF Operating Costs FY 11/12	54,545	40,422
DAF Operating Costs FY 12/13	57,272	42,443
DAF Operating Costs FY 13/14	60,136	44,565
DAF Operating Costs for 15 years	655,397	485,696

Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year.

### 6.54 Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

### A. The DNR role is fourfold:

- 1. Engineering consultation, when requested, concerning design of water management projects;
- Oil and gas industry liaison concerning spoil banks and other industry-related activities which impact water flow;
- 3. Investigate possibility of establishing a Mitigation Bank for industry activities;
- Provide and maintain cuts and gaps in spoil banks and canal cross-sections where sedimentation has blocked water flow.

### B. Operation Costs (DNR)

### 1. Engineering consultation:

One engineer will be available to assist the Corps of Engineers, at their request, with costs billed on a time and material basis.

#### 2. Oil and Gas Industry Liaison

The Project Manager will assume this responsibility. Cost is included in the Management Budget (see Section 8.00).

### 3. Mitigation Bank

The Project Manager will assume this responsibility. Cost is included in the Management Budget (see Section 8.00)

### 4. Cuts and Gaps

The Water Management Working Group has recommended the lease or purchase of a dredge and staffing an operation to maintain the integrity and quantity of water flow. The unit will be based in Morgan City (AMACCenter).

### a. Initial Start-Up Costs (DNR)

a. Illina ourt op oode (21.12)				
Item	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total	
Dredge, with all				
necessary accessories and barge mounted 20' Work Boat, 75HP	1 1	i	330,000 15,000	
Boat trailer	1		4,000	
Truck, <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ton; crew-cab	1		16,000	
Total Equipment FY 97/98 costs	365,000			
Total Equipment FY 99/00 costs	387,229			
Replacement (less dred FY 03/04	43,009			
Replacement (less dredge) FY 08/09			49,859	

Equipment cost increases are calculated at 3%/yr. Extensive annual maintenance should prolong the life of the dredge for 15 years.

### b. Operating Costs (DNR)

	3.1.	T 11 -	T C 1 1	<del></del>	
	No.	Unit	Subtotal	Total	State
	1			1	Budget
D	<u> </u>				Increase
Personnel	1		1		]
Manager/hydrologist	]		60,000	]	]
Secretary/driver	1		15,000	1	
Dredge Operator	1		50,000	İ	
Helper/mechanic	1 1		20,000	İ	
Total personnel			145,000	1	,
Benefits @ 23%			33,350	}	1
Total personnel &				178,350	178,350
Indirect costs (administrati	ve sup	port,			
space, utilities, etc. @ 40%	)			71,340	
Contractual:					
Transp. costs dredge	30	1,100	33,000		
Retention dikes	6	12,500	75,000		
Major maintenance	1		20,000		
Landrights spec.	- 1		10,000		
Total contractual			-	138,000	138,000
Expenses:					130,000
Travel & per diem			10,000		
Fuel, grease, etc.			40,000		
Pipe replacement			1,000		
Supplies, office			500		
Supplies, field			10,000		İ
Total Expenses			,	61,500	61,500
	Annual Operating Cost FY 97/98		-	449,190	377,850
Annual Operating			ļ	495,233	416,580

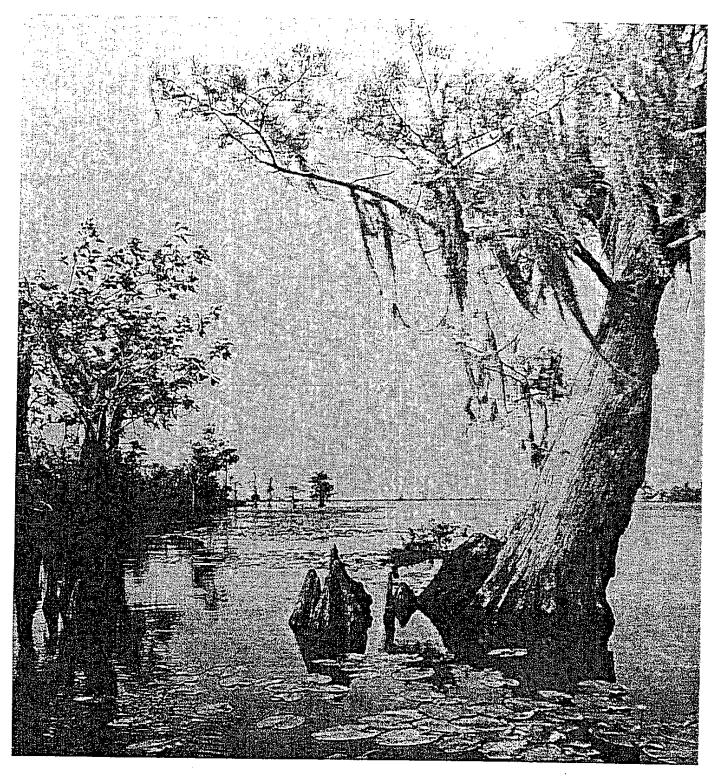
### DNR PROJECTED 15 YEAR COSTS FOR WATER MANAGEMENT FEATURES

	·	
	Total	State
	Costs/	Budget
	Share	Increase
Total DNR Costs for FY 99/00*	882,462	803,809
Total DNR Costs for FY 00/01	519,995	437,409
Total DNR Costs for FY 01/02	545,995	459,279
Total DNR Costs for FY 02/03	573,295	482,243
Total DNR Costs for FY 03/04**	644,969	549,364
Total DNR Costs for FY 04/05	632,058	531,673
Total DNR Costs for FY 05/06	663,661	558,257
Total DNR Costs for FY 06/07	696,844	586,170
Total DNR Costs for FY 07/08	731,686	615,479
Total DNR Costs for FY 08/09***	818,129	696,112
Total DNR Costs for FY 09/10	806,684	678,566
Total DNR Costs for FY 10/11	847,018	712,494
Total DNR Costs for FY 11/12	889,369	748,119
Total DNR Costs for FY 12/13	933,837	785,525
Total DNR Costs for FY 13/14	980,529	824,801
DAF Operating Costs for 15 years	11,166,531	9,469,300

### 6.55 PROJECTED TOTAL 15 YEAR WATER MAN-**AGEMENT COSTS**

	Cost/Share State	
		Budget
	1	Increase
Department of Wildlife & Fisheries		
LSU Ag. Center	36,464,309	28,366,771
Dept. Agriculture & Forestry	655,397	485,696
Department Natural Resources	11,166,531	9,469,300
Total	48,286,237	38,321,767

<sup>\*</sup>includes 387,229 equipment purchase (incl.dredge)
\*\*includes 44,009 equipment replacement (less dredge)
\*\*\*includes 49,859 equipment replacement (less dredge)
Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year



SECTION 7.00 RECREATION



### 7.00 RECREATION FEATURES

### 7.10 Mission

The mission of the Recreation Section is twofold:

To assist the Corps of Engineers in planning "...to provide a cost effective range of recreation facilities to optimize public accessibility and use of the floodway while minimizing adverse impacts to the environment;

To expand the Corps' plan as necessary to provide interpretive and educational facilities to enhance the public's knowledge and enjoyment of this unique area.

See Appendix G for the Chief of Engineers mandate to the Corps of Engineers to "provide increased emphasis on, and opportunities for recreation at water resources projects...operated by the Corps of Engineers."

To achieve the two tasks, the Recreation Working Group and technical advisors investigated needs of the public in this region and state for public recreation facilities, and the opportunities for recreation in the Basin and, recommended the development of specific facilities at several locations.

### 7.20 Needs Study for Recreation Activities

### 7.21 Corps of Engineers Preliminary Plan

A. The Corps of Engineers, in 1982, conducted a comprehensive analysis of recreation demand, supply, and resulting need for recreation activities which can be met in the Basin for the area of South Central Louisiana within 45 miles of the Basin. See Fig. 7.00-A.

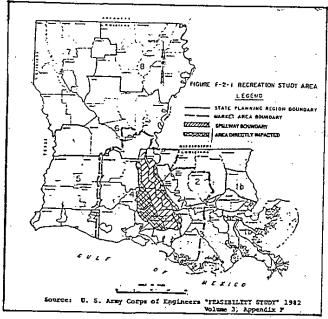


FIGURE 7.00 A: Primary Market Area Boundary

B. Needs which can be met in the Basin included:

Land-o	Water-oriented	
Bicycling Birdwatching Camping, tent Camping, trailer Hiking Horseback riding	Nature walks Picnicking Multi-use field Multi-use court Sightseeing Playground	Boating, power Boating, non-power Boat fishing, fresh Boat fishing, salt Bank fishing, fresh Crabbing Crawfishing Swimming, lake Waterskiing

C. The Corps' analysis was based on data from several sources, including:

1977 SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan)

1997 SCORP (for the update)

Corps of Engineers/Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries - "Atchafalaya Basin Usage Study"

Statistical Abstract of the United States "Most Popular Sports Activities"

United States Fish and Wildlife Service- "Hunting and Fishing Survey for Louisiana"

Corps of Engineers - "Heritage, Conservation and Recreation Service Outdoor Recreation Space Standards"

SCORP for both Texas and Arkansas

Discussions with individuals in the area involved in the supply and/or the use of recreation facilities.

D. In 1997, Corps officials, mindful that the analysis conducted in the early 1980s which projected the needs to 2000 might require updating, reviewed the original data and the projections by comparison with 1997 populations and participation rates from the current Bureau of Economic Analysis and Economic Research Service and with the Louisiana 1997 SCORP.

The Corps reported that little upgrading was required, since the earlier projections were on-target. "The only potential over-supply is in available water area for fishing and boating, assuming public access is available in all basin water areas."

#### 7.22 1997 Louisiana SCORP

A. The SCORP report included an analysis of recreation preferences by age group and investigated peak usage, since many activities are seasonal. The report was restricted to needs which can be supplied

by State Parks. The activity list includes:
Swimming Playgrounds Trailer camping
Boating Picnicking Tent camping

B. The report also broadened the market area by adding zones (50 miles apart) and adjusting participation rates for the populations within those zones.

### 7.23 Louisiana Office of Tourism

A. Tourism is the fastest growing industry in Louisiana with 22.6 million U.S. resident visitors in 1996.

B. Over 32,000 vehicles on I-10 and 25,000 on U.S. 90 cross the Atchafalaya Basin each day, thus the "Atchafalaya Basin could generate visitors if the site development occurred to influence them to stop".

C. 2.2 million pleasure trips were made to Cajun Country (1992 - the Longwood Study). Of this number 286,000 took a "swamp tour". This number is growing as commercial boat tours, particularly in Henderson, become better known to the tourist industry.

## 7.24 Louisiana Travel Promotion Association

A. "The major growth in tourism nationwide is based on nature-based ecotourism."

B. "The Atchafalaya Basin is known nationally as the best example of a dynamic wetland ecosystem in the country and will attract major attention when access to interpretive centers and boat tours is increased."

### 7.25 The Basin as a Classroom

A. The Basin is an educational aid for study of an evolving ecosystem, a wildlife and botanical laboratory, and a real-life exhibition of waterflow processes. The oil, gas, and timber industries operate in the Basin providing students and scholars examples of efforts of these industries to operate in an environmentally sound manner.

B. Universities, principally LSU, USL, and Nicholls, have expressed interest in establishing research centers in the area and Lynch Botanical Gardens and Morgan City plan to offer facilities for this activity.

C. Educators have long recognized the value of trips to classrooms in a natural setting by all age groups.

### 7.26 Needs Projections

A. Corps of Engineers Study:

"The needs analysis of the market area shows an overall deficit in recreational needs for all land and water-based recreational activities considered..."

B. 1997 SCORP

The study projects a deficit in all categories of facilities even after planned State Park construction.

C. Travel Industry:

The opportunity for a tourist to enjoy the scenic wonders of the Basin and to acquire knowledge of the evolving ecological process and the history and culture of the people is minimal.

"Needed are visitors' centers to provide an overview and directions, interpretive centers to immerse the visitor in the natural spell cast by the basin, and nature trails, both land and water, that provide an incentive for the visitor to stay longer, to see more, and to experience the totality of the area."

"You must understand that the market area for the Atchafalaya Basin when made people-friendly is not limited to the area indicated by the Corps or to the State of Louisiana. The market area is nationwide and, for some, worldwide." (Office of Tourism)

## 7.30 Inventory of Recreation Facilities

Note: This inventory includes the basin and the area directly adjacent to the basin as shown on Fig. 7.00-A - area directly impacted by activities in the Basin.

### 7.31 Existing Public Facilities

A. State Parks and Preservation Areas (Family outings, nature studies, nature trails, campgrounds, playgrounds)

Lake Fausse Pointe State Park Catahoula State Preservation Area (land purchased)

B. Wildlife Management Areas (hunting, cycling, hiking, birdwatching, environmental pursuits)
State:

Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area Sherburne Wildlife Management Area Sederal

Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS)

Indian Bayou (Corps of Engineers)



Lake Fausse Pointe State Park

### C. Local Government Projects

Morgan City/St. Mary Parish:

Rig Museum (1st submersible offshore rig), Aviation Museum, Swamp Gardens, Brownell Park, Shrimp and Petroleum Festival

Henderson:

Atchafalaya Festival

Numerous tourist promotion activities to support local Cajun restaurants and boat tours

St. Landry Parish

Park for picnicking and fun (Veteran's Memorial)

St Martin Parish

3 parks for picnicking and fun (Henry Guidry Memorial, Brownell Memorial, and I-10 Rest Stop/picnic)

D. Campgrounds

Iberia - Sand Bar Park

St. Mary - Lake End Park

St. Martin - Uncle Dick Davis Park

E. Boat Launch Sites

46 public sites - see 7.00-B

F. Corps of Engineer Projects (of educational interest) Flood control Navigation 7.32 Existing Private Facilities (adjacent to the Basin)

A. Boat tours:

Henderson

McGee's Landing Kern's Swamp Tours Angelle's Swamp Tours

Lafayette

Atchafalaya Experience

Catahoula

Errol Verret Swamp

Tours

de la Houssaye's

Swamp Tours

Loreauville

Airboat Tours, Inc.

Patterson

Cajun Jack's Swamp

Tours

Greg Guitatd

Morgan City Scully's Swamp Tours Original Swamp Tours

B. Major projects:

Cypress Cove

John J. Lynch American Natural Heritage Park (land acquired, project in planning stage)

Charenton

Chitimacha Reservation and trading center Museum (National Park Service)

C. Campgrounds:

St. Landry

Northwest of Krotz Springs

Birthplace of Teche

Pointe Coupee - Alabama Bayou

St. Martin

Butte LaRose

Frenchman's Wilderness

D. Boat launch sites:

16 commercial plus 25 public (total of 41) boat launch sites – see fig. 7.00 B



ATCHAFALAYA BASIN FLOODWAY SYSTEM
LOUISIANA PROJECT

LEGEND
CAMPGROUND
PLAYGROUND
BOAT LAUNCH'

Boyou Benoit

Late Printe

Point

Hyeth Point

Lake 2nd

Fark

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FIGURE 7.00 B: Existing Recreation Features

# 7.40 Inventory of Recreational Opportunities

### 7.41 Points of Interest

A. Cultural and Historic Bayou Sorrel Indian Mound - 500 BCE Several restored Cajun Villages - 1700 ACE Chitimacha Reservation - 400 ACE - present

B. Nature

Rookeries - 5 in Lower Basin, principal ones are:
Bayou Sorrel Upper Grand River
Big Tensas Bayou Spice Island

Bird Watching
Upper Grand River Flats
Lake Henderson
Buffalo Cove
Bayou Sorrel Eagle Nest

Scenic

Buffalo Cove Lake Warner
Upper Grand River Flats Bayou Sorrel
Little Bayou Pigeon
Miles of tree-lined waterways

C. Corps of Engineers Flood Control and Navigation Projects
Levee System
Old River Locks
Atchafalaya Main Channel
Bayou Sorrel Locks
Whiskey Bay Bypass
Lower Atchafalaya River Locks

### 7.42 Areas of Interest

### A. Nature

Old Growth (mature) Cypress

Flat Lake

Buffalo Cove

Upper Grand River

Cypress Cove

Bottomland Hardwood

Wildlife Management Areas between I-10 and U.S. 190

Water trails throughout Basin

#### B. Educational

Geology

Geological history of Basin - Ice Ages to Present Hydrology

Waterflow processes

Siltation - cause and effect

Ecosystems

Evolution of a forest

Botanical studies

Impact of aquatic plants on the environ-

ment

Wildlife habitat

Engineering

History of Corps of Engineers work in the Mississippi Valley

### 7.43 Activities of Interest

### A. Hunting

Hunting, during season, is permitted in the Wildlife Management Areas and on private lands leased to clubs or individuals

#### B. Fishing

All waterways accessible to the public offer fishing opportunities

### C. The Need to Escape and Get Away From It All

The principal asset for recreation in the Basin which will create its own demand is the never ending beauty of this wilderness area. A flat swamp ringed with mossdraped cypress is bordered by a ridgeline studded with hardwoods. The bayous twist and turn and at every turn there may be flocks of heron that rise gently from the water to wheel overhead. A startled alligator or moccasin adds to the never ending variety of the picturebook scene.



Ricky Verret



Ricky Verret

"The vegetation is rich and of great variety. A single plant community may dominate a certain area while nearby the community is richly mixed. The cypress, mostly young, but with an occasional Methuselah more than a thousand years old, sets the stage. This is a quiet place, a place apart from civilization, a place requiring a communication with nature."

"These irreplaceable assets establish the Atchafalaya Basin as a recreation area without peer in the nation." (from Atchafalaya Basin Study - 1971)

## 7.44 Planning Objective

A. Create primary and secondary entry points each presenting a basin panorama of the recreational opportunities, the scenic wonderland, and the cultural heritage that creates a desire by locals and visitors to study, admire, and enjoy the entire Basin.

The entry points will entice the motorist to get out of the car and see...and having seen, want to see more...and more...and more.

- B. Tie all entry points together in a guide plan so that the interested visitor is led through the entire Basin and would feel incomplete if the visit is cut short.
- C. Plan in such a manner that the Basin is preserved and made accessible for all generations to enjoy.

## 7.45 Selection of Entry Points

A. Criteria for selection

Selection is based on following criteria:

Ease of public access
Local interest and sponsorship
Scenic, cultural, and historic points of interest
Access to Basin waterways
Availability of land

## B. Primary entry points:

1. The I-10 entry

There are three I-10 highway exits in or near the Basin: Ramah, Butte LaRose, and Henderson.

The Ramah Exit provides a direct access to the Basin. Lacking is year-round surface or water access to areas of interest which would require canal and road construction to upper Grand River Flats and other areas.

The Butte LaRose Exit provides a direct access with Basin waterway through Lake Henderson for those areas of interest, and through the Atchafalaya River for the remainder of the Basin.

The Henderson Exit answers all criteria although a new interchange at the levee or a frontage road from the exit to the Henderson Levee Road would provide better access. Paving unpaved sections and new hard surface in other sections of the levee road south of Henderson is recommended to provide access to points of interest

and to the remainder of the Basin. Designation as a hurricane evacuation route would provide for additional funding for project.

With additional work, all three sites meet the criteria, thus all will be considered with land availability the principal issue.

2. The U.S. 90 entry

Morgan City provides direct highway and water access and has available public land for the required support facilities.

- C. Other Entry Points of Significant Interest
  - 1. Old River Locks (outside the project area)

Located in Avoyelles Parish at the northern end of the Basin, these navigation locks and flood control structure are accessible via La. Hwy. 15 north of Lettsworth.

2. Simmesport (outside the project area)

Simmesport is at the head of the Atchafalaya River near the junction of the Red River and Old River and is accessible via La. Hwy. 1.

3. Krotz Springs

Krotz Springs is the principal entry to the Wildlife Management Areas which are accessible via U.S. 190 and La. Hwy. 975. These areas of hardwood forests have nature trails for hikers and birdwatchers and a special trail for All-Terrain-Vehicles (ATV).

4. Bayou Sorrel

The navigation locks, the Indian mound, and the rookeries provide the visitor with an interesting and informative outing. From Bayou Sorrel there is road and water access to all the Basin.

5. Charenton

The "Sovereign Nation of Chitimacha" is accessible from U.S. 90 off the Baldwin Interchange on LA. Hwy. 87. The entire Basin can be reached by water or road from this area.

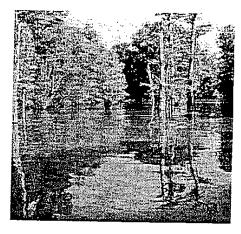
6. Other important west bank destinations include Lake Fausse Pointe State Park and Catahoula State Preservation Area which can be reached by road from Henderson and Morgan City.

## D. Long Term Plan

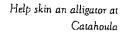
Upon completion of the Atchafalaya Basin Project, all important perimeter destinations plus the cities of St. Martinville, New Iberia, and Lafayette can be linked by offering a series of organized tours lasting one week for those interested

in learning the complete story of the Basin and enjoying all its wonders. Additionally, all public water routes can be linked showcasing Basin natural and cultural wonders.

The tour envisioned in the Long-Term Plan would give the visitor the opportunity to:



Enjoy the tranquillity at Buffalo Cove





Explore the nature trail at Catahoula State Preservation Area

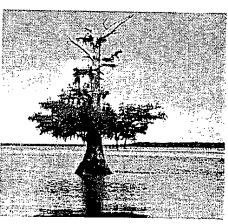
Sit under the Evangeline Oak at St. Martinville





Visit the lonesome cypress at Lake Fausse Pointe State Park

Listen to the Brownell Carillon Tower's music at Morgan City



and scores of additional interesting, aesthetic, and educational sights and experiences.

