

Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
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**THESE PROJECTS ARE CO-SPONSORED BY ATCHAFALAYA BASINKEEPER, LOUISIANA
CRAWFISH PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION-WEST, HEALTHY GULF & DELTA CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB
10-25-2021**

**PERMANENT CLOSURE OF COON TRAP
AND THE BAYOU BRIDGE RIGHT-OF-WAY
AT THE GIWW**

Coon Trap. As predicted by the Atchafalaya Basin Coalition, the crevasse by the dam built by the Corps to close Coon Trap completely collapsed and a new 12' deep bayou was created, bringing huge amounts of sand and silt into the Williams Canal, Flat Lake Pass, Keelboat Pass, Grand Lake and the area's wetlands. For the record, we notified CPRA and the Corps to the eminent failure of the strip of land next to the newly built Coon Trap dam and the disastrous consequences to the Basin's flood capacity and the Basin's ecology. We also warned that the +/- \$50,000 fix will turn into a multi-million-dollar project, just to close the about to be created new bayou and irreparable environmental consequences. All our warnings came to be true.

The damage done by the new Coon Trap opening has been horrific. About 10 camps are not accessible during low water any longer. Keelboat Pass has filled in almost to Grand Lake and the damage done to wetlands is impossible to measure. More flood capacity lost, and irreplaceable habitat lost.

CPRA promised us that Coon Trap will be closed permanently as soon as the water levels go down. We are very distressed and disappointed that we are in November and there are not signs of any attempt to close Coon Trap.

The Corps decision to close Coon Trap without addressing the crevasse next to it shows either extreme negligence, extreme incompetence, or purpose intent to fill the Basin's wetlands to benefit powerful corporations. We ask for the immediate closure of Coon Trap.



Coon Trap September 22, 2021

BBP right-of-way. The removal of trees to build the Bayou Bridge Pipeline have created a conduit for water bringing sand and silt down the Williams Canal from the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and creating a hydraulic dam affecting the water quality of over 2,000 acres of wetlands. Building a berm will be an unexpensive way to restore some water quality and to stop all the new sand and silt that they new conduit is introducing into the area.