

Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System Mitigation Public Meeting

Delgado Community College
Westbank Campus
May 13, 2010



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG[®]



Meeting Purpose

Mitigation Open House & Project Scoping

Meet one on one with Corps representatives, learn about mitigation, and give us your ideas on how and where to mitigate for unavoidable project induced impacts from the HSDRRS work.

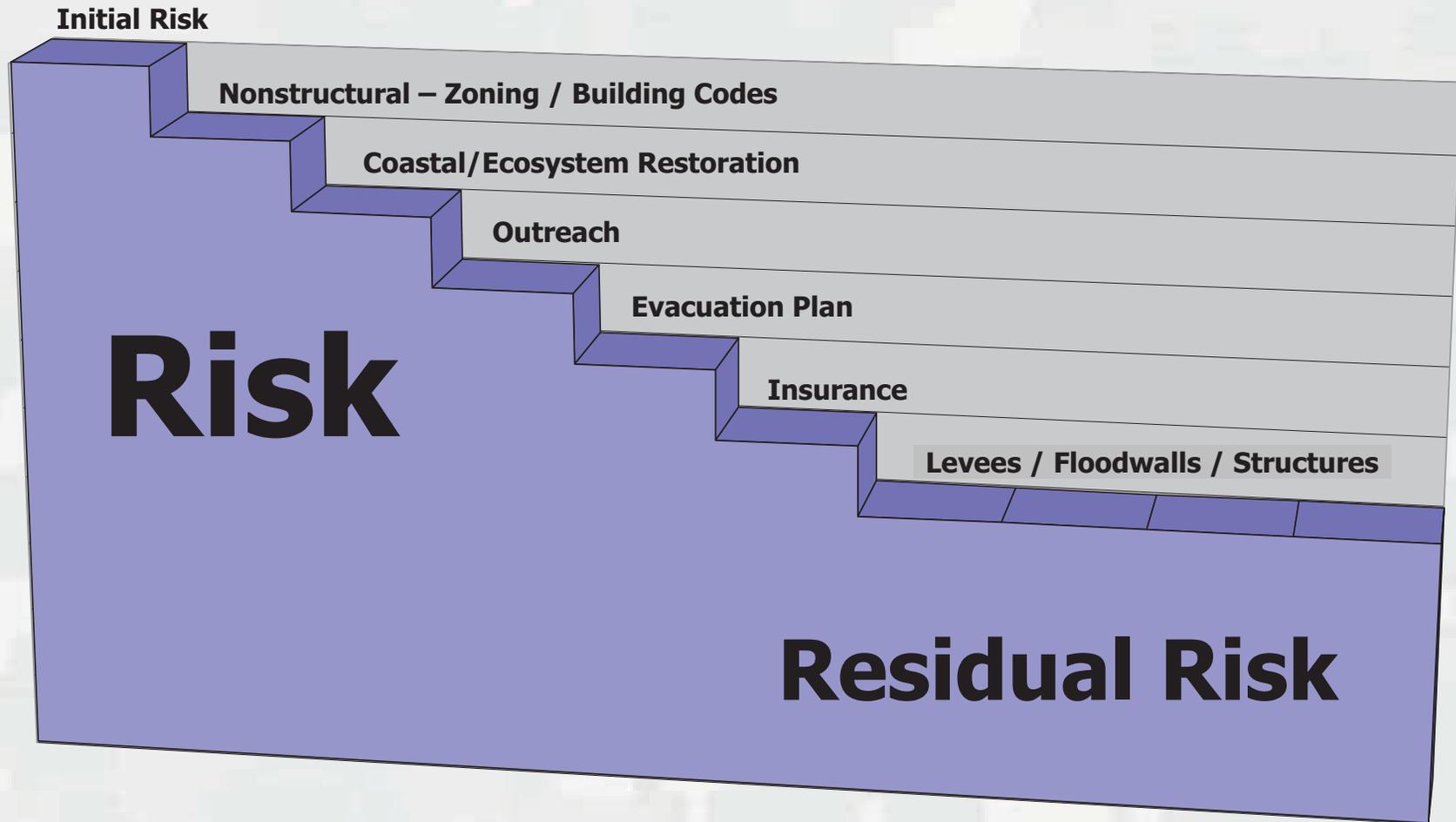


Meeting Agenda

- **Impacts generated by construction of the following HSDRRS projects:**
 - Harvey to Westwego Levee
 - Gulf Intracoastal Waterway West Closure Complex
 - Eastern Tie-In
- **Mitigation Program Objectives**
- **Feedback Session**
 - Where and how should mitigation occur?



