



City of
Covington, Louisiana

Flood Response Plan



October 29, 2018

Plan Adoption Statement

The primary role of government is to provide for the welfare of its citizens. The City of Covington has experienced floods in the past and will again in the future. The goal of this plan is to ensure that mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery protocols are in place to protect the people, property, environment, and economy of Covington, Louisiana.

This plan was adopted by the City of Covington, Louisiana City Council by resolution number (_____) on (date).

Record of Distribution

Plan #	Office/Department	Representative	Signature
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

This page intentionally left blank.

Table of Contents

Flood Response Plan.....	1
I. Purpose, Scope, Situation Overview, and Assumptions	1
II. Concept of Operations.....	4
III. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	5
IV. Direction, Control, and Coordination	8
V. Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination	8
VI. Communications	9
VII. Administration, Finance, and Logistics	9
VIII. Plan Development and Maintenance	9
IX. Authorities and References.....	11
Appendix A: Triggers and Actions.....	A-1
Appendix B: Nearby Flood Gauges.....	B-1
Appendix C: Glossary and Abbreviations	C-1

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

This page intentionally left blank.

Flood Response Plan

I. Purpose, Scope, Situation Overview, and Assumptions

A. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to define the actions and roles necessary to provide a coordinated response within the City of Covington, Louisiana. This plan provides guidance to Covington officials and departments with a general concept of potential emergency assignments before, during, and following emergency situations involving floods.

B. Scope

This plan applies to officials and departments that have a role in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from floods that affect the City of Covington.

C. Situation Overview

1. Characteristics

a. Location

- i. The City of Covington is located in the Florida Parishes region of Louisiana as a part of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOSHEP) State Region 9 and U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) Region VI. The City of Covington is located in the East Gulf Coastal Plain region of southeast Louisiana in west-central St. Tammany Parish. St. Tammany Parish is bordered by Washington Parish to the north; Tangipahoa Parish to the west; and Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Bernard parishes to the south. The State of Mississippi lies to the east, the boundary of which is delineated by the north-south flowing of the Pearl River. St Tammany Parish and the City of Covington are located in the area known as the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain as part of the New Orleans-Metairie-Bogalusa Combined Statistical Area and the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner Metropolitan Statistical Area. Adjacent cities and towns include the town of Madisonville and the city of Mandeville to the south, the town of Abita Springs to the east, and the village of Folsom to the north. The City of Covington covers a total area of 8.21 square miles, of which 8.02 square miles (97.7%) is land and 0.19 square miles (2.3%) is water.

b. Geographic

- i. The East Gulf Coastal Plain region of southeast Louisiana is predominately flat with little elevation change south of the coastal Pleistocene terraces. Moving northward from Lake Pontchartrain, the terrain gradually shifts to rolling hills at the Mississippi state border. The City of Covington sits at an elevation of 26 feet

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

above sea level with reference to North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) datum.

c. Demographics

- i. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of Covington was 8,850 people in 2010, of whom 6,816 identified themselves as white alone, 1,666 as black alone, 35 as Native American alone, 55 as Asian alone, and 193 as another race alone or two or more races. The 2017 population estimate was 10,416. The persons per household (2012–2016) was 2.43 and the number of households was 3,547.

2. Hazard Profile

a. Flood Types and History

Flash flooding, riverine flooding, and areal flooding are the most common flood types affecting the City of Covington. Recorded incidents include flash floods and urban small-stream floods. Floods tend to be concentrated in low-lying areas near rivers and streams with damage ranging from negligible to costing millions of dollars. Significant flooding due to high-intensity precipitation occurred in November 1979, May and June 1983, May 1995, during Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, and in March 2016.

3. Bogue Falaya Boston Street Gauge and Associated Flood Impacts

- a. The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service maintains a web page with a hydrograph that has information about current conditions of the Bogue Falaya River at Boston Street in Covington. The hydrograph includes a record of recent past conditions, the current stage, and a prediction of future conditions. The web page also contains information about expected impacts at various river stages based on prior events, historic crests, recent crests, and low-water records. Listed below is a summary of impacts associated with river stages from the Boston Street Gauge website (<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lix&gage=cvel1>). The statements below should be analyzed to account for cumulative impacts.

