

13th Annual Water Conference

APRIL 15, 2018

Alex Carter
OCD-DRU

Sam Martin
CPRA

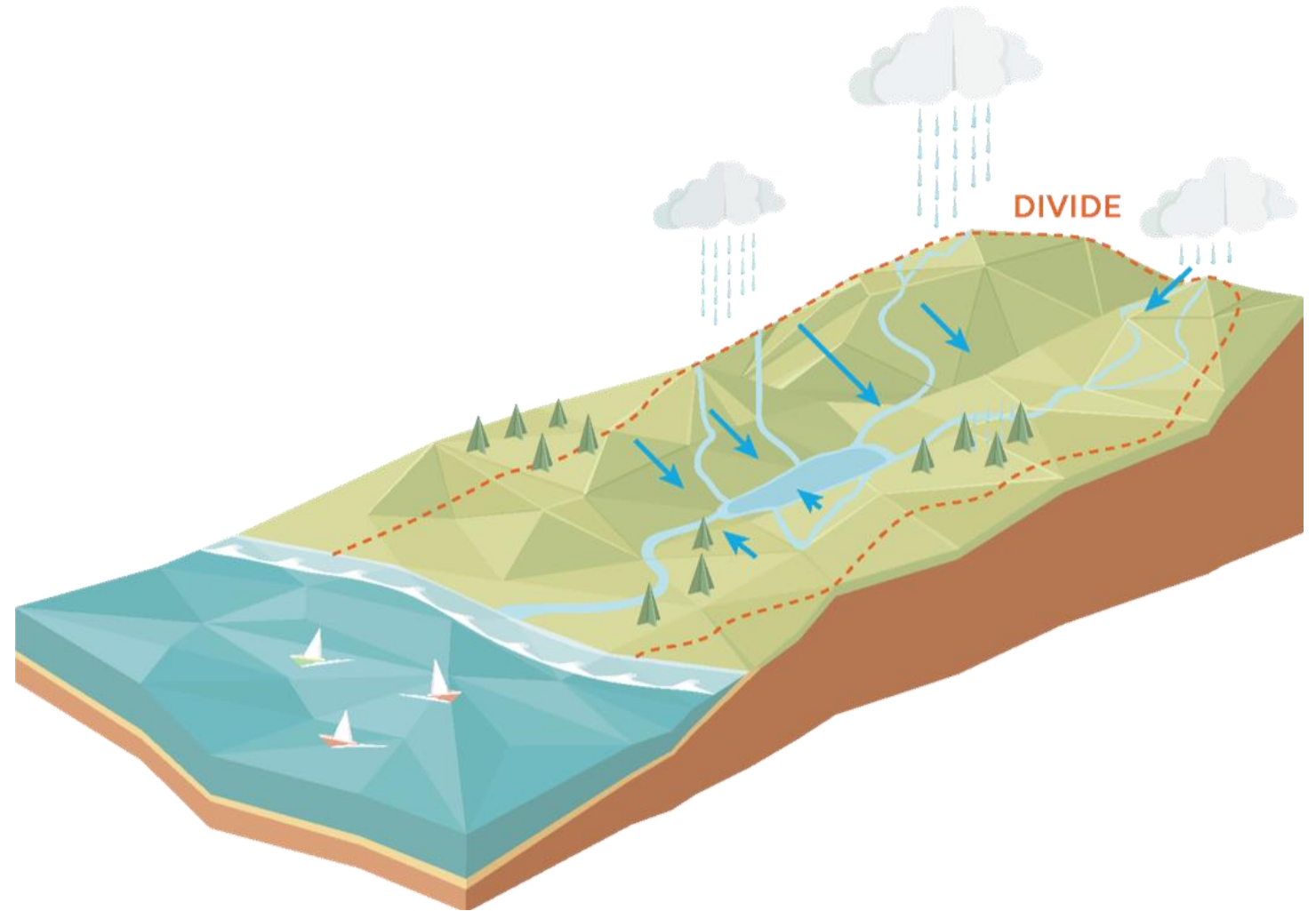
Jeffrey Giering
GOHSEP

LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that all drains to a single point.