Risk – Shared Responsibility

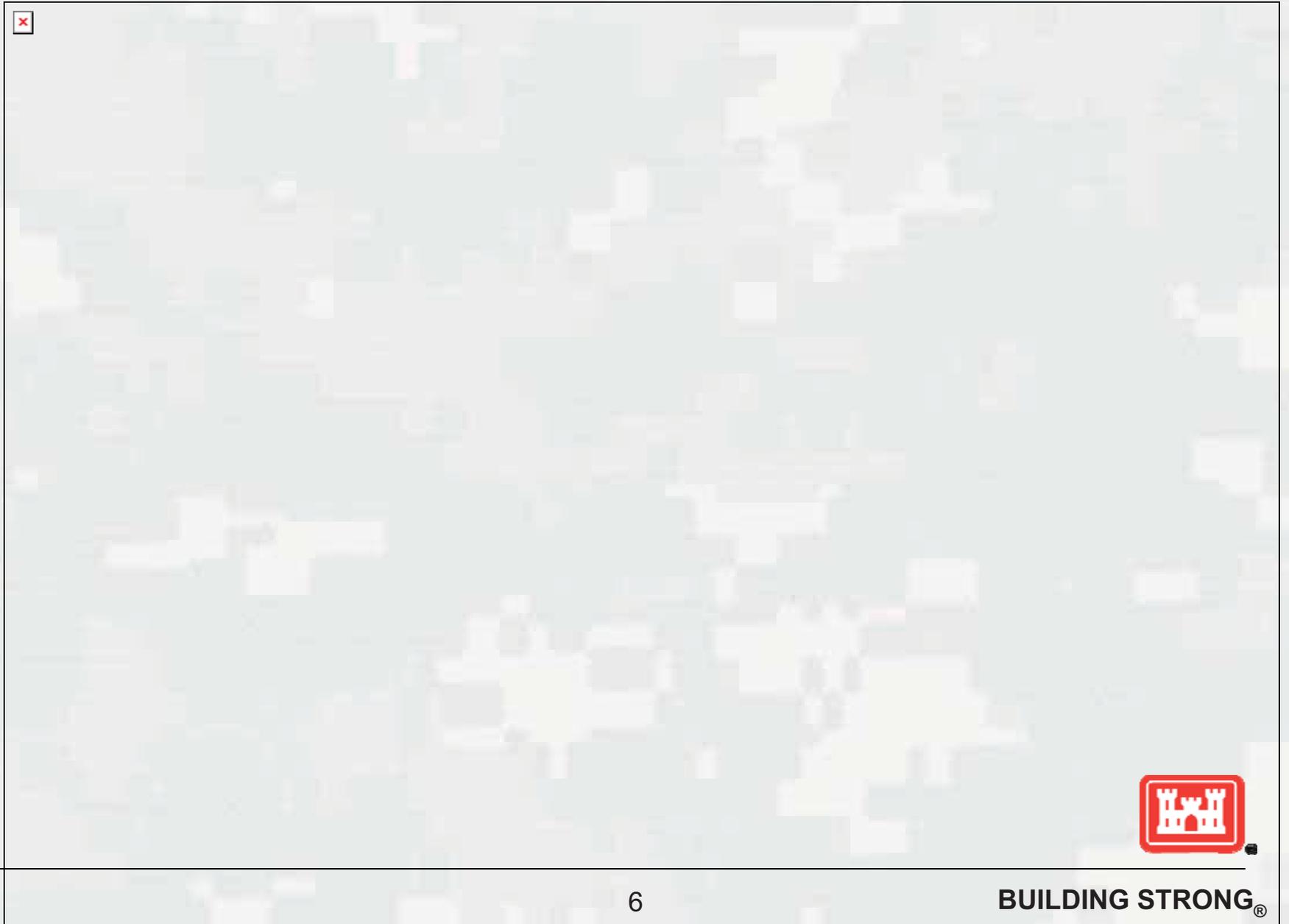


National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- **Alternatives for all major federal actions must be analyzed**
- **Impacts to the human and natural environment quantified**
- **Impacts discussed in environmental documents**
- **Public Involvement is KEY. We want to hear from you!**

