

TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (TRVWMD)
5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS (FY) 2023–2027

TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (TRWMD)

1. Comprehensive Mission Statement

1.1. Mission. The mission of Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District (hereinafter referred to as “The District”) is to provide for a plan of conservation, recreation, water control and utilization, agricultural development, industrial and economic advancement, and to complete these plans as time, state statutes, federal guidelines and funding permit (Legislature in HB # 179, R.S. 1962, Amended HB #55, S.E.S. 1962, HB # 793, R.S. 1964).

1.1.1. The District’s mission supports a continuation: to provide for flood control and flood prevention, investment in water-related recreation and industrial projects; to serve as conduit for federal and other outside funding; to assist with tornado and flood clean-up efforts; and, to assist in economic development, public safety, natural resources, and infrastructure efforts for citizens of our District and the State of Mississippi.

1.2. Vision. The District envisions plentiful clean water – accessible to all citizens without damage to persons, habitat or property – serving as a foundation for conservation, recreation, consumption, agricultural development, industrial development, and economic improvement for all to enhance quality of life and community for future generations of Mississippians.

2. Philosophy

2.1. Transparently, efficiently, effectively and safely serves as good stewards of our assets to provide value and ample return to our citizens and county partners.

3. Relevant Statewide Goals and Benchmarks

3.1. Flood Control Projects

3.2. Tombigbee Waterway Projects

3.3. Water Related Resources

3.4. Resource Conservation & Development

4. Overview

4.1. Within the next five years, provide and expand the range of water and water resource-related support services for county partners. The District will continue

to provide for flood control and flood prevention, invest in water-related recreation and industrial projects, and serve as a conduit for federal and other-than-state or -local outside funding for the District. Member counties incorporate the District as a multiplier during emergency management activities as result of severe weather and floods. Through training, relationships and improved communications, the District uses its assets (employees, trucks, equipment) and capabilities (skills, understanding, experience) to assist with severe weather (i.e., tornado) and flood clean-up efforts.

5. External/Internal Assessment

5.1. External

5.1.1. Federal Rules, Regulations and Laws

5.1.2. Work Seasons

5.1.3. Impact of Five Factors

5.1.3.1. Conformity to laws creating the District; Compliance with current Mississippi laws; Budget guidelines; Federal laws and guidelines; and, County request(s) and historical member county relationships

5.1.4. Flood Control and Mitigation

5.1.4.1. The District continues to target improved flood control and prevention as a primary activity requiring close coordination with county partners and other local officials. Current projects include, but are not limited to: levee repairs, stream maintenance, drift removal, stream bank protection, and county system bridge repair. In order to meet on-going maintenance requests and address project requests from member counties using current District maintenance staff, the District prioritizes projects based on urgency, feasibility, weather conditions and access. Although Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway (Tenn-Tom) was constructed primarily for navigation/transport and not flood control, it mitigates flooding especially in adjacent areas; however, there are certain inherent problems created within tributaries specific to a major waterway such as, but not limited to, head-cutting and stream bank erosion causing soil and vegetation displacement (e.g., formation of larger vegetation, tree and tree fall causing micro and macro drifts, blockages and impingement on bridging structure).

Unaddressed, blockages exponentially increase detrimental effects of flooding and erosion by destroying adjacent lands and in some cases causing destruction of public roads and bridges, and private homes and businesses.

5.1.5. Non-Visible Problems

5.1.5.1. Seemingly minor problems such as one fallen tree in a stream bed will escalate to a major problem as growing blockages of silt and additional fallen vegetation and debris build up to hinder drainage. The end result of a minor “non-visible” problem generally grows into a major issue (e.g., tornado debris). Therefore, the District calibrates “non-visible” problems through enduring project identification, evaluation and fulfillment.

5.1.6. Federal Funding

5.1.6.1. The District anticipates receiving FY 2023 and 2024 federal funding for project utilization; however, funding beyond FY 2024 is uncertain. Emergency watershed projects are cost shared at a 75/25 percent ratio when federal funds are available. The District’s plan includes informing our Congressional Delegation of the need to sustain future federal funding.

5.2. Internal

5.2.1. Work Force Factors

5.2.1.1. The District lacks ability to fluctuate work force specific to demand. The District follows state-wide rules for small agencies, provides services for less than 20 counties (13 counties within the District), and is self-funded through member counties.

5.2.2. Impact of Five Factors

5.2.2.1. Conformity to laws creating the District; Compliance with current Mississippi laws; Budget guidelines; Federal laws and guidelines; and, County request(s) and historical member county relationships

6. Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Measures by Program

6.1. GOAL A: Flood Control Projects

- 6.1.1. OBJECTIVE A.1: Assist partner counties with: water flow and maintenance; secondary road & bridge repair and improvement; natural disaster recovery (severe storm and flood); beaver/feral hog control; and, flood mitigation; and, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with maintenance of 581 acres of Mobile District flood-control levee structures.

Outcome: Percentage of projects completed.

- 6.1.2. STRATEGY A.1: Fulfill project resolutions submitted by the Supervisory Boards of our 13 counties; make our county partners acutely aware of the District's capabilities and the process to request assistance; and, support Corps flood control efforts.

Output: Number of projects.

Efficiency: Funding expended.

Explanatory: Number of funded flood control projects completed or supported.

6.2. GOAL B: Tombigbee Waterway Projects

- 6.2.1. OBJECTIVE B.1: Assist partner counties with management and development of the tributaries flowing into and facilities on the Tenn-Tom Waterway.

Outcome: Percentage of park & recreational area, industrial site and waterway access projects completed.

- 6.2.2. STRATEGY B.1: As the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' local sponsor for the Tombigbee Waterway, support partner county and Corps interests in supporting and developing three parks, three access (boat ramp) points and three industrial sites.

Output: Number of Waterway projects.

Efficiency: Funding expended.

Explanatory: Number of funded Waterway projects completed.

6.3. GOAL C: Water Related Resources

- 6.3.1. OBJECTIVE C.1: Assist partner counties with: access to abundant and reliable water natural resources; management and repair of water sheds and flood structure; and, economic development in the Tombigbee River Valley as originally established under the Tombigbee Valley Authority.

Outcome: Percentage of water-related resource projects completed or supported.

- 6.3.2. STRATEGY C.1: Work with partner counties and stakeholders to manage, protect and maximize the positive conservation and economic effects of water resources within the District.

Output: Number of projects.

Efficiency: Funding expended.

Explanatory: Number of funded water-related resource projects.

6.4. GOAL D: Resource Conservation & Development

- 6.4.1. OBJECTIVE D.1: Assist partner counties as sponsor for 6,361 acres of forestry, wildlife and recreation area within the District.

Outcome: Percentage of projects completed or supported.

- 6.4.2. STRATEGY D.1: Work with partner counties, state and Federal agencies to manage, improve, conserve and access forestry, wildlife and recreational areas (e.g., Kemper County Lake, John Bell Williams Wildlife Management Area and other properties within the District).

Output: Percentage of forestry, wildlife and recreational area projects completed or supported.

Efficiency: Funding expended.

Explanatory: Number of funded wildlife, forestry and recreational area projects.