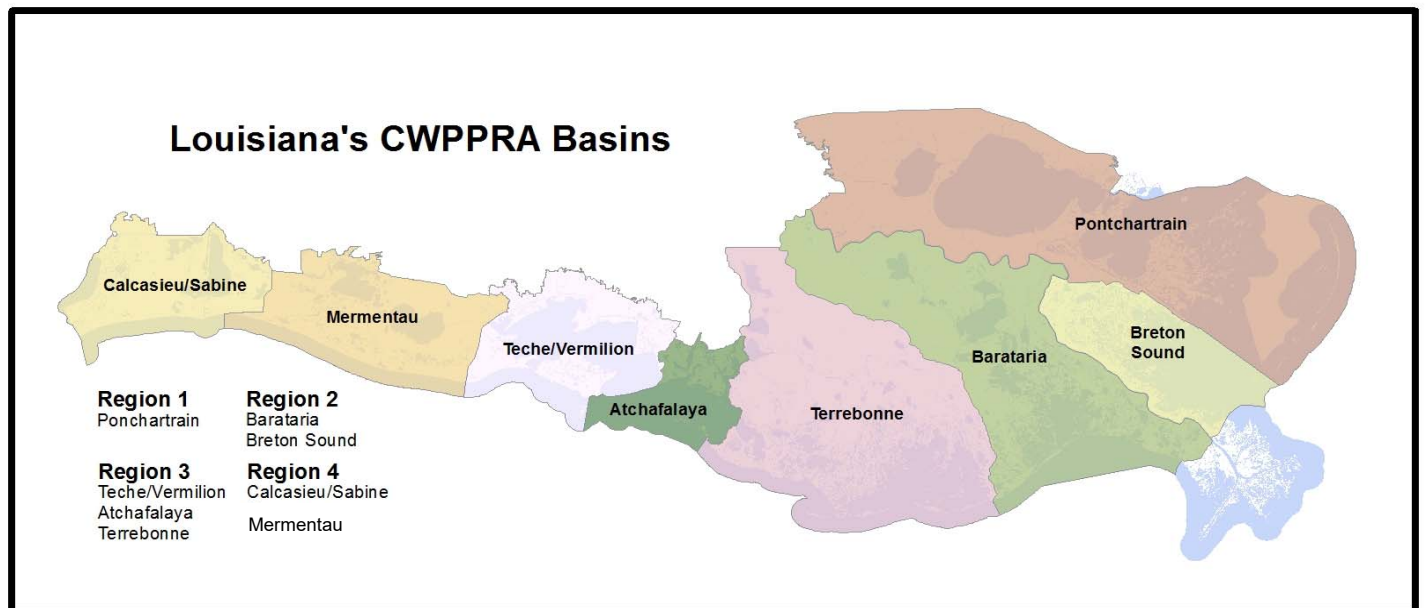




# Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Priority Project List (PPL) Selection Process

## Project Nominations

The 4 Regional Planning Teams (RPTs), consisting of representatives from the CWPPRA agencies and the coastal parishes located in those regions, will meet to propose projects to be included on the new PPL. Project nominations will be accepted in all the hydrologic basins below. *All proposals must be consistent with the 2017 State Master Plan to be considered as possible nominees; therefore, those wishing to propose projects are encouraged to work with representatives of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority prior to the RPT meetings to develop projects that are consistent.* A lead agency will be assigned to each nominated project to prepare preliminary project support information (factsheet, maps, and potential designs, and benefits).



- Project nominations that provide benefits or construct features in more than one basin shall be presented in the basin receiving the majority of the project's benefits.
- Multi-basin projects can be broken into multiple projects to be considered individually in the basins which they occur.
- Coastwide Projects
  - Proposed technique applicable across the coast; refer to Appendix F of the CWPPRA Standard Operation Procedures for coastwide project guidelines
  - Project nominations that are legitimate coastwide applications will be accepted separate from the 8 basins at any of the 4 RPT meetings.
- Demonstration Projects
  - Demonstrates a technology which can be transferred to other areas in coastal Louisiana
  - Refer to Appendix E of the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures for demonstration project guidelines

If similar projects are proposed within the same area, the RPT representatives, including the CWPPRA agencies and *only* the parishes located within the project’s basin, will determine if those projects are sufficiently different to allow each of them to move forward. If not sufficiently different, such projects will be combined into one project nominee and a federal sponsor will be determined. This decision to either combine similar projects or allow each to move forward will be made at the RPT meeting where the similar projects are proposed. If a mutually agreeable position on sponsorship cannot be determined by overlapping sponsors, voting by the RPT representatives (including agencies and only the parishes within the project’s basin) will occur to determine sponsorship at the RPT meeting.

