

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

American Legion Post 366
St. Rose
May 26, 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.





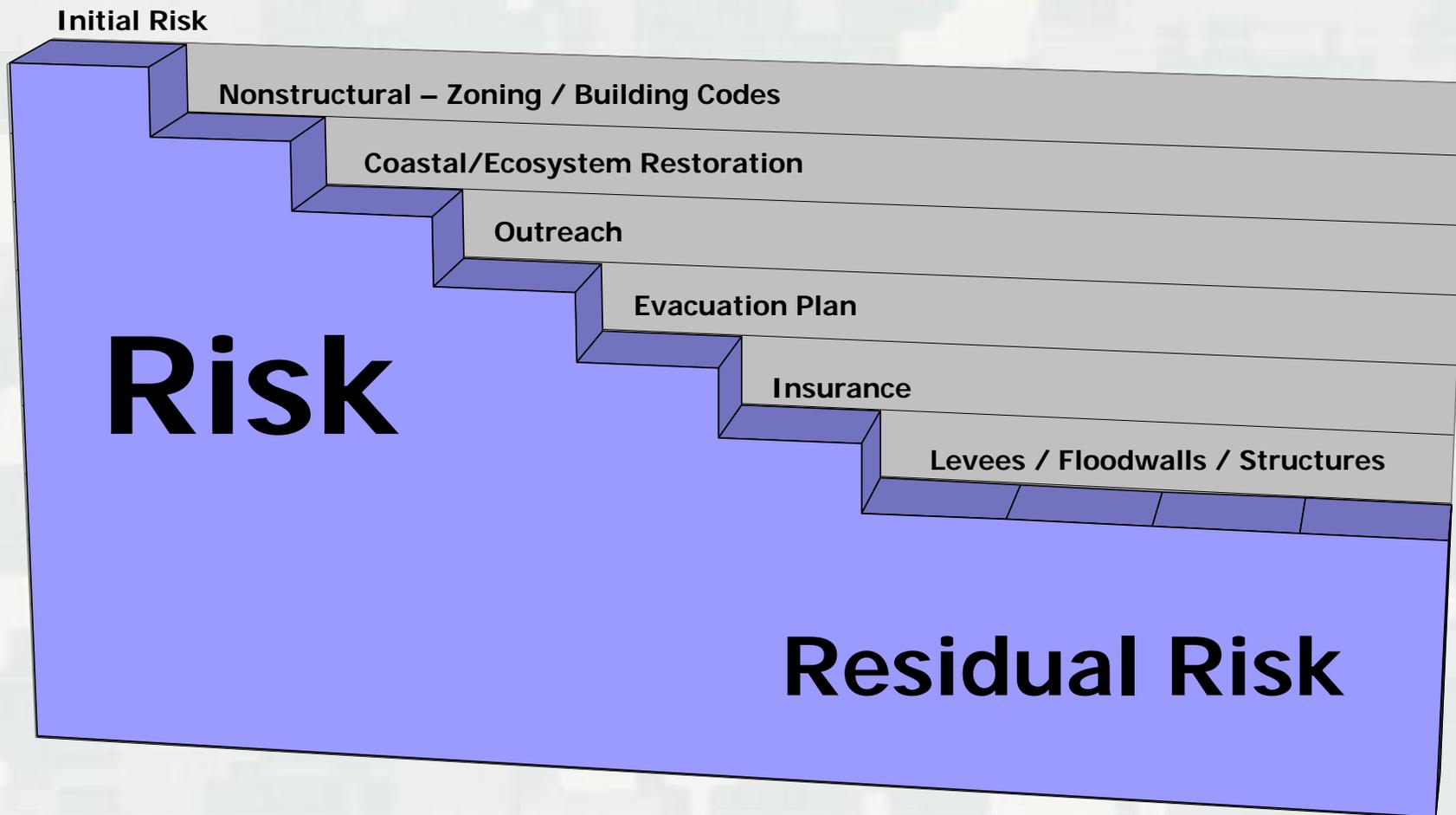
Meeting Agenda

- **Impacts generated by construction of the following HSDRRS projects:**
 - LaBranche Wetlands Levee
 - West Return Floodwall
 - Jefferson Parish Lakefront Levee & Causeway Bridge Floodwall
- **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



Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity

Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes



LaBranche Wetlands Levee

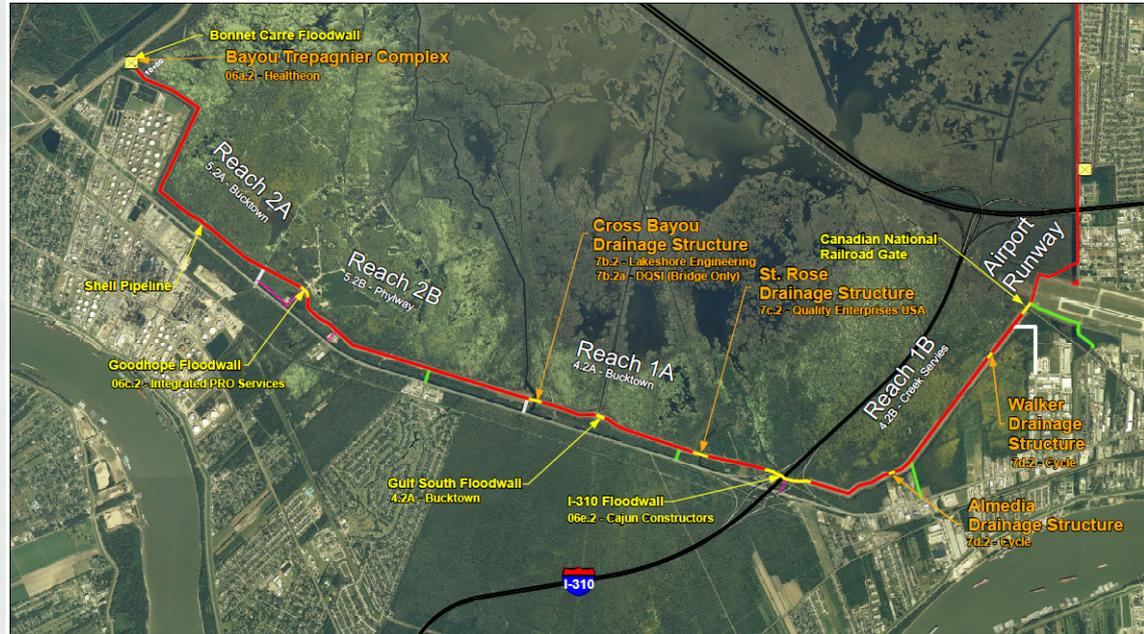
Individual Environmental Report 1

Construction began June 2007

Two contracts are complete. 11 of the remaining 13 contracts have been awarded.

Plan is to:
Build earthen levees along the existing Levee alignment to elevation 16 to 16.5 ft

Replace and modify existing floodwalls and drainage structures to meet 100 yr design criteria and elevations of 15.5 to 18.5 ft



LaBranche Wetlands Levee

Individual Environmental Report 1

Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	0	0
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	112	69.23
Marshlands	0	0
Total	112	69.23

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



West Return Floodwall

Individual Environmental Report 2

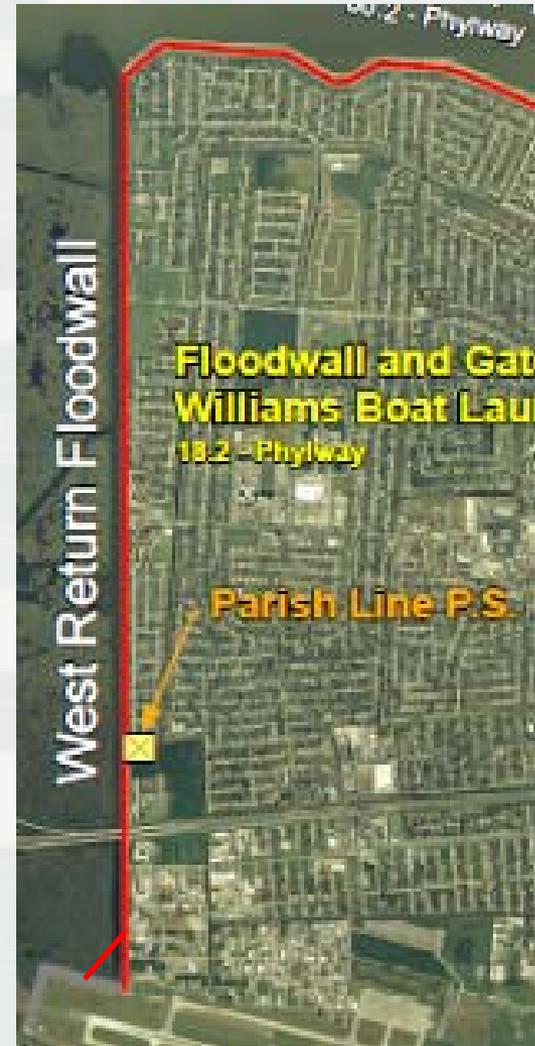
- Construction to began this summer
- Northern contract from the lake to north of I-10 is undergoing proposal evaluation
- Southern contract from I-10 to the Airport is currently being advertised

