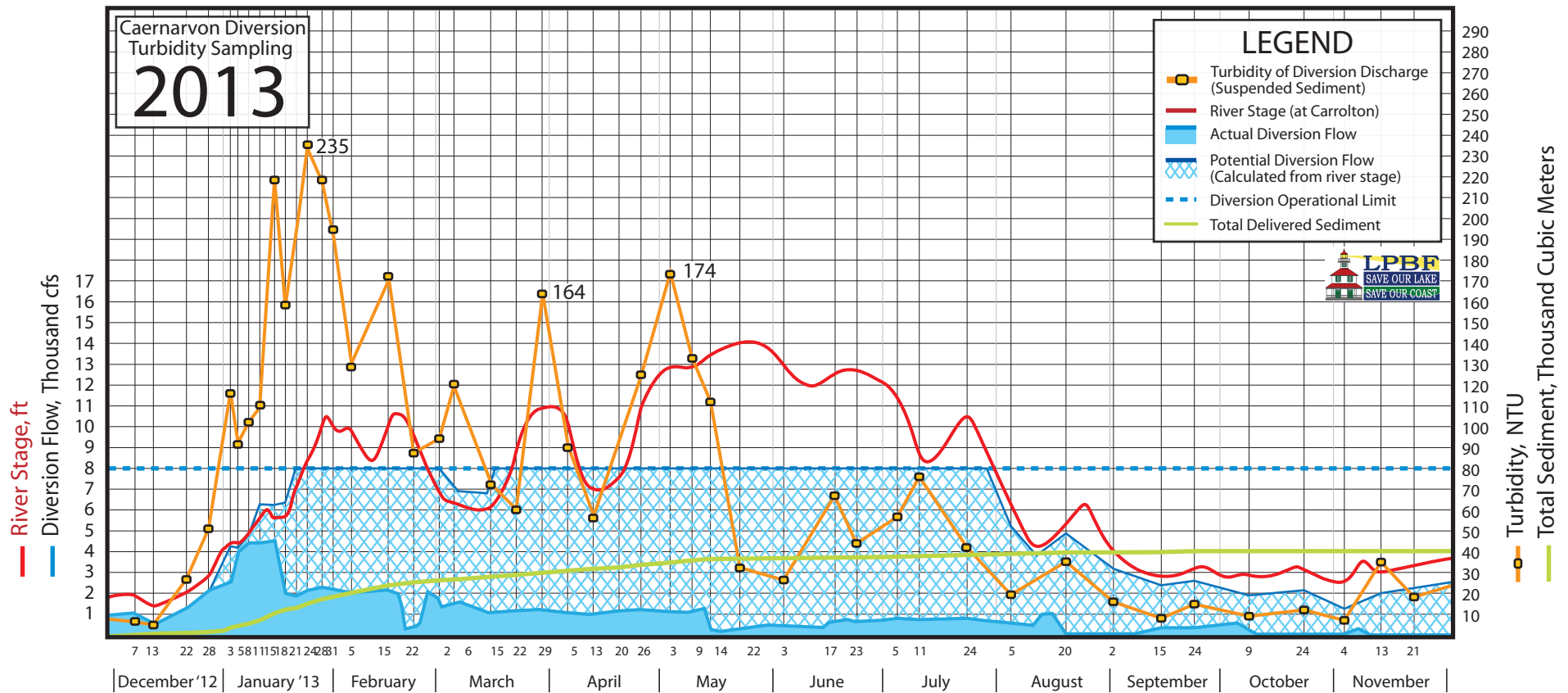


Caernarvon Diversion Turbidity Sampling 12/2012 - 11/2013

A Project of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation



This graph shows the results of water sampling at the Caernarvon diversion in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

The orange line shows the measured turbidity (cloudiness), which tells how much sediment is suspended in the water. The red line shows the river stage (height above sea level). The solid blue area indicates the actual discharge of water from the diversion in cubic feet per second (cfs). The green line is an estimate of the sediment delivered by the diversion. The blue hatched area shows the water that could physically have flowed through the diversion, but was not allowed to. The diversion structure can deliver more water as the river stage increases, up to its design limit of 8,000 cfs (dashed blue line).

2013 was an active year on the Mississippi, with three distinct rises and high water from January to July. Each rise was associated with a rise in sediment. In January and February, LPBF's monitoring showed the longest sustained period of elevated turbidity yet, seven weeks above 100 NTU. It may be that sediment accumulated on the river bottom during the preceding seven month period of low water and turbidity, forming a reservoir that was mobilized by the slowly rising river.