

# Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program

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EPA Region 6  
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## Today's presentation

Program Background

Grant Process

Available funding

# Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program (PRP)

- Clean Water Act Program
- Established under the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Act of 2000
- *“The purpose of the program shall be to restore the ecological health of the Basin by developing and funding restoration projects and related scientific and public education projects.”*
- It is one of 12 EPA Geographic Programs



<https://thebeachuno.org/lake-pontchartrain-basin-restoration-program/>



# PRP Basin Map



- The "Basin" means the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, it expands approximately 10,000 square miles watershed encompassing 16 parishes in Louisiana and 4 counties in Mississippi.
- This delineation was done using the most recent (03/28/2023) USGS National Map high-resolution (1:24,000) hydrologic unit data.

# Parishes And Counties Within PRP Basin

## ❖ Louisiana Parishes

- Ascension
- East Baton Rouge
- East Feliciana
- Iberville
- Jefferson
- Livingston
- Orleans
- Plaquemines
- St. Bernard
- St. Charles
- St. Helena
- St. James
- St. John the Baptist
- St. Tammany
- Tangipahoa
- Washington

## ❖ Mississippi Counties

- Amite
- Lincoln
- Pike
- Wilkinson



# Grantee

- ❖ University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation (UNORTF)
- ❖ Pass-through Grantee :
  - Prepares and issues Request for Proposals (RFPs) for project funding
  - Awards, administers and monitors the subawards



<https://unofoundation.org>

# Key program component: Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

- ❖ The CCMP is a comprehensive plan that establishes long term priorities for research and funding for the Basin.
- ❖ The PRP CCMP was developed in 1995 and needs updating. This will require participation by a broad group of stakeholders.
- ❖ UNORTF's recently issued an RFP for updating the 1995 CCMP.
- ❖ Projects funded need to be consistent with the current CCMP.



# PRP Example Focus Areas

Protecting and restoring habitat

Reducing sanitary sewer discharges to address impaired water

Supporting water quality protection and restoration

Implementing and promoting stormwater management and green infrastructure

Implementing climate change adaptation strategies

Reducing nonpoint source pollution impacts

Other





# Who can apply for project funds?

## ❖ Eligible recipients include:

- Federal organizations
- State organizations
- Interstate organizations
- Local governments
- Federally recognized tribes
- Regional water pollution control agencies
- Public or non-profit private agencies
- Public and private institutions of higher education

# How do you apply for PRP funds?



PRP funds are awarded by UNORTF to eligible entities through a competitive process



UNORTF's Request for Proposals (RFP)



You apply for funding by submitting applications and workplans in response to UNORTF's RFP



Proposals go through a review and selection process

# Examples of Projects Funded

## ❖ Habitat and Coastal Preservation Projects:

- Lake Pontchartrain Lake Villa Site Improvements and Marsh Monitoring
- Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Ecosystem Restoration and Preservation Program

## ❖ Monitoring & Research:

- Pollution Source Tracking for Water Quality Restoration in the Bayou Bonfouca Watershed
- Mandeville Lakefront Wetlands Restoration