Plan is to:

Build a new t-wall approx 35 ft from existing wall on floodside to elevation 16 to 17 ft .

Replace re-curve wall at the lake with new t-wall.

Modify the portion of the existing alignment that ties in the airport levee to remove sharp 90° angle



West Return Floodwall

Individual Environmental Report 2 Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	0	0
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	2	1.55
Marshlands	33.5	20.45
Total	35.5	22

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



Jefferson Parish Lakefront Levee & Causeway Bridge Floodwall Individual Environmental Report 3

- Construction began November 2008

- 10 of 13 contracts in this area are under construction

Plan is to:

- Build earthen levees along the existing alignment to elevation 16.5 ft and provide foreshore protection/wave attenuation.

- Replace and modify existing floodwalls, floodgates and fronting protection to meet 100 year design criteria and elevations of 16.5 to 21 ft.



Jefferson Parish Lakefront Levee

& Causeway Bridge Floodwall

Individual Environmental Report 3

Impacts – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	0	0
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	0	0
Swamp	0	0
Marshlands	0	0
Total	0	0

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





Mitigation

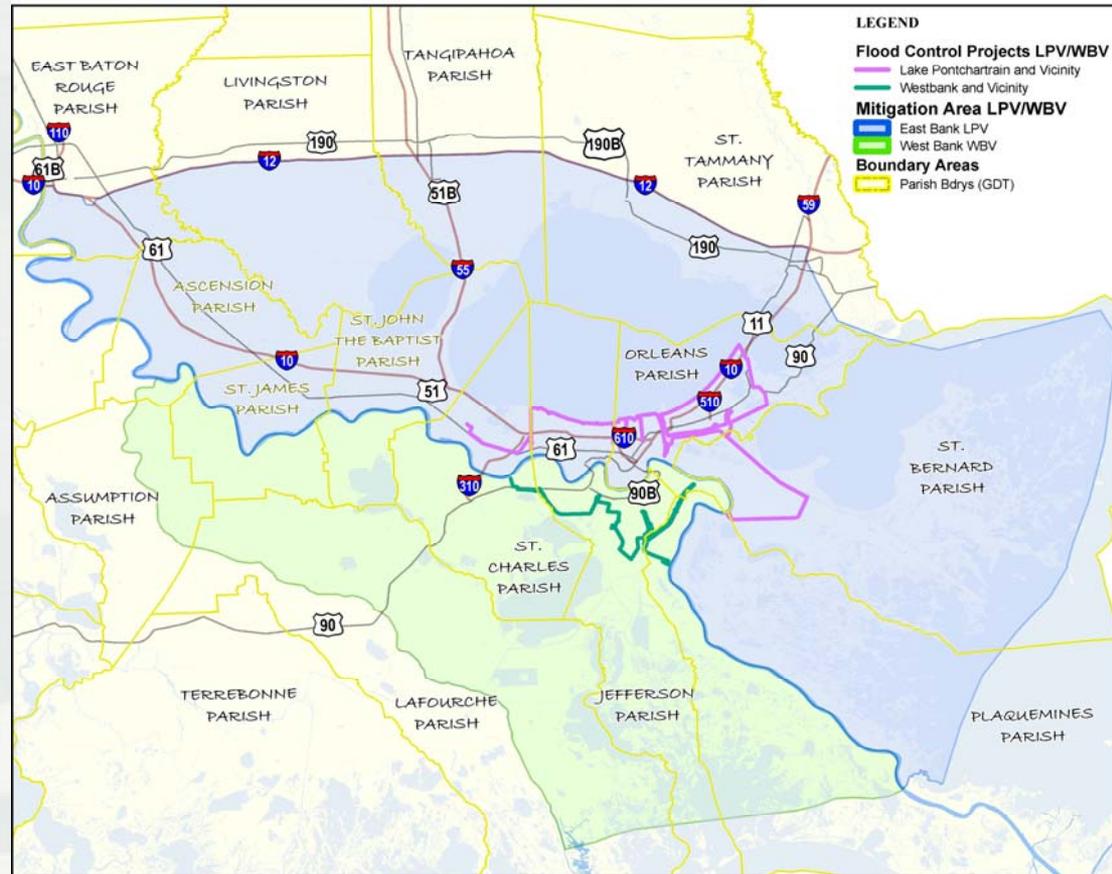
- **Avoid impacts to natural resources**
- **Minimize impacts to the greatest extent possible**
- **Compensate for unavoidable impacts**
- **Mitigation plans will be discussed in environmental documents**
- **Mitigation is funded**



