

**TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (TRVWMD)  
5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN  
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS (FY) 2025–2029**

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# **TOMBIGBEE RIVER VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (TRWMD)**

## **1. Comprehensive Mission Statement for the Agency**

**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. Statement of Agency Philosophy**

**2.1.** Transparently, efficiently, effectively and safely serve as a good steward of our assets in providing 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 of the Agency 5-Year Strategic Plan**

**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 other-than-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, machinery, trucks, equipment) and capabilities (skills, understanding, experience) to assist with server weather (e.g., tornadic) 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 impingent 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 next FY federal funding for project utilization; however, funding beyond next FY is uncertain. Emergency watershed projects are cost shared at an average of 75/25 percent ration 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 with five additional non-member counties that are eligible for membership), 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. Agency 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 United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers with maintenance of approximately 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 member counties; make our county partners acutely aware of the District's capabilities and the process to request assistance; and, support U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 parks, access (boat ramp) points and 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 forestry, wildlife and recreation areas 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., John Bell Williams Wildlife Management Area).

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.

**//// END OF REPORT ... NOTHING FOLLOWS ////**