REGION 5 GOVERNANCE RECOMMENDATION PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES "THE GAP IN SERVICES"





RECOMMENDATION - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

Project Priorities, CRS strategy, Regional Policies, & Watersned Permitting		
EXISTING CONDITION	PROPOSED SOLUTION	
Lack of identified watershed project priorities "Regional Projects"	Develops watershed/hazard mitigation plan	
5 communities out of ~72 participating in the CRS program, higher insurance premiums, lack of capacity among communities to manage CRS eligible activities	Develop a regional Community Rating System strategy and best practice	
Project modeling is typically confined to a political jurisdictions and the limitation of existing models to verify true impacts of watershed projects	Adopt a regional watershed-based permit and permitting process	

RECOMMENDATION - PROJECT IMPLEMENATION Regional Coordination, O&M Funding, & Planning Funding		
EXISTING CONDITION	PROPOSED SOLUTION	
Parishes plan for projects after a disaster strikes and are often dependent on state and federal funds. Limited coordination occurs among parishes within a HUC 8 watershed and limitations exist for ensuring no adverse impacts on neighboring parishes.	Coordinate with local entities to plan and fund regional projects; the Coalition becomes a clearinghouse for projects impacting the watershed.	
Limited resources and capacity inhibit rural areas from seeking external funding sources. These same funding sources often do no contribute to operations and maintenance of existing projects.	Find supplemental funding for projects and support for the implementation of projects; Assist local jurisdictions in funding longterm operations and maintenance of existing projects.	
Minimal to no local funds are generated for project planning and technical (engineering) assistance.	Provides technical and financial assistance to local jurisdictions in the development of project plans.	

RECOMMENDATION - DATA & MODELING Regionally Housed Model, Model Sustainability, & Regional Gauge Network		
EXISTING CONDITION	PROPOSED SOLUTION	
Lack of regional watershed models to make data-driven watershed management decisions. Workforce development- Limited exposure to water-science careers among young professionals.	Local/Regional (Decentralized) Model Use, Storage and Maintenance (MUSM)	
No local funding mechanism to support regional watershed modeling scenarios, model storage, and future model calibrations.	The Coalition would financially sustain MUSM and make it publicly available.	
Need for improved water science tools within our riverines and tributaries that enhance future model calibration and contribute to flooding alerts that generate near to real time data for emergency response purposes.	Operate and maintain a regional gauge network	

RECOMMENDATION - OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT CRS public awareness, CRS user group, & Water entity coordination		
EXISTING CONDITION	PROPOSED SOLUTION	
Lack of knowledge about the NFIP Community Rating System program and the benefits of participation within the program.	Public awareness campaigns to promote best practices for development and CRS participation.	
Limited resources and capacity dedicated to CRS participation and/or obstacles preventing communities from entering the program.	Provide oversight and management of a CRS User Group	
Nearly 400 entities exist within LWI Region 5 with some level of water management responsibility and little coordination exists on common goals for water management improvements. Inner-parish coordination will improve regional cooperation and advocacy for regional needs.	Support and promote inner- and intra- parish collaboration among municipalities, local drainage districts, and other entities involved in the watershed for effective watershed management	