

**Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed
Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain and Wetland**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) under 24CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under **Resilient Communities Infrastructure Program (RCIP) Project Number 55LDRC7702** is located in the **Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and wetland**, and **TPCG** will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the **floodplain and wetland** and the potential impacts on the **floodplain and wetland** from the proposed action, as required by **Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690**, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed project location is **at 756 Geraldine Road in Gibson, Terrebonne Parish**. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a **0.2 percent flood approach**. **The proposed Bayou Black Pump Station project is approximately 3.12 acres in total and located within Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone AE and a riverine R2UBH-classified wetland. The wetland is Bayou Black. The wetland type supports functions such as continuous surface water flow and improved water quality. The site is adjacent to existing infrastructure, including a barge gate, floodwall, and the Geraldine Levee. The project includes installation of vertical pumps, generators, an access road, and is intended to improve flood management within the Chacahoula-Gibson Basin.**

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in **floodplain and wetland** and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the **floodplain and wetland**, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the [floodplain/wetland]. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about **floodplain and wetland** can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in **floodplain and wetland**, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by **TPCG** at the following address on or before **July 2, 2025**:
terrebonneenvironmental@csrsinc.com. A full description of the project may also be reviewed below.

Problem Definition

Instructions:

- All required fields are marked with an *.
- Given you have the proper permissions, use the **SAVE** button to save information and calculate data on each page.
- Save at least every 30 minutes to avoid losing data.

Please fill out the sections below or provide attachments with requested information.

Provide a comprehensive description of the problem this project will address. Including, but not limited to:

- **What are the expected results?**
- **Is this a new/existing problem?**
- **What was the previous use of the site?**
- **Does the problem affect a historic area?**

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) has received approval under the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (PDM) program to support construction of a new pump station in the Chacahoula-Gibson Basin at Bayou Black. The FEMA funding requires a 25% non-federal cost share match to complete the total project funding, which is proposed to be covered by Parish RCIP CDBG-DR funds. The objective of this pump station is to reduce the risk of flooding in habitable areas on the south side of the basin and the northern bank of Bayou Black. The new Bayou Black Pump Station will allow the Parish to control water levels during seasonal high tides, while also preventing the northern area of the basin from flooding.

The basin experiences flooding during concentrated rainfall events when the control structures along the southern boundary are closed, which prevents runoff from draining into the marshes and Gulf. During hurricane level events, such as Ida, the impacts are exacerbated. The flooding causes damage to man-made buildings and causes losses to the wetlands in the basin.

The south side of the area has been closed off by a system of levees and tainter gates that have been constructed in each of the canals that drain out of Bayou Black. Natural drainage and storm water runoff accumulates within the levee system when the gates are closed. In addition to the storm water runoff that flows into Bayou Black through the Terrebonne Lafourche drainage canal, the bayou also receives flows from the Lower Atchafalaya River, through the Avoca Island Cutoff Channel during seasons of high river stages. During these periods additional drainage will begin to flow into the Bayou from the northwest end. The flat topography of the lower basin, subsidence, artificial ponding, sea level rise, and high-water levels due to the Atchafalaya River have reduced the effectiveness of gravity drainage, causing flooding. This inability to drain the excess inflow causes the basin to begin to backfill northward and causes backwater flooding in residential areas on the northern bank of Bayou Black.

The section of Bayou Black, in which the proposed pump station is to be constructed, is adjacent to the existing barge gate and floodwall system. This existing structure is located between Geraldine Road and Old Spanish Trail within the protected side of the system. There are no historic areas adjacent that will be affected by this project.

DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Does the proposed project have a tie to at least one of the 2020/2021 disasters? Yes No

Which disaster does the project tie back to? Select all that apply.

Hurricane Laura

Hurricane Ida

Hurricane Delta

May Flood

Explain the project rationale for the tie-back to the disaster(s):

The Bayou Black community is prone to flooding, especially during high-water seasons and after natural disasters like Hurricane Ida. When Hurricane Ida hit as a Category 4 storm with 150 mph winds, it pushed beyond the capacity of Terrebonne Parishes' flood protection system, which was overwhelmed by the volume of water. Hurricane Ida brought wind damage, heavy rainfall, and power outages. The storm surges in Terrebonne Parish reached 8.30 to 10.30 feet above Mean Higher High Water (MHHW), leading to widespread flooding, property damage, and resident displacement. The pump station will reduce the risk to the nearby community.