# 7.50 Facilities Required to Utilize the Recreational Opportunities

7.51 The Corps of Engineers' Plan

A. Responding to resolutions of the Senate and House Public Works Committees in 1972, the Corps' 1982 Plan suggests:

Item	Number	Land Area
Developed Campgrounds	3	600 acres
Primitive Campgrounds	7	350 acres
Visitors' Center	1	100 acres
Boat Launch (2-lane)	8	80 acтes
Boat Launch (5-lane)	7	70 acres
Nature Trail	1	100 acres
Special/Unique Area	1	200 acres
Total Land Area Re	quired	1,500 астев

B. Corps officials stated that the plan is preliminary and that they solicit suggestions, subject to the following restrictions:

Any development receiving federal funds must be inside of, or reasonably adjacent to, the area bounded by the East and West Protection levees.

The development should follow the intent of the Congressional legislation and resolutions and Corps of Engineers directives in order to receive funding under this project.

Non-federal sponsors must provide the funding required in the cost-share agreement.

#### 7.52 The State Plan

A. Provide space and facilities for the following activities:

- 1. Hunting in addition to the projects already completed or under development, road-access is needed to several of the Wildlife Management Areas. Those requirements are included in Section 4.00 (Access) of this report.
- Fishing and boating construction or upgrade of boat launch facilities following guidelines included in the Corps' Plan. Size and location are shown in Section 7.60. Other needs are:

Primitive campgrounds
Access to privately-owned waterways

3. Swimming

Water areas screened from boats and alligators with an area for sunbathing and a sloping entry into the water are needed (principally in Lake Henderson and Lake Palourde).

4. General Recreation including Environmental Pursuits

ITSUITS
Boat launch sites
Space for boat rental operations
Developed campground
Nature trails to scenic and birding areas
Access to privately-owned waterways
Designated areas for sport boating and skiing (Lake
Henderson and Lake Palourde)
Picnicking and play areas

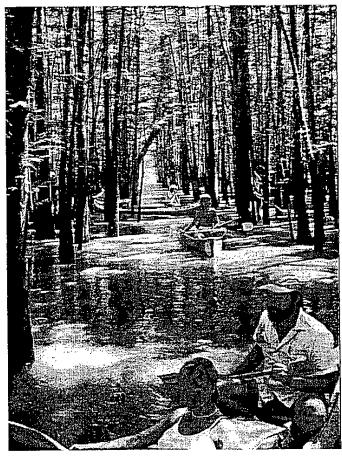
5. Tourism

One Visitors' Information Center
One Interpretive Center
Three nature and cultural centers
Organized boat and canoe tours
Nature trails - land and water
Developed campgrounds (outside the levees)

6. Education

One Environmental Research Center One Botanical Research Center Access to nature's laboratory (the Basin)

Special/Unique Area
 Cypress/Tupelo swamp preserving one part of the Basin
 similar to the way it was years ago



Charles Fryling

## 7.60 Location of Each Activity

7.61 Purpose, Existing and Proposed Features

A. Old River Locks (State not involved)

The Corps of Engineers plans to enlarge an existing building and install a display describing the Atchafalaya Floodway System and its part in the Mississippi Valley flood control and navigation system and a history of the Corps' work and future plans.

The facility will be designed, constructed and operated by the Corps of Engineers and it will be an integral part of the State Plan. It will be included in all programs, advertisements, and tours promoting the area. However, funds for the project will not be taken from the ABFS-LA Project funds.

Existing - locks and floodway control structure

Proposed - Interpretive Center, parking and support services

Nature trail and view and photo-op platform.

B. Simmesport (separate state funding - not project)
The first facility to be built under the project will be a boat launch and primitive campground in Simmesport. A Project Cooperative Agreement (PCA) is being developed by the Corps of Engineers and the Non-Federal Sponsors (Levee Board, Red River Waterway and Avoyelles Parish). Proposed - Boat launch w/courtesy pier

Parking
Toilets
Bank fishing trail
Primitive camping area
Picnic area

C. Krotz Springs (Project)

Krotz Springs is the gateway to the Wildlife Management Areas between U.S. 190 and I-10. The primary purpose of these areas is to protect, conserve, and enhance wildlife. However, the area is open for public use for hunting (in season), fishing, hiking, ATV trail riding, birdwatching and enjoyment of the hardwood forests.

The areas are part of an existing LDWF/COE program and are an important part of the State Plan, since they provide needed recreational opportunities. Thus, improving the access by providing public roads to the areas is a justified part of this plan.

Existing - the three Wildlife Management Areas/ Refuge

Proposed - all-weather public access roads

D. I-10 Entry (Project)

The purposes of the Visitors' Information Center, as developed in the Corps of Engineers Plan, are well stated. They are endorsed for the State's Plan and include activities to:

"Involve the visitor emotionally and physically with the site, and thus, in the floodway project;

Provide the visitor with the information necessary to explore the full range of recreational opportunities made available by the floodway;

Provide an interpretation of the natural resources intrinsic to the Atchafalaya River Basin and the floodway;

Provide an interpretation of the cultural resources related to the Atchafalaya Basin, focusing on the continuing interaction of man with the floodway;

Interpret the role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the development of the floodway;

Provide information that would enable the visitor to make a conceptual linkage between the Visitors' Center site and other significant sites associated with the project;

Be a visual symbol of the project's emphasis, quality and purpose."

The Corps of Engineers' conceptual plan locates the Visitors' Information Center at Bayou Sorrel. The State Plan suggests that a location on I-10 is a superior site, since it would attract interest from the passengers in the more than 32,000 cars which crossdaily. The final site will be selected from several possibilities.

Existing (private) Boat tours (Henderson)

Cajun food (Henderson)

Boat launch sites (Henderson)

Campgrounds (Butte LaRose,

Henderson)

Existing (public) Boat launch sites (all locations)
Rest, picnic area (Butte LaRose)

Proposed (project) Visitors' Information Center
Display area (views of the Basin)
Boat dock for tours
See Section 7.61 O (for
Henderson)and Section
7.61 P (for Ramah) for
additional features for each of
those sites

Proposed (private) John J. Lynch American
Natural Heritage
Park at Cypress Cove - a
botanical garden and
wildlife sanctuary depicting
the Basin's natural state.
Expansion of several Cajun
restaurants (Henderson)

## E. Bayou Sorrel



Mary Courville is the Director of the Heritage Center, daughter of John J. Lynch, and a naturalist in her own right. She loves the area and knows you will too.

Because of the importance of the navigation locks and the Indian Mounds, a natural area is proposed "....to interpret the role of the Corps of Engineers in the development of the project, as well as natural and cultural resources of the region".

Additionally, the State assigns this site the role of entry point for sport and commercial fishing, boating, and canoeing to the scenic areas of Murphy Lake, Lake Chicot, Flat Lake, and Little Bayou Pigeon.

Existing (Corps of Engineers): Navigation locks



Charles Fryling

Existing

Boat launch site (public) Indian Mounds (Private)

Proposed (project):

Viewing stand at locks and explaining the Corps' role in the project

Nature trail through scenic area along canal Nature trail to Indian Mound and to viewing stand and photo-op for rookeries

Upgrade boat launch site and add dock and canoe launch facility and assembly area

F. Bayou Pigeon

Pigeon is at the end of La. Hwy. 75 and at the head of Big Bayou Pigeon. It is also the favorite entry point to the Basin for many of the region's fishermen and increasing numbers of the region's fisherwomen plus canoeists and birdwatchers.

Existing (public) - Boat launch Parking

Existing (private) - Shop - marine supplies and bait Proposed (project) - Upgrade ramp and parking area and canoe launch

## G. Lake Verret - (Atchafalaya Wilderness Center East State Preservation Area)

This Center is planned to provide a representation of the river basin swamp habitat. If the Corps is successful in purchasing the cypress/tupelo lands north of Flat Lake, some acreage could be used for this purpose and additional acres could be purchased adjacent to the Basin extending to Lake Verret for the planned development.

#### H. Stephensville

The St. Martin Parish Police Jury requested the inclusion of Stephensville as an entry point to both the Basin and Lake Verret.

## I. U.S. 90 Entry (Morgan City)

Morgan City is the principal entry point to the Basin from U.S. 90 and is on the dividing ridge between the inland swamp and the coastal marsh.

The City/Parish Government (Morgan City/St. Mary Parish) has embarked on an extensive ecotourism project to broaden the area economic base and is emphasizing "Impact Tourism" (man's impact on the area) as well as "Nature-based Tourism".

This project provides an addition to those plans so that a major complex can be developed which will serve the area's and the State's interests.

As a result of ABAC's request, the Corps has initiated a project to add land adjacent to Lake Palourde for hiking and bike trails, parking and other recreational uses.

Existing (public) - Lake End Park and Campground

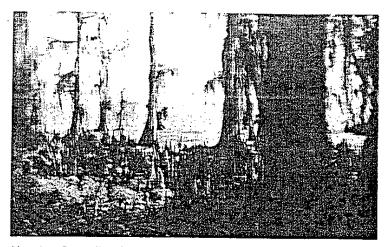
- Boat launch site
- Brownell Park and Carillon Tower
- Wedell-Williams Aviation Museum
- Swarnp Gardens and Wildlife Zoo
- International Petroleum Museum (including the Rig Museum)
- Shrimp & Petroleum Festival
- Historic District and the Great Wall

Existing (private) - Boat tours through lower basin

- Several homes and plantations listed on National Register of Historic Places
- Metropolitan infrastructure supporting the project

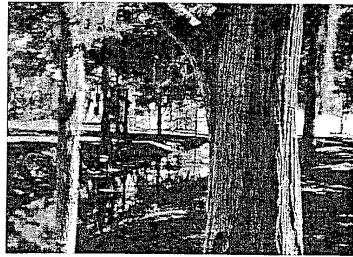
Proposed (projec;t:) Atchafalaya Multi Agency Cultural Center (AMACCenter) - headquarters for federal and state agencies responsible for the basin's environmental control

- Wildlife and Fisheries research



View from Brownell Park over cypress knees to Lake Palourde

- Natural processes research:
   Sedimentology
   Backwater flooding
   Watering and dewatering cycle
   Erosion control
   Coastal environments
- Natural history
- Developed campground (addition to Lake End Park) with A-frame lodges
- Renovations in Lake End Park to update to Corps standards
- Boat dock and marina (base for Corps and DWF boats and supplies and docking and



Site of the A-frame lodges - adjacent to Lake End Park, Morgan City

waiting area for tour boat passengers)

- Bank fishing (Lake Palourde)
- Fishing pier (Lake Palourde)
- Expand boat launch facilities adding parking and launching space (Russo site)
- Erosion control protection for La. Hwy. 70 and East Protection Levee from Lake End Park to Brownell Park also providing for a bike and hiking trail and additional parking. The COE is proceeding with this project

using alternative sources of funding.
- Shore facilities for swimming, sport boating, and skiing in Lake Palourde

#### J. Charenton - Chitimacha Nation

The Chitimacha Nation, in cooperation with the National Park Service operates a museum with video and displays to tell the story of their people in the Atchafalaya Basin area.

Additionally, the Nation is home for a casino that is very popular with both regional and out-of-state visitors (the parking lot has a capacity of 1,000 cars).

A Basin Tour Office is proposed, to be built and operated by the Nation for those visitors interested in the Basin. A dock for tour boats is proposed to support this operation.

Existing (private) - Museum

- the Chitimacha Village of Charenton

Proposed (private) - Basin Tour office

Proposed (project) - Tour boat dock - boardwalk dock to road

#### K. Lake Fausse Pointe

Lake Fausse Pointe State Park is located in a part of the natural floodplain separated from the current floodway by the levee system, thus it is a pictorial history of the floodway as it existed in the era prior to 1927 and the subsequent construction of the levees.

The park is included in the State Plan to provide tourists, both local and national, the opportunity to investigate and enjoy this part of the Basin's history by hiking the nature trails and staying overnight, or a week, in the campgrounds or lodges. It is one of the most popular parks in the State's Park System.

Currently, the primary access is by a gravel road.

Existing (public) - State Park
Proposed (project) - Paved road from Henderson
to Verdunville providing convenient access to the Park



Lake Fausse Pointe from the nature trail

#### L. Catahoula

Catahoula (Atchafalaya Wilderness Area West State Preservation Area) has been planned as part of the State Park System. The principal feature of the area is the forests (oak on the ridges and cypress in the swamp).

To maximize its role in the project, an Interpretive Center will be included for Cajun culture and the role of the Cajuns in the Basin. Ideas include areas set aside to highlight the Cajun culture, such as pirogue making, crawfish net-making, and other native crafts. Local people would be employed to demonstrate these crafts.

Proposed - State Preservation Area, crafts area, interpretive center

- Improve access from north and south by improving and resurfacing the gravel road from Henderson to Verdunville and, via U.S. 90, to Morgan City.

Proposed (Project) - Interpretive Center -History and culture of the Basin with emphasis on the Cajuns

Research activities

- Nature trails
- Primitive campground for researchers
- Dock
- Boardwalk from dock to Center

The town of Catahoula will work closely with the State in determining when this project will commence.



Exploring by land



or by water under the tree bridge

### M. St. Martinville

While not in, or adjacent to, the Basin, St. Martinville is an important part of the Cajun Culture story and the gateway to Catahoula and Lake Fausse Point.

Proposed - RV Campground

#### N. Cypress Cove

The John J. Lynch American Natural Heritage Park will own, design, build, and operate this facility.

This site will be a major attraction for tourism, education, and public enjoyment purposes.

Proposed (Private) - Heritage Gardens

- Nature trails
- Support facilities

Proposed (Project) - Heritage and Research

#### Center

- Dock for boat tours
- Boardwalk from dock-Center
- Footbridge & service bridge

#### O. Henderson

Henderson is an important public recreation and tourist center for boat tours (180,000 passengers in 1996), for Cajun food, and as a gateway to the Lynch Heritage Park and Catahoula State Preservation Area.

Discussions with City Officials and an inspection of the area pinpointed several infrastructure needs

which are appropriate as project features. See 7.81 M for list.

### P. Ramah

Ramah, with an I-10 Interchange to the levee road, is the first potential stop for visitors from the east to see the Basin, particularly the Upper Grand River Area, one of the most natural and pristine swamp areas in the Basin.

Solutions to the low water access problems are shown in 7.81 O.

## Q. Primitive Campgrounds

Primitive campgrounds are proposed to support hunting in the Wildlife Management Areas and fishing and boaters/canoeists in the Basin. Existing - Attakapas (2), Sherburne (1). Proposed - to be determined. See Fig. 7.00 D for possible locations.



Maty Coutville

### R. Developed Campgrounds - see Lake Verret,

Morgan City, Lake Fausse Pointe - others under discussion

#### S. Boat launch (5-lane)

Large boat launches are recommended for locations with current use requiring this capacity. All are existing, but require upgrading.

Butte LaRose (to lake)@ I-10 Bayou Pigeon Morgan City (Russo) Myette Point Bayou Sorrel Boat launch (2-lane)

Upgrading is required on the following existing

launches:

Bayou Benoit Sandy Cove Catahoula Ramah Belle River Marshfield Landing

Butte LaRose (river)

A new launch is planned for Simmesport and a new launch (to Basin) is proposed for Stephensville.

Canoe launch areas are proposed for Little Bayou Sorrel, Ramah, Upper Grand River Flats, Bayou Sorrel and Bayou Pigeon.

7.62 Comparison of Corps and State Facility Requirements

Facility	Corps	State/Local		
		Project	Other.	Total
Developed Campgrounds	3	1	1	2
Primitive Campgrounds	7	4**	4	8
Visitor's Center	1	1	,	1
Boat Launch (2-lane)	8	8**		8
Boat Launch (5-lane)	7	- 6	,	6
Special Unique Area	1	1		1
Interpretive Center	2*	2*		2
Research Center	0	2		2
Canoe Launch Sites	0	. Ŝ		5
Swimming Facilities	0	1	1	2
Nature trails	1	3	_ 2	5

<sup>\*</sup>Includes Old River Locks

Map showing location of these facilities

Corps Plan Fig. 7.00 C State Plan Fig. 7.00 D

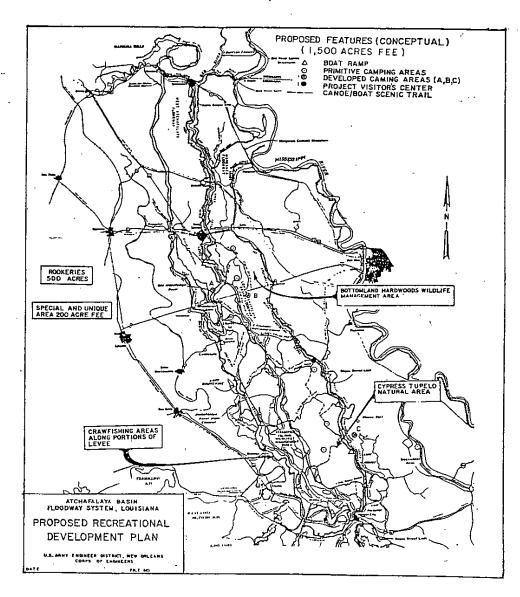


FIGURE 7.00 C: Corps of Engineers 1982 Plan

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes Simmesport

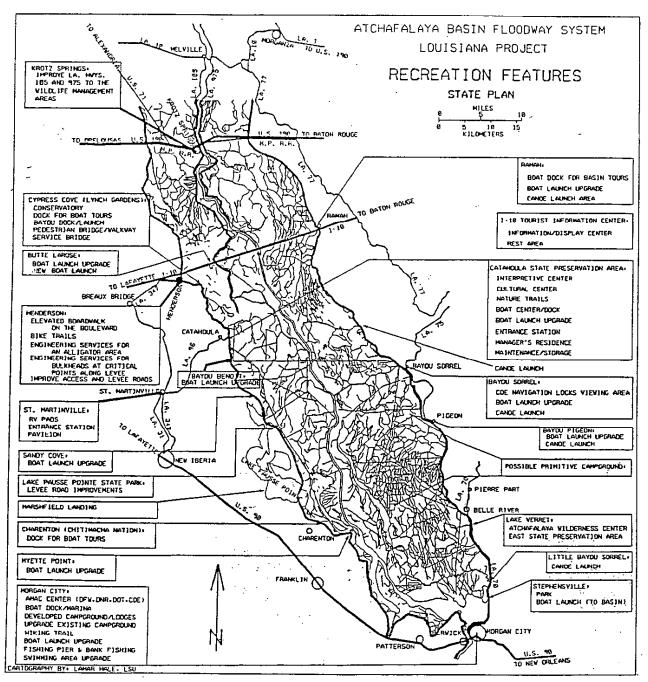


FIGURE 7.00 D: State Plan for Recreational Features

## 7.70 Anticipated Public Use

## 7.71 Methodology

A. Local and in-state anticipated use calculations are based on participation rates, developed by surveys, times the populations within the market area. These rates are reduced by distance from the attraction to calculate in-state totals.

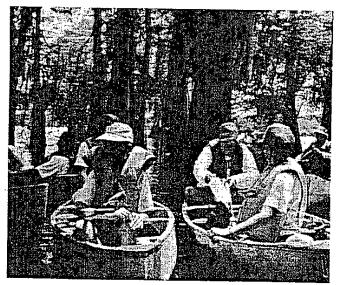
Both the Corps of Engineers projections of usage and those made by SCORP were calculated using this method.

The quality of the attraction plays a major role in usage. Since participation rates surveys do not include this factor, the above calculations will be adjusted due to the high quality of most of the attractions in the basin. This adjustment will be based on usage by comparable attractions in other states.

Publicity is a factor. Motorists in the over 32,000 cars daily on I-10 and over 25,000 daily on U.S. 90 may be interested in learning more about the Atchafalaya Basin as a result of reading about it in the media.

Out-of-state (tourists) visits to the basin will be estimated based on attendance at comparable attractions.

Estimating attendance at tourist attractions is not an exact science. No sampling nor any modeling formula would account for the need for two boat tours per day year-round from a rural park near Patterson.



Group Outing in the Basin

The following estimates of attendance are based on standard procedures utilized by the Corps and SCORP adjusted by the factors listed above. These estimates are further adjusted by the limitations (e.g. support facilities and ease of access) of the facilities planned.

## 7.72 User Days Projected

User days - one visit to a given site by one person

The total number of user days for all sites in and adjacent to the Basin are shown in the following table.

