

Minutes

Lake Fausse Point, Lake Dauterive, & Grand Avoille Cove Advisory Board

October 20, 2014

ATTENDEES:

1. Leslie Proctor
2. Rep. Mike Huval
3. Mike McGowen
4. Carroll Delahoussaye
5. John Paul Darden (ex-officio)
6. Clarence Vappie
7. Jody David
8. Rep. Sam Jones
9. Roger Stouff
10. Lu Cutrera—LJC Planning and Design
11. Will Cenac—T. Baker Smith

The only agenda item was a presentation of the final T. Baker Smith report, *Sedimentation Analysis for Lake Fausse Pointe Ecosystem Data Collection Report*, dated October 7, 2014.

The report was briefly summarized by Will Cenac of T. Baker Smith. Discussion ensued during the presentation. The results of the sampling indicate that the Borrow Pit Canal and Bayou du Portage contribute significant sediment loads into the Lake Fausse Point system. Loreauville Canal and Tete Bayou do not contribute significant loads compared to Bayou du Portage and the Borrow Pit Canal. However, a sedimentary lobe has formed at the mouth of Loreauville Canal indicating sediments have been introduced through that channel into Lake Fausse Pointe.

The study notes that the Borrow Pit Canal introduces approximately 42 tons of sediment per day into Lake Fausse Pointe while Bayou du Portage introduces approximately 34 tons per day. Loreauville Canal and Tete Bayou introduce 7 and 4 tons per day, respectively. A disclaimer notes that these are very rough estimates based only on the four samples taken.

The presentation emphasized the fact that the highest concentrations of suspended sediments at all sites were recorded during the January sampling event when the potential for agricultural sediment runoff was at its peak. Suspended sediment concentrations were, on average, 300% higher for the January sampling event as compared to the other sampling events.

By way of recommendations, the report recommends strategically placed sediment traps and best management practices (BMPs) on agriculture lands to minimize runoff.

The report confirmed previous assumptions that the Borrow Pit Canal is the largest source of sediment load into the Lake Fausse Pointe ecosystem. Review of maps provided evidence that numerous waterways through agricultural areas carry drainage from agricultural fields into the Borrow Pit Canal. These waterways that drain into the Borrow Pit Canal are evidenced from the northernmost extent of that drainage conduit to Lake Fausse Pointe. A recommendation was suggested to place emphasis on BMPs in all agricultural areas that drain into the Fausse Pointe system.

As a final note, the committee requested the Mr. Cutrera research the typical cost for dredging sediment traps including design, dredge material maintenance plan preparation, construction, , and project close out.

Mr. Cutrera was also asked to notify Ms. Patra Ghergich of USDA, who is housed in the county agent's office in the parish government building, and Mr. Brad Spicer of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture of the report findings. The intent is to obtain feedback on BMPs in the study region.

Resulting committee motions were as follows:

1. MOTION by Mr. McGowen seconded by Mr. Proctor to prepare a letter to the Mr. Mark Wingate of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers District office in New Orleans submitting a copy of the final report and stressing that the study findings indicate that the sedimentation problem in the Lake Fausse Pointe ecosystem is regional in nature and not local as the previous Corps study effort indicated. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
2. MOTION by Mr. Vappie seconded by Mr. Stouff to prepare a letter to the congressional delegation (a) notifying them of the report findings regarding sediment sources, (b) requesting that they support the effort to have congress recognize the project as regional scope and therefore of Federal interest, and (c) requesting funding assistance to further assess the magnitude of the problem as a means to creating an ecosystem restoration plan and implementing that plan.



Secretary/ Treasurer

*Minutes taken by Lu Catrera, formatted by Kimberly Walden