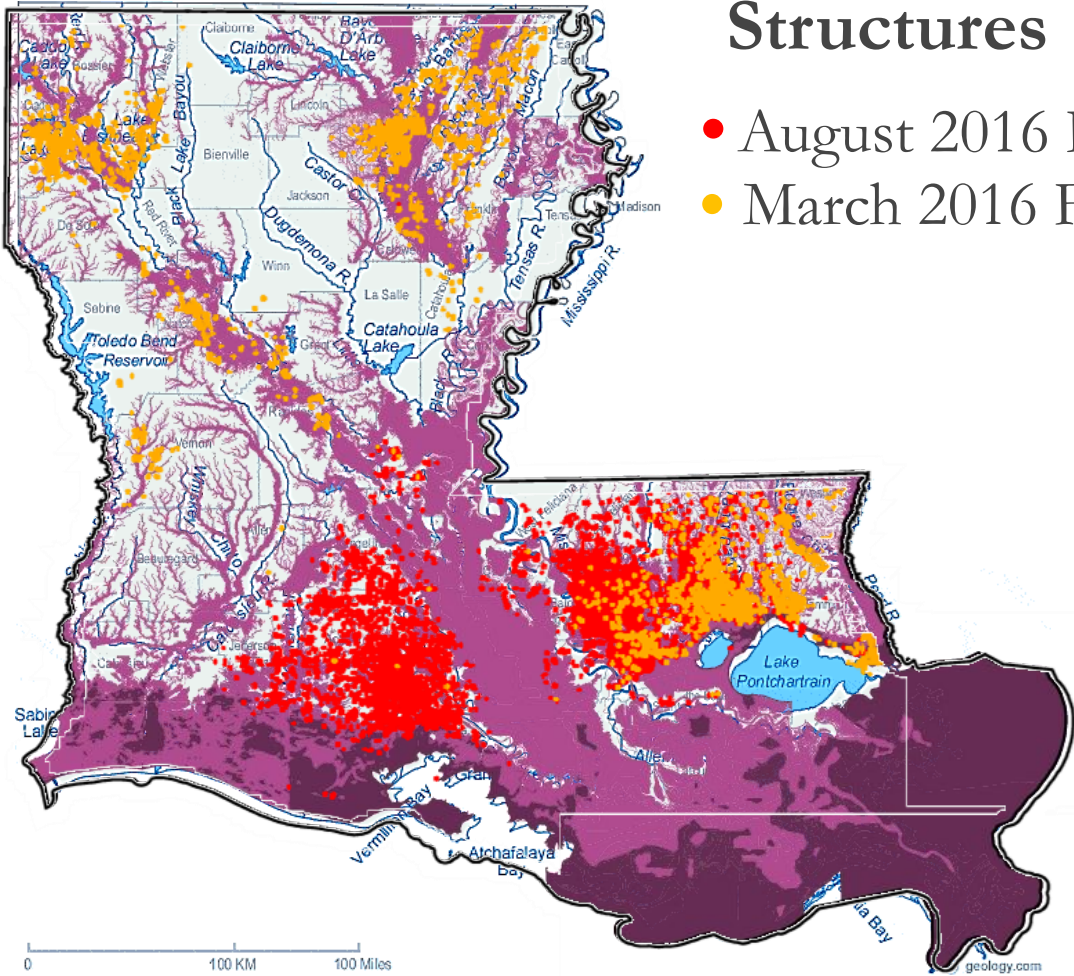


2016 August & March Floods

Combined total of 145,000 structures impacted