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Atchafalaya Basin

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:		-	,
Hunting	200,000	225,000	240,000
Fishing	300,000	327,000	350,000
Trapping,			,
Crawfish, etc.	1,400	1,700	2,000
Non-Consumptive Use:			,
General Recreation	210,000	438,000	745,000
Tourism: Motorists	200,000	472,000	675,000
Organized Tours	260,000	425,000	700,000
Educational			, -
Utilization	5,000	18,000	37,000
Totals	1,176,400	1,906,700	2,749,000

The estimated number of user days for each of the sites is shown on the following tables:

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Old River Locks

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting		] .	
Fishing		<b>i</b> .	•
Trapping,		!	
Crawfish, etc.		]	
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation			
Tourism: Motorists		15,000	25,000
Organized Tours		5,000	10,000
Educational		-,,,,,	15,000
<u>Utilization</u>		1,000	2,000
Totals		21,000	37,000

# ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Simmesport

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use: Hunting Fishing Trapping, Crawfish, etc.	5,000	7,000	10,000
Non-Consumptive Use: General Recreation Tourism: Motorists Organized Tours Educational Utilization	5,000 5,000	13,000 7,000	15,000 10,000
Totals	15,000	27,000	35,000

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Krotz Springs (Game Management Areas)

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting	85,000	96,000	100,000
Fishing	15,000	20,000	23,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.			
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	5,000	10,000	10,000
Tourism: Motorists	3,000	4,000	5,000
Organized Tours			
Educational			
Utilization			
Totals	108,000	130,000	138,000

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Charenton and Vicinity

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:		•,	
Hunting	10,000	11,000	12,000
Fishing	30,000	32,000	35,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.	100	200	200
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	5,000	10,000	20,000
Tourism: Motorists			
Organized Tours	55,000	75,000	85,000
Educational	:		
Utilization	20,000	50,000	75,000
Totals	120,100	178,200	227,200

Numbers influenced by the casino

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE I-10 Entry

Ramah, Butte LaRose, Henderson, Cypress Cove, Catahoula

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting			
Fishing	80,000	86,000	92,000
Trapping,	1		
Crawfish, etc.	200	200	200
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	75,000	190,000	350,000
Tourism: Motorists	75,000	166,000	270,000
Organized Tours	140,000	200,000	250,000
Educational			
Utilization	3,000	7,000	15,000
Totals	373,200	649,200	977,200

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Bayou Sorrel

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting	30,000	35,000	38,000
Fishing	50,000	53,000	55,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.	400	500	600
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	15,000	20,000	30,000
Tourism: Motorists		40,000	60,000
Organized Tours		20,000	50,000
Educational			
Utilization		5,000	10,000
Totals	95,400	173,500	243,600

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Bayou Pigeon

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting	20,000	20,000	20,000
Fishing	40,000	40,000	40,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.	200	200	300
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	5,000	5,000	10,000
Tourism: Motorists			
Organized Tours			
Educational			
Utilization			
Totals	62,200	65,200	70,300

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ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE U.S. 90 Entry

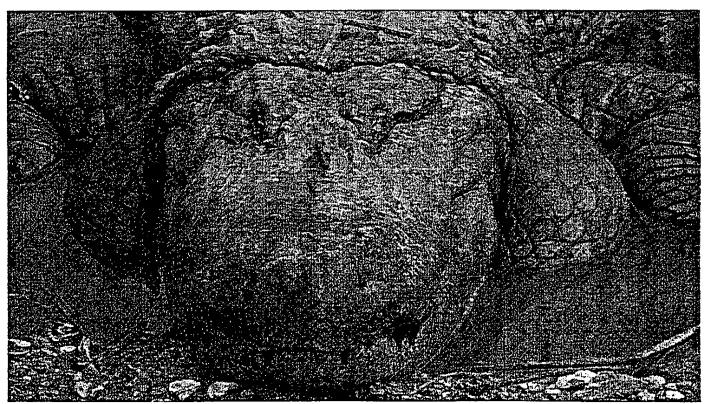
Lake Verret, Morgan City, Patterson, Garden City

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting	40,000	46,000	50,000
Fishing	50,000	56,000	60,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.	400	500	600
Non-Consumptive Use:			
General Recreation	75,000	150,000	250,000
Tourism: Motorists	60,000	150,000	200,000
Organized Tours	100,000	150,000	315,000
Educational			
Utilization	2,000	5,000	10,000
Totals	327,400	557,500	885,600

## ESTIMATED PUBLIC USE Lake Fausse Pointe and Vicinity

	USER DAYS		
	2000	2010	2020
Consumptive Use:			
Hunting	15,000	17,000	20,000
Fishing	30,000	33,000	35,000
Trapping,			
Crawfish, etc.	100	100	100
Non-Consumptive Use:		<u> </u>	
General Recreation	15,000	40,000	60,000
Tourism: Motorists			
Organized Tours	2,000	15,000	20,000
Educational			
Utilization			
Totals	62,100	105,100	135,100

## All visitors ask to see an alligator...face-on like this one.



Greg Guitard

## 7.80 Facility Requirements for Each Site

### 7.81 List of Proposed Facilities

- A. Old River Locks (not part of the ABFS-LA project) Corps of Engineers project; while the State is not involved in the building or operation of the Center, the State will include the Locks in its promotional campaign.
- B. Simmesport (the State has previously appropriated its share for the construction of this project)

Boat launch (3-lane),

Concrete ramp - 36'x350'

Dock & marina

Parking

40 spaces @ 10'x40'

40 spaces @ 10'x20'

Drive-through entry/exit lanes

Bank Fishing Trail - 300'

Toll Booth

Toilets

Picnic area - 14 permanent tables/benches

Primitive Campground - 2 acres,

Waste dump station

Access road to La. Hwy. 105

See Fig. 7.00 E for conceptual layout.

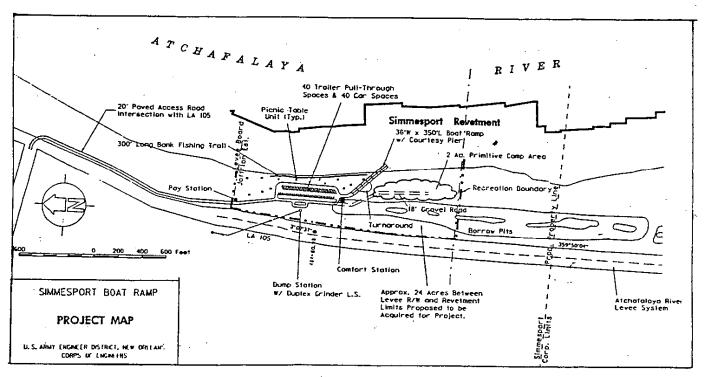


FIGURE 7.00 E: Simmesport Conceptual Layout

C. Krotz Springs - Entry to Wildlife Management Areas
Facilities for Wildlife Management Areas See Fig. 7.00 F
Facilities proposed: Upgrading La Hwys. 105 and 975

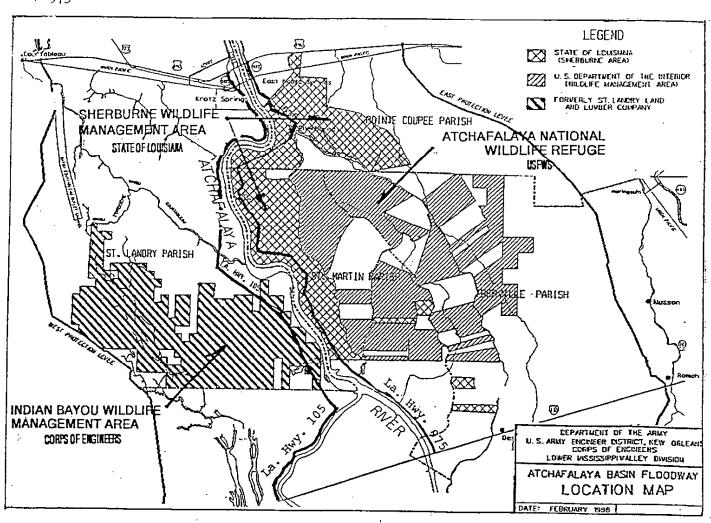


FIGURE 7.00 F: Wildlife Management Areas

D. I-10 Visitors' Information Center Information/Display Building: 3,000 sqft Reception area:

> Enclosed - 350 sqft Porch - 150 sqft

Fixtures: Information counter - 4 attendants
Shelving for pamphlets and other
literature on rear wall
Coffee service nook

Staff quarters:

Office, lounge area, toilet, storage and equipment room

Display area: 1,000 sqft.

Open plan divided into two areas

Video area Display area

Equipment: Monitors centrally controlled Movable panels for panoramic views

Display cases Pinpoint lighting

Sales area: 300 sqft

Display cases and shelves Circulation pattern: traffic flow enters reception, then to video/display area, and exit through sales area Rest area: (comply with ADAAG requirements) 700 sqft.

Women

8 stalls

4 lavatories

I infant changing facility

Men

3 stalls

4 urinals 2 lavatories

1 infant changing facility

Parking:

50 cars

5 buses

Access and exit roads

As required for the site

E. Bayou Sorrel

Navigation Locks Viewing Area

(Area elevated for view of entire lock system)

Viewing area - 800 sqft

Display area - 400 sqft

Staff quarters

Office, lounge, toilet, storage, equipment

room

Rest area (comply with ADAAG requirements)

Women

5 stalls

3 lavatories

Infant changing facility

Men

2 stalls

2 urinals

2 lavatories

1 infant changing facility

Parking 50 cars

5 buses

Boat launch - upgrade including fill to raise level

of parking above high water level

and ramp to new level

See Fig. 7.00 G for conceptual layout:

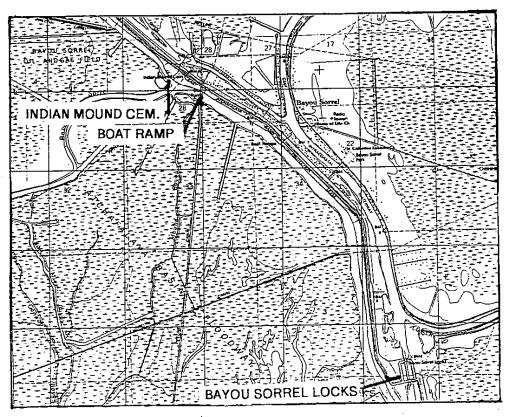


FIGURE 7.00 G: Bayou Sorrel Conceptual Layout

Display area - 5,625 sqft F. Bayou Pigeon Open plan divided into several areas: Upgrade ramp and expand to 5 lanes and expand History of area as influenced by floodway parking to capacity of 50 cars and trailers Clear area at end of parking space and maintain History of oil industry History of the timber industry for canoe launch site History of the fishing industry G. Lake Verret (Atchafalaya Wilderness Center East Role of the Corps of Engineers since the State Preservation Area) 1927 flood Facilities to be built (from State Parks Plan 1997) Water transportation Interpretive Educational Center (level 3) Manufacturing - drilling platforms Entrance station, manager's residence, mainte-Fish and Wildlife exhibit area nance area Meeting and conference rooms - 4,000 sqft Day use area with picnic facilities Regional headquarters - 4,500 sqft Cabins Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Nature trails with wayside exhibits Fisheries Parking and drop-off U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisiana Department of Agriculture and H. Stephensville Regional park and recreation area: Forestry Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Add 24" fill to 10 acre site Other Federal, State and Local Agencies Park building: 1,400 sqft Manager office, toilet, storage 250 sqft Center Administration - 1,000 sqft Reception Concessions - 400 sqft Restrooms: Comply with ADAAG standards -2 - offices Conference room 750 sqft Storage Women 6 stalls Rest Rooms(ADAAG) 1st floor-750sqft 4 lavatories 2d & 3rd Floors - 125 sqft each infant changing facility Women 8 stalls 2 stalls (each) Men 2 stalls 4 lavatories 2 lav. 2 urinals 3 lavatories Infant changing 1 stall (each) I infant changing facility Men 3 stalls 3 urinals 2 urinals " Equipment storage/workshop 600 sqft 2 lav. Park pavilion (1) - 2,500 sqft 3 lavatories (4) - 500 sqft each 1 infant changing Storage, equipment room, circulation - 2,000 Playgrounds Hiking trail - 6' wide x 3,000' long Observation deck Overhead lighting Research Center and Laboratories - 4,625 sqft Utilities: Parking Connect to City water, power, gas, sewer 70 cars Water fountains at pavilions, playgrounds, 8 buses concession stand Boat dock for tours and marina (floating) Parking - 50 cars - 20,000 sqft Tour office 100 sqft Access and interior roads - 1/2 mile Waiting room, toilet 200 sqft Boat launch (2-lane) See 7.81 S for requirements for boat launch Marina - docking for 10 boats (DWF, COE, DAF, DNR) and DNR dredge I. U.S. 90 Entry - Morgan City Boardwalk from Center to Dock Cultural Center Atchafalaya Multi-Agency Fishing pier and bank fishing trail (AMACCenter) - 25,000sqft. Developed Campground (at Lake End Park) Reception area - 1450 sqft 20 - A-frame lodges - parking for 2 cars/lodge Staff quarters - 800 sqft Lower level - 800 sqft + 200 sqft deck

All purpose room

Office, lounge area, toilet, storage

Kitchen

Bedroom

Bath

Upper level - 300 sqft + 50 sqft deck

Bunk area

Bath

RV Park - 20 spaces water, power, sewer connection

Picnic area 20 tables/benches

Hiking trail - Lake End Park to Brownell Park - 2 miles

Bike trail - Lake End Park to Brownell Park - 2 miles

Storm and erosion protection seawall (sheet piling) from Lake End Park to Brownell Park and at least 300' east of La. Hwy. 70 using as fill the sand banks in the Atchafalaya River just over the levee. The distance is approximately 2 miles. The Corps arranged separate funding, thus not in project, however the \$3,000,000 cost requires matching funds of \$1,000,000.

Renovations to Lake End Park Campground to bring it up to Corps of Engineers' standards

Upgrade existing Boat Launch Site to Corps' Standards and add parking to a total of 50 car/trailer spaces

Swimming area - located in Lake Palourde

Shore area - sand - 6,000 sqft

Water area - protection against encroachment by boats

- 10,000 sqft-

Observation tower

Rest rooms: (ADAAG)

Women - 2 stalls, 2 lavatories, 1 shower,

1 infant changing

Men- 1 stall, 1 urinal, 1 lavatory,

1 shower, 1 infant changing

Parking

25 cars

See Fig. 7.00 H for conceptual design

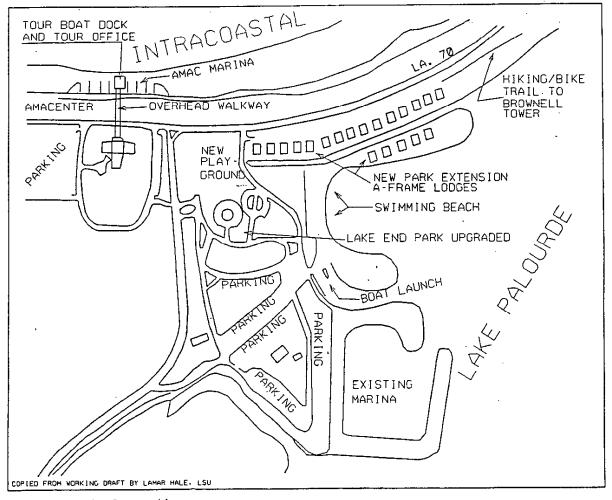


FIGURE 7.00 H:: Morgan City Conceptual Layout

J. Charenton (Chitimacha Nation)
It is suggested that the Chitimacha Nation build and operate a tour office at the casino to arrange boat tours for those interested.

A dock for access by boat tours is the only project facility.

Dock for boat tours:

The Charenton Structure public boat launch is the potential location of this facility.

Dock - 8'x30' (floating) w/railing

Access to shore - hinged walkway - 4'x45'

Access from walkways to village is by public

K. Lake Fausse Pointe

See Section 4.80 for road improvements to this site.

L Catahoula (Atchafalaya Wilderness Center West) Boat launch at Lake Catahoula (2-lane)

See 7.81S for requirements

Entrance Station

Control office - 80 sqft

Manager's Residence - 1,800 sqft

LR, FR, K, 3 BR, 2B, 2 car garage Maintenance and Storage - 1,000 sqft

Interpretive Center - 10,000 sqft

Reception area:

Enclosed - 550 sqft

Porch - 150 sqft

Toilets: 700 sqft (ADAAG)

Women - 4 stalls

- 3 lavatories

- Infant changing facility

Men -

- 2 stalls

- 2 urinals

- 2 lavarories

- Infant changing facility

Staff quarters: 500 sqft

Office, lounge area, storage and equipment

room

Interpretive area - 8,000 sqft

Open plan divided into 2 areas

Video area

Display area

Equipment:

Monitors centrally controlled

Movable panels for panoramic views

Display cases

Pinpoint lighting

Sales area - 250 sqft

Circulation pattern: traffic enters reception, then to video/display, and

exit through sales.

Crafts Center (3 Cajun-type buildings w/loft and porch)
Buildings each 30'x45' = 1350 sqft - 3 = 4,050 sqft

Porch 8'x35' - loft 1/3 floor area

Staff toilet and office - 120 sqft

Parking:

50 cars

8 buses

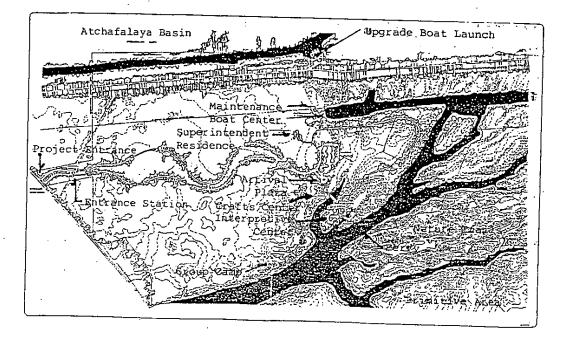
Group camp (day use only)

Nature trails with wayside exhibits and picnic areas

Access and interior roads

Utilities

See Fig. 8.00 I for Master Plan



Source: Office of State Parks
Charles M. Hubbs
Associates
Landscape Architects
Planners
FIGURE 7.00 1: Catahoula
Conceptual Layout

M. St. Martinville

RV Pads:

Phase I: 45 pads in Magnolia Park

Phase II: 200 pads on adjacent land (subject to donation)

Entrance Station:

Control office at gate - 8'x10'

Ports:

Concrete - 24'x36' with 25' landscaped area between ports drive through layout

Utilities water, sewer, power provided to each site

Pavilion:

25'x25' overlooking Bayou Teche Utilities - lights, water hydrant

Access:

Entry road and interior road net

N. Cypress Cove

Heritage Center - 8,000 sqft

Reception Area - 300 sqft

Toilets: 700 sqft (ADAAG)

Women - 4 stalls

- 2 lavatories

- Infant changing facility

Men

- 2 stalls

- 2 urinals

- 2 lavatories

- infant changing facility

Staff quarters: 400 sqft

Office, lounge area, storage and equipment room

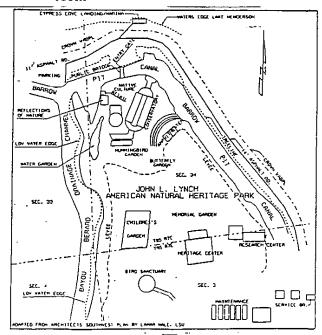


FIGURE 7.00 J Cypress Cove Conceptual Layout

Botanical Area - 6,300 sqft inside + outside displays

Sales area - 300 sqft

Parking - provided by Lynch Gardens

Dock for boat tours:

Floating dock - 8'x40'

Walkway to dock, hinged, 4'x35'

Walkway: Dock to Center - 6'x100' with foot-

bridge over bayou

Service bridge: over bayou plus access road

See Fig. 7.00 J for conceptual layout

#### O. Henderson

Proposed (Project)

Construct elevated boardwalk on the Boulevard Henderson to Cypermart Crevasse) 2 miles x 6' wide with viewing and photo-op stands (10'x16') at scenic overlook points (a total of not less than 6).

Construct a bike trail at the foot of the levee inside the Basin from Henderson to Cypermart Crevasse (2 miles x 8' wide)

Provide planning and engineering services to a local authority for the construction of a natural-setting alligator area on the tour boat route in Henderson Lake (probably near Bay Patin). The local authority will maintain and operate the facility.

Provide engineering and permit services to a local authority for installation of sheet piling bulkheads at critical points along the Boulevard and levee.

Provide water access to boat launch sites during periods of draw-down of Lake Henderson for environmental and other purposes.

Road access improvement needs: See Section 4.80 for necessary road improvements, including:

Improving La. Hwy. 347 from I-10 to La. Hwy. 352 which will be widened to include a passing lane and improve levee road from Henderson to Verdunville.

See Fig. 7.00 K for Conceptual Layout

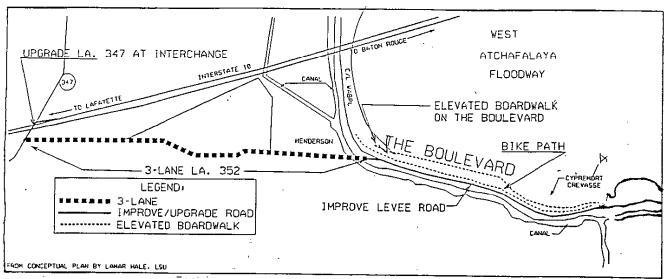


FIGURE 7.00 K: Henderson Conceptual Layout

#### P. Ramah

Dock for boat tours:

Floating dock - 8 'x40'

Walkway to dock - 4'x35', hinged

Dredging to create all-season channel from

Henderson to the Upper Grand River area Boat launch upgrade (see 7.81 S for details)

Q, Primitive Campgrounds

Existing primitive campgrounds:

Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area - 3

Sherburne Wildlife Management Area - 1

Proposed primitive campgrounds

See Fig. 7.00 D for locations

Requirements:

Tent platforms - raised wood platforms - 8'x10'

25 per site

Firepit:

Raised firepit/grille for each platform

Waste disposal:

Trash-in, trash-out policy enforced

Sanitary facilities:

None provided

Utilities:

None provided

Trails:

Aggregate trails from platform to entry road

or landing

Boat landing (for water-access only sites)

Cleared sloping bank with handy trees or

posts for tie-up

#### R. Developed Campgrounds

Existing developed campgrounds:

Lake Fausse Pointe State Park

Butte LaRose - Frenchman's Wilderness (commercial)

Alabama Bayou - (commercial)

Morgan city - West End Park

St. Martinville

Others in the area are beyond reasonable

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driving range

Proposed developed campgrounds:

Simmesport

Morgan City - expansion and upgrading of

Lake End Park St. Martinville - 47 RV sites in

Magnolia Park

Note: Additional sites will be added as local

non-federal sponsors submit requests Proposed campgrounds will be managed and maintained by the local non-federal sponsor or by lease to an operator. Fees will be charged for

use of the campgrounds and such revenue retained by sponsor.