- i. 5 Feet – Action Stage

Officials from the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness should review the river stage forecast and potential impacts. They may discuss the situation with a National Weather Service (NWS) hydrologist(s) and/or notify local officials.

- ii. 6 Feet

The river will leave its banks under the Boston Street Bridge and begin to flood the Bogue Falaya Towers property.

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

- iii. 7 Feet
Water will rise onto the west bank, flooding property of the Bogue Falaya Towers at East Boston Street and threatening commercial property on the east bank near Military Road. Bogue Falaya River Park and Christ Episcopal School grounds will begin to flood.
- iv. 9 Feet
Bogue Falaya River Park will be inundated. Some ground floor classrooms at Christ Episcopal School grounds will flood.
- v. 11 Feet
There will be major flooding at Christ Episcopal School and Bogue Falaya River Park.
- vi. 12 Feet
River Bend Road will be under water, threatening adjacent homes. Bogue Falaya River Park and Christ Episcopal School grounds will remain flooded.
- vii. 13.5 Feet
Homes along River Bend Road will flood. Water will be in the ground floor classrooms of Christ Episcopal School.
- viii. 15 Feet
Water on East Boston Street and on LA Hwy 21 east of the river will make driving hazardous. Low-lying areas near the Bogue Falaya and Abita rivers will flood.
- ix. 17 Feet
Water will back up on the Abita River, flooding most of the area between U.S. Hwy 190 and LA Hwy 36. The river will be at the undercarriage of the East Boston Street Bridge.
- x. 20 Feet
The flood of record occurred on March 12, 2016. Widespread flooding will develop in downtown Covington and below the gauge. Businesses will be inaccessible along parts of U.S. Hwy 190 and along Military Rd. The bridge at U.S. Hwy 190 will be inundated. Bogue Falaya Park and homes along the river will be flooded.

D. Planning Assumptions

1. The NWS will issue watches and warnings that will help Covington officials anticipate flood conditions that may occur throughout the jurisdiction or the general area beyond the jurisdiction's boundaries.
2. When the river stage on the Bogue Falaya River at Boston Street reaches 4 feet, the Covington Floodplain Administrator, along with other officials from the Covington Fire Department, Covington Public Works, and Covington Police

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

Department who have opted in, will receive a text from the NWS alerting them of the situation.

3. It is assumed that flooding could cause a grave emergency situation with cascading effects. It is also assumed that flood impacts will vary in scope and intensity from an area in which the devastation is isolated and limited to one that is wide-ranging. For this reason, planning efforts are made as general as possible so that great latitude is available in their application.
4. Initial actions to mitigate the effects of floods or potential floods will be conducted as soon as possible by Covington officials.
5. Assistance to the City of Covington by response organizations from another jurisdiction(s) is expected to supplement the response in an efficient, effective, and coordinated manner when Covington officials determine their own resources to be insufficient.
6. Federal and state disaster assistance, when provided, will supplement, not substitute for, relief provided by the City of Covington.
7. It is the responsibility of officials under this plan to save lives, protect property, relieve human suffering, sustain survivors, repair essential facilities, restore services, and protect the environment.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. The Covington Police Department will send a liaison to the St. Tammany Parish Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when the EOC is activated. This liaison will provide information from the EOC that allows Covington officials to make timely, informed decisions.
2. The Concept of Operations below is the anticipated sequence of activities and tasks associated with response to a flood. Some activities and tasks may not be necessary due to the nature and scope of the event.
3. Specific triggers and response actions associated with the Boston Street River Gauge are contained in Appendix A.
4. When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated and an incident command team will be established.

B. Hazard Assessment

1. Perceive the threat
2. Assess potential impacts
3. Continue to monitor the situation and assess actual and potential impacts

C. Protective Action Selection

1. Determine protective actions

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

2. Determine public warnings
 3. Determine protective action implementation plan
- D. Public Warning
1. Determine message content
 2. Select appropriate public warning system(s)
 3. Disseminate public warning
- E. Protective Action Implementation
1. Monitor progress of protective action implementation
 2. Control access and isolate danger areas
 3. Evacuation support
 4. Transportation support
 5. Medical treatment
 6. Special population support
 7. Search and rescue
- F. Short-term Needs
1. Shelter operations
 2. Unite families
 3. Continued medical treatment
 4. Increase security
 5. Stabilize the affected area
- G. Long-term Needs
1. Re-entry
 2. Recovery

III. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

A. General

Most departments and agencies of government have emergency functions in addition to normal, day-to-day duties. These emergency functions usually run parallel to or complement normal functions. Each department and/or agency is responsible for developing and maintaining its own emergency management procedures.