Impacted Structures

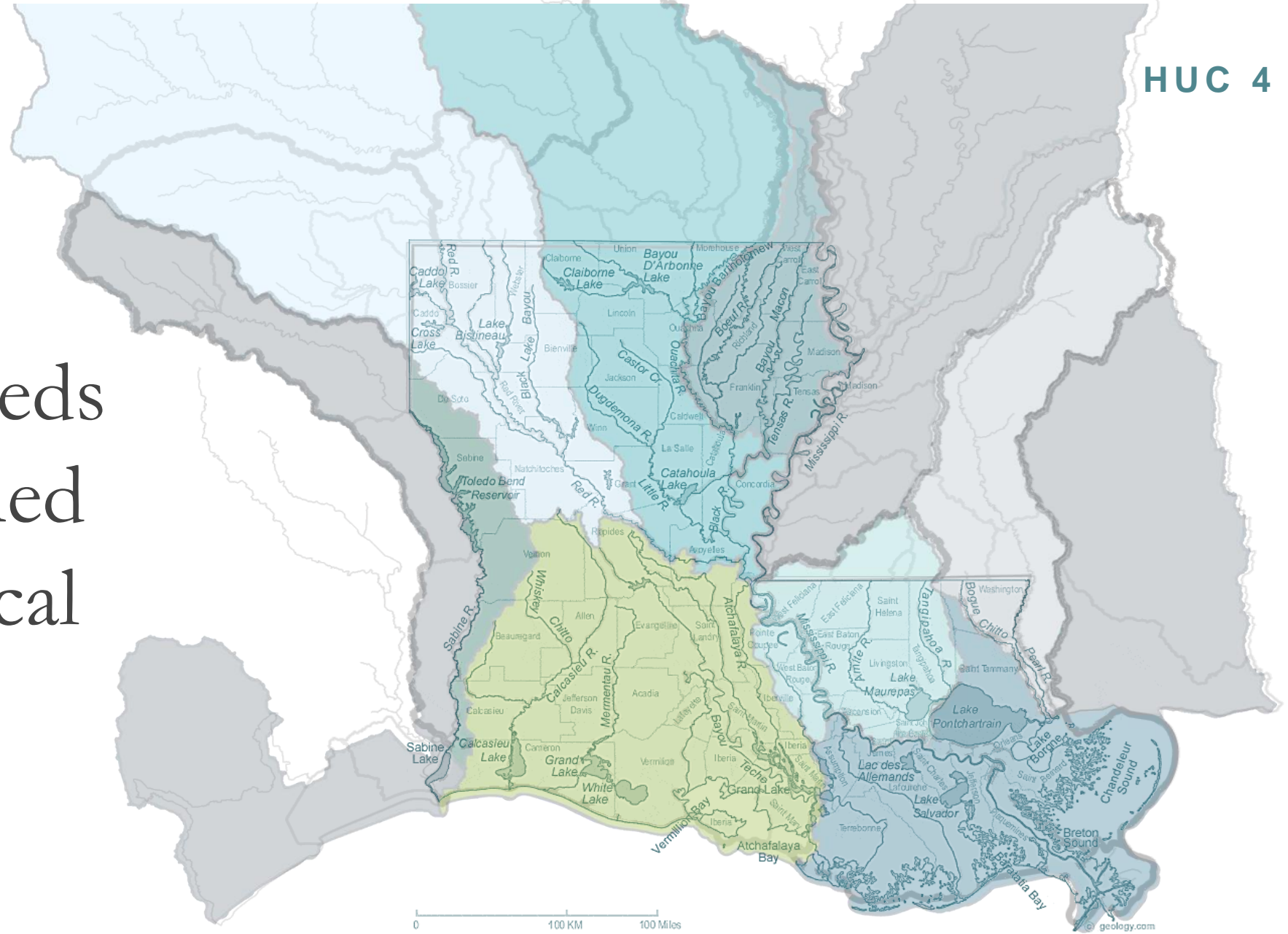
- August 2016 Floods
- March 2016 Floods