For non-overlapping projects, a federal sponsor does not have to be identified prior to the coastwide vote.

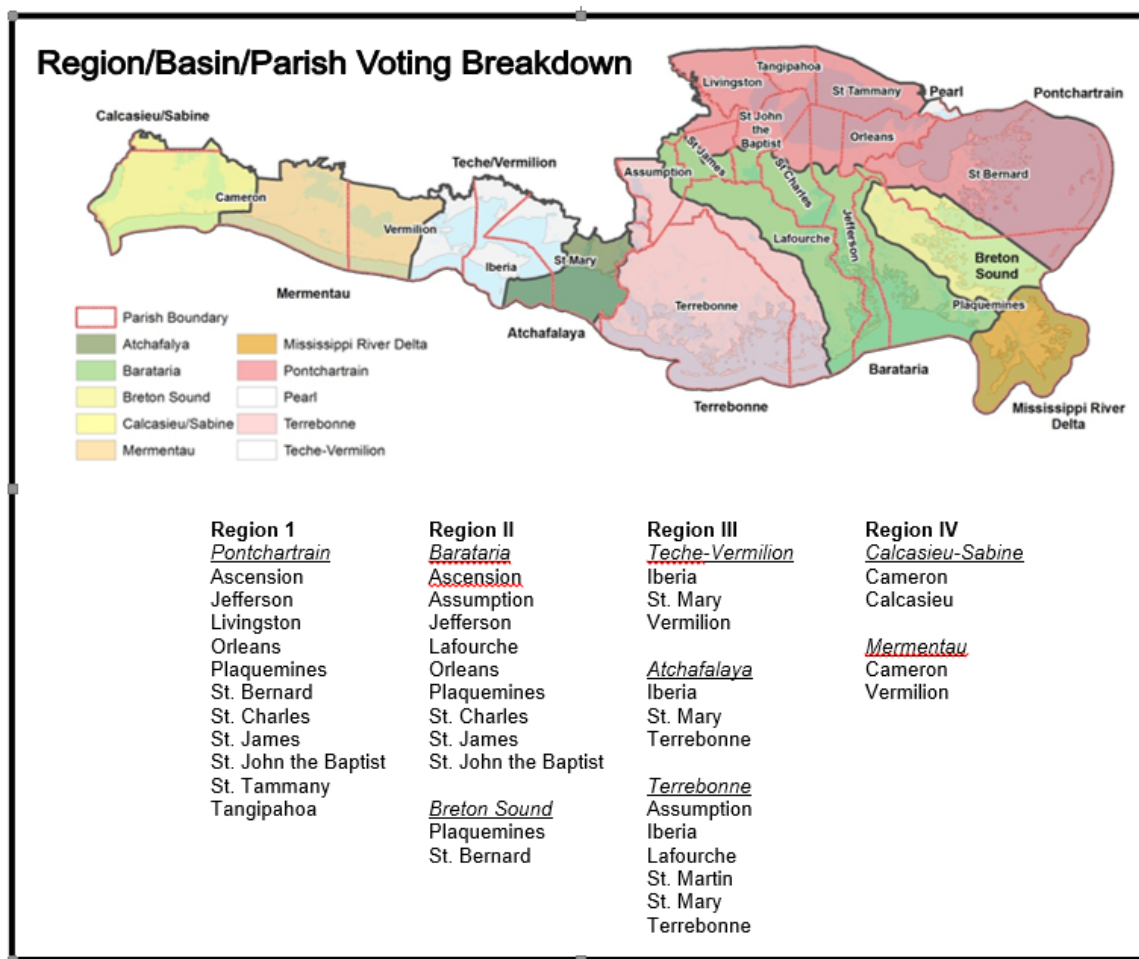
Prior to voting on project nominees, the Environmental Work Group (EnvWG) and Engineering Work Group (EngWG) will screen coastwide project and demonstration project nominations to ensure that each qualifies for its respective category as set forth in the CWPPRA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

| Nominees | Basin            |
|----------|------------------|
| 4        | Barataria        |
| 4        | Terrebonne       |
| 3        | Breton Sound     |
| 3        | Pontchartrain    |
| 2        | Mermentau        |
| 2        | Calcasieu/Sabine |
| 2        | Teche/Vermilion  |
| 1        | Atchafalaya      |
| 1        | Coastwide        |
| 22       | TOTAL            |

### Coastwide Electronic Vote

The RPTs will vote after the individual RPT meetings via email to select nominee projects. The RPTs will select projects per basin based on land loss rates (see table on left) and up to 6 demonstration projects.

During the RPT meetings, all CWPPRA agencies and parishes will be required to provide the name and contact information for the official representative who will vote to select nominee projects. Each officially designated parish representative in the basin will have one vote and each federal agency and the State will have one vote.