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

B. Organization

1. Covington Mayor
2. Covington Public Works
3. Covington Police Department
4. Covington Fire Department
5. Covington Floodplain Administrator
6. Covington Finance Department
7. City Engineering
8. Other departments

C. Assignment of Responsibilities

1. Covington Mayor
 - a. Evacuation orders
 - b. Re-entry decisions
 - c. Other protective action decisions as necessary
 - d. Coordinate public warnings and information
2. Covington Public Works
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Establish barricades for safety and isolation
 - c. Monitor the status of people and equipment
3. Covington Police Department
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Maintain law and order
 - c. Establish traffic and access control
 - d. Search and rescue
 - e. Evacuation support
 - f. Provide liaison to the St. Tammany Parish EOC

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

4. Covington Fire Department
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Search and rescue
 - c. Evacuation support
 - d. Provide additional personnel and equipment as needed
5. Covington Floodplain Administrator
 - a. Maintain the floodplain program
 - b. Maintain floodplain maps
 - c. Maintain public education programs
 - d. Support Incident Command
 - e. Provide technical support
 - f. Initial damage assessments including windshield surveys
6. Covington Finance Department
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Track resources related to response
 - c. Provide records and reports as needed
 - d. Maintaining a list of suppliers, vendors, and items of critical emergency need
7. City Engineering
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Maintain maps through the Covington Geographic Information System (GIS) Department
 - c. Develop new maps during response operation as needed through GIS
 - d. Damage assessments and impacts to city property and infrastructure
8. Other departments
 - a. Support Incident Command
 - b. Provide resources as needed
 - c. Analyze expected and actual impacts

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

D. Support Functions

1. Acadian Ambulance Service provides emergency medical services. At times, they stage their assets at Covington Fire Department stations.
2. Support from the National Guard may be requested through the Louisiana EOC. Military assistance will complement and not substitute for local participation in emergency operations. Military forces will remain at all times under military command but will support and assist response efforts.
3. Support from other state government departments and agencies may be made available in accordance with the state plan.
4. Private-sector organizations within the jurisdiction may assist with a wide variety of tasks based on their capabilities.
5. Volunteer agencies such as the American Red Cross, local church and synagogue congregations, and assistive organizations such as the Salvation Army are available to give assistance with sheltering, feeding, and other issues, as necessary.
6. Assistance from surrounding jurisdictions may be available through the execution of a mutual aid agreement (MAA).

E. Continuity of Government

1. The City of Covington maintains programs that include succession, relocation of government facilities, and preservation of records.

IV. Direction, Control, and Coordination

A. Incident Command System

The Incident Command System will be used to direct on-scene emergency operations and maintain command and control of incident operations.

B. Assistance

If City resources are insufficient or inappropriate to respond to the emergency situation, a request may be made for assistance from other jurisdictions, the state, or the federal government. All response agencies are expected to fulfill mission assignments directed by the incident commander.

V. Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination

- A. Disaster information is managed by the City of Covington at the operations center, and it is coordinated through department representatives. These representatives collect information from, analyze information with, and disseminate information to counterparts in the field. These representatives also disseminate and analyze information within the operations center that can be used to develop courses of action and manage emergency operations.
- B. Detailed procedures that identify the type of information needed, the source of the information, who uses the information, how the information is shared, the format for

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

providing the information, and specific times the information is needed are developed during operations.

VI. Communications

- A. Communications protocols and coordination procedures are utilized on a daily basis and established as needed for specific events.