# Examples of Projects Funded

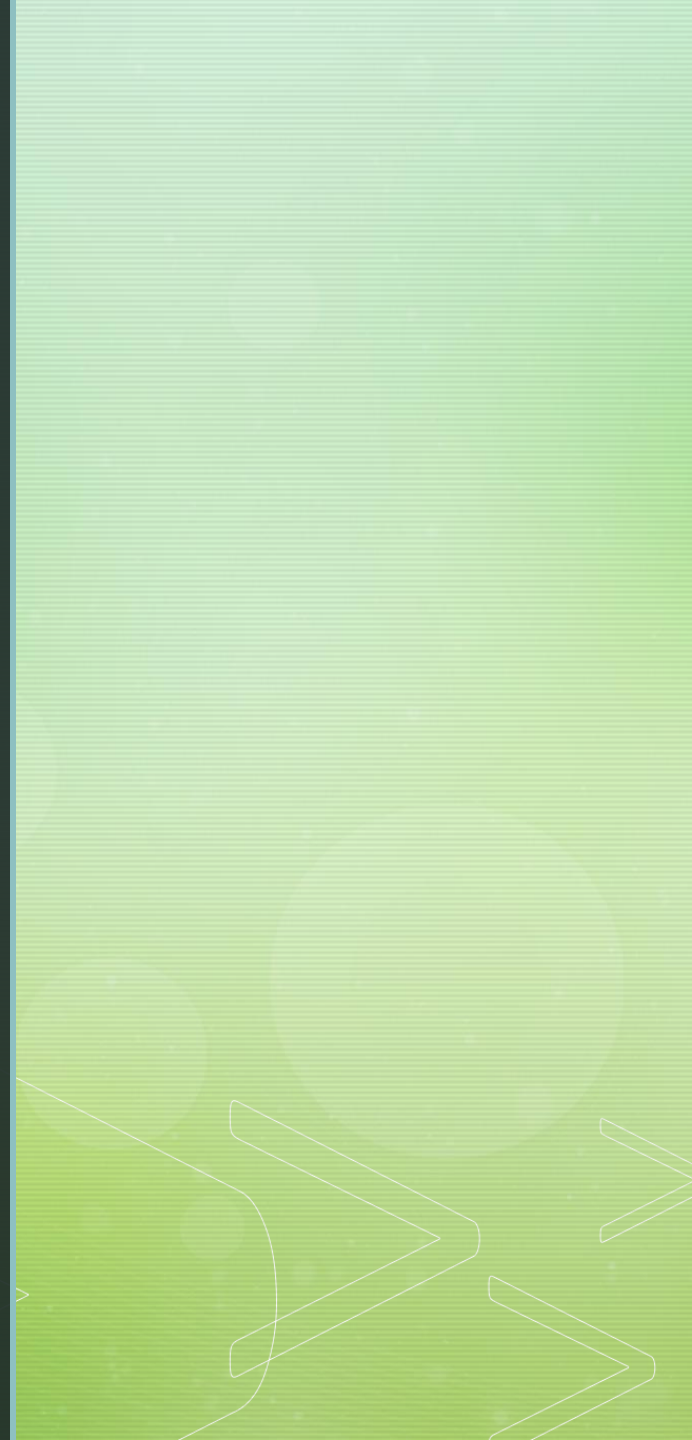
## ❖ Planning and Design:

- Landscape and Stormwater Management Design Plan for Bucktown Marina Ecology Park
- St. Bernard Parish Rain Gauge Data Collection and Wastewater Flow Monitoring Program