Central Facilities:

2-office suite with private toilet

First aid room

Ticket office

Storeroom - cleaning and maintenance

supplies and equipment

Tent camping pad - 100 units 8'x 10' (varies

with site)

Parking for each unit - 10'x25' minimum

Electricity to each unit

Water hydrant for each 10 units

Shower and toilet: 1 per 50 units (ADAAG)

Women - 6 toilet stalls

- 6 lavatories

- 1 infant changing table

- 4 shower stalls

- dressing area

Men

- 3 toilet stalls

- 2 urinals

- 6 lavatories

- 4 showers

- dressing area

- infant changing facility

Washroom- (1 per 50 units)

- 6 coin-operated washers

- 7 coin-operated dryers

Raised firepit/grille for each unit

Street lights

Outside lights for rest areas and washroom Anchored trash receptacles - 1 per 2 units

RV pads - 30 units (12'x28') (varies with site)

RV pads — 30 units (12x28) (varies Electricity to each unit

Sanitary waste dump to each unit (preferable)

or 1 central dump station

Water to each unit

Anchored trash receptacles - 1 per 2 units

Street lights

Central activity playground:

Cleared and sodded area for group games

Covered pavilion - 300 sqft

Toilets - women - 2 stalls (ADAAG)

- 2 lavatories ies

Men

-1 stall (ADAAG)

- 1 urinal

- 2 lavatories

Water fountain - 2 Water hydrant - 1

Nature trails - elevated over wetlands

Picnic area - for day-use groups

Concrete tables and benches - 12

Water fountain - 2

Trash receptacle - 1 per 4 tables

Parking - 12 cars

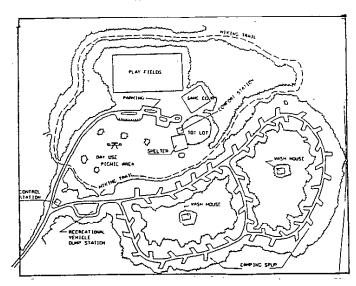
- 2 school buses

#### Utilities:

Unless available from municipal sources, local provision is required and must be planned and constructed in accordance with state regulations.

NOTE: Each site dictates the layout and size.

A conceptual plan by the Corps of Engineers is shown on Fig. 7.00 L



Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

FIGURE 7.00 L: Conceptual Developed Campground

### S. Boat launch

In addition to the boat launch sites at one of the entry points, the following sites are proposed to answer local demand:

5-lane Boat Launch	2-lane Boat Launch
Butte LaRose upgrade Myette Point upgrade Butte LaRose (River)	Bayou Benoit upgrade Belle River upgrade Sandy Cove upgrade Marshfield landing Stephensville (new)

Corps of Engineers standards include:

Launching lane widths - 12' - total ramp width would be a multiple of this width;

'Upper limit of ramp - 3' above the 2 percent flowline

Lower limit of ramp - 4' below the annual average low water elevation

Turnaround - 75' diameter minimum

Ramps surfaced in scored reinforced concrete

Ramp gradients - 13% - 15%

Ramp shoulders stabilized to prevent erosion

Curbs - 6" both sides of ramp

Lighting provided when feasible

## 7 90 Costs and Sponsorship

## 7.91 Methodology

Costs are estimated based on current cost plus an allowance for inflation to construction date and a contingency for unexpected problems.

Estimates are for the size and number of facilities

shown in Section 7.80. Change in this program as a result of more complete studies will affect the total costs.

Engineering and design costs are estimated at 12% and include the following: site planning, engineering and testing, and architectural design.

## 7.92 First costs of development (land acquisition)

Location	Item	No.	C //	T
	rem		Cost/A	Total
Old River Locks		Acres	<del> </del>	<u> </u>
Simmesport			Corps land	
Krotz Springs	Access to sections of fee-		Parish	
	purchase land by Corps			İ
I-10 Entry	Visitor Center-site not selected	20	Corps project	
Bayou Sorrel		20	3,000	60,000
Little Bayou Sorrel	Trails R.O.W.	20	1,000	20,000
Atchafalaya Wilderness	Canoe assembly and launch	10	500	5,000
Center East SPA	Included in State Parks			•
	construction budget	ļ		
Stephensville	Park	10	3,000	30,000
	Boat launch		Parish responsibility	,,,,,,
Morgan City	AMACCenter	5 2	10,000	50,000
	R.O.W. Dock to Center	2	2,500	5,000
	Campground		City land	3,000
	Bike/hike trails		State land	
·	Boat launch expansion	4	1,500	6,000
Charenton	Dock and R.O.W. to road	4 5	1,000	5,000
Lake Fausse Pointe	State Park		State 1 and	3,000
Marshfield Landing	Marshfield boat launch		Parish 1 and	
Catahoula	State Preservation Area		State land	
Cypress Cove	Dock and R.O.W. to Center	4	1,000	4.000
	Heritage Center	•	Lynch Gardens	4,000
Henderson	R.O.W. trail on Boulevard	50	1,500	75,000
Ramah	R. O.W. for water access to	30	1,500	75,000
	Upper Grand River Flats	•	,	
	scenic area	370	500	105.000
Primitive Campgrounds	site selection under study	310	300	185,000
Scenic/unique area	(preferably Upper Grand			
• •	or similar area)	1,000	1,150	1 150 000
Total		1,500	00.1,1	1,150,000
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>	1, 500		1, 595, 000

Note: The cost of land acquisition for recreational purposes can be used as a cost/share against the 50% development cost of those facilities. Note that the state must purchase the land and will receive the offsetting credit (for 50% of the total costs) after construction.

#### 7.93 Costs for Individual Sites

Note: Most projects are conceptual and will require additional feasibility and design studies and approval and qualification by the Corps of Engineers, including development of a Project Cooperative Agreement (PCA) between the Corps and the non-federal sponsor for operation and maintenance of the facilities, and funding by the Louisiana Legislature.

### A. Old River Locks

No state funds are involved at this site

## B. Simmesport Boat Launch and Campground

State funds are involved under a previous appropriation. There is no state involvement under the ABFS-LA project.

## C. Krotz Springs Wildlife Management Areas

Capital costs - completed under separate program.

Operating costs - see Section 4.90

No project facilities are planned for Krotz Springs at this time. Information and directions to interested visitors and necessary support services may be included at a future date.

## D. I-10 Entry

# VISITORS' INFORMATION CENTER Estimated Capital Costs

ltem	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Site work	6 acres @ 5,000	30,000	3,600	33,600
Structure	3,000 sqft @ \$120	360,000	43,420	403,420
Utilities	Local/state hookup	ļ		75,000
Furnishings	_			35,000
Electronic Eq.	Computer, video			50,000
Displays	,	50,000	-6,000	56,000
Parking/drives	50,000 sqft @ \$4	200,000	24,000	224,000
Landscape/walks	- , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	25,000	3,000	28,000
Total Estimated Ca	pital Costs			905,020

Costs will vary due to site selected.

# VISITORS' INFORMATION CENTER Estimated Operating Costs

· Item	No.	Subtotal	Amount	Total
Personnel:				
Director	1 1		36,000	ļ
Assistant	1		24,000	
Host/hostess	4	18,000	72,000	
Clerk	1	,	15,000	
Groundkeeper/maintenance	1		15,000	
Total Personnel		•	162,000	-
Benefits @ 23%			37,260	•
Total Personnel & Benefits				199,260
Indirect costs not applicable since				
there is no cost/sharing	[ ]			
Contractual:				
Display update (annual)		24,000		
Solid waste disposal (2/week)		20,000		
Total contractual				44,000
Expenses:	,			
Software & video update		10,000		
Utilities	[	2,400		
Communications	]	3,600		
Office/maintenance supplies		6,000	ļ	1
Literature handouts/maps		12,000		
Coffee service/tourists		6,000		
Total expenses	40,000			
Total Estimated Operating Costs (9	283,260			
Total Estimated Operating Costs (9		costs)		312,294
Total Estimated Operating Costs 1	5 yrs.		,	6,738,855

Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year

## E. Bayou Sorrel

## BAYOU SORREL ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

ltem	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total	
Locks' Viewing Star	Locks' Viewing Stand and Display:				
Site work	3 acres @ \$5,000	15,000	1,800	16,800	
Structure	2,200 sqft @ \$120	264,000	31,600	295,600	
Furnishings		'		30,000	
Display		50,000	6,000	56,000	
Parking/roads	35,000 sqft @ \$3	105,000	12,600	117,600	
Utilities		1	<u>.                                    </u>	75,000	
Total Viewing Sta	nd and Display			591,000	
Boat Launch Upgra	de:				
Complete fill	1, 000 cuyd @ \$40	40,000	4,800	44,800	
Extend ramp	12,000 sqft @ \$10	120,000	14,400	134,400	
Parking	25, 000 sqft @ \$2	50,000	6,000	56,000	
Total boat launch upgrade			235,200 826,200		
Total Bayou Soπ	Total Bayou Sorrel Estimated Costs				

## BAYOU SORREL ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

No State funds are involved.

## F. Bayou Pigeon

## BAYOU PIGEON ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

ltem	Атеа & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Boat Launch Upg	rade:			
Site work	3 acres @ \$5,000	15,000	1,800	16,800
Ramp Exten.	6,000 sqft @ \$10	60,000	7,200	67,200
Parking	25,000 sqft @ \$2	50,000	6,000	56,000
Total boat laun	ch upgrade			140,000
	geon Estimated Costs			140,000
, ,	·			

## BAYOU PIGEON ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

No State funds are involved.

## G. Lake Verret (Atchafalaya Wilderness Center East)

## LAKE VERRET ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

Estimate for land and development from 1997	
SCORP	7,000,000

## LAKE VERRET ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

Assumed to be the same as Catahoula FY 97/98	508,860
FY 99/00	561,018
Total Operating Costs 15 years	12,105,951

Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year

## H. Stephensville

## STEPHENSVILLE ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

Item	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Boat launch (2-lane)	new			
Site work	4 acres @ \$5,000	20,000	2,400	22,400
Fill	3,000 cuyds @ \$40	120,000	14,400	134,400
Ramp	8,000 sqft @ \$10	80,000	9,600	89,600
Parking	30,000 sqft @ \$2	60,000	7,200	67,200
Access road	1/2 mile @ 200,000/m	100,000	12,000	112,000
Total Estimated Cost Boat Launch				425,600
Regional Park and recreation area:				
Fill 10 acre area and build facilities as outlined				
in Section 7-81 H.				
Cost estimate fro				
St. Martin Parish				970,000
(subject to land donation)				
Total estimated C	Cost Stephensville			1,395,600

## STEPHENSVILLE ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

 <del></del>	
No State funds are involved.	
No State filinds are Involved.	
110 Cate land are investor	1
 	_

I. U.S. 90 Entry - Morgan City

## MORGAN CITY ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

	AN CITT ESTIMATI		ECD	Total
ltem	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
AMACCenter		30,000	3 400	33,600
Site work	6 acres @ \$5,000	30,000	3,600	
Structure	25,000 sqft @ 130	3,250,000	390,000	3,640,000 150,000
Info. Network		252.000	30,000	
Displays		250,000	30,000	280,000
Furnishings				200,000
Parking/access rd	40,000 sqft. @2.50	100,000	12,000	112,000-
Total Estimated Cost	AMACCenter			4,415,600
Boat dock (floating):	<del></del>			
Structure	2,000 sqft @ \$75	150,000	18,000	168,000
Anchors/bumpers	•			16,000
Berths	6 @ \$10, 000	60,000	7,200	67,200
Decking	2,000 sqft @ \$10	20,000	2,400	22,400
Tour Center (on dock):				i
Structure	300 sqft @ \$120	36,000	4,320	40,320
Furnishings	300 0410 0 41=1			3,000
Walkway to Center				10,000
Lighting/Utilities			}	50,000
Lighting/Outlies  Landscaping and walkwa	nic.			50,000
Total Estimated Cost				426,920
	Center Area		-	
Campgrounds:	20 @ \$96,000	1,920,000	11,520	1,931,520
20 A-frame Lodges	20 @ \$90,000	300,000	36,000	336,000
20 RV Ports	20 @ \$15,000	300,000	35,555	100,000
Utilities				30,000
Landscaping			1	500,000
Renovate existing		<del></del>	-	2,897,520
Total Estimated Cost	Campgrounds	<del> </del>	<del> </del>	2,001,020
Hiking/Bike Trails	r 200 - 10 ¢25	184,800	22,176	206,976
Hard surface	5,280 sqyd@ \$35	104,000	22,110	200,770
Swimming Area:	400 C = \$100	40,000	4,800	44,800
Rest Rooms	400 sqft @ \$100	40,000	4,000	17,000
Swimming/sun				40,000
bathing area		200,000	24.000	
Access/parking	50,000 sqft @ \$4	200,000	24,000	224,000
Total Swimming Are	a			308,800
Boat Launch Upgrade:		100 000	12.000	112,000
Site work	100,000 sqft @ \$1	,100,000	12,000	112,000
Ramp extension	5,000 sqft @ \$5	25,000	3,000	28,000
Parking	20,000sqft @ \$3	60,000	7,200	67,200
Lights/water		1		20,000
Dock (floating)				1.000
Structure	200 sqft @ \$75	15,000	1,800	16,800
Anchors/bumpers	-		1	2,000
Decking	200 sqft @ \$10	2,000	240	2,240
Boardwalk	1,200 sqft @ \$25	30,000	3,600	33,600
Total Boat Launch/I				281,840
Total Morgan City (	project total)			8,537,656
Bulkhead/fill - non-project funding arranged by				
Corns Holi-pio	matching funds	•		1,000,000
Corps - required State matching funds				

## I. U.S. 90 Entry - Morgan City

## MORGAN CITY ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS

ltern	No.	Subtotal	Amount	Total
Personnel:				
Facility Manager	1		35,000	
Secretary	1		17,000	
Wildlife Educator	3	25,000	75,000	
Wildlife Agent 1)	6	22,000	132,000	
Maintenance	1		18,000	
Groundskeeper	1		16,000	
Total Personnel			293,000	]
Benefits @ 23%			67,390	
Total Personnel/Benefits				360,390
Contractual:		<del></del>		
Display Update (annual)			30,000	
Solid Waste Disposal			3,120	
Total Contractual				33,120
Operating Services: 2)				
Utilities .			25,000	
Telephone			5,000	
Rentals (equipment)			12,000	
Printing			25,000	
Postage			20,000	
Insurance			100,000	
Repairs/Maintenance			30,000	
Miscellaneous			20,000	
Total Operating Services			,	237,000
Supplies:			16,000	
Office			16,000	
Computer			18,000	
Audio-Visual			72,000	
Building/grounds supplies			20,000	
Repair/maintenance supplies		•	10,000	
Other operating supplies		<u> </u>	20,000	154,000
Total Operating Supplies	156,000			
Total Operating Costs AMACCen	786,510 867,128			
Total Operating Costs AMACCen	18,711,361			
Total Operating Costs for 15 years	10,711,301			
Cost increases calculated @ 5%/year				

1) Wildlife Agents:

2)

2 for DWF Research Center

2 for Lower Basin Security & Information

(based in Morgan city)

2 for Upper Basin Security & Information

(based in Henderson area)

Indirect cost omitted - Operating Services includes all

costs normally listed as Indirect Costs.

Developed Campgrounds, Trails, Boat and Canoe Launch, Swimming Area, and Associated Grounds: No state funds involved.

## J, Charenton (Chitimacha Nation)

## ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS - CHARENTON

····				
Item	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Dock for Boat Tours:				
Structure	200 sqft @ \$75	15,000	1,800	16,800
Anchors/bumper			1 2,300	2,000
Decking	200 sqft @ \$10	2,000	240	2,240
Boardwalk	800 saft @ \$25	20,000	2,400	22,400
Total Charenton D		20,000	2,100	
TTE SHAREMENT B			,	43,440

## ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - CHARENTON

No State funds are involved.

## K. Lake Fausse Pointe

See Access Section 4.80 for road improvements to this site.

## L. Catahoula - ATCHAFALAYA WILDERNESS CENTER - WEST ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

Cost estimate by Office of State Parks Crafts center requested by Parish and City Upgrade Catahoula Boat Launch and parking area	6,224,270 526,500
Total Estimated Capital Costs - Catahoula	400,000 7,150,770

## ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - CATAHOULA - AWC

Item	No.	Unit	Subtotal	
Personnel:	110.	Om	Subtotal	Total
SPA Director	1		40,000	
Secretary	l î		17,000	
Facility Manager	l i		25,000	
Naturalists	2	18, 000	36,000	i
Maintenance Manager	$\bar{1}$	20,000	20,000	
Mechanic	1.		16,000	
Groundskeeper	2	15,000	30,000	
Interpretive Center:	~	13,000	50,000	
Curator	1		30,000	
Assistant	1	:	22,000	
Naturalists	2	18,000	36,000	
Total Personnel			272,000	<del></del> -
Benefits @ 23%			62,560	
Total Personnel & Benefits			, , , , , , ,	334,560
Indirect Costs - not applicable,				33 1,3 00
since there is no cost/sharing			ĺ	
Contractual:				
Contract labor	l	]	18, 000	
Display (update)		i	30,000	
Solid Waste Disposal			4,800	
Total Contractual	٠,			52,800
Expenses:				
Operating services	i		80,000	
Supplies			30,000	
Travel and per diem	- 1		1,500	
Misc. expenses			10,000	
Total expenses				121,500
Total Operating Costs FY 97/98 costs				508,860

## ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - CATAHOULA - AWC West (Cont.)

	Total
Total Operating Costs at Beginning of Project - FY 99/00	561,018
Total Operating Costs for 15 years	12,105,951

Cost increases calculated at 5%/yr.

Note: If cultural center is included funds will be requested for additional guides and native or local people for crafts displays and periodic entertainment.

#### M. St. Martinville

### ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS - ST. MARTINVILLE

Estimate furnished by Mayor's Office	
City of St. Martinville	1,500,000

### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - ST. MARTINVILLE

No State funds are involved.

## N. Cypress Cove - Lynch Botanical Gardens

## ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS - CYPRESS COVE

T.	4 6 77 .	C 1 1	TESE	1 1
Item	Area & Unit_	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Dock - Tour boats:				
(floating)				<u> </u>
Site work	20,000 sqft @ \$1	20,000	2,400	°22,400
Structure	300 sqft @ \$75	22,500	2,700	25,200
Anchors/bumpers			]	3,000
Decking/railing	300 sqft @ \$10	3,000	360	3,360
Boardwalk	600 sqft @ \$25	15,000	1,800	16,800
Total Dock			<del>*</del>	70,760
Footbridge	150' (75' span)	-		
	900 saft @ \$100	90,000	10,800	100,800
Walkway	1,800 sqft @ \$5	9,000	1,080	10,080
Total Footbridge/Walkway				110,880
Service Bridge &	5,000 sqft @ \$40	200,000	30,000	300,000
Access road	1/4 mile @ \$200,000	50,000	30,000	280,000
Heritage Center:				
Site work	3 acres @ \$5,000	15,000	1,800	16,800
Structure	8,000 sqft @ \$120	720,000	86,400	960,000
Landscape	•		•	75,000
Furnishings				35,000
Total Estimated Costs - Heritage Center				1,086,800
Total Estimated Costs - Cypress Cove			1,548,440	

### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - CYPRESS COVE

No State funds are involved.

## O. Henderson

## ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS - HENDERSON

ltem	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Elevated Board walk	63,360 sqft @ \$50	3,168,000	380,160	3,548,160
6-viewing &				
Photo Ops	960 sqft @ \$50	48,000	5,760	53,760
Bike Trail				
incl. Fill	7,040 sqyds @ \$50	352,000	42,240	394,240
Alligator Area				
Planning				20,000
Bulkhead Planning				50,000
Water Access				150,000
Improve Roads	See Section 4-12			,
Total Capital Costs - H	lenderson			4,216,160

## ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - HENDERSON

No State funds are involved.

### P. Ramah

## ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS - RAMAH

Item	Area & Unit	Subtotal	E&D	Total
Dock - Tour boats:	-			
(floating)	1			
Site work	15,000 sqft @ \$1	15,000	1,800	16,800
Structure	320 sqft @ \$75	24,000	2,880	26,880
Anchors/bumper		•		3,000
Decking/rail	320 sqft @ \$10	3,200	384	3,584
Boardwalk	600 sqft @ \$25	15,000	1,800	26,800
Total dock				77,064
Boat launch upgrade:	-			
Site work	50,000 sqft @ \$1	50,000	6,000	56,000
Ramp extension	10,000 sqft @ \$5	50,000	6,000	56,000
Parking ext.	30,000 sqft @ \$3	90,000	10,800	100,800
Total boat launch	·			212,800
Canoe Assembly &				
Launch; parking:		•		
Site work	30,000 sqft @ \$1	30,000	3,600	33,600
Parking	12,000 sqft @ \$2	24,000	2,880	26,880
Total Canoe				60,480
Dredging water access:				
Survey & permit			50,000	50,000
Dredging (est.)	·	500,000	60,000	560,000
Total dredging				610,000
Total Ramah				960,344

## ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - RAMAH

No State funds are involved.

