Operation of the False River Outflow Channel/ Lighthouse Control Structure

Purposes:

For the purpose of the operation (monitoring, opening and closing) of the False River Outflow Channel commonly known as and hereby referred to as the Lighthouse Control Structure and its effect in maintain the water level of False River at a safe, usable level, while also providing guidance in drawing down water levels when severe rain events are forecasted. Additionally, it is an effort to reduce flooding, and damage to property both along False River and in the surrounding areas.

Responsibilities:

The **False River Stage Control Committee** at the direction of the Pointe Coupee Parish President or his designee shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Lighthouse Control Structure.

The **False River Stage Control Committee** shall be composed of the Pointe Coupee Parish President, the Pointe Coupee Parish Director of Administration, and the Pointe Coupee Parish Director of Public Works. The committee shall monitor relevant weather information and will advise each other when a major rainfall impacting the False River Watershed is forecasted. The committee shall operate the control structure as needed and post relevant information to the parish's web-site and social media accounts on a daily basis.

During a weather event, the Pointe Coupee Parish President or his designee shall post daily stage readings and gate status on the Pointe Coupee Parish Government web-site and social media account. The Parish President will advise the **False River Stage Control Committee** of the daily water level of False River.

Lake Level Monitoring

The existing gages located throughout False River shall be maintained and used to monitor lake levels. However, the official gage for determining the operation of the Lighthouse Control Structure is located at Satterfield's Landing/Morrison Parkway.

Routine Lake Level

False River shall be maintained at 16 feet ASL under normal weather conditions.

Rainstorm Event Lake Level

To enable property owners along False River to more effectively protect their property, property values, and investments, the following chart may be used as a guide for the False River Stage Control Committee. The **False River Stage Control Committee** may also seek guidance from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for assistance in lake level management. *(See Exhibit A).*

Gate Operation

Under normal conditions, the lake level can be lowered approximately 0.1 ft per day per gate. Under these conditions, it take in excess of three days to lower the lake approximately 1-foot.

Backflow through Outlet Channels

Should backflow occur (e.g. reverse flow) at the Lighthouse Control Structure, the gates shall be closed until the backflow subsides.

Navigation

False River shall close to motorized navigation at 18feet ASL and shall remain closed to motorized navigation until it reaches a level of 17.5 feet ASL or a level determined by the **False River Stage Control Committee** to allow for safe navigation and limited damage to properties. The Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office or La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall perform a water safety inspection of False River prior to the reopening of the lake following flooding or in an extreme draw down condition.

Notes/Disclaimer

This plan does not guarantee to prevent flooding which occurs naturally from time to time throughout the False River watershed. It is the intent to reduce the frequency and duration of flood events in False River and the downstream watershed. Properties that are prone to flooding should be identified and mitigated where possible. The Pointe Coupee Parish Government and the **False River Stage Control Committee** holds no responsibility for damage to properties as a result of flooding along False River.

EXHIBIT A

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Cumulative 7-Day Rainfall Forecast (in.)	**Adjusted Target Lake Level (ft.)**	**Est. Maximum Rise (in.)**	**Level**
< 1.0"	16.00	5	16.42
1.0" - 2.0"	15.80	10	16.63
2.0" - 3.0"	15.50	15	16.75
3.0" - 6.0"	15.00	30	17.50
6.0" - 8.0"	14.30	40	17.63
8.0" - 9.0"	14.00	45	17.75
> 9.0"	13.90		

(1) Cumulative rainfall estimates are based on the National Weather Service's Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (7-Day Total Precipitation)

Source: https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtmlhttps://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml

(2) Based on the Cumulative Rainfall forecast, all gates will be opened until either the lake level reaches the intended target, or until an updated rainfall forcast is issued. In the absence of any significant rainfall forecast, the lake level will be maintained at the 16.0' Normal Pool Stage.

Note: During optimal conditions, the maximum level that the lake can be lowered over a 7-day period is approximately 2.1 feet, which is why the lowest target lake level is 13.9 feet (16.0-2.1=13.9).

(3) Estimated Maximum Rise is based on the assumption that 1.0" of precipication results in approximately a 5.0" water level increase, and assumes that all rainfall is associated with a single event.

(4) Estimated Maximum Lake Level assumes that only a single rainfall event occurred while the lake was at the associated "Target" level. Lake levels higher than the "Target" level prior to a rain event, or successive rainfall events may cause significantly higher Actual Lake Levels.