## **Preliminary Assessment of Nominated Projects**

Agencies, parishes, landowners, and other individuals will informally confer to further develop projects. The lead agency designated for each nominated project will prepare a brief project description that discusses possible features. Factsheets will also be prepared for demonstration project nominees.

During this preliminary assessment, the EngWG and EnvWG meet to review project features, discuss potential benefits, and estimate preliminary fully funded cost ranges for each project. The Work Groups also review the nominated demonstration projects. If it is determined that a demonstration project is unlikely to be utilized in restoration or has been evaluated previously, the Work Groups may recommend to the Technical Committee that these projects not move forward.

The P&E Subcommittee prepares a matrix of cost estimates and other pertinent information for nominees and demonstration project nominees.

## **Selection of Phase 0 Candidate Projects**

The selection of the Phase 0 candidate projects occurs at the spring Technical Committee meeting. The Technical Committee meets to consider the project costs and potential wetland benefits of the nominees. They will select 10 candidate projects regardless of basin and may select up to 3 demonstration project candidates for detailed assessment by the EngWG, EnvWG, and Economic Work Group (EcoWG).

## **Phase 0 Analysis of Candidate Projects**

During Phase 0 analysis, the EngWG, EnvWG and Academic Advisory Group meet to refine project features and develop boundaries for the project and extended boundaries for estimating land loss.

The sponsoring agencies coordinate site visits for each project to observe the conditions in the project area. There will be no site visits conducted for demonstration projects. The sponsoring agencies develop draft WVAs and prepare Phase 1 engineering and design cost estimates and Phase 2 construction cost estimates, using formats approved by the applicable work group. Demonstration project candidates will be evaluated as outlined in Appendix E of the SOP.

The EngWG reviews and approves Phase 1 and 2 cost estimates, the EcoWG reviews cost estimates and develops annualized (fully funded) costs, and the EnvWG reviews and approves all draft WVAs.

The Corps of Engineers staff prepares an information package for Technical Committee review and public distribution consisting of:

- 1) Updated project factsheets;
- 2) A matrix that lists projects, fully funded cost, average annual cost, WVA results in net acres and Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs), and cost effectiveness (average annual cost/AAHU);
- 3) A qualitative discussion of supporting partnerships and public support.

## **Selection of the PPL**

The selection of the PPL will occur at the winter Technical Committee and Task Force meetings. The Technical Committee meets and considers matrix, project factsheets, and public comments, then recommends up to 4 projects and up to one demonstration project for selection to the PPL. The Task Force will review the Technical Committee recommendations and determine which projects will receive Phase 1 (design) funding for the PPL.

Once a project completes Phase I, Phase II (construction) funding must be requested from the Task Force and much of the evaluation is updated using additional information gained since original analysis.



## Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

### PPL 29 Schedule

|                                |                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 2019                   | Region IV Planning Team Meeting (Grand Chenier)                                                                                                    |
| January 2019                   | Region III Planning Team Meeting (Morgan City)                                                                                                     |
| February 2019                  | Regions I and II Planning Team Meetings (Lacombe)                                                                                                  |
| February 2019                  | Coastwide RPT Electronic Vote                                                                                                                      |
| March/April 2019               | Agencies prepare factsheets for RPT-nominated projects                                                                                             |
| March/April 2019               | Engineering/Environmental Work Groups review project features, benefits, & prepare preliminary cost estimates for nominated projects (Baton Rouge) |
| April 2019                     | P&E Subcommittee prepares matrix of nominated projects showing initial cost estimates and benefits                                                 |
| April 2019                     | Spring Technical Committee Meeting, select PPL 28 candidate projects (New Orleans)                                                                 |
| May/June 2019                  | Candidate project site visits                                                                                                                      |
| May 2019                       | Spring Task Force Meeting (Lafayette)                                                                                                              |
| July/August/<br>September 2019 | Eng/Eng/Econ Work Group project evaluations                                                                                                        |
| September 2019                 | Fall Technical Committee Meeting, O&M and Monitoring funding recommendations (Baton Rouge)                                                         |
| October 2019                   | Fall Task Force Meeting, O&M and Monitoring approvals (New Orleans)                                                                                |
| October 2019                   | Economic, Engineering, and Environmental analyses completed for PPL 28 candidates                                                                  |
| December 2019                  | Winter Technical Committee Meeting, recommend PPL 28 and Phase I and II approvals (Baton Rouge)                                                    |
| January 2020                   | Winter Task Force Meeting, select PPL 28 and approve Phase II requests (New Orleans)                                                               |

***\*DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE\****

Visit [www.lacoast.gov/calendar](http://www.lacoast.gov/calendar) for up-to-date information regarding meetings dates, times, & locations.