## ❖ Education and Outreach Projects:

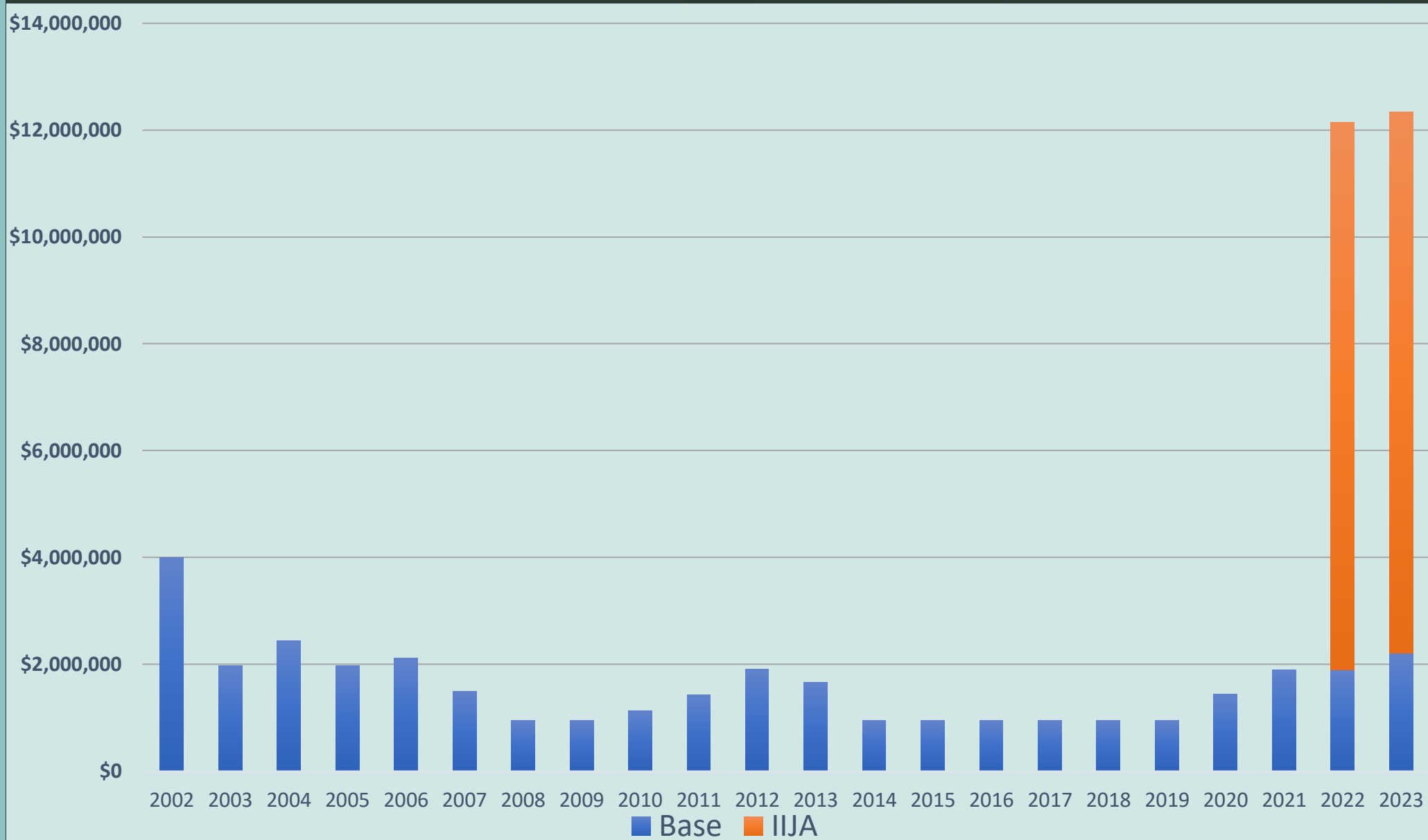
- Promoting Urban Gardening for Strategic Stormwater Management Program
- Land Conservation Study for Strategic Stormwater Runoff Mitigation

# PROGRAM FUNDING



# Funding

## Funding Appropriated For PRP Projects





# Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA)

- ❖ \$53 Million in additional funding to the PRP over the next five years (over \$10 m/yr)
- ❖ Additional Environmental Justice and Climate adaptation components
- ❖ Part of government wide Justice 40 initiative (J40)
  - National Goal: target at least 40% of investments and benefits to disadvantaged communities
  - EPA is developing an equity strategy for PRP to implement J40
- ❖ Match waiver component at the discretion of EPA RA



# PRP Base and IIJA Funding

- ❖ IIJA funding is providing \$53 million over FY 2022 - 2026
- ❖ Base Funding
  - FY 2022 \$1,899,000
  - FY 2023 \$2,199,000

PRP will be awarding:

FY 2022 base funds

&

IIJA FY 2022 funds



EPA's Lake Pontchartrain  
Restoration Program website:

[https://www.epa.gov/la/lake-  
pontchartrain-basin-restoration-  
program](https://www.epa.gov/la/lake-pontchartrain-basin-restoration-program)



An aerial photograph of a city, likely San Francisco, showing a large body of water (San Francisco Bay) and surrounding urban areas. The image is dark and serves as a background for the text.

**Questions ?**