VII. Administration, Finance, and Logistics

- A. Records and Reports
 - 1. Covington officials are responsible for submitting reports to GOHSEP for cost recovery.
 - 2. Each department is responsible for maintaining records of expenditures and obligations and narrative logs during emergency operations.
- B. Additional Policies
 - 1. When the resources of the City of Covington are exhausted or when a needed capability does not exist within the city, a request for assistance may go to St. Tammany Parish, which may forward the request to the state.
 - 2. The Incident Commander or Unified Command Team will submit periodic situation reports to the appropriate authorities during the disaster using standard Incident Command System formats.

VIII. Plan Development and Maintenance

- A. Plan Development
 - 1. This plan was developed by a team of officials representing the departments that have tasks outlined in the Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities section above.
- B. Maintenance
 - 1. Requirements
 - a. The Floodplain Administrator will maintain, distribute, and update this plan. Responsible officials in city government should recommend changes and provide updated information periodically (e.g., changes of personnel and available resources). Revisions will be forwarded to people on the distribution list.
 - b. City departments have the responsibility of maintaining internal plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and resource data to ensure prompt and effective response to and recovery from floods and related emergencies.

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

2. Review and Update

a. Review

Local officials should review this plan annually. The Floodplain Administrator will initiate the annual review of this plan by departments tasked, which will recommend revisions or changes.

b. Update

i. Changes

Changes to this plan may be needed under the following circumstances:

- 1) When hazard consequences or risk areas change
- 2) When the concept of operations changes
- 3) When departments, agencies, or groups that perform emergency functions are reorganized and can no longer perform the emergency tasks laid out in the plan
- 4) When warning and communications systems change
- 5) When additional emergency resources are obtained through acquisition or agreement or disposition of existing resources changes, or anticipated emergency resources are no longer available
- 6) When training, an exercise, or an actual emergency reveals areas for improvement
- 7) When state or federal planning standards are revised

ii. Methods of updating planning documents

1) Plan Revision

A revision is a complete rewrite of an existing plan or appendix that essentially results in a new document. Revision is advisable when numerous pages of the document have to be updated, when major portions of the existing document must be deleted or have substantial text added, or when the existing document was prepared using a word processing program that is obsolete or no longer available. Revised documents should be given a new date and require a formal adoption.

2) Plan Change

A plan change involves updating portions of this plan by making specific changes to a limited number of pages. Changes will be numbered to identify them and will be issued to holders of the plan with a cover memorandum that has replacement pages attached. The cover

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

memorandum indicates which pages are to be removed and which replacement pages are to be inserted in the document to update it. The person receiving the change is expected to make the required page changes to the plan and then annotate the record of changes to indicate that the change has been incorporated. A change to this plan does not alter the original document date, and a new adoption is not required.

IX. Authorities and References

A. Federal

1. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance, Public Law 93-288 as amended
2. Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101, Version 2.0, Federal Emergency Management Agency, November 2010
3. National Incident Management System (NIMS), Department of Homeland Security, Third Edition, October 2017
4. National Response Framework, Department of Homeland Security, Third Edition, June 2016
5. National Disaster Recovery Framework, Second Edition, June 2016
6. National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System Coordinators Manual, FEMA 2017

B. State

1. The Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act of 1993 as amended
2. State of Louisiana Emergency Operations Plan
3. Louisiana Disaster Recovery Manual

C. Local

1. St. Tammany Parish Emergency Operations Plan
2. St. Tammany Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan
3. Covington Situation Overview, The Water Institute of the Gulf, October 2018
4. Covington Flood Response Maps, The Water Institute of the Gulf, October 2018
5. Covington Flood Plan GIS Database, The Water Institute of the Gulf, October 2018

This page intentionally left blank.

Appendix A: Triggers and Actions

The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service maintains a web page with a hydrograph that has information about current conditions of the Bogue Falaya River at Boston Street in Covington. The hydrograph includes a record of recent past conditions, the current stage, and a prediction of future conditions. The web page also contains information about expected impacts at various river stages based on prior events. Listed below are triggers based on the river stage and associated impacts from the Boston Street Gauge website (<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lix&gage=cvel1>). The statements below should be analyzed to account for cumulative impacts.

