

Military Road Committee Summary of Input, Findings, and Recommendations

These findings and recommendations come after 5 monthly meetings and a bus/boat tour of the entire flood basin. Attendees include oceanographers, engineers, environmental specialists and biologists, wildlife managers (including Ducks Unlimited), Ecotourism operators along the West Pearl River, Councilmen, State Representatives and Senators, and Levee Board members. Also included were multiple agencies dealing with coastal projects and many local homeowners.

Reviews of previous studies including previous Fritchie Marsh restoration efforts (1991), 2017 Coastal Master Plan, including reworking of the Rand data with newer computer models, and the 2024 Coastal Master plan. All programs below are considered synergistic.

Summary of findings and recommendations:

- 1) Agreement for funding home elevation proposed by USACE.
- 2) No interest in a USACE proposed levee north of Existing Kingspoint levee to Hwy 190 E, and so far, no alternative alignment proposals
- 3) Strong interest in study of Hwy 190 and 90 barrier structure to 11 feet for surge protection—New Orleans Levee to Pearlington, AND from Kingspoint Levee to Hwy 190, then east along Hwy 190 to meet at Hwy 90. Design similar to Hwy 11 Eden Isles project. Recommend study design outline and cost of study. CPRA
- 4) Hasten NO Land bridge utilization as surge barrier—US Hwy 90 and CSX Railroad
 - a. Currently under study by Pontchartrain Restoration Program by resolution from Board of Regional Planning Commission of GNO
 - b. Identify lead study person/group
 - c.
- 5) Restoration of Fritchie Marsh (below).
- 6) Acquisition of 100 acres +/- of wooded land at Military Rd and Old River Rd which acts as a surge barrier to areas north of the powerline along Military Road (fallow forest land).

FRITCHIE MARSH RESTORATION

LANDOWNER STAKEHOLDERS

US WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES: BIG BRANCH AND PEARL RIVER NWR

LA CONCHA, LLC

DISCUSSION PARTICIPANTS:

STP DEPT OF ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING (LAFAYETTE)

NWR

CPRA

QWIPRA

COALITION TO RESTORE COASTAL LA

DUCKS UNLIMITED

AQUA DAM

USACE

- 1) RESTORE FRESHWATER SEDIMENT FLOW INTO THE FRITCHIE MARSH
 - a. Prevent diversion of the West Pearl into the Middle Pearl- Fridays ditch diversion
 - i. Aqua Dam to block Friday's ditch
 - ii. Weir structure to divert diversion into Friday's ditch
 - b. Enhancement of flow from the West Pearl into Salt Bayou, then **enhance** flow from Salt Bayou into the Marsh
 - i. CPRA
 - c. Opening "Lake Katrina", and thus Maple Slough, into the Marsh, across Hwy 190 North/West of Apple Pie Ridge Church-diversion canal, then **enhance** flow from the diversion canal into the Marsh
 - i. USWF/CPRA
 - d. Opening Doubloon Bayou at Military Road with a bridge or large box culverts
 - i. Enhancing flow across property owners (Garret Field/homeowners)
 - ii. Then clearing of Doubloon Bayou across Hwy 190 down into the Marsh
 - iii. **Enhance** flow below Hwy 190 into the Marsh
 - iv. CPRA/Neil Schaffer and STP engineering
 - e. Revisit enhancement of W-14 runoff from the City of Slidell into the March
 - f. Creation of saltwater intrusion gates at the western end of Salt Bayou at the Lake
 - i. CPRA
- 2) Dredge from origin of Doubloon Bayou at the Pearl River to the mouth of the West Pearl and shunt the river bottom sediment into Fritchie marsh through the three openings/routes above
- 3) Marsh terracing and filling to expedite marsh recovery, DU and Royal Engineering
 - a. Engineering done. Stakeholder agreement and funding pending.
- 4) Use parish ditch residue as a fertile contribution ongoing via the above flow projects (fertilizer), STP Engineering
- 5) Plant resistant tree/plant species that create dense foliage for surge inhibition and wildlife protection while preventing marsh erosion (STP Engineering)

Discussion:

- 1) Gain funding to study Hwy 190/90 surge barrier (? CPRA), similar to Hwy 11
- 2) Gain funding to study components of Fritchie Marsh Restoration (CPRA, QWIPPRA, Ducks Unlimited, Coalition for Coastal Restoration, STPEngineering, USWLF)
 - i. Weir at Friday's ditch
 - ii. Dredging of W Pearl to mouth and diversion of sediment into Fritchie Marsh
 - iii. Creation of diversion from "Lake Katrina"/Maple Slough to Fritchie Marsh (190)
 - iv. Enhancement of flow into Salt Bayou and Fritchie Marsh
 - v. Prevention of saltwater intrusion into Salt Bayou from Lake Pontchartrain
- 3) Get status of Rigolets NO Land Bridge study (who, when, how, what), assign representative of STLDCD to participate.