PRE-APPLICATION

SECTION B. PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please complete the following section and provide requested attachments.

PROJECT STREET ADDRESS

If the project has multiple locations, please input the primary street address of the project. If the project does not have a definite street address, please input the approximate street address or nearest cross-street of the project.

Street: Lake Martin Road(LA 353) at Vermilion River		
City / Parish: Lafayette / Lafayette	State: LA	Zip: 70501

PROJECT GPS COORDINATES

If the project has multiple locations, please input the primary GPS coordinates of the project (decimal degrees).

Longitude: 91deg 57'20.68" W	Latitude: 30deg 13'09.19" N

DESCRIPTION OF THE MITIGATION NEED

Provide a brief description of the mitigation need(s) the proposed project is intended to address and include information on the type of flood hazard the proposed project will mitigate (e.g. storm surge, riverine flooding, tidal flooding etc.). Any mitigation needs must be consistent with those described in the Mitigation Needs Assessment of the state's proposed Action Plan to spend funds for these types of projects.

Note: HUD defines mitigation as *those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters.*

MAX 300 WORDS Word Count:

The Cypress Island Spoil Bank Removal and Natural Detention Project will provide additional outfall capacity to Cypress Island, which will result in lower water surface elevations of the Bayou Vermilion during large storm events and events that result in reverse flow of the Bayou Vermilion. The project will include the removal of spoil in areas within a mile that will allow the dispersement of floodwaters within the 28,000 acre area.

During the flood of 2016 1000's of homes and businesses flooded in Lafayette and Vermilion Parishes resulting in Federal Government payouts for flood insurance, loans, and grants that exceeded $250 million. During that event the Bayou Vermilion reached stages above 14.6'. On June 6, 2019, a 14.6' flood event, which is when the river water surface elevations reach 14.6' resulted in some homes experiencing a second flood event in the last 3 years. This project would lower the Bayou stages and ultimately result in flood risk reduction within the watershed area.

The project proposed qualifies as an Urgent Need Mitigation (UNM) as the risk of future flood events has increased. This is noted by the dramatic increase in flood events measured at the USGS Bayou Vermilion Surrey Street gauge with 11-12' events from 1940-1980 and 5-12' events since Jan 1, 2019 recorded. Both parishes have been designated as a HUD MID parish and St. Martin parish has been designated as a LA MID parish. All the parishes are in LWI Region 5 and are located in the Teche-Vermilion Watershed.

MITIGATION ACTIONS

Proposed projects are encouraged to include more than one mitigation action. The below list is not meant to be comprehensive but help guide project review and technical assistance. Please select ALL components that will be employed by the project:

- ■ **Floodplain Restoration and Preservation**
  - ☐ Floodplain reforestation
  - ☐ Floodplain expansion/benching
  - ☐ Stream Restoration
  - ■ Wetlands/marshland restoration/creation
  - ☐ Conservation easements/Land acquisition
  - ☐ Riparian buffers
  - ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ **Flood Storage**
  - ☐ Detention basin
  - ☐ Retention basin
  - ☐ Bundled upstream projects
  - ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ **Critical Facilities and Infrastructure Flood Mitigation**
  - ☐ Asset or system flood mitigation
    - ☐ Asset/system elevation or relocation
    - ☐ Asset/system hardening
    - ☐ Asset/system redundancies (i.e., backup power supply)
  - ☐ Facility/structure flood mitigation
    - ☐ Wet/dry floodproofing
    - ☐ Relocation
  - ☐ Grounds flood mitigation
    - ☐ Drainage
    - ☐ Levee or floodwall
    - ☐ Other _____
- ☐ **Physical Non-Structural Mitigation (Residential/Commercial/Agricultural/ Industrial)**
  - ☐ Elevation
  - ☐ Voluntary acquisition
  - ☐ Reconstruction
  - ☐ Relocation
  - ☐ Wet/dry-floodproofing (commercial only)
- ■ **Stormwater Management—Gray Infrastructure**
  - ☐ Storm drain and culvert improvements
  - ☐ Hardened channels
  - ☐ Floodgates/flapgates
  - ■ Removal of impediments/ constrictions (spoil banks, weirs, bridge piling, etc.)
- ☐ **Stormwater Management—Green Infrastructure**
  - ☐ Stream daylighting
  - ☐ Permeable pavement
  - ☐ Green roofs
  - ☐ Bioswales/Stormwater parks
  - ☐ Green streets/urban tree canopy
  - ☐ Rain Gardens/bioretention
  - ☐ Cisterns and rainfall harvesting devices
  - ☐ Subsurface infiltration
  - ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ **Other innovative and/or replicable flood control activities**
  - ☐ Groundwater storage
  - ☐ Levee realignment
  - ☐ Community transformation activities
  - ☐ List: _____

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

1. Please provide a brief project description. Include a description of how you plan to carry out the long-term operations and maintenance of the project.

MAX 300 WORDS

Word Count:

The objective of the project is to reduce the Bayou Vermilion's crest that causes flooding on the bayou and backwater flooding on it's associated coulees by allowing dispersion of the bayou's flood waters into the 28,000 acre Cypress Island swamp.
Additionally, as the duration of the crest is typically measured in only hours as the flood waters seek entry to the low areas of the swamp this project enhances the hydrologic exchange between the river and the natural flood plain in Cypress Island. We note before the original dredging of the bayou that resulted in these spoil banks this natural hydraulic exchange existed, and all this project does is restore that natural process.