Trigger: River Stage at 4 Feet

When the river stage on the Bogue Falaya River at Boston Street reaches 4 feet, the Covington Floodplain Administrator, along with other officials from the Covington Fire Department, Covington Public Works, and Covington Police Department that have opted in, will receive a text from the National Weather Service alerting them of the situation

The Covington Floodplain Administrator will review the current situation and projection with officials at the Covington Fire Department, Covington Public Works, and the Covington Police Department.

- When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated, and an incident command team will be established – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 5 Feet – Action Stage

Officials from the St. Tammany Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness should review the river stage forecast and potential impacts. They may discuss the situation with an NWS hydrologist(s) and/or notify local officials.

Actions

- Review river stage forecast and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated, and an incident command team will be established – Incident Command Team
- Send liaison to the St. Tammany Parish EOC if activated – Covington Police Department
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Establish an initial timeline of expected actions including protective actions and public warnings – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 6 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: The river will leave its banks under the Boston Street Bridge and begin to flood the Bogue Falaya Towers property.

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated, and an incident command team will be established – Incident Command Team
- Determine protective actions – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Implement protective actions and public warning – Incident Command Team
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials and property owners – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 7 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: Water will rise onto the west bank, flooding property of the Bogue Falaya Towers at East Boston Street and threatening commercial property on the east bank near Military Road. Bogue Falaya River Park and Christ Episcopal School grounds will begin to flood.

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated, and an incident command team will be established – Incident Command Team
- If the Bogue Falaya River Park has not been closed at a previous river stage, establish barricades and close the park – Covington Public Works
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 9 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: Bogue Falaya River Park will be inundated. Some ground floor classrooms at Christ Episcopal School grounds will flood.

Additional Areas of Concern: Old Landing, Cypress Cove, Jahncke Landing, River Bend Lane, New Covington

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- When the Boston Street Hydrograph displays a projection of 9 feet or more, an operations center will be activated, and an incident command team will be established – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 11 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: There will be major flooding at Christ Episcopal School and Bogue Falaya River Park.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing

Additional Areas of Concern: Cypress Cove, River Bend Lane, New Covington, Tchefuncta Bluffs

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 12 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: River Bend Road will be under water, threatening adjacent homes. Bogue Falaya River Park and Christ Episcopal School grounds will remain flooded.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing

Additional Areas of Concern: Cypress Cove, River Bend Lane, New Covington, Tchefuncta Bluffs

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Establish traffic and access control – Covington Police Department
- Provide transportation and/or evacuation support if needed – Covington Police Department and Covington Fire Department
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 13.5 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: Homes along River Bend Road will flood. Water will be in the ground floor classrooms of Christ Episcopal School.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing, Cypress Cove, River Bend Lane

Additional Areas of Concern: Tchefuncta Bluffs, New Covington, Oak Alley, Savannahs, Covington Point, Ozone

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Establish traffic and access control – Covington Police Department
- Provide transportation and/or evacuation support if needed – Covington Police Department and Covington Fire Department
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 15 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: Water on East Boston Street and on LA Hwy 21 east of the river will make driving hazardous. Low-lying areas near the Bogue Falaya and Abita Rivers will flood.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing, Cypress Cover, River Bend Lane

Additional Areas of Concern: Tchefuncta Bluffs, New Covington, Oak Alley, Savannahs, Covington Point, Ozone, Weaver Addition, South Louisiana Street, South New Hampshire Street

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Establish traffic and access control – Covington Police Department
- Provide transportation and/or evacuation support if needed – Covington Police Department and Covington Fire Department
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 17 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: Water will back up on the Abita River, flooding most of the area between U.S. Hwy 190 and LA Hwy 36. The river will be at the undercarriage of the East Boston Street Bridge.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing, Cypress Cover, River Bend Lane

Additional Areas of Concern: Tchefuncta Bluffs, New Covington, Oak Alley, Savannahs, Covington Point, Ozone, Weaver Addition, Saint John, area south of 14th Avenue and East of Harrison Street

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; access actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Establish traffic and access control – Covington Police Department
- Provide transportation and/or evacuation support if needed – Covington Police Department and Covington Fire Department
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Trigger: River Stage at 20 Feet

NWS Impact Statement: The flood of record occurred on March 12, 2016. Widespread flooding will develop in downtown Covington and below the gauge. Businesses will be inaccessible along parts of U.S. Hwy 190 and along Military Rd. The bridge at U.S. Hwy 190 will be inundated. Bogue Falaya Park and homes along the river will be flooded.

