

MID-BRETON SEDIMENT DIVERSION

THE PROBLEM

LOUISIANA'S COAST IS UNDER ATTACK

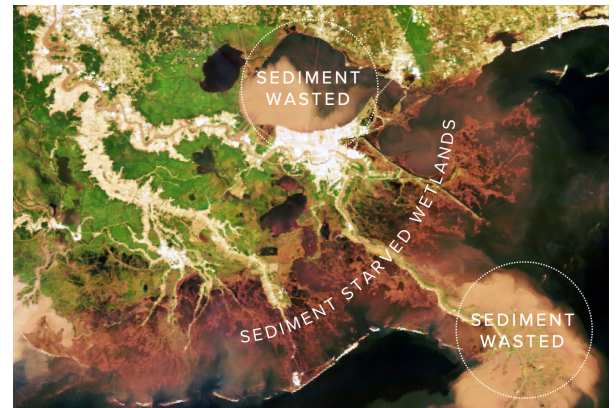
Since the 1930's, Louisiana has lost over 2,000 square miles of land due to the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, subsidence, hurricanes and storm surge, and interrupting natural deltaic processes – representing some of the most aggressive rates of land loss in the country.

It's not only a loss of the physical landscape. As our coastline continues to disappear, communities are more susceptible to flooding and damage from hurricanes and other storms, habitats that protect our fish and wildlife are disappearing, and the industries that utilize our coastline every day to bring in billions of dollars into our economy see changes and impacts every day.

DOING NOTHING TO ADDRESS OUR LAND LOSS CRISIS IS NO LONGER AN OPTION

SO, WHAT DO WE DO?

Since 2007, CPRA has dredged and pumped more than 157 million cubic yards of sediment to benefit or build 47,646 acres of coastal habitat. We've built barrier islands and invested in innovative marsh creation projects – but this isn't sustainable. Because these types of projects aren't supported by natural land building processes, they're subject to the same forces driving our rapid land loss as soon as they're put on the landscape and they're costly to maintain.



THE SOLUTION

RECONNECT THE RIVER AND RESTORE NATURAL PROCESSES

To combat our coastal land loss crisis, we have to address the root cause – a disconnected and starved basin. Our current levee system, while vital to community and infrastructure protection, restricts the Mississippi River from nourishing the basins it originally built and exacerbates our land loss problem. The river carries tons of nutrients and sediment through Louisiana every day, but it's currently being forced into the Gulf of Mexico instead of being distributed into our basins to build and sustain wetlands.

By restoring natural land-building processes, a sediment diversion has the capability to harness the river's sediment load and strategically divert it back into the basin. Most importantly, these projects will build AND sustain wetlands, by increasing nutrients and sediment deposition.

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LOCATION

WILL'S POINT/
BERTRANDVILLE, LA

STATUS

ENGINEERING & DESIGN

FUNDING SOURCE

NATIONAL FISH AND
WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

PERMITTING

The Mid-Breton Sediment Diversion is undergoing a robust permitting process and the required simultaneous Engineering & Design phases – ensuring that the project is designed to maximize sediment delivery and land building, while minimizing negative impacts in the environment.

A critical component of the permitting process is the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is based on best available science and data aggregated from a variety of sources will detail potential impacts, both adverse and beneficial, to the environment as a result of construction and operation of the projects.

FEATURES

The projects' design consists of a gated structure aligned with the Mississippi River levee system and a self-contained channel that flows from the river to the basin.

STAY INFORMED
AND ENGAGED

Join Team CPRA for Coastal Connections – an open-house style event for stakeholders to talk to the project team about questions, comments, or concerns.



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