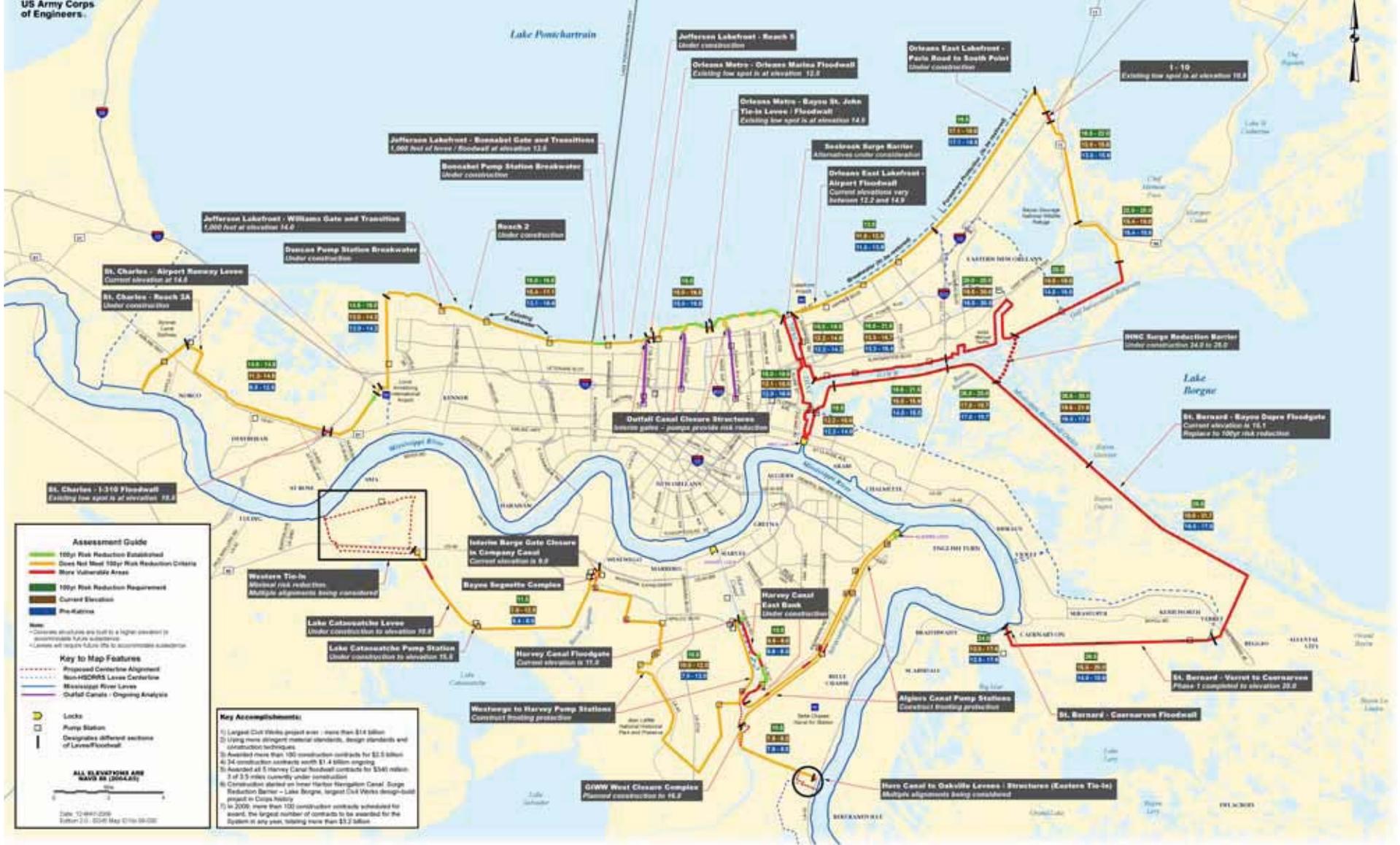


Individual Environmental Report: Project Areas

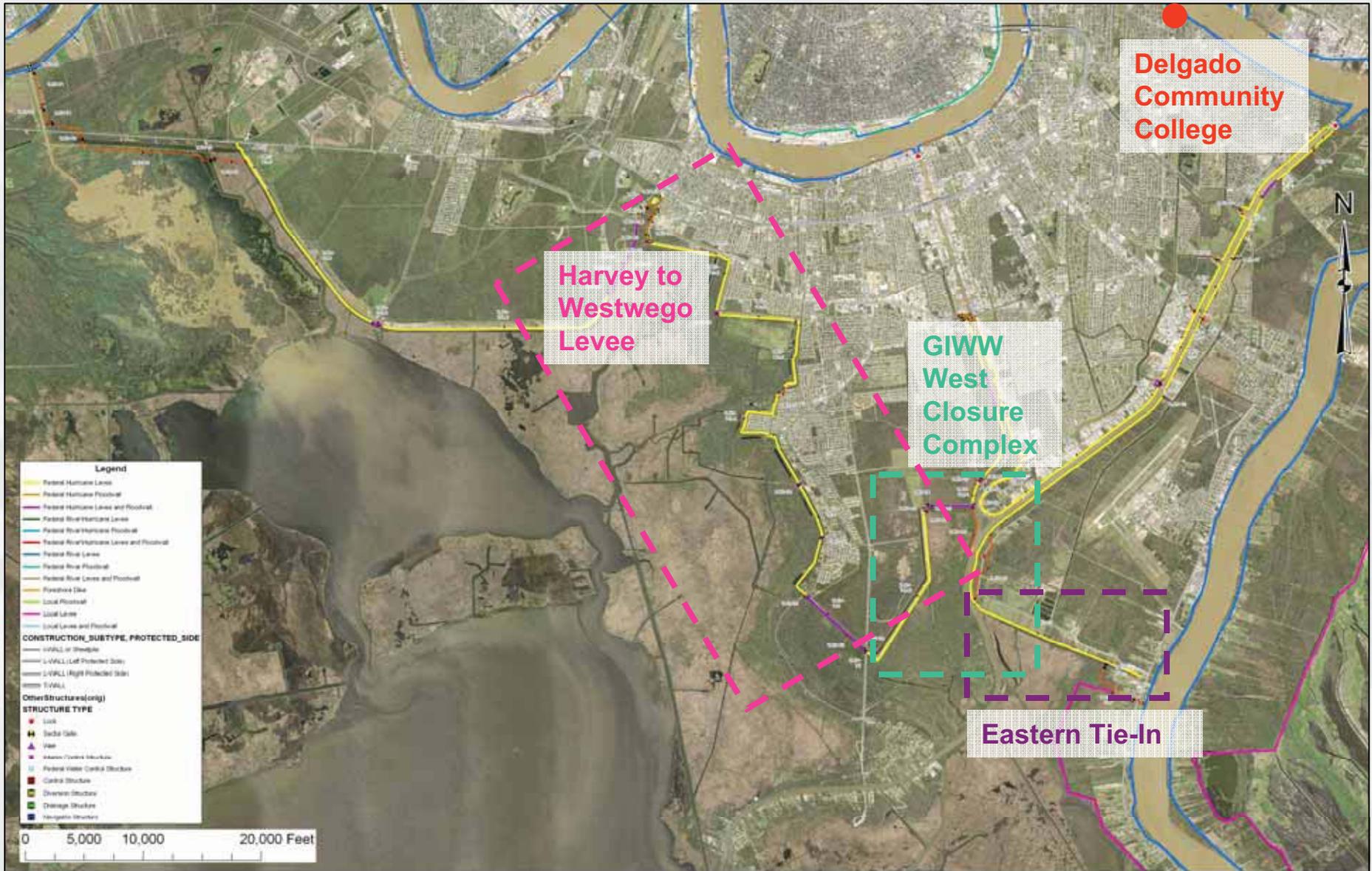




GREATER NEW ORLEANS HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS) Status - June 2009