## Q. Primitive Campgrounds

Since the state Land Office has agreed not to allow additional camps on state lands (see Section 5.42 B) except on the 40 designated sub-divided areas, which areas are not suitable for primitive campgrounds, alternative sites are being investigated on other lands.

Existing primitive campgrounds in the Attakapas and the Sherburne Wildlife Management Areas are available.

The following budget is included to provide funds for alternative sites, if found:

### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - PRIMITIVE CAMPGROUNDS

1 (000		420.000
3 @ \$143,000 each (COE estimate)	•	479 0001
1 3 @ \$145,000 cach (COL calmace)		125,000

### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - PRIMITIVE CAMPGROUNDS

Supervisory: DWF Wildlife Agent (see Section 7.93 H)	
Contractual:  Clean-Up and disposal - 2 visits/site/month	10,000
Total Estimated Operating Costs FY 97/98	10,000
Total Estimated Costs FY 99/00	11,025
Total Estimated Costs for 15 years	242,550

## R. Developed Campgrounds

ded in Entry Point Budgets	Included in

#### S. Boat Launch

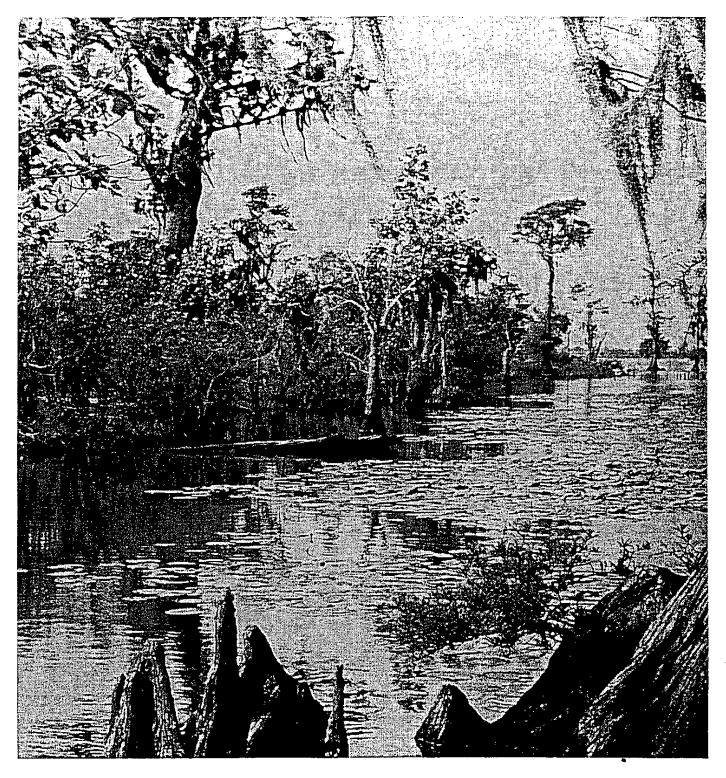
	_
5-lane Boat Launch:	
Butte LaRose upgrade (I-10 Exit - existing	
launch with access to Lake Henderson)	225,000
Myette Point upgrade	381,840
Sandy Cove upgrade	381,840
2-lane Boat Launch:	
Butte LaRose with access	
to Atchafalaya River,	545,000
Belle River upgrade	605,320
Bayou Benoit upgrade	240,000
Marshfield landing upgrade	350,000
Canoe Assembly and Launch:	
Little Bayou Sorrel (new)	225,000
Total Boat Launch Facilities & Upgrades	
(not previously budgeted)	2,954,000

### ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS - BOAT LAUNCH

\ Y \ \ \ \	· 1			1 7
No State	tinde	OTA	113370	ואפרו
TNO DIAIL	iuilus	$ai \leftarrow$	TITAO	vou.

## 7.94 Sponsors

rs '			
	A. LOCATION	FACILITY	SPONSOR
- 1	Old River Locks	all	Corps of Engineers
İ	B. Simmesport	all	Red River Waterway
			Comm./Parish
	C. Krotz Springs	Sherburne WMA	Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
1		Atchafalaya National	USFWS & DWF
-		Wildlife Refuge	
-	D 110 B	Indian Bayou	Corps of Engineers & DWF
1	D. I-10 Entry	Visitor Information	CRT Office of Tourism -
Í	E. Bayou Sorrel	Lock Viewing Area	Corps of Engineers
Ì	ים חי	Boat launch	Parish, Levee Board
-	F. Bayou Pigeon	Boat launch	Parish, Levee Board
1	G. Lake Verret	Atchafalaya Wilder-	
ı	₩ C+L:11-	ness Center-East	CRT Office of State Parks
1	H. Stephensville	Community Park	City/Parish
	I. Morgan City	Boat Launch	Parish
	1. Morgan City	AMACCenter	Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
		Campgrounds	City/Parish
ı	√.	Trails/Swimming Boat Launch	City/Parish
		Lake End Park	Parish, Levee Board
-	J. Charenton	Boat Dock	City
	K. Lake Fausse Pointe	State Park	Chitimacha Nation CRT Office of State Parks
	L. Catahoula	Atchafalaya Wilder-	CRI Office of State Parks
		ness Center-West	CRT Office of State Parks
-		Boat launch	Parish
	M. St. Martinville	RV Pads/campground	City
	N. Cypress Cove	Heritage Center	Lynch Gardens
l		Boat dock	Lynch Gardens
O. Henderson Eleva		Elevated walkway	City/Parish
		Bike trail	City Parish
١.		Planning Assistance	Dept. of Natural Resources
P. Ramah		Boat launch	Dept Transportation/Develop.
l	j	Boat dock	Dept. Transportation/Develop
Ι,	_ n · · ·	Water access	Dept. of Natural Resources
,	Q. Primitive		
Ιτ	Campgrounds	under study .	
1	R. Developed Campgrounds	. 1	
٩	S. Boat launch	see above	i
	(not incl. above)	Butte LaRose (lake)	D T
	(Hot mei. above)	Butte LaRose (river)	Dept. Transportation/Develop.
		Myette Point	Parish
		Bayou Benoit	Parish, Levee Board
		Belle River	Parish, Levee Board Parish, Levee Board
		Marshfield Landing	Parish
		Sandy Cove	Parish, Levee Board
		Little Bayou Sorrel	Levee Board
	Ì	Bayou Pigeon	Parish, Levee Board
		Bayou Sorrel	Parish, Levee Board
		Ramah	Parish
		Upper Grand River	Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
		<u></u>	



SECTION 8.00 PROJECT MANAGEMENT



## 8.00 MANAGEMENT

8.10 Focus

As mandated by Congress, the focus of the project shall be on three primary components:

Regional and ecosystem needs Project resource capabilities and suitabilities Expressed public interest and desires

The management team is responsible for maintaining this focus.

#### 8.20 Management Team

8.21 The Corps of Engineers, in cooperation with the State of Louisiana, is responsible for the implementation of this project.

"The District Engineer is the sole jurisdictional authority to protect and oversee Federal interests in the Archafalaya Basin Floodway system upon implementation of the recommended comprehensive multipurpose plan. Recreation and environmental features of the plan would be operated and maintained by the appropriate Louisiana state agencies under license, lease, or other agreements administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The District Engineer will continue to coordinate with other Federal agencies on special studies and collateral interests as required by Federal law and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations." (Corps of Engineers Feasibility Study)

## 8.22 Other Federal agencies with jurisdictional responsibilities

Environmental Protection Agency National Marine Fisheries Service National Park Service U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Geological Survey Natural Resource Conservation Service

#### 8.23 State of Louisiana

八日一次海及海域的門 二十二次原對我们沿海里加上海原理以前

At the request of the District Engineer, Governor Foster appointed the Department of Natural Resources as the lead state agency to represent the state in this project.

A. Other state agencies involved:

Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Department of Environmental Quality
Department of Health and Hospitals
Department of Transportation and Development
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
State Land Office

B. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed by the state agencies which outlined the functions and responsibilities of each agency and established an operating procedure.

C. The Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee was formed including:

All state agencies involved in the Basin
All federal agencies involved in the project
Representatives of the Governor's Office and the
Louisiana Legislature
Parish and local officals
Representatives of the Atthafalaya Basin Levee District
Police Jury representatives from Basin parishes
Louisiana Landowner Association
Representatives from major environmental groups.
Industry representatives
Fishing and hunting clubs
Commercial fishing and crawfishing interests
Private citizens interested in the Basin

The role of the committee is to provide input into the state Master Plan drafting process and to provide advice as the Plan is implemented.

D. The organization developed to draft the state Master Plan is illustrated on Fig. 8.00 A.

The organization's role includes:

Collection of all pertinent information and the "interests and desires of the public;"

Development of a partnership with the Corps of Engineers and close cooperation with other federal agencies;

Achieving a consensus on issues and plans.

#### Organizational structure

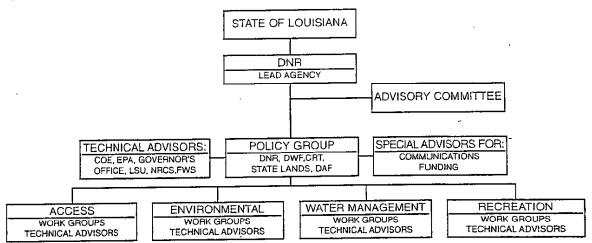


FIGURE 8.00-A: Organization to Develop Master Plan

The development of the state Master Plan was the task of the Working Groups, supervised by the Policy Group. Technical Advisors to the Working Groups included representatives of the Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies, state agencies, LSU, sportsmen's organizations, landowners, and environmental groups.

## 8.30 The State Management Plan

8.31 Implementation of the plan requires management of four phases:

#### A. Preliminary planning phase

This phase involved drafting the state Master Plan which was accomplished by the organizational structure described above. This report marks the completion of this phase.

#### B. Advanced planning phase

This phase will involve developing presentations and graphics for a series of statewide public meetings to explain the plan, secure additional input, and develop statewide public support for the project.

During this phase, this report will be revised to include suggestions from the public. Facility details will be developed during the advanced planning phases and an Executive Summary will be published. Working with the Corps of Engineers, a General Agreement between the Corps and State will be drafted and approval secured.

The final work under this phase will be the presentation of the project to the Governor and the Legislature for approval and funding.

Work included in this phase will be managed by

the Lead Agency working through the Policy Group with assistance from the Working Groups as outlined in the previous section.

This phase of work will be accomplished during the time period from June 1998 to June 1999.

#### C. Implementation phase

#### Public Access tasks:

Development of an additional Wildlife Management Area on Corps of Engineer fee-title lands;

Development of a joint management agreement covering all public access lands in the Basin.

#### Environmental Easement tasks:

Inspections and monitoring of the environmental easement lands and reporting violations to the Corps of Engineers;

Assistance to the Corps of Engineers as outlined in the state Master Plan and in the General Agreement between the State and the Corps.

#### Water Management tasks:

Inspections and monitoring of the projects;

Representing the state in all water management initiatives conducted by the Corps of Engineers;

Operating those projects which require operation (e.g. weirs, gaps, and other waterflow controls);

Cutting and maintaining gaps in pipeline canals.

### Recreation features program tasks:

Purchase of 1,500 acres as required in the state Master Plan:

Working with non-federal sponsors of the several sites in the following tasks:

Detailed planning of the facilities;

Contracting with and supervision of architects, engineers, and other professionals;

Letting contracts for construction and supervision of construction:

Involving the Corps of Engineers in all decision making and other actions.

Planning and developing the marketing program for local and national markets to increase public use and enjoyment of the recreational opportunities.

#### D. Operation Phase

Continue operating public access areas; continue environmental easement monitoring;

Continue monitoring and operation of water management projects;

Central management of all recreation facilities working through the local non-federal sponsor.

#### 8.32 Management Plan

The Corps of Engineers has made two recommendations concerning management of these activities:

A. "Since several state agencies will be involved, the state should consider establishing a single management entity or authority, staffed to effectively coordinate all various departmental efforts; i.e., planning, budgeting, designing, construction, operating, and maintaining the various support elements of the comprehensive plan."

The single management entity suggested by the Corps of Engineers is created in the office of the lead state agency by this chapter.

B. "It is also recommended that the State establish a subordinate law enforcement entity with police powers and arrest authority to adequately control and protect all public and private use and natural resource features of the Basin."

Different state, federal, and local agencies have legislatively mandated enforcement authorities that are sufficient to protect all public/private use and natural resource features.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

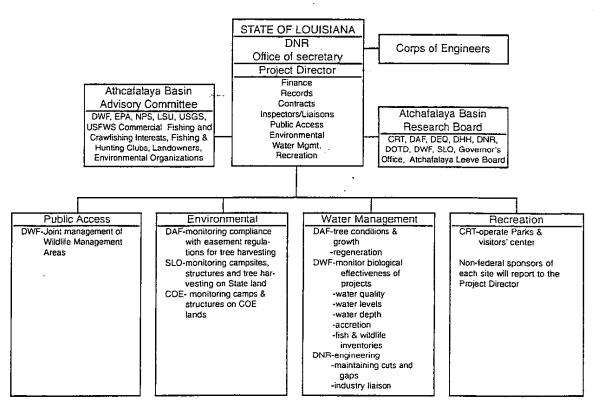


FIGURE 8.00 B Organization to Implement Master Plan

# 8.33 The organizational structure to provide effective management is illustrated in Fig. 8.00-B.

As noted, the Research Board and the Project Director, with assistance from the Advisory Committee, will furnish the following direction and services to all activities:

Coordination with the Corps of Engineers in decision-mak-

ing and funding

Funding accounting and disbursement

Recordkeeping and reporting

Contract administration

Inspections and coordinating

Supervising contract housekeeping services at primitive campgrounds

Publicity, citizen awareness and response

## 8.34 Annual Management Cost Estimates

## A. First phase - Preliminary Planning (FY 97/98)

The time and expenses of agency personnel who worked on the project were absorbed by the agencies involved. Other than the Corps, federal agencies operated in the same fashion. Individuals representing organizations donated their time.

The following state costs have been accumulated for cost/share purposes:

Tasks completed during First Phase include:

Completion and acceptance by agencies of a Memorandum of Understanding among the state agencies involved in the Atchafalaya Basin;

Achieving consensus of governments, organizations, and interested citizens, and drafting of the state Master Plan for the Atchafalaya Basin.

## ESTIMATED MANAGEMENT COSTS FOR FIRST PHASE

	No.	Unit	Cost,	/Share	
			Subtotal	Total	State
				;	Budget
·					lncrease
Personnel:			24.000		
Project Director	1		36,000		
Agency personnel:			4.4.000		
Meetings: 2,400hrs		20/hr	44,000		
Data 1,400hrs		20/hr	28,000		
GIS 30 hrs		25/hr	750		
LSU:		20.4	(00		
Data 20 hrs		30/hr	600		
GIS 100 hrs		25/hr	2,500		
Total personnel	20/		115,850	i	
Fringe benefits @		Č.	26,646	142,496	
Total Personnel	<del></del>			142,490	
Indirect costs (space, equi				56,998	
utilities, administrative.	etc) w	7070		30,770	
Contractual:	1 1/	· Dlam		25,000	
Drafting MOU an	u Mas	ter rian		23,000	<del> </del>
Expenses: Travel, per-diem			600		
			500		
Office supplies			7,500		
Printing			7,500	8,600	
Total expense TOTAL STATI		T FIRST P	L HASE	233,094	0
TOTALSTATI	. 000	T THOLT.	111101	233,071	<u> </u>

#### B. Second Phase - Advanced Planning (FY 98/99)

The following estimated costs cover more detailed planning (particularly with the non-federal sponsors of the recreation features), administrative and supervisory services supporting the work in Buffalo Cove, planning and conducting

statewide public meetings to explain the state Master Plan, developing a general agreement with the Corps of Engineers concerning the Cost/Share process, and working with the Governor and Legislature in the drafting of the enabling legislation.

# ESTIMATED MANAGEMENT COSTS FOR SECOND PHASE FY 98/99

	No.	Unit	Cost	/Share	[
			Subtotal	Total	State
				Ī	Budget
					Increase
Personnel:	]				
Project Director	1		58,000		58,000
Secretary/Asst.	1		31,000		31,000
Financial Officer					,
(part time) 1)	1		13,400		
Total personnel			102,400		89,000
Fringe Benefits (	<b>@</b> 23%	)	23,552	·	20,470
Total Personnel &	Benef	its	. ,	125,952	109,470
Indirect costs (space, equip	oment,			50,366	
administrative support, ı	ıtilities	, @ 40%			
Contractual:					
Technical assistance 2	)			20,000	20,000
Expenses:					
Travel, per-diem, meetin	g roon	ns	7,000		7,000
Office supplies			5,000		5,000
Reports, video/slides, pr	inting,		:		
and miscellaneous expen			10,550		10,550
Total expenses				22,550	22,550
TOTAL ESTIMATI	ED CC	STS SECC	ND PHASE	218,868	152,020

- 1) To assist Director in negotiating cost/share agreement with Corps of Engineers (borrowed from Agency Budget Office);
- 2) To prepare visual presentations for public meetings, to assist Director in advanced planning with non-

federal sponsors, and for other technical purposes.

C. Third Phase - Implementation (FY 1999-2010)

The estimated costs for the Office of the Project Director during the construction phase estimated to end in 2010 are as follows:

## ESTIMATED MANAGEMENT COSTS FOR THIRD PHASE FY 99/00 - FY 2010

	No.	Unit	Cost/	Share	
			Subtotal	Total	State
					Budget
Į i					Increase
Personnel:					· -
Project Director	1		68,000		68,000
Secretary	1		32,550		32,550
Accountant (PT)	1		10,000		-
Bookkeeper (PT)	1		15,000		
Contract Administrator					
(part time)	1		15,000	-	34.450
Coordinator (P.T.)	1		14,450		14,450
Total Personnel			155,000		115,000
Benefits @ 23%			35,650		26,450
Total Personnel &	Bene	fits		190,650	141,450
Indirect costs (space, equi	pment	, utilities,			
administrative support,	etc.) @	40%		76,26 <u>0</u>	
Expenses:			4.500		
Travel and per-diem			4,500	•	
Office supplies,			3,000		
Printing & miscellaneou	18		10,000	17.500	12.500
Total Expenses			0.400	17,500	17,500
TOTAL MANAGEME	NT C	OSTS FY 9	9/00	284,410	158,950
TOTAL MANAGEME	NT C	OSTS FY 0	0/01	298,631	166,896
TOTAL MANAGEME	NT C	OSTS FY 0	1/02	313,563	175,243
TOTAL MANAGEME	TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 02/03			329,241	184,005
TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 03/04			345,703	193,205	
TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 04/05			362,988	202,865	
TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 05/06			381,137	213,008	
TOTAL MANAGEME	TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 06/07			400,194	223,658
TOTAL MANAGEMENT COSTS FY 07/08			420,204	234,841	
TOTAL MANAGEME	NT C	OSTS FY (	18/09 <u> </u>	441,214	246,583
ESTIMATED MGMT.	COS	TS THIRD	PHASE	3,577,285	1,999,256

Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year for personnel and increase in cost of goods- and services.

Work during this phase includes overseeing public access features; easement violation monitoring, the water management project planning, maintaining, monitoring, and managing the construction projects for recreational features.

## D. Fourth Phase - Operations (FY 10/15)

After construction is completed, the operations management which began in FY 98/99 will continue to the end of the 15-year budget plan in 2015.

# ESTIMATED STATE COSTS FOR FOURTH PHASE FY 09/10 - FY 13/14

	No.	Unit	Cos	t/Share	
Ì	1.0.	J Mile	Subtotal	Total	State
			) Subtotal	1 Total	1
				1	Budget Increase
The recreation const:	rnot	ion will	<u> </u>	<del> </del>	Increase
management regressible	Luci.	TOU WITT	nave been	complete	i, thus
management responsib	TTITI	les are .	reduced to	the super	vision
and financial officer	r ro.	les with	following	resulting	
Permanent staff Part time staff			138,000 18,000		138,000
Total personnel			156,000		138,000
Benefits @ 23%			35,880		31,740
Total Personnel & 1		ts		191,880	169,740
Indirect costs (space, equip				-	
utilities, administrative su	pport	@ 40%)		76,752	
Expenses:					
Travel and Per-Diem			4,500		
Office supplies			3,000	}	.
Total expenses				7,500	7,500
Total State Cost for	FY 09	/10		276,132	177,240
Total State Cost for	FY 10	/11		289,939	186,102
Total State Cost for	FY 11	/12		304,436	195,407
Total State Cost for 1	FY 12	/13		319,658	205,177
Total State Cost for 1	FY 13	/14		335,641	215,436
ESTIMATED STAT	E CC	ST FOR			=13,130
FOURTH PHASE			•	1,525,806	979,362

Cost increases are calculated at 5%/year for personnel and increase in cost of goods and services.

Work during this phase includes overseeing Public Access features, managing the inspection and monitoring programs for Environmental Easements and Water Management projects, and supervision and monitoring the Recreation program.