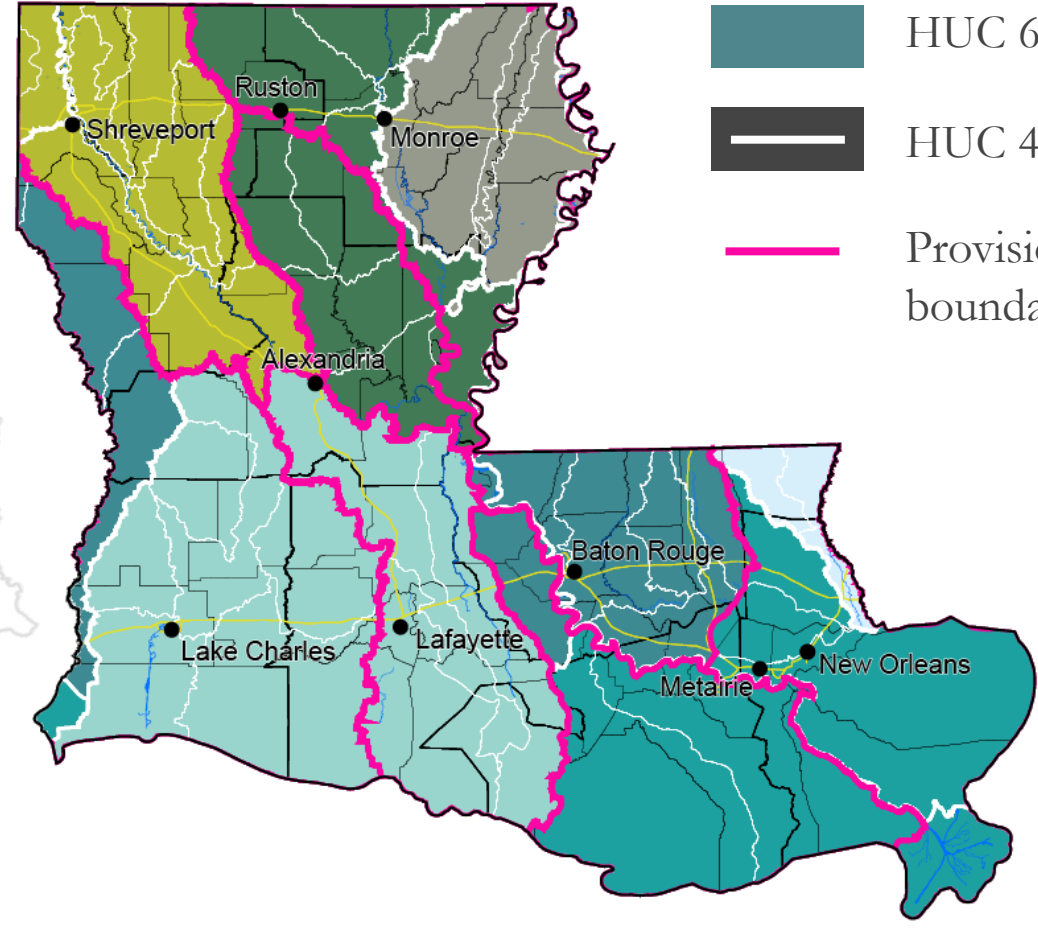
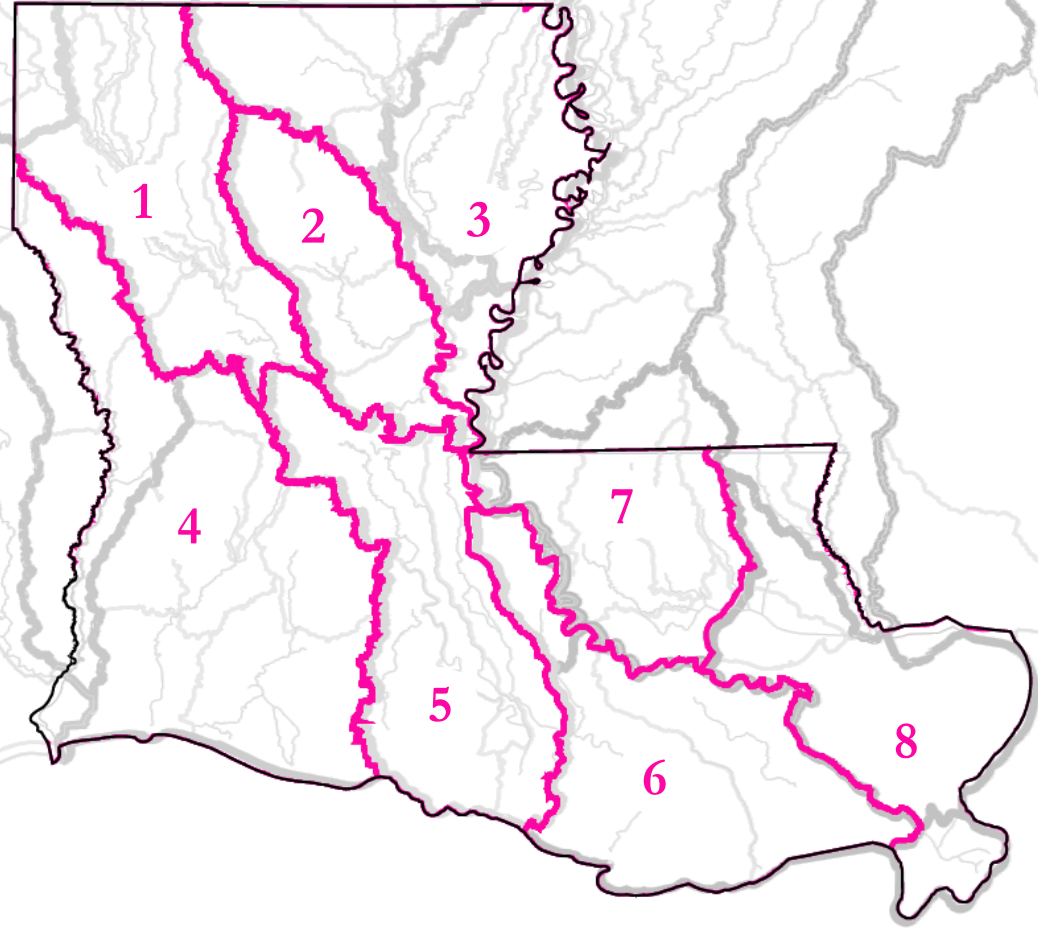
Louisiana's Watersheds