Westbank & Vicinity



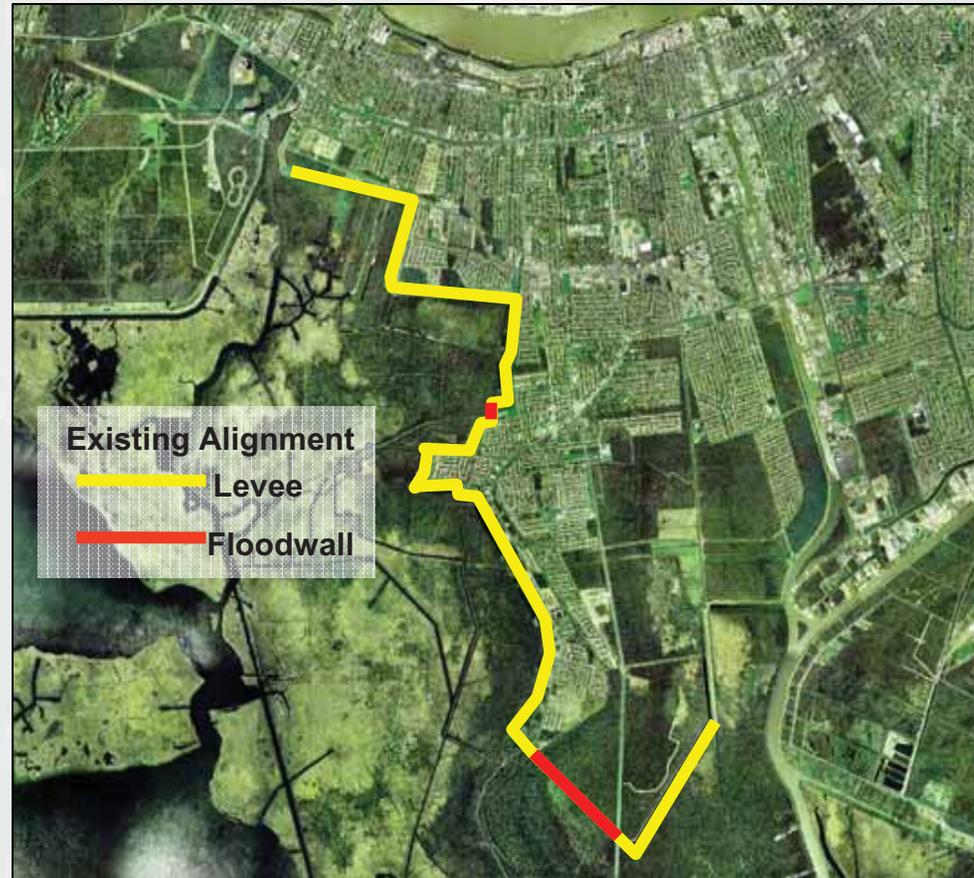
Harvey to Westwego Levees and Floodwalls

Individual Environmental Report 14

- Construction began Fall 2009
- Five of eight contracts in this area are under construction

Plan is to:

- Raise earthen levees along the current alignment to elevation 10.5 ft
- Shift current earthen levee alignment to the flood side
- Replace existing I-walls with T-walls



Harvey to Westwego Levees and Floodwalls

Individual Environmental Report 14 Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	90.50	67.17
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	71.5	41.02
Marshlands	0	0