#### 8.35 Cost Share

Federal/State or local cost share ratio is:

 Public Access
 - 75%/25%

 Environmental
 - 75%/25%

 Water Management
 - 75%/25%

 Recreation:
 - 50%/50% \*

 Construction
 - 50%/50% \*

 Operation
 - 0%/100%

The division of tasks and of costs will be outlined in the General Agreement during 1998.

The estimated total State costs for center management are as follows:

Item	Cost/ Share	State Budget
•	Total	Increase
First Phase - FY 97/98	233,094	0
Second Phase FY 98/99	218,868	148,020
Third Phase - FY 99/10	3,577,285	1,999,254
Fourth Phase FY 10/15	1,525,806	979,362
Total	5,555,053	3,126,636

<sup>\*</sup> Land costs 100% state, however it is credited as part of state 50% for total cost/share (land + development), thus included in construction; therefore the total cost/share is 50% Federal and 50% state.

## 8.36 Responsibility for Safety and Law Enforcement

This section is in response to the Corps of Engineers recommendation that the State establish a "subordinate law enforcement entity with police powers..."

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has such authority to enforce laws governing fish and game and boating safety.

The Sheriff of each Parish has police powers to enforce criminal laws.

However, neither organization has the personnel to provide the type service found in national parks where park rangers enforce the laws and also serve as sources of information, give safety instruction, and give educational seminars to interested groups.

The State Master Plan, therefore, includes a proposal for additional DWF personnel to act as basin rangers, in addition to their present duties. Additional personnel and increase in department budgets are included in Section 7.00.

Management of this force and cooperation with the parish officials will be DWF's responsibility.



SECTION 9.00 FINANCIAL FACTORS

## 9.00 FINANCIAL FACTORS

## 9.10 Costs

#### 9.11 Construction Costs

Item	Subtotal	Total Subject to Cost/Share
Improvement to state highways		
for access to recreation areas	16,355,000	. 1
Total Access		16,355,000
Recreation: Land Acquisition	1,595,000	
Simmesport (separate funding)		
I-10 Visitor Information	905,020	
Bayou Sorrel	826,200	
Bayou Pigeon	140,000	
Lake Verret (SPA - East)	7,000,000	
Stephensville	1,395,600	
Morgan City (see 1) below)	8,537,656	
Charenton	43,440	
Catahoula (SPA West)	7,150,770	
St. Martinville	1,500,000	İ
Cypress Cove (Lynch Gardens)	1,548,440	
Henderson	4,216,160	
Ramah	960,344	
Primitive Campgrounds	429,000	
Boat Launch (not incl. above)	2,954,000	
Total Recreation Construction	39,201,630	
Total		55,556,063

<sup>1)</sup> Bulkheads/fill not included: total cost \$3,000,000; Corps arranged non-project funds (\$2,000,000) State share \$1,000,000

Construction costs are projected to FY 99/00 and must be adjusted for inflationary increases when construction dates are determined.

## 9.12 Operating Costs

Item	Start-Up	Annual FY 99/00	Total 15 Years	Total Subject to Cost/Share
Wildlife Management Areas		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	to dosy offare
(4) ABFS (5) State			29,438,491	25,758,378
Monitoring Easements				
DAF	71,080	254,455	5,734,604	
State Land Office	73,202	141,453	3,303,481	
Total	144,282	395,908		9,038,085
Monitoring Water				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Management Projects:	ĺ		İ	
DWF	560,038	1,599,640	36,464,309	
DAF		30,372	655,397	
DNR	365,000	495.233	11.166.531	
Total	925,038	2,125,245		48,286,237
Recreation:				
I-10 Visitor Ctr.		312,294	6,738,855	
Lake Verret SPA		561,081	12,105,951	
Morgan City AMACC		867,128	18,711,361	
Catahoula SPA		561,018	12,105,951	
Primitive Camps		11,025	242,550	
Total		2,312,546		49,904,668
Management		370,337	5,555,053	5,555,053
<u></u>		(aver.)		
Totals		5,204,036		138,542,421

## 9.20 Cost/Share

## 9.21 Construction Costs

	Total	Cost/Share		State Budget
		COE	State	Increase
COE land and easement pur-				2)
chases & water projects	146,637,517	146,637,517	0	l ól
State Project:	ĺ	}		
Roads to Rec. sites	16,355,000	8,177,500	8,177,500	8,177,500
Recreation Projects:				, , , , , , , , , , , ,
Morgan City: MACCenter	,			
1/3 Recreation	1,471,867	735,934	735,933	735,933
2/3 Environmental	2,943,733	2,207,800	735,933	735,933
Morgan City: Bulkhead		, ,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	1,000,000
Other Rec. Projects	35,592,030	17,796,015	17,796,015	17,796,015
Total Construction	203,000,147	175,554,766	27,445,381	28,445,381

#### 9.22 Operating Costs

	Total	Cost/Share		State Budget
		COE	State	Increase 2)
Wildlife Management Areas				3)
(4) Project, (5) State	25,758,378	19,318,784	6,439,594	7,612,945
Monitoring Easements-15 yrs	9,038,085	6,778,564	2,259,521	. 1,234,761
Monitoring Water Management				1
Projects - 15 years	48,286,237	36,214,678	12,071,559	6,044,058
Management - 15 years	5,555,053	2,777,527	2,777,526	3) 427,080
Recreation - 15 years				
Morgan City: 18,711,361	·			
1/3 Recreation 1)	6,237,120	0	6,237,120	6,237,120
2/3 Environmental	12,474,241	9,355,681	3,118,560	3,118,560
Other Recreation Projects	31,193,307	0	31,193,307	31,193,307
Total Operation	138,542,421	74,445,234	64,097,187	55,867,831
Costs Total Construction				
and 15 yr. Operating Costs	341,542,568	250,000,000	91,542,568	84,313,212

- 1) The Atchafalaya Multi-Agency Cultural Center (AMACCenter) is planned for three floors with the bottom floor used for interpretation of the Basin's cultural, industrial, and environmental resources and the two upper floors to be occupied by State and Federal agencies managing the water management features and environmental easements and the Basin's unique natural environment and for research of the Basin's unique areas.
- 2) State Budget Increase less Corps cost/share
- 3) Low because many costs are already funded

FUNDING FROM OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SOURCES WILL BE INVESTIGATED FOR THOSE PROJECTS WHICH MAY NOT QUALIFY FOR THE ABFS, LA. PROJECT

Some projects are conceptual and will require additional feasibility and design studies, funding from the Louisiana Legislature, and approval and qualification by the Corps of Engineers, including the development of Project Cooperative Agreements (PCA) between the Corps and the non-federal sponsor for operation and maintenance of the facilities.

State Budget Increase is less than State Share, since Indirect Costs (administrative support, space, utilities, and other central services) are already furnished; thus, in most cases, Indirect Costs are not an additional cost.

## 9.30 Feasibility Analysis

#### 9.31 Methodology

A. Data Sources:

1. Expenditures/person/day:

Hunting/Fishing/Trapping:

Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, "Southwick Report"

General Recreation/Tourism:

Dept. Culture, Recreation & Tourism Educational - "Outdoor Classrooms" - UNO

2. Sales and Income Tax Rates:

Department of Revenue and Taxation

B. Total Economic Impact

The Total Economic Impact (ripple effect) is the multiplier that measures the number of rounds of spending by retailer, wholesaler, manufacturer, and service which occur from the initial expenditure. Each round generates additional economic

benefit and each round is taxed.

This multiplier is supplied by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce (RIMS II).

C. Inflationary increases are calculated at 3%/year.

#### 9.32 Resulting Calculations:

#### A. Expenditures/person/day:

	2000	2010	2020
Hunting	70	93	125
Fishing	110	147	198
Trapping*	4000	4000	4000
General Recreation	35	45	60
Tourist: Motorist	150	203	272
Organized Tours	240	322	434
Educational	15	16	17

<sup>\*</sup> Includes sale of catch

Decreasing catch offsets inflationary increases

- B. Multiplier 2.5 (average)
- C. Sales and Income Taxes
  - 3.5% (average) based on the low end of the Southwick Report averages to be on the safe side see calculations this page

## TAX REVENUE CALCULATIONS

2 000

A anti-sizes	User	Retail	Total	Sale and
Activity	Days	Sales	Economic	Income Tax
	Days	Juist	Impact	Revenue
Consumptive Use:	200,000	14,000,000	35,000,000	1,225,000
Hunting	300,000	33,000,000	82,500,000	2,887,500
Fishing	1,400	5,680,000	14,200,000	497,000
Trapping-Crawfish*	1,400	5,000,000	11,221,111	
Non-Consumptive Use:	210,000	7,350,000	18,375,000	643,125
General Recreation	200,000	30,000,000	75,000,000	2,625,000
Tourism: Motorists	260,000	62,400,000	156,000,000	5,460,000
Organized Tours	5,000	75,000	187,500	6,563
Educational	3,000	15,000	101,500	13,344,188
Totals	201	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	13,3   1,1200
	201	.0		
Consumptive Use:	225,000	20,925,000	52,312,500	1,830,938
Hunting	,	48,069,000	120,172,500	4,206,038
Fishing	327,000 1,700	6,800,000	17,000,000	595,000
Trapping Crawfish**	1,100	0,000,000	11,000,000	,
Non-Consumptive Use:	438,000	19,710,000	49,275,000	1,724,625
General Recreation	1 ' '	95,816,000	239,540,000	8,383,900
Tourism: Motorists	472,000	136,850,000	342,125,000	11,974,375
Organized Tours	425,000	288,000	720,000	25,200
Educational	18,000	200,000	720,000	28,740,076
Total	<u> </u>	20		2011 101010
	20.	ZO	T - :	·
Consumptive Use:	240,000	30,000,000	75,000,000	2,625,000
Hunting		43,750,000	109,375,000	3,828,125
Fishing	350,000	8,000,000	20,000,000	700,000
Trapping-Crawfish**	2,000	0,000,000	20,000,000	100,000
Non-Consumptive Use:	745 000	44,700,000	111,750,000	3,911,290
General Recreation	745,000	183,600,000	459,000,000	16,065,000
Tourism: Motorists	675,000	303,800,000	759,500,000	26,582,500
Organized Tours	700,000	629,000	1.572.500	_ 55,038_
<u>Educational</u>	37,000	073,000	1.212.700	53,766,953
Totals	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1 35,100,233

<sup>\*</sup> Includes sale of catch which will decrease if efforts to prolong expected life of some habitats not taken

<sup>\*\*</sup> Decreasing catch offsets inflationary increases

# 9.33 Tax Revenue Resulting from Ouf-of-State Visitor Expenditures

Louisiana visitors' expenditures at the Basin do not result in an increase in State tax revenue, since the visitors' disposable income spent in the Basin may be spent elsewhere in the State.

However, out-of-state visitors' expenditures result in an increase in Louisiana's tax revenue. This increase results from the following:

	2000	2010	2020
Hunting - 15%	ĺ		
of total	183,750	274,641	393,750
Fishing - 10%	ļ		
of total	288,750	420,604	382,813
Tourism:	}		
Motorists - 20%	525,000	1,676,780	3,213,000
Org. Tours- 75%	4,095,000	8,980,781	19,936,875
Totals	5,092,500	11,352,806	23,926,438
Subtract 1997 tax			
revenue	3,851,738	3,861,738	3,861,738
Total tax revenue			
increase to State	1,240,762	7,491,068	20,064,700
resulting from			
Atchafalaya Project			

Parish tax revenue would increase for all activities.

#### 9.34 Fee Income from State Preservation Areas

The two proposed State Preservation Areas charge admission fees for entering the area and, in the proposed Atchafalaya Wilderness Area East; rentals for the lodges, RV docks, and camping areas.

This fee income is estimated as follows:

By 2010 - \$300,000/year

By 2020 - \$425,000/year

#### 9.35 Total Tax Increase and Fee Income

	2000	2010	2020	
Tax revenue		·		
increase	1,240,762	7,491,068	20,064,700	
Fee income	0	300,000	425,000	
Total	1,240,762	7,791,068	20,489,700	

## 9.40 Suggested Funding Plan

#### 9.41 Qualifications to the Plan

A. Qualifications due to Corps of Engineer regulations:

1. The cost/share calculated depends upon the

Corps of Engineers acceptance of each of the features of the Plan and approval of the cost estimates shown or the successful granting of alternative sources of federal funding;

- 2. Many of the tasks outlined in the Plan will be performed by State Agencies individually or through joint management thus a method to transfer funds must be studied. A General Agreement will be signed with the Corps of Engineers in mid-1998 which will darify this procedure. If additional federal authorization is required to authorize fund transfers, the State is prepared to seek that authority.
- 3. Several operations included in the Plan are ongoing operations and are included to take advantage of the Corps' cost/share. These include:

Operation, by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, of the Sherburne and Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Areas - additional federal authorization may be required for this purpose;

Improvement of existing state highways in, and bordering, the Basin to accommodate the expected increased use - alternative sources of funding may be required;

Fish and wildlife habitat monitoring by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and forestry monitoring by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry;

If the Plan is not implemented, these operations will continue at full cost rather than the reduced cost due to cost/share from the Corps and other funding sources;

- B. Qualifications or changes due to scheduling:
  - 1. The Plan is a 15-year program which will be reviewed and evaluated every five years to determine the feasibility of each of the programs. At the end of the 15-year period it is expected that the Plan will be evaluated and revised and a new 15-year plan adopted;
  - 2. All costs are based on a beginning date immediately after the Plan is authorized and funded by the Legislature.
  - 3. Some of the programs will be delayed due to planning time required by the non-federal sponsor and other factors. These programs include:

Road improvements Land purchases for recreational purposes Recreational features

An estimated starting date for these programs is noted on the next page.

#### 9.42 Capital Outlay

#### A. Schedule

The Plan suggests that the capital costs be made available as follows

FY 99/00 \$8,000,000 FY 02/03 \$8,000,000 FY 04/05 \$7,000,000 FY 06/07 \$7,000,000 Total \$30,000,000

Total increased from \$27,070,381 estimated to provide a contingency and for rounding.

#### B. Source of funds

A bond issue is the suggested source of funds.

#### C. Funds recovery

As shown in the next section the anticipated

increase in sales tax revenues resulting from outof-state visitor purchases plus some fee income is sufficient to liquidate the bonds, pay some of the operating expense until about 2013, and then produce a surplus sufficient to recover the preceding deficit and, in effect, place the total burden of debt payment and operating costs on the user, rather than on the general public.

Additionally, it should be noted that the Plan absorbs the capital costs of two State Preservation Areas already included in the State Parks Plan totalling \$13,224,270 and the operating budget of approximately \$24,000,000.

#### 9.43 Operating Cost Funding

The following table shows the annual operating costs for fifteen years:

#### State Budget Increase

Fiscal Year	al Year   ACCESS   MONITORING EASEMENTS		WATER MANAGEMENT		RECREATION		MANAGEMENT	TOTAL		
	DWF	DAF	SLO	DAF	DNR	DWF	CRT	DWF	DNR	
FY 97/98									1)	
FY 98/99	2)			1					1)	_
FY 99/00	352,801	92,362*	86,216*	271	432,384*	679,444*	1,445,569	433,564	16,745	3,539,356*
FY 00/01	370,441	22,346	13,665	285	47, <del>4</del> 13	125,376	1,517,848	455,242	17,582	2,570,198
FY 01/02	388,963	23,463	14,348	299	49,784	131,645	1,593,739	478,004	18,461	2,698,706
FY 02/03	408,411	24,636	15,065	314	52,273	138,227	1,673,426	501,904	19,384	2,833,640
FY 03/04	428,832	25,868	15,818	330	54,887	145,138	1,757.099	526,999	20,353	2,975,324
FY 04/05	450,274	27,161	16,609	347	57,631	152,395	1,844,953	553,349	21,371	3,124,090
FY 05/06	472,788	108,519*	99,829*	364	164,522*	800,626*	1,937,202	581,016	22,440	4,187,306*
FY 06/07	496,427	29,945	18,31	382	63,539	168,016	2,034,062	610,068	23,562	3, <del>444</del> ,312
FY 07/08	521,248	31,442	19,227	401	66,716	176,417	2,135,764	640,571	24,740	3,616,526
FY 08/09	547,310	33,014	20,188	421	70,052	185,238	2,242,552	672,599	25,977	3,797,351
FY 09/10	574,676	34,465	21,197	442	73,355	194,500	2,354,679	706,230	39,174	3,998,718
FY 10/11	603,410	129,140*	117,770*	464	127,092*	949,870*	2,472,414	741,542	41,133	5,182,835*
FY 11/12	633,581	38,218	23,370	487	81,095	214,436	2,596,034	778,618	43,190	4,409,029
FY 12/13	665,260	40,129	24,539	511	85,1 <i>5</i> 0	225,158	2,725,836	817,548	45,350	4,629,481
FY 13/14	698,523	42,135	25,766	537	89,408	236,416	2,862,130	858,426	47,618	4,860,959
TOTAL 1	7,612,945	702,843	531,918	5,855	1,515,301	4,522,902	31,193,307	9,355,680	427,080	55,867,831
TOTAL 2	7,612,945	702,843	531,918	5,855	1,515,301	4,522,902	25,717,758	7,988,870	427,080	
Agency:										
CRT							31,193, 307			
DAF		702, 843		5,855						<u>.</u>
DNR					1,515,301			_	427,080	· · · · · ·
DWF	7,612,945			<u> </u>		4,522,902		9,355,680		
SLO			531,918							<u></u>

<sup>\*</sup>Includes start-up equipment and replacement

Total 1: maximum costs assuming all projects begin FY 99/00 (note that most Access, Monitoring, Water and management operations are already underway. Total 2: Costs for the period ending FY 13/14 with staggered starting dates for some recreation projects with are yet to be planned.

These calculation assume that the Corps of Engineers will provide the Corps' cost/share in cash or reduce State responsibilities accordingly.

<sup>1)</sup> FY 97/98 (\$233,094) and FY 98/99 (\$218,868) funding was provided by separate sources, thus not included above.

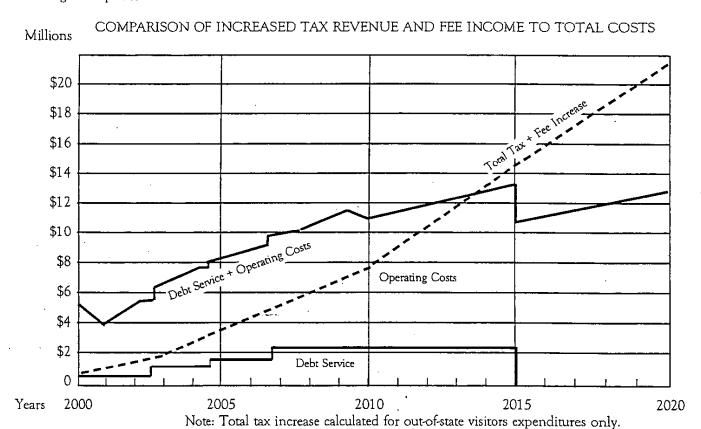
<sup>2)</sup> These totals for DWF provide partial funding for management of the Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge

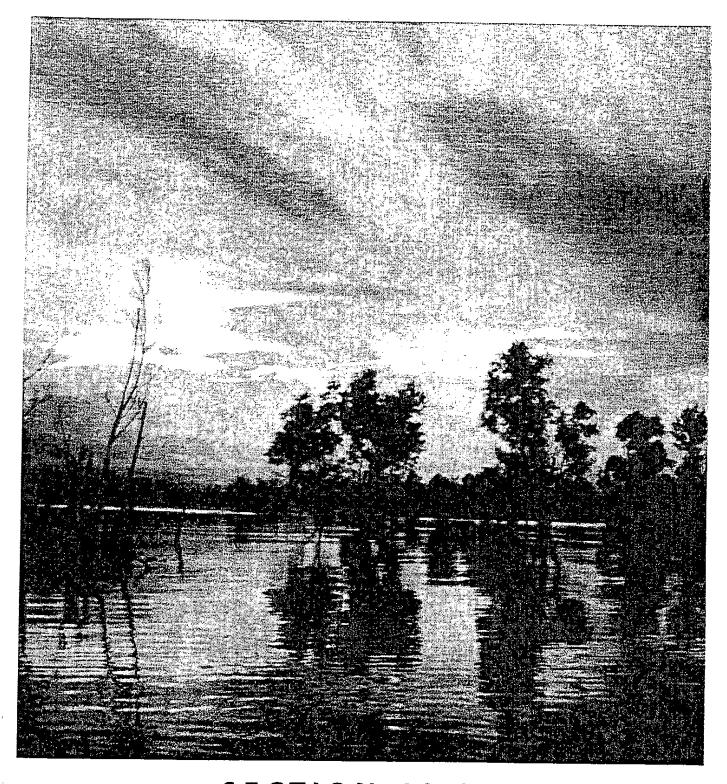
#### ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

## 9.44 Comparison of Increased Tax Revenue to Total Costs

Debt service is calculated on a 15-year prorated principal plus interest @ 7% basis. The usual 30-year bond would increase the surplus, but substantially increase the total amount of interest paid.

In effect, this plan puts the total burden of debt payment and operating costs on the user, rather than the general public.





SECTION 10.00 COMPLEMENTARY PLANS/PROGRAMS

# 10.00 COMPLEMENTARY PLANS AND PROGRAMS

10.10 Need for Complementary Plans and Programs

Interest in the Atchafalaya Basin area, local, national, and international, is twofold:

The river/swamp ecosystem;

The people, principally the "Cajuns", and how they were shaped by this environment.