HUC 4

Our watersheds are not defined by our political boundaries.



PROVISIONAL REGIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES



- Parish boundaries
- █ HUC 8
- █ HUC 6
- █ HUC 4
- Provisional region boundaries



Water Knows No Boundaries

It requires a new way
of thinking

It requires a watershed
approach

We need to address inland AND coastal flooding to mitigate future flood loss



“It’s harder.
It requires more
work.
It’s politically
risky, but it is
**THE RIGHT
THING TO
DO.**”

Governor John Bel Edwards



How is the Louisiana Watershed Initiative different?

Utilizes funding in a *proactive* rather than *reactive* approach.

The goal is to improve water management *before* the next disaster



LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience



HOW DO WE ADDRESS FLOODING?

DATA

- Understanding flood risk
- H&H modeling
- Smarter and objective decision making

COLLABORATION

- Flood waters cross political boundaries
- Watershed-based decision making
- Sharing resources

BUILDING BETTER

- Targeted investment in flood control projects
- Encouraging development out of harm's way
- Reducing risk through building and development practices



Eligible Activities:

- Coalition-building
- Policy development/evaluation
- Grant application support
- Other non-structural activities that support floodplain management and risk reduction
- Program development
- Planning/plan alignment efforts
- Outreach, education, and training

CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT PROGRAM

Developed in response to Statewide Listening Tours

OBJECTIVE:

Enhance the **capacity** of local floodplain management and mitigation efforts, watershed coalitions, and other regional entities



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Planning and Development Districts (PDDs)

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)

Watershed-Based Regional Entities (Groups of Parishes and other local / regional governments that convene within a defined watershed-based region)

