



IBERIA PARISH LEVEE, HURRICANE, & CONSERVATION DISTRICT MASTER PLAN ENHANCEMENTS AND INITIAL PERMITTING

Project No. 2015-03

Location: Iberia Parish, LA

Contract Value: \$320,025

Completion Date: Ongoing

Owner/POC:

Iberia Parish Levee District

Project Specific Disciplines

- Environmental Planning
- Permitting
- Public Outreach
- Coastal Engineering
- RESTORE Act consulting
- Data Analysis and Management
- Scheduling

The Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane, & Conservation District (Levee District) is working with Royal to expand its comprehensive Master Plan to ensure the Parish is protected from flood and hurricane impacts. Royal is enhancing the existing rudimentary Master Plan to create a clear vision forward by advancing protection project details, developing a project phasing plan and funding strategy, identifying priority permitting needs, and conducting public outreach to also ensure the enhanced Master Plan is publically acceptable and in line with State restoration goals.

Royal is updating the Parish-wide, earthen levee project in the existing Master Plan by providing an alternative alignment based on newly acquired information, and then creating a phasing plan to divide the overall project into logical phases, clearly define the scope of each phase, identify the most beneficial sequence for construction, and the probable cost of each phase. A preliminary implementation schedule will consider funding sources, geography, and any related work.

As part of creating the Master Plan, Royal is identifying necessary initial permitting needs in priority phases. This will include delineating wetlands, performing site surveys, conducting endangered species and cultural resources investigations, and preparing permit drawings. Once the phasing plan is complete, Royal will determine how much advanced permitting is needed to complete the project.

The funding analysis and report will identify all potential funding sources, determine the steps needed to acquire funding and the eligibility of available funds for Master Plan implementation. Royal will also advocate for funding for Levee District, and produce a strategy to acquire those funds for the project implementation. Funding sources may include, but are not limited to funds related to the BP Oil Spill, Community Development Block Grants, and funds such as the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act.

A successful Master Plan is one that the local community embraces and is in line with State hurricane protection and coastal restoration goals. To ensure acceptance and alignment, Royal is reviewing the phasing plan for consistency with CPRA South Central Study and other relevant studies. Royal will also schedule and facilitate meetings with all relevant Federal, State, and local agencies and stakeholders to identify roles, responsibilities, and requirements of each. These meetings will ensure the most cost-effective and expeditious manner in which to meet Agency requirements. Royal will also hold public meetings, prepare and distribute technical information to the public, prepare presentations, and receive and incorporate public comments on the Master Plan.