The State Master Plan for the Atchafalaya Basin is part of a the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, LA Project which encompasses an area bounded by the East and West Protection Levees plus those communities and areas adjacent to the levees.

Thus, most of the "Cajun" culture is nestled in communities adjacent to the levees.

A complementary project answers that need.

## 10.20 The Atchafalaya Trace Heritage Project

Organizers of this project have received the support of many organizations, including the Dept. of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. A bill was approved, but not funded, by the 1997 Legislature which established the Atchafalaya Trace Commission.

The project is patterned after the National Heritage Area program defined in the Congressional Act as

"...a place designated by the Congress where natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography."

The organizers identify the Greater Atchafalaya Area as follows:

"...a unique blend of peoples of Native, Acadian, Creole, African, and European origin reside in the many small communities which surround the Atchafalaya Basin — an extensive semi-tropical swamp rich in natural resources and pristine splendor, a mecca for outdoor recreation enthusiasts, a place steeped in the mystique and color of South Louisiana heritage."

Thus, this project will be a major addition to the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, LA Project, providing additional areas of interest to visitors and an economic boost to the regional economy.

Communities identified will be "Gateways" to the project and highways identified will provide aesthetic access routes to the project and extensions of the visitor's enjoyment of the Atchafalaya Experience.

10.30 The Wildflower Management Program for Atchafalaya Levees

The Bayou Teche Scenic Byway was funded by FHA in 1994. Part of the project is to develop a corridor management plan with a regional native wildflower program as one element of the plan.

The program organizers have suggested that the West Protection Levee be part of that program, since it offers extensive land suited for wildflower management and the opportunity for public enjoyment to those touring the levee road to visit the many Basin recreational facilities on this route.

The attraction of the Texas Bluebonnet program has been studied and used as a pattern for this program which would be planned as a year-round program rather than just seasonal, as the bluebonnet festival.

A section of the levee near Henderson has become a wildflower scenic route by natural means and illustrates the added attraction to this route of this blaze of mingled colors.

## 10.40 Lower Atchafalaya River Study



An appealing picture to all generations

Ricky Verret

The Corps of Engineers is currently engaged in a study of the delta of the Atchafalaya River, the region south of Morgan city, including Avoca and Bateman Islands and the area to the east of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway, including Lake Verret and Lake Palourde.

The results of this study will be made available to the interested public.

10.50 Special Resource Study of Basin by National Park Service

"The National Park Service (NPS) is conducting a Special Resource Study of the Atchafalaya Basin, at the request of Congress. The purpose of the Special Resource Study is to evaluate the resources of the Basin for national significance, examine levels of existing protection, and to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of including an area in the national park system. The study will also explore means whereby basin resources can be protected, interpreted, and used for public benefit. It will not be a detailed plan or action document. Substantial NPS involvement is not possible without congressional authorization or further planning.

"Preliminary findings of the study, which will be completed in 1998, include the following:

"The Basin as a whole is not feasible for inclusion within the National Park system because of the over-riding flood control mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the requirements of which compromise the integrity of the natural system.

"The Basin does contain nationally significant natural and cultural resources in need of protection.

"The Basin is an outstanding example of a natural resource, possesses exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting many key natural and cultural themes of our nation's heritage, and offers exceptional opportunities for recreation, public use and enjoyment, and scientific study.

"A range of available management alternatives are explored as a means by which the Basin's resources could be protected, including implementation of the joint COE/State

Master Plan and the creation of a National Heritage Area to encompass the Basin.

"The legislation creating Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, which was established to preserve for the education, inspiration, and benefit of present and future generations, significant examples of natural and historical resources of the Mississippi Delta region, provides a means by which the NPS could become involved in the management of discrete areas containing significant natural resources within the Basin, for protection and interpretation. Such involvement could take place within the framework of the existing COE/State master planning process."

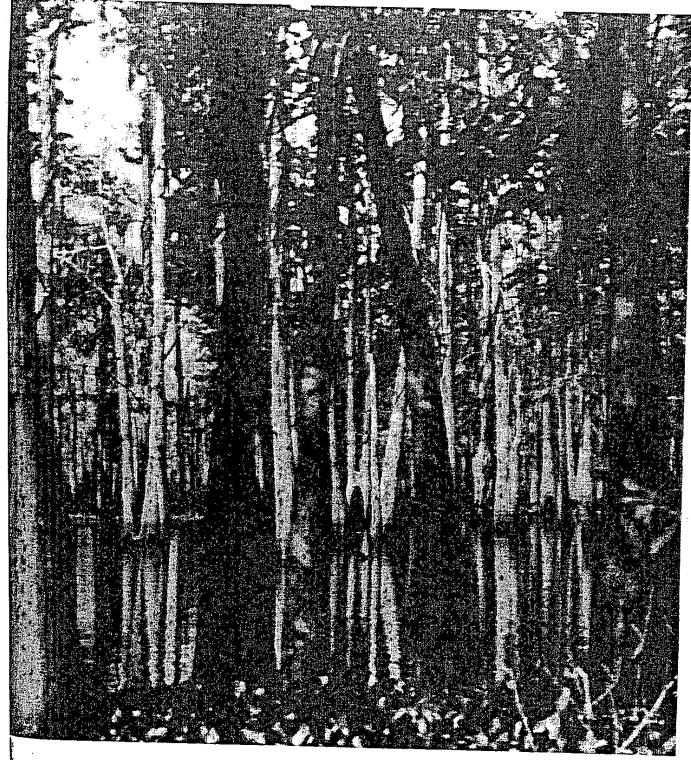
(Letter from David P. Muth of the National Park Service, dated February 17, 1998)

#### 10.60 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been requested by Congressman Livingston to study the Atchafalaya Basin with the objective of locating lands for acquisition. The Service will study the entire area of the project, including the lands above Hwy 190 for possible purchase as a national wildlife refuge. The Trust for Public Land will assist the Service in the effort.

## 10.70 The Coastal Restoration Program

This Federal/State Project authorized by the Congress to protect and restore, where possible, the coastal marshes and to build additional land with the silt carried by the rivers, is impacted by the work of the Atchafalaya Project, thus careful coordination of efforts is required in the public interest.



SECTION 11.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### 11.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

11.10 First Phase - January 1997 to April 1998

The public, at each step of the process, researched and drafted this "State Master Plan" for the Atchafalaya Basin Project.

The "public" included representatives of local, state, and federal agencies, of industries operating in the Basin, of landowners, of fishing and hunting clubs, commercial fishing and crawfishing interests, of environmental organizations, and of interested citizens.

The process included forty meetings during which each section of the plan was debated, additional information and views solicited, and consensus

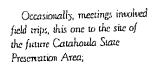
Vorking Group meetings involved reports from members, displays of and charts, and discussions concerning a single section of the Master being drafted.

reached. The choice between the "ideal" and the "possible" was always present and diligent effort made to find ways to reach the ideal.

Since each meeting was limited to a single section of the Plan, participants included those most interested in that subject. To provide an opportunity for all to review and comment on all the sections, quarterly meetings of the Advisory Committee were held. Comments received were included in the next draft to be reviewed.

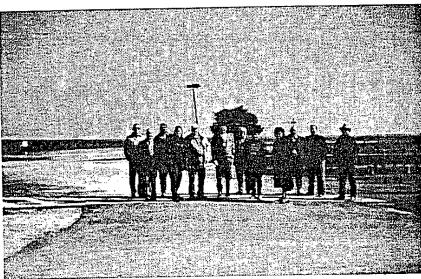
Most sections, including all the major sections, evolved through at least ten drafts and re-writes.

The "Final Working Draft" was presented to the Advisory Committee January 22, 1998 for review and comment. Comments received were included prior to printing.

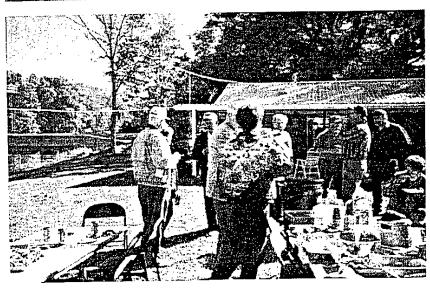




this one to Morgan City with City, St. Mary Parish, and Corps of Engineers Officials



and once we were served freshly-caught catfish and all the trimmings.



## n Second Phase - May 1998 - March 1999

This phase involves several tasks:

Members of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee will serve as messengers to deliver talks to interested clubs and organizations and answer questions concerning the state Master Plan;

Development of presentations and graphics for a series of statewide public meetings and media program;

Conduct public meetings throughout the state to explain the plan, secure additional input, and develop

The guidelines for an effective communications campaign were presented to the Publicity Committee and active participation of the members solicited to answer the questions presented and to plan solutions.

statewide public support for the project;

Preparation of an Executive Summary incorporating the suggestions received for wide distribution including the members of the Legislature, parish and local officials, members of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee, and interested citizens;

Work with the Corps of Engineers to develop a General Agreement concerning the project which is acceptable to the Corps and the state;

Presentation of the project to the Governor and the Legislature for approval and funding.

#### THE COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

#### Purpose:

What do we want to accomplish?

#### Message

What are the main points we want to get across?

#### Messengers:

Who can best deliver our messages?

How will the messenger(s) be trained? We want third party affirmation!

#### Audience(s):

Who are the main people we want to reach?

What will motivate them to take the actions we want?

#### Timing:

What are our natural pre-determined milestones?

What are others we can create?

What is our calendar of events?

#### Delivery System/Methods:

What are the best ways we can reach our audience(s)? How do they want to get their information?

#### Goals

What do we want the audience to do with this information?



APPENDICES















#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

MONG THE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY,

ILTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM, ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,

HEALTH AND HOSPITALS, NATURAL RESOURCES,

TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT,

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES AND

THE STATE LAND OFFICE

CINCERNING THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN FLOODWAY PROJECT PARTIALLY FUNDED BY CONGRESS (1250,000,000) NI PL 91-88 IN 1985 AND PL 93-662 IN 1986

#### HIRODUCTION

he Aichafalaya Basin, at 595,000 acres, is the nation's largest swamp ass, containing nationally significant expanses of bottomiand hardwoods, ands, bayous and back-water lakes. Fish and wildlife values are and one-half of the migratory species in the North American flyway are each year. Efforts are underway to protect the natural resources and a untainable multiple use of the Basin.

in July, 1995, the Colonel of the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Engineers (COE) requested Louisians's Governor to designate a lead to coordinate state participation in the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway Louisiana project. This project authorizes the Corps of Engineers to to actain interests and to construct certain improvements for the ment and/or protection of the fish, wildlife and other resources of the res within the Lower Atchafalaya Basin Floodway, and to manage, and maintain these features in accordance with the project purposes; showever, that the State of Louisiana shall agree in writing to provide the statutory obligations of the non-Federal Sponsor.

he Louislana Department of Natural Resources was designated as the any and has since formed the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee This committee is composed of government employees and private and will provide the forum for public discussion of state and federal and future plans concerning the Atchafalaya Basin.

#### VRPOSE

In purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to develop a idelines which will permit the State to fuffill its proper role and in as the non-Federal sponsor in the implementation of the Atchafalaya bodway System, Louisiana project, (Project) which project, as suby the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1985, Public Law 89-88, Water Resources Development Act of 1986, Public Law 89-862, In Manager Page 1986, Public Law 89-862, In Motowing features:

blic Access: Acquisition by the Corps of Engineers of the fee title test, exclusive of oil, gas and minerals, in 50,000 acres of privately med lands from willing sellers for purposes of public access, including med ands from willing sellers for purposes of public access, including med oil growth cypress-tupelo, and other areas to be designated. As title, purchase the appropriate easements, including road, channel, and are teasements over privately-owned lands in order to afford a servitude hasage from the nearest public right-of-way to the above referenced lett fee lands. As deemed necessary, in accordance with the "gressional authorization, the State will dedicate, manage, operate and full portions of the approximately 150,000 acres of additional State-let lands and waterbottoms and of the State's Dow donation lands the within the project limits for the Project purpose.

Cops of Engineers and the State of Louisians will manage, operate, inhintain the fish and wildlife resources of the public use lands alord and held in fee by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the state of the Engineers of Engineers in the state of the Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Engineers of Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Engineers of Engineers of Engineers of Engineers in the Engineers of Eng

Vitiency will be made for public access lands to be available for all interestional uses, including crawfishing, hunting and fishing; however, being subject to public health and safety concerns and safety of the Floodway.

Environmental Protection and Developmental Control Feature: The Corps of Engineers will acquire developmental control and environmental protection easements over approximately 338,000 acres of privately-owned lands, exclusive of developed areas located within the project area and will acquire flowage easements over approximately 59,000 acres of these same lands.

Water Management: in order to control water flow to maintain and enhance the existing tubitats within the Project area, pian, acquire (by the Corps of Engineers), construct, operate and maintain two "pliot" Management Units with the implementation of future units to be at the discretion of the Chief of Engineers and Congress after evaluation of the operational success of the pilot units and plan, acquire, construct, operate and maintain miscellaneous canal closures and water circulation improvements in the Project area. The Corps of Engineers will retain title to the easement interests to lands acquired for this purpose. The Corps of Engineers and the State of Louisians will manage, operate, and maintain the water management units in accordance with a Project Cooperation Agreement.

Recreation: Plan, acquire (by the State of Louisiana), construct, operate and maintain primitive and developed campgrounds, a visitor's center, boat ramps, nature trails and other facilities complementary to outdoor recreational activities with the Project area on 1500 acres of fee land acquired by the State of Louisiana for this purpose. The State of Louisiana will retain title to the fee recreational lands. The State will manage, operate and maintain the recreation feature in accordance with the master plan and the Project Cooperation Agreement.

The following goals are outlined by this MOU:

- A. To reach a consensus of state agencies and the public concerning the Basin so that the State speaks with one voice in negotiating with federal agencies and elements of the public;
- B. To develop, with the Corps of Engineers, a comprehensive Master Plan and Operation Management Plan which details the concepts, parameters, developmental and management criteria of the project features and to plan the acquisition, construction and operation of the authorized project features in concert with the approved Master Plan and Operation Management Plan.
- C. To develop a plan to promote the project statewide and to secure public and governmental support;
- D. To outline duties and responsibilities so that all interested state agencies and public groups can be involved, and
- E. To estimate the total required state share of the cost and to document all state services rendered which count toward this share and, thus, determine the non-federal funding required to implement the plan.

#### EL BACKGROUND

The Governor's Atchafalaya Basin Committee, created in 1971, was chaired by Secretary of State Wade 0. Martin, Jr. The committee sponsored legislation in 1972 which created a new commission and subsequent negotiations led to preliminary agreement on goals and objectives. One result of this action was the establishment, in 1978, of the Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area on state-owned lands.

In 1981, Louisiana's Governor Dave Treen announced that a consensus had been reached among landowners, environmentalists and affected governmental agencies. He presented his recommended plan to Congress and the COE. The Governor also announced the donation by Dow Chemical Company of 30,000 acres toward the plan.

in January 1982, the Corps of Engineers recommended the Implementation of Governor Treen's 1981 compromise plan in the Feasibility Study for the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louislana project. The Feasibility Report was recommended by the Chief of Engineers for submission to Congress in (February, 1983.

Complementing this project, in 1983, 10,232 acres of land were purchased by the State for the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (DWF) began work in 1986 to build access roads and to enhance the habitat. That effort is continuing. To date, this area is managed by the DWF and is a fully operational wildlife management area.

In 1985 the Congress enacted the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1985 which was reauthorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 which, as amended by subsequent acts, authorized and funded the Corps of Engineers to begin land acquisition and other actions.

Also complementing the project, in 1986, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) began acquiring land (15,255 acres to date) for the Alchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge which DWF is operating and maintaining for USFWS under an agreement.

Under the access portion of The Plan, the COE has purchased acreage north of interstate 10 on the west side of the Atchafalaya River and is operating it as inclan Bayou. DWF is assisting with enforcement services.

The COE also purchased acreage on the east side of the Aichafalaya River and DWF is assisting with the operation and maintenance of those lands. The COE plans to accelerate purchase of additional acreage in the lower Basin in the next year.

The COE has purchased easements on acreage for developmental control and environmental protection purposes. The COE plans to purchase easements on the remaining undeveloped acreage in the Basin, for a total of approximately 338,000 acres.

Under the water management portion of the plan, the COE has begun surveying in the Buffalo Cove area toward development of a pilot water management project. The COE is now monitoring the operation of a pilot water management project which was constructed by the COE in 1994 and 1995 at Bayou Eugene. The pilot project consisted of clearing and snagging Bayou Eugene and opening several cuts into the banks of Bayou Eugene and Florida Gas canal in order to restore the natural historic flowage patterns to the adjacent lands.

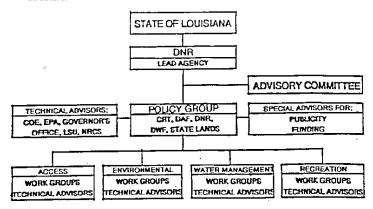
Under the recreation portion of the plan, the planning for the Atchafalaya River Landing Project at Simmsport and campground area is underway and should be opened to the public in 1998.

in order to move shead with the remaining parts of the project features, a memorandum of understanding should be signed among state agencies, and a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) must be signed between the State of Louislana and the Corps of Engineers for project features. Project responsibilities and cost sharing are set forth in the authorizing legislation and will be included in the Master Plan.

#### IV. ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been appointed to be the Lead Agency by the Governor and will assume the following responsibilities:
- Represent the State by presenting the consensus view of the policy group, state agencies and public groups involved in each issue listed in this MOU:
- Chair meetings of the policy and working groups which are called to reach decisions or to make recommendations;
- Assist the Policy Group in the development, with the Corps of Engineers, a comprehensive long-range plan for the Basin;
- Make presentations, with assistance as required, to the Governor, the Legislature, the COE and to civic and public groups;
- Chair planning and design conferences concerning the various Basin project features;
- Develop the public relations program, with the Corps of Engineers, to solicit statewide public support for the project;
- 7. Plan, call and chair meetings of the Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee;
- 8. Prepare and distribute summaries of meetings to attendees and to all members of the Advisory Committee concerning committee meetings. Prepare and distribute status reports to the COE, and annual reports to the Legislature and the Governor.
- Pisy a lead role in collecting documentation concerning inkind services performed by all agencies which can be counted a part of the state matrix.
- Chair meetings to estimate costs of the several project features requiring a non-federal match, and
  - 11. Play a lead role in requesting funding.

As Lead Agency, the DNR will work through the following organizational structure:



The Policy Group includes representatives from the following agencies:
Department of Natural Resources (Chair)
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Department of Agriculture & Forestry
State Land Office
Atchafalaya Levee Board

Currently, the group includes as technical advisors, representatives from the following:

Corps of Engineers
Environmental Protection Agency
Governor's Office
Louisiana State University
National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Additional advisors as needed

The Policy Group will assume the following duties and responsibilities:

- Coordinate the activities of the working groups;
- 2. Develop a comprehensive long-range plan for role of non-Federal sponsor in meeting project authorization requirements as contained in the comprehensive project Master Plan and Operation Management Plan, both of which will be developed by the Sinte of Louisiana and the Corps of Engineers in accordance with project authorization regulations;
- 3. Plan a public information program and through the Advisory Committee, plan and conduct statewide public meetings to discuss the program and secure public input. Provide information packets for media coverage and furnish speakers as requested for TV and civic and business meetings;
- 4. With input from working groups and the Corps of Engineers, detail estimated costs of current and future project features (as planned) and prepare a budget of non-federal matching funds required;
- Identify services provided by state agencies for which costshare credit will be sought. Assemble documentation of such services as provided by Corps of Engineers regulations governing such credit for services;
  - 6. Identify local sponsors for each project feature, and
- Prepare and implement a procedure to settle Issues within and among the working groups.

