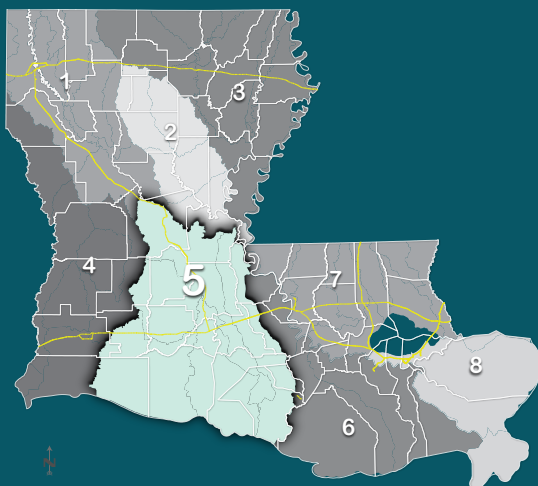




LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

ABOUT LWI

Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI) was formed to help manage Louisiana's future flood risk through watershed-based solutions. As a result of the 2016 Flood, the State works with local governments to develop a new approach to managing our floodplains. The LWI was established to manage this program. In 2019, the State was divided into eight watershed regions.



OUR APPROACH

- Use scientific tools and data.
- Enable transparent, objective decision-making.
- Maximize the natural flow of floodplains.
- Establish regional, watershed management of flood risk.

LWI REGION FIVE

GOVERNANCE RECOMMENDATION

REGIONAL SUMMARY

PLANNING/ DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

- Promote consistent watershed-based floodplain management policies
- Develop a regional watershed mitigation plan
- Promote best practices for development for inclusion in the CRS
- Regional watershed-based permitting

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- Provide planning, technical assistance, and regional funding for projects to include LWI Phase 2 and 3
- Seek out external funding opportunities
- Act as a clearinghouse for projects impacting the watershed
- Assist in funding O&M costs for projects

DATA AND MODELING

- Decentralization of watershed model use, storage, and maintenance
- Financially sustain MUSM as a public product of the District
- Operate and maintain a regional gauge network

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

- Create public awareness of the NFIP CRS program, its benefits, and establish a CRS user group
- Support and promote parish collaboration among municipalities, local drainage districts, and other entities involved in the watershed

RECOMMENDED COALITION AUTHORITY

- Establish a Water Management District represented by all 16 parishes, staffed by Acadiana Planning Commission and develop partnerships with UL Watershed Flood Center and the Teche Vermilion Fresh Water District. The District should have the ability to generate funds; plan, develop, and implement projects; and develop flood coordination response plans with indemnified authority for implementation.



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Chicot State Park, Evangeline Parish

LWI REGION 5 STEERING COMMITTEE

- ACADIA PARISH - **Earl Garber**
- ALLEN PARISH - **Gardner Rose**
- AVOYELLES PARISH - **TBD**
- CALCASIEU PARISH - **Terry Frelot**
- CAMERON PARISH - **Scooter Trosclair**
- EVANGELINE PARISH - **Donald Bergeron**
- IBERIA PARISH - **Larry Richard**
- IBERVILLE PARISH - **John Clark**
- JEFF DAVIS PARISH - **John Marceaux**
- LAFAYETTE PARISH - **Jessica Cornay**
- POINTE COUPEE PARISH - **Mark Ward**
- RAPIDES PARISH - **Matt Johns**
- ST. LANDRY PARISH - **Karl Aucoin**
- ST. MARTIN PARISH - **Chester Cedars**
- ST. MARY PARISH - **Tim Matte**
- VERMILION PARISH - **Ralph Libersat**
- APC APPOINTEE - **Pamela Granger**
- APC APPOINTEE - **Emad Habib**
- APC APPOINTEE - **Donald Sagrera**

CONTACT

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Acadiana Planning Commission
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IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP

- »» Acadiana Planning Commission (APC), at the direction of the LWI Region 5 Steering Committee, should facilitate all Coalition meetings and will perform administrative functions related to the work.
- »» The coalition should be enabled by a combination of legislation via a state commission, as well as locally, in accordance with the state charter.
- »» All state watershed coalitions should be authorized by a single charter that includes a list of standards and authorities identified by all regions, wherein each region is able to choose which standard or authority to implement and to what degree within individual coalition bylaws/ regional charters.
- »» The coalition should have oversight by a state agency that provides technical support, coordination among regions, and state-level management.
- »» The regional watershed boundaries should be enabled via state legislation and a process for boundary modifications should also be addressed.
- »» The coalition should have the ability to obtain external funding and maintain stable local funding. The coalition will help local jurisdictions access grant funds and assist with grant administration. The coalition could serve as a conduit for grant funds, but revenue streams should not be limited to only grant funds.
- »» The state should lead the effort in drafting the legal elements that reflect the recommendations, while regions collect feedback on provisional recommendations. Regions should be kept aware of continued progress.
- »» For more information, visit planacadiana.org/watershed/lwi-region-5/

