



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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For Immediate Release:
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Corps hosts public meetings this week to discuss Southwest Coastal study

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, in partnership with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana, is hosting public meetings this week to discuss the "Southwest Coastal Louisiana Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement," which is currently available for a 45-day public review period ending Sunday, January 26, 2014.

The proposed Southwest Coastal Louisiana project would provide nonstructural hurricane and storm damage risk reduction measures and coastal ecosystem restoration features in the study area. The study area encompasses 4,700 square miles in Calcasieu, Cameron and Vermilion Parishes in southwest Louisiana.

As part of the public review period and to provide a venue for the public to submit comments on the integrated draft report, the Corps will be hosting public meetings this week in the study area. Public meeting details are as follows:

When: Tuesday, January 7, 2014

6:00 to 6:30 p.m. – Open House
6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Presentation & Acceptance of
Public Comments

Where: Lake Charles Civic Center

Contraband Room – 2nd Floor
900 Lakeshore Drive
Lake Charles, LA 70601

When: Thursday, January 9, 2014

6:00 to 6:30 p.m. – Open House
6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Presentation & Acceptance of
Public Comments

Where: Vermilion Parish Library-Abbeville Branch

405 E. St. Victor Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

In addition to comments received during the public meeting, the Corps will accept written comments postmarked by January 26, 2014. Written comments on the integrated draft report should be mailed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
ATTN: Sandra Stiles
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Comments may also be sent by email to SWCoastalAdmin@usace.army.mil.

The integrated draft report is available online at:

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/About/Projects/SouthwestCoastal.aspx>.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – TEAM NEW ORLEANS

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Communities in southwest Louisiana are at increasing risk to storm surge flooding due to wetland loss, relative sea level rise and land subsidence. The purpose of this project is to provide hurricane and storm damage risk reduction and to significantly restore environmental conditions for the Chenier Plain ecosystem.

The Tentatively Selected Plan, as outlined in the “Southwest Coastal Louisiana Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement,” recommends a nonstructural plan, which includes residential structure elevation, flood proofing, and the acquisition of qualifying structures to reduce potential damages from future tropical storms and hurricanes. It also recommends a variety of ecosystem restoration features including marsh restoration, shoreline stabilization/protection, and chenier reforestation.

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