#### TASKS OF WORKING GROUPS:

Access: Advise on site selection for acquisition
Assistance to COE in finding willing sellers
Develop PCAs, with DNR and the designated non-Federal
sponsor, for the operation and maintenance of COE public
access lands
Purchase servitude of passage over some privately-owned
lands to provide access to some public lands

Environmental Features: Develop PCAs, with DNR and the designated non-Federal sponsor, for the acquisition, operation and . — maintenance of COE easement lands

Water Management: Advise on selection of new project features
Develop PCAs, with DNR and the designated non-Federal
sponsor, for the planning, acquisition, construction, operation
and maintenence of Buffalo Cove and other water
management project features including:

Monitoring Construction Monitoring Water Quality Monitoring Water Flow

#### Recreation Features:

Work with COE on master plan for recreation Advise on site selection for specific projects Develop PCAs, with DNR and the designated non-Federal sponsor, for the planning, acquisition, construction, management, operation and maintenance of projects

- g. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry (DAF) will assume the lowing responsibilities:
- Serve on Access Working Group to provide input concerning hype and condition of forests and to advise on selection of areas containing growth stands of cypress-tupelo;
- Serve on the Environmental Working Group and to assist the main monitoring timber easements;
- Serve on the Water Management Working Group to monitor the just and timber related effects of water flow changes by the COE as this affects nect features such as Buffalo Cove;
- Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group, to advise on selection of creas suited for particular recreation features;
- Monitor plans and actions of all working groups and provide at concerning all forest and soil management matters, and
  - 6: Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
- C. The Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT) will me the following responsibilities:
- 1. Assist the Policy Group in the development of a species to the Policy Group in the development of a
- 2. Serve on the Access Working Group providing input
  - Assist in locating willing sellers of land targeted for purchase;
- 4. Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group which will see the selection of sites for proposed campgrounds, nature trails, boat its and other similar projects;
- Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group to assist in thing new project features and to monitor the entire planning process for project features, particularly including tourism considerations;
- 6. Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group to plan the fiden of recreation project features, operate project features relating to the ld CRT, and develop budgets and document activities which may count as and contributions to match requirements for construction projects;
- Include the Atchafalaya Basin in the department's state and natiourism promotional program, and
  - Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
- The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will assume the ting responsibilities:
- Serve on the Water Management Working Group charged with ling the water quality effects of projects under consideration;
- Provide the Policy Group with Information and documentation loss performed in the Basin which may be eligible for in-kind state match what funding, and
  - Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
- The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) will assume the preponsibilities:

- When requested, assist all working groups which are involved in planning facilities in the Basin, by providing state requirements for sewage disposal and other health protection regulations which must be included in the planning process;
- Continue to provide permits for sewerage facilities for private camps, and regulate any public water systems, and
  - Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
  - F. The State Land Office will assume the following responsibilities:
- Assist the Access Working Group, and other working groups, in selecting lands for acquisition and in designating access routes to existing and planned Basin project features;
- Provide access to state lands to accomplish goals of public purposes including fish and wildlife features;
- Monitor and report any actions which restrict public access to navigable waterways, and
  - 4. Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
- G. The Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) will assume the following responsibilities:
- Serve on the Water Management Working Group to monitor construction of water management projects to insure that the state's interests are protected;
- Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group regarding planning recreation and other projects in the Basin which require the construction of roads, parking areas, flood control and drainage systems;
- Serve as a clearinghouse for water quality information under the Louisiana Water Resources Information Center, and
  - Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.
- $\rm H. \ \ \ \ The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (DWF) will assume the following responsibilities:$
- Assist the Policy Group in the development of a long-range comprehensive plan for the Basin;
- Continue to operate and maintain the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area and the Attakapas Island Wildlife Management Area;
- Continue to manage lands purchased by the COE in the vicinity of Sherburne WMA provided that an acceptable agreement can be reached between DWF and COE:
- COE provided that an acceptable agreement can be reached between COE and
- 6. Assist the Policy Group in planning future budgets to provide for state matching funds required, and in the documentation of current and planned expenditures which may qualify as state matching funds;
- 6. Serve on the Access Working Group charged with assisting the COE with:
  - Selecting sites for acquisition,
  - B. Enhancing and protecting aquatic and terrestrial habitat,
  - C. Finding willing sellers of selected lands.
- 7. Serve on the Water Management Working Group to help select water management projects and provide information concerning aquatic and terrestrial habitat;
- Provide habitat considerations information to the Water Management Working Group as it pertains to monitoring water quality effects, water management maintenance and operation and water flow control;
- Serve on the Recreation Features Working Group to provide habitat information to guide the planning of selected projects;
- 10. Serve on the Water Management Worlding Group to monitor the effect of flow changes by the COE on wildlife and fisheries resources and their habitats, and

Attend and participate in meetings of the ABAC.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Atcharalaya Basin Advisory Committee will provide a forum for public discussion of state and federal actions and future plans concerning the Atchefalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana project. The ABAC membership includes:

> All state agencies involved in the Basin All federal agencies involved in the Basin Representatives of the Governor's Office and the Louisiana Legislature Representatives of all major environmental groups Louisiana Landowners' Association industry representatives Police Jury representatives from Basin parishes Fishing and hunting clubs Private citizens

The ABAC will meet quarterly to receive reports and to discuss the progress of activities.

A report of each meeting will be distributed to all members and made available to the public, including a summary of all presentations and a list and discussion of all decisions reached. Suggestions from the public will be listed and actions to be taken concerning those suggestions will be outlined.

The ABAC will have input into the annual Report to the Governor and Legislature.

#### **COST SHARING**

The Federal and non-Federal cost-sharing obligations for the planning, acquisition, and/or construction (First Cost) and for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the features of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana project, as established by the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1985, Public Law 89-88, and by the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended, are as follows:

State Lands, as needed, will be dedicated to the project purpose.

#### PUBLIC ACCESS FEATURE:

First Cost:

Private Lands - 100% Federal 76%

M40

Federal:

25% State

DEVELOPMENTAL CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FEATURE:

First Cost:

Private Lands - 100% Federal

25%

044

75% Federat:

State:

FLOWAGE EASEMENT FEATURE:

First Cost:

Private Lands - 100% Federal

0 & M:

Federal: 100%

WATER MANAGEMENT UNIT, CANAL CLOSURE AND CIRCULATION IMPROVEMENTS FEATURE\*\*:

First Cost:

Private Lands - 100%

0 & H:

Federal: 75% 25%

State:

RECREATION FEATURE: E

First Cost

Federal: 60%

State: 60%

The State of Louisiana will acquire the fee interest, exclusive of minerals, in 1,500 acres of privately-owned lands, and will perform all relocations and atterations of utilities, facilities and improvements necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the project, and will be entitled to receive a credit for the value of these contributions against its 60% share of the cost of construction.

"In cases which are not deemed to be environmental in nature, the cost-sharing may be reduced to 75% federal, 25% non-federal,

Existing and future services provided by the state in the Basin will count as part of the non-lederal share provided that satisfactory negotiations with the COE properly define such services, provided such services comply with project authorization and COE regulations.

#### FUNDING OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE

The agencies participating in this MOU will develop a proposed budget with estimated costs for funding the non-federal share of the Atchafalaya Floodway Plan project with the goal of presenting the plan to the 1999 Legislative session.

Once approval has been obtained, annual appropriations will be requested in an amount sufficient to fulfill the State of Louisiana's project obligations, as non-Federal sponsor, for the project features, or the separable elements thereof, for which Federal funds have been appropriated and acheduled for expenditure.

#### VIL. **GENERAL**

- Nothing in the KOU is intended to diminish, modify or otherwise affect statutory or regulatory authorities of any of the signatory agencies. All formal guidance interpreting this MOU and background materials upon which this MOU is based will be issued jointly by the agencies.
- Nothing in this MOU will be construed as indicating a financial commitment by the signatory agencies for the expenditure of funds except as authorized in specific appropriations.
- This MOU will take effect on the date of the last signature below and will continue in effect until modified or revoked by agreement of all algoratory agencies, or revoked by any of the signatory agencies alone upon 90 days written notice. Modifications to this MOU may be made by mutual agreement and approval by all the signatory agencies. Such modifications will take effect upon signature of the modified document by all the signatory agencies.
- D. The signatory agencies will refer delineation requests to the appropriate agency pursuant to this MOU.

**VIL SIGNATURES OF PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENT SECRETARIES** 

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Secretary,

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STATE LAND OFFICE

April 24, 1997

Vol. No.

March 9, 1998

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#### APPENDIX C

## State of Aonisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Buton Nouge

# STATE OF LOUISIANA LAND USE PROPOSAL FOR THE FINAL ATCHAFALAYA EASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

My land use plan adopted for the Atchafalaya Basin must recognize at the basin is first and forement a floodway. Uses that are president with the continued use of the basin as a floodway must be while and actions which are necessary to maintain the basin as a subject must be given first priority.

The recommended plan involves the obtaining of certain easements of private property in the basin. If in the future it is determined at these easements are no longer necessary, the owner of the property jet to the easements should be given the first option to repurchase where an easement gives the government the right to provide the increas to private property, provision must be made to exomerate private property owner from non-intentional tort liability for idents arising out of the exercise of that easement.

∰(: SEERAL:

mmpt as specifically provided below, an A-7 Easement should be mined over all property except developed ringes and State owned perty in the basin.

The A-7 Easement would generally provide the following rights in property:

- 1) The landowner retains ownership and the right to exploit sinerals:
- The landowner retains the right to control public access;
  I) The landowner retains ownership of timber and the right to
  practice silviculture (as conditioned below);
- is in government would obtain the right to flood the property;
  is the government would control all excavations, landfilling, and
  uses which change the natural condition of the property (e.g.
  to clearcutting to convert land to a different use);
- the government could prohibit permanent habitable structures (other than camps); and
- Additional uses and structures would be subject to governmental regulation or prohibition.

#### ERM. PRODUCTION (OIL AND GAS)-

The A-7 Essement would leave the ownership and right to exploit stals with the property owner. In eccordance with LSA R.5. 31:149, woriging will not run against the property owners. Those rights with have to be exercised in accordance with accepted mineral relocations. It is envisioned that the conditions will be allowed process. It is envisioned that the conditions will be allowed process. (Section 404). Concern has been expressed by rain property owners, particularly the oil and gas industry, that anditions of exploitation may become so encous as to be whitive. The conditions of exploitation should be worked out in more and incorporated into the easement and authorizing legislation. After recumends the conditions contained in Appendix A be so expressed.

TOWND HARDWOODS AND PARTY SUCCESSIONAL BOTTOMIAND HARDWOODS - The Laceant would leave ownership of the hardwoods and the right to the silviculture with the landowner.

Devet, the easement should be re-written to specify that those to would be subject to the following conditions:

- 1) No land-clearing for conversion to other land uses;
  2) No mon-regenerative timber cutting; and
  3) If silviculture is practiced, it must be on a substainable yield basis.
- In addition to the A-7 Easement over the basin, an A-2 Easement ald be acquired over 30,000 acres of bottomland bardwoods. The A-2 and is the same as the A-7 Easement except:

- The government would obtain ownership of the bottomland hardwoods; and
- The government would have the right to provide public access to the property.

The purpose of the  $\lambda$ -2 Easement is to set aside this acreage in its natural state and to allow an area of public access for recreation (principally hunting.)

In addition the government should be authorized and encouraged to purchase additional acres on a willing vendor basis.

The acres acquired should be sufficiently contiguous to accomplish the purposes set forth above.

CYPRESS-TUPELD STANCE - The A-7 Easement leaves ownership and right to practice sliviculture of Cypress-Tupelo stands with the property owner. Again, this easement would have to be re-written to provide that those rights are subject to the three conditions set forth in the section on bottomland Randwoods.

With regard to cypress, however, the condition providing for no non-regenerative cutting should aslo include a provision specifying no clearcutting. Serious concern has been expressed over the regenerative ability of cypress. Apparently, it is very difficult to determine if cypress tree cutting is in accordance with a program of sustainable yield, or is in effect a "mining" operation. It is felt that the prohibition of clearcutting of cypress stands and a vigorous program of conducting by the Louisiana Office of Forestry is necessary to protect cypress from a possible non-regenerative level of cutting. Pederal financial assistance may be necessary to properly monitor sustainable yield cutting.

In addition to the  $\lambda$ -7 Easement over the basin, an  $\lambda$ -2 Easement should be taken on 20,000 acres of Cypress-Tupelo stands and an  $\lambda$ -6 Easement over 30,000 acres of Cypress-Tupelo stands. The  $\lambda$ -6 Easement would give the government the right to allow public access to the lands, but retain concrship of the Cypress-Tupelo stands and the right to practice silviculture with the property owner.

It is recommended that the government be authorized and encouraged to obtain additional Cypress-Tupelo stands from willing vendors.

Again, the acres should be sufficiently contiguous to accomplish the purposes for which they are acquired.

The conditions for practice of silviculture should be worked out in advance and incorporated into the easement and authorizing legislation.

GREDERLING. It is recommended that two types of greenbelts be created to provide public access to land areas for recreational purposes. These would be A-2 Easements.

- 1) Greenbelts along specified public navigable waters The greenbelt would consist of 300 foot-wide strips of land on each side of specified public navigable waters. It must be emphasized that the designation of public navigable waters would be for the purpose of identifying greenbelt areas and not for the purpose of determining ownership to the water or waterbottoms. The greenbelts should incorporate as much cypress-tupelo acreage as feasible.
- 2) <u>Periseter-Greenbelts</u> These greenbelts would consist of land areas up to U4 mile wide along specified areas of land inside and adjacent to the Atchafalaya Basin Guide Levess. Except as provided below, the right would not include access to the lawse. The areas considered would be those in which the 1/4 mile or less width would bring the periseter greenbelt into contact with water. Certain areas would be specified for controlled access over the leves to the greenbalt.

The designation of a perimeter greenhelt is not to interfere with the governments right to engage in flood control activities on that property. This specifically includes the right to obtain material from the property for leves construction.

The total area act solde for the two types of greenbelts would be 23.000 acces.

The greenbalt property would be subject to the conditions of an A-2 easement. Public access includes the right of owners of property landward of a greenbelt area to cross the greenbelt to exercise on the landward property any right they would have under an A-7 Easement. Also, the existing right of the landowner to establish a comp on his property and fonce our a reasonable area for privacy would not be stridge by the obtaining of the A-2 Easement for a greenbelt.

CAMPSITES, BOAT LAUNCH AREAS, ROOKERIES, SPECIAL AND UNIQUE AREAS -

Rookeries - An 1-2 Easement should be obtained over 500 selected acres of rookeries.

Compaires, boat launch areas, special and unique areas — In A-1 Easement should be obtained over 1500 acres for compaires, boat launch areas and special and unique areas. An A-1 Easement would give the government fee simple title to the land. However, it would reserve mineral rights to the original property owner. In accordance with LSA R.S. 31:149, prescription will not rum against the property owners.

Since the primary method of public access to the basin is by boat, every effort should be made to maximize the number of boat launch areas in the basin.

MATER ACCESS - An important element of public access in the basin is access by water to overflow lands flooded during seasonal high waters. The legal right to this access is unclear. The Louisiana Attorney General is urged to issue a legal opinion clarifying the right of public access by water to overflow lands. If this right does not exist, an A-6 Easement would be necessary to provide comparable access.

STATE CAMED LANGS - The State of Louisiana will maintain the state lands in the basin open for public recreational access. State title shall not be prejudiced by another government's acquisition of an easement from private claimants to any of these same lands. Language to this effect should be incorporated in all easements.

MANAGEMENT - The working group believes that management of non-flood CONTROL elements of the final Atchafalaya Basin Plan should be through State of Louisiana agencies.

A-7 - Generally over basin

A-6 - 30,000 acres Cypress-Tupelo

A-2 - 30,000 acres Bottomland Hardwoods 20,000 acres Cypress-Tupolo Stands

23,000 acres Greenbelts 500 acres Rookeries

1,500 acres, cammaites, unique and special areas

Total - 105,000 acres

APPENDIX A

Oil and Gas Activities
in the
Alchafalaya Fish, Wildlife, and Hulli-Use Area

The United States Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, in proposing the Atchafalaya Fish, Wildlife and Hulti-Use Area, recognizes that oil and gas activities would be fully compatible with any operational, multipurpose plan established for that area. It is, therefore, the intent that such activities, within the area, will not be subject to any additional restrictive regulations affecting oil and gas activities.

Furthermore, mineral owners, mineral lessess and pipeline companies shall have the right to use surface and subsurface property of the Atchafalaya Fish, Wildlife and Multi-Use Area as may be necessary for the conducting of operations for the exploration, development, production, storage, transportation and marketing of oil, gas and other liquid or gaseous minerals, including but not limited to, the construction, maintenance and operation of wells, pumping units, pipelines, storage tanks, valves, meters and other above or below ground facilities relating to such exploration, development, production, storage, transportation, or marketing. In addition, this right shall particularly include, but shall not be limited to, the fol' ing actions where normally associated with oil and gas exploracion, development, production, storage, transportation, or marketing:

- access to all parts of the Atchafalaya Fish, Wildlife, and Multi-Use Area on a year-round basis;
- (2) access via all navigable waterways;
- (3) right to dredge, maintain, and use canals as needed for the exploration for and production and transportation of oil, gas, and other liquid or gaseous minerals;
- (4) with respect to the construction, use, and maintenance of production facilities, the right to:
  - a) dike and fill
  - b) place facilities on pilings
- (5) the right to construct, maintain, operate, and use pipelines and flowlines for the transportation of oil, gas, water (salt or fresh), and other liquid or gaseous minerals. The pipelines and flowlines will be constructed in accordance with standards prevailing in the industry;
- (6) where land access is available to a location, the right to construct, use and maintain suitable roads. Mater levels in monagement units shall be regulated, as closely as possible, to simulate natural overflow patterns, thus facilitating coordinated planning of such road locations and elevations with water management plans;
- (7) the right to construct, use, and maintain electric utility and telephone lines;
- (8). the right to drill, use and maintain wells for the disposal of produced water;
- (9) the right to excavate, use, and maintain pits and other facilities normally needed in connection with oil and gas exploration and production operations;
- (10) the right to conduct or have conducted geological surveys including those that require the use of explosives:
- (11) the right to dispose of drilling mods and other waste in the manner and to the extent required by State and Federal law.

#### APPENDIX D

Annual Management Plan Submittal and Approval Process
1998

6 January

This document outlines the process for the submitted of Annual Management Plans by the various State agencies involved in the Operation and Maintenance of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project. Management plans will be submitted and reviewed to assure compliance with U.S. Army Environmental Regulation 1130-2-400. This procedure will enable the Corp to incorporate these management activities into their budget and reporting schedule.

The Park Manager, Senior Park Ranger, and Natural Resource Specialist (NRS), will meet with the LDWF representatives no later than 1 March preceding the upcoming fiscal year. At this time the Annual Management Plans will be discussed and coordinated. This plan is an annual increment of the 5-year management plan. Detailed plans for the next Fiscal Year and estimates for the following four years will be developed.

By 1 April State Agencies will submit the Annual Management Plans for Corps review and evaluation. (see attachments for format).

The review period will be completed no later than 15 April. Work items will be evaluated based on applicability to the Project objectives. Upon completion of the review period, the management plans will be signed and approved by the Operations Project Manager and returned to the state by 1 May.

Throughout the fiscal year quarterly reports will be submitted no later than 30 days following the end of each quarter. These reports will be an account of actual revenues and expenditures with a description of work accomplished (same format as the work plans).

This submittal process and reporting system will allow the Corps and LDWF to coordinate management activities on Corps fee owned land. This procedure will precisely layout our management objectives and enable us to utilize our agencies' resources to accomplish these tasks.

#### APPENDIX E

#### DRAFT RATING FACTORS

- 1. Management Unit
  - A. Existing Conditions
    - a. Total Land
    - b. Total Aquatic
      - 1. Natural (lakes, bayous)
      - 2. Man-made (canals, navigation channels)
      - 3. Swamp
  - B. Future
    - a. Total Land
    - b. Total Aquatic
      - 1. Natural (lakes, bayous)
      - 2. Man-made (canals, navigation channels)
      - 3. Swamp
- 2. Usage of Management Unit
  - A. Land
    - a. Hunting
    - b. Camping
  - B. Water
    - a. Recreational Fishing
    - b. Commercial Fishing
      - 1. Fish
      - 2. Crawfish
- 3. Access to Aquatic Areas
  - A. Existing
    - a. High water
    - b. Low water
  - B. Future
    - a. High water
    - b. Low water
- 4. Feasibility of Implementation
  - A. Opposition/Support of Agencies
  - B. Opposition/Support of Public
    - a. Commercial Fishing
      - 1. Fish
      - 2. Crawfish
    - b. Recreational Fishing
    - c. Hunting Clubs
    - d. Land Owners



M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR. GOVERNOR

JACK C. CALDWELL SECRETARY

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

February 16, 1998

Col. William Conner US Army Corps of Engineers P:O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160

Dear Col. Conner.

It is our understanding that the New Orleans District is planning to address the issue of funding and constructing the Water Management Unit feature of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System, Louisiana Project.

It is our opinion that the construction, operation and maintenance of the water management units should have a high priority in the implementation of the Atchafalaya Basin Project. The goal of these units is to restore, where possible and to preserve, where feasible, the natural habitat that has made the Atchafalaya Basin a national treasure.

The State of Louisiana is in final preparation of the State Master Plan for the Atchafalaya Basin and will present this plan to the 1999 Legislative Session for funding. Our agencies will request the State's share of the operation and maintenance costs (75% Federal - 25% State) for the management units, along with the other features of the Plan. Once approved, the State will enter into a cost/share agreement with the Corps which will outline the details of this management. We request that the Corps allocate funds for the design and construction of the water management unit feature in addition to funds allocated for land acquisition.

If any further information is needed from us, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jack Caldwell, Secretary

Department of Natural Resources

Jimmy-Jeokins, Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries



# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. Army Corps of Engineers WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

CECW-ON

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS.

SUBJECT: Water Resources Development Act of 1996, Section 208a

- 1. Section 208a of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (Act) directed the Secretary of the Army to provide increased emphasis on, and opportunities for recreation at, water resources projects operated, maintained, or constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and to transmit a report to Congress on specific measures taken, not later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act.
- 2. A five member task force has been established to develop a strategy for identifying actions which place the Corps in conformance with this Act. Part of their effort will include obtaining input and suggestions from all levels of your respective commands, as well as from our customers and partners.
- 3. A similar effort that will be going on at the same time is the establishment of the National Recreation Lakes Commission. The President is expected to appoint the Commission soon with H. Martin Lancaster, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, as the Commissioner representing the Army.
- 4. I recognize the importance of this effort and know I can count on the support of you and your staffs so that the Corps is able to comply with the Act.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

RUSSELL L. FUHRMAN Major General, USA

Director of Civil Works

Printing cost acknowledgement.....

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