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

Spring 2019 – Council presentation and webinar

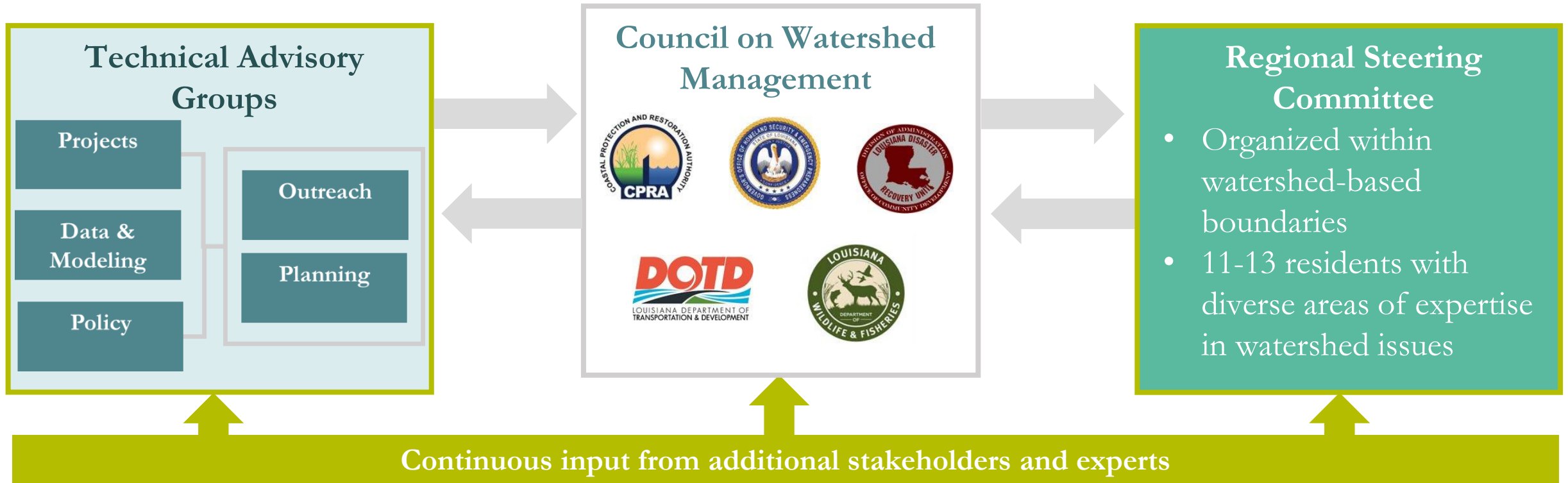
Summer 2019 – Open NOFA

Fall 2019 – Award Notices



Provisional Regional Steering Committees

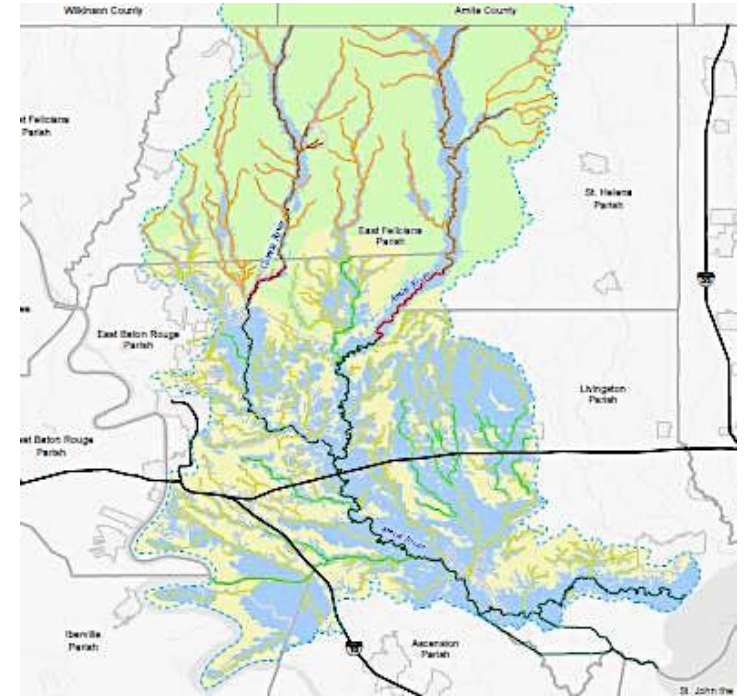
Sharing responsibility for resilient decision-making and implementation



Overall Approach

STATEWIDE DATA & MODELING

- Enhanced data inputs: rain and stream gauges, LiDAR, etc.
- Expert leadership on modeling design, maintenance, and usage/storage
- Predictive, contiguous modeling framework - models will “talk to each other”



 @LAWATERSHEDINITIATIVE

 @LAWATERSHED

 WATERSHED@LA.GOV

Thank You