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat



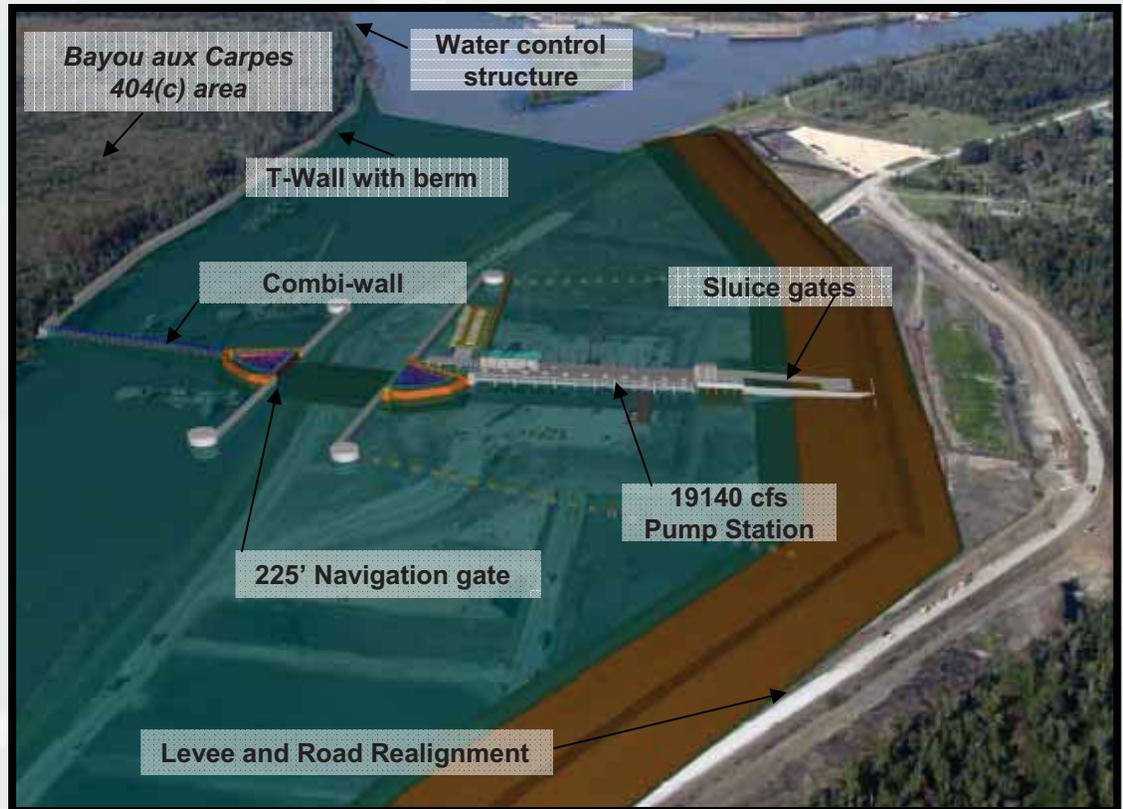
GIWW - West Closure Complex

Individual Environmental Report 12

- Construction began in Summer 2009
- All contracts in this area are under construction

Plan is to:

- Construct a 19,140 cfs Drainage Pumping Station
- Build a 225-foot navigation gate
- Construct five sluice gates and a Water Control Structure
- Build a concrete T-wall along edge of Bayou aux Carpes CWA 404(c) wetlands



GIWW - West Closure Complex

Individual Environmental Report 12 Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	254.00	179.20
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	74.90	38.50
Marshlands	0	0

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat



Eastern Tie-In

Individual Environmental Report 13

- Construction began in April 2010
- One of four contracts has been awarded

Plan is to:

- Raise existing earthen levees along the current alignment to elevation 10.5 ft
- Build a stoplog gate and two pump stations
- Construct a levee and T-wall
- Build a swing gate at Hwy 23



Eastern Tie-In

Individual Environmental Report 13 Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	32.00	18.39
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	39.00	28.27
Marshlands	0	0

