



# changing course

## navigating the future of the Lower Mississippi River Delta

# meet the competition

Changing Course's Leadership Team selected three teams to participate in the first phase of the design competition. These teams will spend five months developing innovative designs for a self-sustaining Lower Mississippi River Delta that reduce land loss in the region while improving navigation conditions and strengthening resilience for local communities and industries. One or more teams will be selected to advance to a second phase in spring 2015, to further develop their plans.

### TEAMS PROGRESSING TO PHASE 1

#### Baird & Associates

### PARTNERING FIRMS

#### Baird & Associates (Team Lead)

Applied Ecological Services  
Research Planning, Inc.  
Sasaki  
Tetra Tech  
Vickerman & Associates

### INDEPENDENT PARTNERS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES

Don Hayes, Ph.D., P.E. (University of Nevada Las Vegas)  
Mark Kulp, Ph.D. (University of New Orleans)  
Alex McCorquodale, Ph.D., P.E., P.Eng. (University of New Orleans)  
Irv Mendelsohn, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)  
Martin O'Connell, Ph.D. (University of New Orleans)  
Karen O'Neill, Ph.D. (Rutgers University)  
Don Resio, Ph.D. (University of North Florida)  
Harry Roberts, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)  
Tom Soniat, Ph.D. (University of New Orleans)  
Colin Thorne, Ph.D. (University of Nottingham)

The Baird Team consists of two primary teams serving the constituents and stakeholders of the Delta. Their Delta Team consists of experts with intimate knowledge of the key themes and components required to develop an innovative solution (including communities and industries, shipping and navigation, river structures, dredging, hurricane risk, oyster fishery, commercial and recreational fisheries, wetlands, rivers and watersheds, deltaic and coastal geomorphology). As they assembled their Delta team, they sought the top local specialist in each area. The strength of their Delta Team also reflects their commitment to the development of world-leading water management expertise in the State of Louisiana. Their Fresh View Team represents a group of planners, scientists, and engineers that have a wealth of experience both nationally and internationally. This group is complementary to the Delta Team in terms of expertise (with a pairing in most disciplines) and is meant to bring an outside and fresh view to the challenge. These teams will work collaboratively to develop bold and creative solutions that meet the needs of this design competition.

#### Moffatt & Nichol

#### Moffatt & Nichol (Team Lead)

Deltares  
RAND Corporation  
West 8

The Louisiana State University Coastal Sustainability Studio (CSS)  
Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies  
University of New Orleans Pontchartrain Institute of Environmental Sciences (PIES)

Moffatt & Nichol, one of the premiere coastal engineering firms in the world, has built a diverse team eminently suited to develop an innovative approach to map out the bold decisions and framework necessary for a sustained and prosperous future for the Mississippi River. M&N's work is dedicated to the complex, interdisciplinary issues surrounding the area "where land meets water," and the firm enjoys a strong reputation throughout Louisiana and the world for planning, designing and successfully executing large-scale coastal engineering and ecosystem restoration projects. Their highly focused team members include: Deltares, a leading research institute for water and coastal issues known for applying proven expertise to make sound and independent assessments of the physical condition of deltas, coastal areas and river basins; West 8, an award-winning international design and landscape architecture firm composed of multi-disciplinary practitioners of large-scale master planning and design and landscape interventions; Louisiana State University Coastal Sustainability Studio, a leading voice bridging the efforts of scientists, engineers, architects and landscape architects working to envision a better future for coastal Louisiana; as well as the RAND Corporation, The University of New Orleans Pontchartrain Institute of Environmental Sciences and the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies.

#### STUDIO MISI-ZIIBI

#### H3 Studio (Team Lead)

AEP River Operations  
Bureau Drift Ecological Planning  
Coastal Environments, Inc.  
Colectivo  
Dynamic Solutions  
HKV Consultants  
HR&A Advisors  
Robbert de Koning Landschapsarchitect  
URS

Alexander Kolker, Ph.D. (Tulane University)  
Sam Bentley, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)  
Ron Brinson  
Mark Davis (Tulane University)  
Delft University of Technology  
Derek Hoferlin (Washington University in St. Louis)  
George Duffy  
Alex McCorquodale, Ph.D., P.E., P.Eng. (University of New Orleans)  
Thomas Michot, Ph.D. (University of Louisiana at Lafayette)  
Heidi Nepf, Ph.D. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)  
Andrew Nyman, Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)  
Jenneke Visser, Ph.D.

STUDIO MISI-ZIIBI is a unique highly-specialized, multi-disciplinary design and planning team formed to address the particular and complex challenge of restoring the Mississippi River Delta natural deltaic functions in times of climate change. The team is led by H3 Studio (team lead), URS and HKV, and supported by a renowned team of local and international individual collaborators and institutions. STUDIO MISI-ZIIBI fully and deeply understands the importance of the environmental and cultural heritage of the delta and its communities; the critical need for protection and restoration of the delta landscape; the need for the nationally significant economies to prosper; and the simultaneous need for improvement to safety and flood protection such that the aspirations of communities, businesses, varied industries, and ports all are respected and integrated.

STUDIO MISI-ZIIBI unites experts in delta planning, water management, economics, engineering, urban design, hydrology, flood risk, land-use planning, community planning, navigation, ecology, and landscape architecture in a collaborative community-based design methodology for innovation across all deltaic systems and issues. Collectively, their local knowledge of the Mississippi River Delta and global expertise of deltaic landscapes have generated innovative yet pragmatic design solutions throughout the world, all of which have been founded on scientific, ecological and engineering rigor, and an aspiration for a healthy, dynamic, and resilient delta.

