MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, Mississippi Valley Division (CEMVD-PD)


1. Section 3080 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 further amends the Red River Waterway, Louisiana project for mitigation of fish and wildlife losses, authorized in Section 601(a) of WRDA 1986, as amended. Section 3080 of WRDA 07 authorizes the Secretary to carry out the project at a total cost of $33,912,000; purchase and reforest land cleared or converted to agricultural purposes in addition to the purchase of bottomland hardwood; and incorporate wildlife and forestry management practices to improve species diversity on mitigation land that meets habitat goals and objectives of the United States and the State of Louisiana. A copy of Section 3080 of WRDA 2007 is enclosed for information.

2. Lands acquired for the purpose of mitigation will be selected within the authorized Louisiana parishes along the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway. Existing bottomland hardwoods and lands cleared or converted to agriculture will be purchased from willing sellers and the decisions to purchase property will be based upon coordination with the State of Louisiana and in accordance with the Vicksburg District Mitigation Land Procurement process. Further, management of the property will be developed based upon existing land use, in coordination with the State of Louisiana and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to improve species diversity on mitigation lands. Funding for the project will be accomplished through the Corps normal budgeting process.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

THEODORE A. BROWN, P.E.
Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Directorate of Civil Works
SEC. 3080. RED RIVER (J. BENNETT JOHNSTON) WATERWAY, LOUISIANA.


(1) to authorize the Secretary to carry out the project at a total cost of $33,912,000;

(2) to authorize the purchase and reforestation of lands that have been cleared or converted to agricultural uses (in addition to the purchase of bottomland hardwood); and

(3) to incorporate wildlife and forestry management practices to improve species diversity on mitigation land that meets habitat goals and objectives of the United States and the State of Louisiana.