The project consist of removal of spoil bank obstructions along a 1 mile corridor along the Bayou Vermilion in the Cypress Island floodplain swamp that are acting like levees inhibiting flood flow dispersion into the Cypress Island swamp which is the Bayou's natural floodplain. The swamp is an area approximately 28,000 acres. In order to avoid wetland mitigation issues as much as possible designated areas spoil banks will be leveled to natural ground level. Excess spoil will be moved to cap certain spoil areas that will not hinder dispersion of flood flows. These raised areas will provide high land for wildlife during flood events.
No maintenance or operational activities will be required after completion of this project. This project is low risk, high impact, and low cost.

2. How will future flood risk be considered in the design of the proposed project? Please specifically reference future risks and mitigation needs in alignment with the Mitigation Needs Assessment included in the state's proposed Action Plan to spend funds on these types of projects.

MAX 150 WORDS Word Count:

During flood events the peak flows for the bayou north are in-phase with the highest crests measured. The objective of the project is to reduce the crest by enhancing the dispersion of the north (and south) flood flows into the swamp by removing spoil banks that are acting like levees. Also note that the typical duration of a >14' flood crest is very short, in the case of the June 6th 2019 14.6' event the crest above 14' lasted approximately 5 hours, for example.

3. Round 1 is designed to fund implementation ready, low risk flood mitigation projects with no potential negative impacts on surrounding areas. In order to better understand the readiness of your project and the possible technical assistance required, please describe what tasks (other funding applications, studies, design, acquisition, etc.) have been completed related to this project (if any).

MAX 150 WORDS Word Count:

Currently the University of Louisiana at Lafayette is completing modeling of the Bayou River for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The model extents include the Cypress Island area as well as the spoil banks. Once the modeling is complete in January for the USAE, the additional modeling to support this project will be performed before the full application deadline in April. The plans development and modeling is for the project is included in the cost and the work to be ready for permitting and construction can be completed within 180 days from Notice to Proceed.

PRELIMINARY PROJECT BUDGET *(more detailed budget will be submitted in the Application)*			
Project Funds	***Amount***	***Source and Status***	***Use***
CDBG-MIT	$ 1,682,690	OCD	for project expenses
Local Funds	$		
Private Funds	$		
Other State Funds	$		
Federal Funds	$		
Other Funds	$		
ESTIMATED TOTAL	$ 1,682,690		

SECTION C. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT BENEFITS – HUD REQUIREMENTS

OCD is required to meet a national objective for each project funded with CDBG-MIT funds. Depending on the type of project, different documentation will be required to meet the national objective. Please review the descriptions below and select the best fit for your project. Further documentation will be required in the full application. For further guidance on national objectives, please reference the Policies and Procedures manual located at watershed.la.gov under Round 1 Projects.

Which best describes the CDBG-MIT national objectives that the proposed project addresses. Please check all that apply:

☐ **L/M Income Area Benefit**	☐ **L/M Housing Incentives**	■ **Address an Urgent Mitigation Need**
☐ **L/M Buyouts**	☐ **L/M Income Jobs**	

WATERSHED REGION

Please indicate which watershed region(s) the proposed project will benefit. The LWI has established provisional watershed regions (shapefiles for reference here) throughout the state. *It may be appropriate to select more than on watershed region.*

☐ Region 1 ☐ Region 2 ☐ Region 3 ☐ Region 4 ■ Region 5 ☐ Region 6 ☐ Region 7 ☐ Region 8

MOST IMPACTED AND DISTRESSED BENEFIT

Please indicate whether the proposed project will ***benefit*** a most impacted and distressed (MID) area, as defined either by A ***or*** B (please select one and fulfill all requested information for the column selected):

■ A) Project benefits a **parish** that was previously determined by HUD to be Most Impacted and Distressed as a result of the 2016 Floods. Parish Name: Lafayette and Vermilion Parishes	■ B) Project benefits a **parish** that has been identified by the State of Louisiana as LA-identified Most Impacted and Distressed as a result of the 2016 Floods in accordance with the draft CDBG-MIT Action Plan. Parish Name: St. Martin Parish

SECTION D. PLANNING REQUISITES

PLAN ALIGNMENT	
Every proposed project must demonstrate alignment with current applicable local and state plans. Please indicate alignment of the proposed projects with plans noted below. Note that the project does not need to be listed in the plan but must demonstrate that it is not in conflict with stated goals and objectives, including those outlined in the Mitigation Needs Assessment of the state's proposed Action Plan.	
Plan	**Plan is applicable**
State Plans	
State Hazard Mitigation Plan	■ Yes ☐ No
Coastal Master Plan	☐ Yes ■ No ☐ N/A
Wildlife Action Plan (critical/threatened habitats and species; SGCN; invasive species)	☐ Yes ☐ No ■ N/A
Inland Water Body Management Plan[1]	■ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
Scenic River Management Plan[2]	■ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
Statewide Transportation Plan	☐ Yes ☐ No ■ N/A
Mitigation Needs Assessment of the state's proposed Action Plan	■ Yes ☐ No
Local Plans	
Local hazard mitigation plan	■ Yes ☐ No
Local master plan	■ Yes ☐ No
Stormwater or floodplain management plan, as applicable	■ Yes ☐ No
Natural resource and/or open space management plan, as applicable	■ Yes ☐ No
Other local plans or ordinances, as applicable *List:*	☐ Yes ■ No

[1] Inland Waterbody Plans can be found at Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' website at: http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/fishing/waterbody-management-plans-inland

[2] Scenic River Management Plans can be found at Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' website at: http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/management-plans