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



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)





Example of Project Impacts

IHNC Surge Barrier

- **Construction began May 2009**
- **Types of impacts:**
 - **Direct**
 - **Indirect**
 - **Cumulative**





Affected Habitats



Bottomland Hardwoods



Salt Marsh



Brackish Marsh



Swamp



Intermediate Marsh



Fresh Marsh



Total LPV Impacts

Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity Projects HSDRRS – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	291.59	136.31
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	236.00	73.44
Swamp	113.71	70.81
Marshlands	835.99	423.53
Total	1477.29	704.09

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



Total WBV Impacts

West Bank & Vicinity Projects

Original Construction and HSDRRS – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	1887.70	1067.55
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	29.90	10.62
Swamp	204.65	124.88
Marshlands	137.80	66.30
Total	2260.05	1269.35

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



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

NO LA Environmental
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
Environmental Compliance Data Bank
www.nolaenvironmental.gov

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

Welcome to NO LA 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 - 4/3
- 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 Stormproofing EA #474 Drafts Public Comment Period](#) 4/17 - 5/23
- [Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #475 Drafts Public Comment Period](#) 4/14 - 5/20
- Draft [IER 10 Public Comment Period](#) 4/13 - 5/12

[More...](#)

Upcoming

- [05/11/2009 - Public Meeting \(IER 8, 9, 10 and borrow\)](#)
- [05/17/2009 - Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends](#)

[More...](#)

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](#)

[More...](#)

FEATURED PROJECT

USACE-MVN 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 flood bigger, stronger, better. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is working to work speedily to complete the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) by 2012. To this end, the Corps is using valuable lessons learned to construct more resilient levees and floodwalls.

[See to yourself >>](#)

TOP HEADLINES

- [Document re/missa adds on Waterway Transits](#)
- [Casey Mikami environmental document for public review](#)
- [Plans to speed up update on Waterway Risk Reduction](#)
- [Casey Banks Submitter Input on Risk and Reduction](#)

ASK THE CORPS

The Corps wants to hear from you!

Q: Do you have information on the closing of Industrial Locks 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 here](#).

Submit questions or comments to ask@mvn.usace.army.mil

FEATURED VIDEOS

- [Meet Orleans Complex](#)
Learn more about the alternative under consideration to reduce risk on the Waterway. [Watch it.](#)
- [Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System](#)
From levees to pumping stations, [find out more](#) about system features.

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US Army Corps
of Engineers
New Orleans District

Social Web Networking Communities

and what they mean to you

twitter



is an online messaging and social networking system that allows people to share their daily life experiences minute-by-minute, hour-by-hour, and/or day-by-day via their computer or mobile phone. Team New Orleans is joining in and taking on the opportunity to tweet with the public and offer reports on developments, additions, changes, and upcoming public meetings and events that will affect local communities. Check it out by going to twitter.com/teamneworleans.

Flickr is an online community platform for global photo management and sharing applications via the web. Team New Orleans has become a part of the movement and is using Flickr to visually explain our projects.

Check out our photos at

www.flickr.com/photos/37671998@N05.

flickr



facebook

is a global social networking Web site that links people from across the world and is currently ranked as the most popular of its kind. Team New Orleans is following in the trend and is using Facebook to update the public about projects, events, activities and public meetings.

Become friends with Team New Orleans by visiting www.facebook.com, search New Orleans District.





Visit the following links to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr:

<http://www.facebook.com/people/New-Orleans-District/100000017439096>

<http://twitter.com/teamneworleans>

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



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!

