



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS



Hatchie-Loosahatchie Mississippi River Ecosystem Restoration Study

Time and Locations of Public Scoping Meetings: Several public scoping meetings are being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Non-Federal Sponsor, the Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee (LMRCC), within the study area to present information and receive comments on the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS). Notifications for the scoping meetings continue to be released through the project website, press releases, special public notices, USACE-Memphis District social media platforms, and posted at locations throughout the study area. Public Scoping Meeting details are included below:

- Sept. 19, 2022: Fort Pillow State Park Visitor Center/Museum, 3122 Park Road, Henning, TN 38041, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 26, 2022: Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park Visitor Center, Park Office, 910 Riddick Road Millington, TN 38053, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3, 2022: Marion City Hall, 14 E. Military Rd, Marion, AR 72364, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Preparation of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement: The USACE and LMRCC intend to prepare a DIFR-EIS for the Hatchie-Loosahatchie Mississippi River Ecosystem Restoration Study. The study seeks to examine restoring ecological structure and function to the mosaic of habitats along the lower Mississippi River (LMR) and its floodplain between River Miles 775 and 736 including secondary channels and other floodplain aquatic habitats; floodplain forests; and several scarce vegetative communities such as, wetlands, rivercane, riverfront forests, and bottomland hardwood forests.

A Notice of Intent to prepare the DIFR-EIS will be published in the Federal Register in September of 2022. Additional information related to this Ecosystem Restoration Study can be accessed at: <https://www.mvm.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental-Stewardship/Hatchie-Loosahatchie-Mississippi-River-Ecosystem-Restoration-Study/>.

Purpose of Public Scoping Process: Subsequent to the enactment of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) was created and tasked with multiple responsibilities which include, but are not limited to, the formulation and recommendation of national policies to promote the improvement of the quality of the environment. CEQ “Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA” requires that public scoping be initiated before an environmental impact statement is prepared to identify significant issues related to the proposed action. Through the scoping process, affected federal, state, and local agencies; federally recognized Tribes; and other interested organizations

and individuals, are invited to participate in the proposed action evaluation process and assist in determining the scope and depth of significant issues to be analyzed in the environmental impact statement.

USACE requests full public participation and open communication in the public scoping phase of the study and invites all interested parties to attend the scoping meetings and comment on issues, concerns, and alternatives for consideration in the preparation of the DIFR-EIS.

Written comments submitted for consideration are due 30 days from the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. The anticipated NOI publication date is in Sept. 2022 and notifications will be publicly announced in advance by USACE on the project website at: <https://www.mvm.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental-Stewardship/Hatchie-Loosahatchie-Mississippi-River-Ecosystem-Restoration-Study/>, and through press releases, special public notices, and USACE-Memphis District social media platforms, at a minimum. Written comments may be submitted: (1) to USACE at public scoping meetings; (2) by regular U.S. Mail mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CEMVN-PDC-UDC, 167 North Main Street, Room B-202, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894; and (3) by email to: LMRRA-Hatchie-Loosahatchie@usace.army.mil. Please include your name and return address on the first page of your written comments. Please be advised that personally identifiable information that is contained on written comments submitted to USACE, may become a public record and publicly accessible. Therefore, do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

Public Scoping Meeting Agenda: Welcoming Remarks
LMRCC Introduction
Study Overview
NEPA and Scoping Process
Open House/Public Comments



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Hatchie-Loosahatchie Mississippi River Ecosystem Restoration Study

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USACE

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LMRCC

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) – LMRCC Coordinator

Angie Rodgers

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Phone: 615-781-6573

Project Website: <https://www.mvm.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental-Stewardship/Hatchie-Loosahatchie-Mississippi-River-Ecosystem-Restoration-Study/>

Written comments:

LMRRA-Hatchie-Loosahatchie@usace.army.mil

or

ATTN: CEMVN-PDC-UDC
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Memphis District
167 North Main St., RM B-202
Memphis, TN 38103-1894

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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Name: _____

Telephone number (optional): _____

Organization (if any): _____

Address (optional): _____

E-mail: _____

Questions/Comments:

- Are there additional problems or opportunities that would improve ecological functions for the benefit of fish and wildlife?

- Are there any other concerns or issues?

- Are there additional measures that would address the problems?