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat



Mitigation

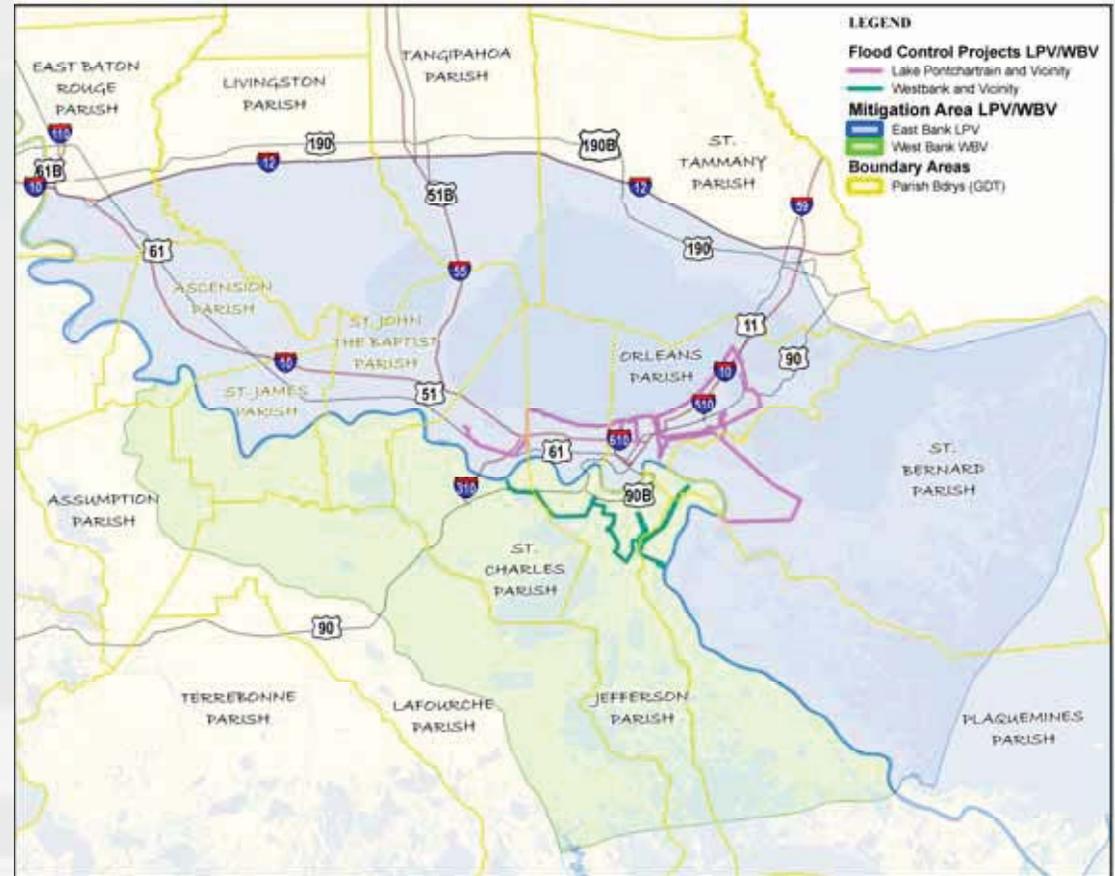
- **Avoid impacts to natural resources**
- **Minimize impacts to the greatest extent possible**
- **Compensate for unavoidable impacts**
- **Mitigation plans will be discussed in environmental documents**
- **Mitigation is funded**



Mitigation Policies

Generally mitigation would occur:

- As close as possible to the impact area
- Within the same hydrologic basin (Barataria or Lake Pontchartrain)
- Within same habitat type
 - Replace quantity (acres)
 - Replace quality (AAHUs)
- Before or concurrent with impacts



Impact types

There are three types of impacts:

- Direct
- Indirect
- Cumulative



As an example, construction of the GIWW West Closure Complex risk reduction feature will generate each type of impact for which the Corps will mitigate.



Affected Habitats



Bottomland Hardwoods



Salt Marsh



Brackish Marsh



Swamp



Intermediate Marsh



Fresh Marsh



Total WBV Impacts

Westbank & Vicinity Projects

Original Construction and HSDRRS – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	1887.70	1168.55
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	29.90	10.62
Swamp	204.65	124.88
Marshlands	137.80	66.30

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat



Total LPV Impacts

Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity Projects

HSDRRS – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	473.59	227.51
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	236.00	73.44
Swamp	113.71	70.81
Marshlands	1006.39	497.53

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat



Example Mitigation Project

Terrebonne Parish Non-Federal Levee

- In 2009, USACE constructed a 6.5 mile surge protection levee in Dulac, LA
- To mitigate the levee construction
 - Marshlands are currently under construction
 - Bottomland hardwood credits will be purchased from a mitigation bank



View of Mitigation Cell #2 under construction
Containment dikes at left, new levee at right.
(View to southeast)



Mitigation Tentative Timeline

- **Initial Public Meetings** May 2010
- **Initial Screening of Measures** Summer 2010
- **Final Screening of Measures** Spring 2011
- **Identify Proposed Mitigation Plan** Summer 2011
- **Release Individual Environmental Reports** Spring 2012
- **Individual Environmental Reports Signed** Spring 2012
- **Design Mitigation Projects** Fall 2012
- **Start Construction** Fall 2013