Per FR-6303-N-01, HUD requires that grantees demonstrate that they have incorporated mitigation measures into CDBG-DR activities as a construction standard to create communities that are more resilient to the impacts of the recurring natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.

Describe the resiliency efforts and/or performance metrics applicable to this activity.

The construction of the Bayou Black Pump Station supports resilience efforts through the installation of a modern pump station featuring four 66-inch vertical pumps and electric motors. The pump station is strategically designed to activate exclusively when barge gate closures are in effect, thereby serving as an effective measure in extreme conditions. The new pump station will promote long-term resiliency to better withstand, respond, and recover more rapidly from hurricane events. It will help mitigate the overall risk to the population and structures from flooding and future hazardous storm events. Bayou Black Pump Station will be designed and built to be resilient in the face of hazards such as storms and changing environmental conditions by ensuring the pump station will be constructed with reinforced concrete or other durable materials, built to resist high wind loads, and designed for redundancy and reliability with multiple pumps and backup power.

The performance metrics will be determined by quantifying the overall increase in pumping capacity and reduction in flooding in surrounding community.

MITIGATION ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Per FRN-6368-N-01, HUD defines mitigation activities as those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters.

Does the proposed project meet the definition of a mitigation activity?

Yes No

Describe the mitigation aspects, including performance metrics applicable to this activity.

The Bayou Black Pump Station will enhance the region's resilience against natural disasters such as hurricanes and flooding. The project's efficacy will be evaluated based on its ability to decrease the water surface elevation during flood incidents and mitigate the risk of flooding in neighboring areas. This mitigation project aims to improve long-term resilience through reducing loss of life or damage to property in future disasters with improved water management infrastructure.

Because of the proximity of the Parish along the Gulf coast, the region is highly prone to tropical storms and hurricanes. Since 1965, twenty presidentially declared disasters have been associated with tropical storms and hurricanes that have impacted the Parish. The Terrebonne Parish Mitigation Plan was updated after Hurricane Ida to better understand and educate the public about the community's risk and resilience in the face of future storms. The Parish's mitigation plan includes a wide spectrum of activities from increased power redundancy, wind risk reduction, local implementation of levees to protect the lower reaches of the Parish, floodgates on every major bayou, the funding of new pump stations and channels, and the design of a lock system to augment floodgates.

Terrebonne Parish recognizes the urgent need for the mitigation of heightened risk of flooding during storm events. This project contains mitigation activities aimed to prevent or reduce loss of life, injury, property damage, and suffering caused by future disasters, as defined by HUD and the Terrebonne Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan and Louisiana's 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Once the pump station is completed, it will function to provide increased protection to the community in the long term.

Flood Risk Information

Attach the appropriate flood profile and discharge tables, if applicable, from the Flood Insurance Study with the project site and elements / improvements marked. Please see the Flood Insurance Study Attachment Examples ([Appendix 2](#)) for guidance.

Upload here:

Black Bayou PumpStation FEMA_FIS_map.pdf

Attach the FIRMette from the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). FIRMs are typically available from your local floodplain administrator who may be located in the planning, zoning, or engineering office, or the FEMA web page at <https://msc.fema.gov/>. Maps can also be ordered from the Map Service Center at 1-800-358-9616. Clearly mark all construction areas of the project on the map.

FIRMETTE_Bayou Black.pdf

Additional Flood Risk Information **Description**

Discharge Tables.pdf

Flood and Discharge Tables FIS

Using the Flood Insurance Study or FIRM, indicate the applicable flood zones for the project site. Check all that apply.

VE or V 1-30

AE or A 1-30

AO or AH

A (no base flood elevation given)

B or X (shaded)

C or X (unshaded)

Floodway

Coastal Barrier Resource Act (CBRA) Zone