

WESTERN DREDGING ASSOCIATION

Is pleased to present the 2020 Annual Safety Excellence Award for a Dredging Project to

Manson Construction Company's

Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Atchafalaya Bay and Bar Channel, Maintenance Dredging, Non-Continuous, #17-1

Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Atchafalaya Bay and Bar Channel in Louisiana

Manson Construction won the Atchafalaya River project in September of 2018. After scope changed from a 4-month, \$16 million dollar project to a 9-month, \$30 million dollar project due to record-breaking shoaling events, the job was successfully concluded in January of 2020 with zero recordable injuries.

Work required hydraulic dredging of approximately 10 million cubic yards of material within the Atchafalaya River Bay and Bar Channel in three primary reaches: Crewboat Cut, the Bay Reach, and the Bar Reach. Disposal of dredged sand and silt included both overboard single point discharge and upland disposal with precise template and grade requirements.

Equipment included a cutter dredge, idler barge, derrick barge outfitted as a quarters barge, and an array of tugs and crew boats. The project required more than 26,000 ft. of steel submerged pipeline and 40-50 people working 24 hours per day in two shifts for a total of 156,646 man hours.

This project overcame three major challenges:

1. Remote location: Manson outfitted a derrick with temporary living quarters to accommodate the crew for the duration of the project which reached as far as 35 miles from the nearest infrastructure.
2. Record high water: The Mississippi River (which channels into the Atchafalaya) was at or above flood level for a record 135 days in 2019, putting the project team in higher, faster, debris-filled water for more than 5 months. The high water shut down many facilities including fueling docks and left existing crew landings several feet underwater.
3. Hurricane Barry: The storm made landfall in Southern, LA on July 13, 2019, with the eye of the storm tracking over the heart of the project. All equipment was moved 15 miles inland and rafted together to ride out the storm. Coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard and United States Army Corps of Engineers was integral to safely weathering the storm, which caused not one injury or incident of property damage.

This project shows what can be accomplished when uncompromising safety culture is instilled project-wide and top to bottom. It demonstrates that with proper training, planning, and equipment selection, and with all-in crew participation, complicated projects can be executed in hostile and dynamic environments without injury.

WEDA is pleased to present this award to Manson in recognition of their outstanding safety performance on the Atchafalaya River project.