Opportunities for Public Input

- Regular public meetings throughout the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Area
- Sign in tonight to get on our meeting notification mailing list!
- Construction Impact Hotline: **1- 877- 427- 0345**
- Comments can be submitted at any time at
www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Questions and comments may be submitted to
Telephone: 504 - 862 - 2201
[E-mail: AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil](mailto:AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil)



Resources

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

NOLA Environmental
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
Environmental Compliance Data Bank
www.nolaenvironmental.gov

PROJECTS | MEETINGS | LIBRARY | DATA VIEWER | GET INVOLVED | RELATED LINKS

Welcome to NOLA Environmental! This site has been set up to share with the public the efforts being made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies in south Louisiana regarding the environmental compliance for proposed federal and state Hurricane Risk Reduction Projects. Additional information pertaining to other federal and state agencies' hurricane recovery efforts in southeast Louisiana will also be posted on the site as it becomes available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District implemented Alternative Arrangements on March 13, 2007 under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1506.11). Learn more...

Announcements

- Draft IER 7 Public Comment Period 5/6 - 6/4
- Draft IER 13 Comment Period extended to 5/18
- Draft IER 5 Public Comment Period 5/4 - 6/3
- Draft IER 16 Public Comment Period 5/1 - 5/30
- Draft IER 6 Public Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- IER 6 - The Clean Water Act Section 404 Public Notice Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- Orleans Parish Pump Station Stormwater EA #474 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/17 - 5/23
- Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormwater EA #475 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/14 - 5/20
- Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period 4/13 - 5/12

Upcoming

- 05/11/2009 - Public Meeting IER 6, 9, 10 and borrow
- 05/17/2009 - Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends

Newly Available

NEW NOLA Environmental Basic Data Viewer

- News Release 06 May 09 Draft IER 5
- IER 5 - Phase 2 Final Report: Operating Scenario Analysis

FEATURED PROJECT

USACE-MVNY Emergency Alternative Arrangements
Greater New Orleans
Hurricane and Storm Damage
Risk Reduction System Projects

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District - Microsoft Internet Explorer, provided by USACE, New Orleans District

US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

Floodwall

Building more bigger, stronger, better. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing to work speedily to complete the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) by 2012. To help and the Corps is using valuable people, learned to construct more resilient levees and floodwalls.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Learn more about what the Corps is doing to reduce risk. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Emergency Information
[Food Safety](#), [Disaster Response](#), [Public Information and More...](#)

NOLA Environmental
Did you miss a meeting? No problem! Find agendas, minutes, and more.

TOP HEADLINES

Document for public review on [Waterway](#) [Main](#)

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT on [Waterway](#) [Main](#)

Sign up to receive updates on [Waterway](#) [Main](#)

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT on [Waterway](#) [Main](#)

ASK THE CORPS

The Corps wants to hear from you!
Q: Do you have information on the closing of Industrial Lock on August 1, 2009 for 60 days?
A: Yes, for information regarding the August 1st closing of the Lower Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, please visit [http://www.usace.army.mil](#)

Unlabeled questions or comments to askthecorps@usace.army.mil

FEATURED VIDEOS

Meet Orleans Complex
Learn more about the alternative under construction to reduce risk on the Waterway. [Click here](#)

Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System
From levees to canals, tunnels, find out more about system features.

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<http://twitter.com/teamneworleans>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/37671998@N05>



Upcoming Mitigation Meetings

- **Monday May 17 6:00 pm – Westwego Senior Center**
- **Wednesday May 19 6:00 pm – NP Trist Middle School, Meraux**
- **Monday May 24 6:00 pm – Resurrection of Our Lord Elementary, NOLA**
- **Wednesday May 26 6:00 pm – American Legion Post 366, St. Rose**



What type of feedback are we looking for tonight?

Where and how should the Corps mitigate?

- Where should we restore and create habitats?
- Where are large tracks of undeveloped land?
- Which critical natural areas should be preserved?
- Is one mitigation method preferable to another?



Feedback Session

Please visit the stations at the back of the room to ask questions about the presentation and share ideas about how the Corps should mitigate.

Thank you!