Areas Potentially Isolated: Old Landing, Jahncke Landing, Cypress Cover, River Bend Lane, 8th Avenue Area South of the St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Tchefuncta Bluffs

Additional Areas of Concern: New Covington, Oak Alley, Savannahs, Covington Point, Ozone, Weaver Addition, Saint John, area south of 14th Avenue and East of Harrison Street, Spring, Summer

Actions

- Continue to monitor the situation; assess actual and potential impacts – Incident Command Team
- Maintain closure of Bogue Falaya River Park – Incident Command Team
- Coordinate public warnings and information – Covington Mayor
- Communicate and coordinate impacts and response actions with Parish officials, Christ Episcopal School officials, and property owners – Incident Command Team
- Establish barricades for safety and isolation – Covington Public Works
- Establish traffic and access control – Covington Police Department
- Provide transportation and/or evacuation support if needed – Covington Police Department and Covington Fire Department
- Monitor progress, track resources, and update timeline of expected actions – Incident Command Team

Appendix B: Nearby Flood Gauges

Gauge	Website
Bogue Falaya River at Boston Street	https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lix&gage=cvel1
Bogue Falaya River near Camp Covington	https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?gage=cgsl1&wfo=lix
Tchefuncte River near Covington	https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lix&gage=cus11
Tchefuncte River near Folsom	https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lix&gage=flsl1

Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan

This page intentionally left blank.

Appendix C: Glossary and Abbreviations

Glossary

This glossary is based on terms and descriptions from the National Weather Service (NWS).

Areal Flooding: Flooding that develops more gradually, usually from prolonged and persistent moderate to heavy rainfall. This results in a gradual ponding or buildup of water in low-lying, flood-prone areas, as well as small creeks and streams. The flooding normally occurs more than six hours after the rainfall begins and may cover a large area. However, even though this type of flooding develops more slowly than flash flooding, it can still be a threat to life and property.

Flood: Any high flow, overflow, or inundation by water that causes or threatens damage.

Flood Categories: Includes Minor Flooding, Moderate Flooding, Major Flooding, and Record Flooding.

- **Minor Flooding:** Minimal or no property damage but possibly some public threat.
- **Moderate Flooding:** Some inundation of structures and roads near streams. Some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.
- **Major Flooding:** Extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.
- **Record Flooding:** Flooding that equals or exceeds the highest stage or discharge at a given site during the period of record keeping.

Flash Flood: A rapid and extreme flow of high water into a normally dry area or a rapid water level rise in a stream or creek above a predetermined flood level, beginning within six hours of the causative event (e.g., intense rainfall, dam failure, ice jam). However, the actual time threshold may vary in different parts of the country. Ongoing flooding can intensify to flash flooding in cases where intense rainfall results in a rapid surge of rising floodwaters.

Flash Flood Watch: Issued to indicate current or developing hydrologic conditions that are favorable for flash flooding in and close to the watch area, but the occurrence is neither certain or imminent.

Flash Flood Warning: Issued by the NWS to inform the public, emergency management, and other cooperating agencies that flash flooding is in progress, imminent, or highly likely.

Flood Stage: An established gage height for a given location above which a rise in water surface level begins to create a hazard to lives, property, or commerce. The issuance of flood (or in some cases flash flood) warnings is linked to flood stage.

Flood Warning: A release by the NWS to inform the public of flooding along larger streams in which there is a serious threat to life or property. A flood warning will usually contain river stage (level) forecasts.

Flood Watch: Issued by the NWS to inform the public and cooperating agencies that current and developing hydrometeorological conditions are such that there is a threat of flooding, but the occurrence is neither certain nor imminent.

Flood of Record: In hydrologic terms, the highest observed river stage or discharge at a given location during the period of record keeping.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in the Covington, Louisiana Flood Response Plan.

CPG	Comprehensive Preparedness Guide
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOHSEP	Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
MAA	Mutual Aid Agreement
NAVD 88	North American Vertical Datum of 1988
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NWS	National Weather Service
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure