ATCHAFALAYA BASIN PROGRAM

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Department of Natural Resources

LaSalle Building, Griffon Room, 1st Floor

BATON ROUGE, LA

August 8, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS:

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Bobby Reed

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Glenn Constant

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Bill Kelso

Department of Natural Resources Keith Lovell

Department of Environmental Quality Chris Piehler (absent)

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Mike Walker

ALTERNATES:

LSU Renewable Natural Resources Richard Keim (Absent)

USGS Dan Kroes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service David Walther (Absent)

Others Present:

Department of Natural Resources Staff Don Haydel

Department of Natural Resources Staff David Fruge

Department of Natural Resources Staff Sara Krupa

Department of Natural Resources Staff Thomas Van Biersel

Department of Natural Resources Staff Dana Naquin

USACE Steve Roberts

USACE Yvonne Allen

National Audubon Society Paul Kemp

Gulf Coast Environmental Solutions Paul Chadwick

**1.** **Call to Order, Introductions, Roll Call**

**2**. **Agenda approval**

Motion by Glenn Constant

Second by Bill Kelso

Agenda approved

**3.** **Approval of minutes from 07/19/12 meeting**

Motion by Bill Kelso

Seconded by Glenn Constant

Minutes Approved

**4.** Discussion of FY2014 Project Nominations – Glenn Constant led the discussion

* 1. **# 201201 – Connect Atchafalaya River to Mile Point Bayou and clear small trees in Mile Point Bayou**  - add additional water into system, Corps already has a project in the area. Glenn Constant will meet with Harold Schoeffler to discuss nomination in detail, this element not functioning as well as intended, Glenn briefly discussed reconstruction, evaluate maintenance, Steve Roberts stated Corps would not object to this project. State action not federal action, too lengthy to recommend to the Corps to include in Buffalo Cove WMU, prioritize this element. Mike Walker commented that program should spend State dollars in a more valuable project. Glenn Constant suggested not moving forward because project does not have benefits.
  2. **#s 201202, 201204, 201205, 201206, 200941, the engineer’s alternative proposal to 200941, and the separate inquiry regarding a rock dike installation in the Santa Fe Pipeline Canal at its connection to the barge channel. All these are in the Pigeon Bay Water Management Unit and were proposed at the last TAG meeting to be considered together** – Get more water into designated area, already have action in unit. Adding connections brings up question of sustainability. Close off Upper Grand River questions this will effectively reduce sediment, no sign of sediment reduction. No clear benefit, expensive project with no clear results. Bill Kelso said could approve after analysis shows beneficial effect. Glenn Constant – concept to merge elements to achieve benefit to overall area. Bill Kelso pointed out that project doesn’t address solution in this area, Mike Walker suggested deferring to WMU until looked at more closely. Evaluate for next meeting, Glenn will go through each project individually and provide summary to TAG Members via email and open up discussions and get feedback for next meeting.
  3. **# 201203 – Creation of a hydrodynamic model for the Cocodrie Swamp Project (Project #s 200915 and 200916) –** Funding and timeline don’t fit with Cocodrie Swamp project, not sure nomination fits into project format. Not opposed but Atchafalaya Basin Program is not right venue for this nomination, pursue this in project development phase, defer to next meeting, discuss which areas need this model. Glenn will discuss further with Paul Kemp.
  4. **# 201207 – Installation of a rock jetty immediately north of Bayou Sorrell’s connection with the Atchafalaya River to divert sediment; also close Coon Trap** – Coon Trap not up for discussion, have same opinion from past nomination, not in scope of what the Atchafalaya Basin Program does, will not evaluate further.
  5. **# 201208 – Dredge point bar from the end of Murphy Lake –**Very costly, what will you do with spoil? East Grand Lake features that may help and be more sustainable. Glenn will contact Brian Piazza to discuss in detail, address fish passage and human access.
  6. **Discussion of previously deferred nominations that could be considered in this Annual Plan cycle** – Don Haydel pointed out Taylor Point for members to think about. Members noted there is no water quality benefit and has been renominated several times, no environmental benefit, recommend not reconsidering.

1. **Public Comment on Water Management Projects Proposed for Consideration by the TAG –** Keith Lovell addressed possible need to vote on motion to establish sub-committees to review project nomination information. Glenn Constant said the board has discussed in previous meetings and will not need a subcommittee for this effort. Glenn Constant will create summary of project nominations.
2. **New Business- N**o new business
3. **Old Business –** Glenn Constant discussed Corps using construction fund for hurricane damage, Steve Roberts with Corps reported Texaco and Amerada Hess in design phase and closures to begin mid-March 2013. Glenn Constant mentioned attending a meeting in St. Martinville on 08/07/12 and participants had questions about Butte LaRose. Steve Roberts with Corps will research and respond to Glenn about these closures.
4. **Public Comment –** No public comment
5. **Adjourn**

Motion by Bill Kelso

Seconded by Glenn Constant

Meeting adjourned