



US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hurricane protection: 5 more public meetings *57 miles of levee from west St. Charles to Larose envisioned*

NEW ORLEANS – Five more public meetings are scheduled on a proposed Louisiana hurricane protection project to protect an area bounded by U.S. 90 from Luling to Raceland and La. 308 from Raceland to Larose, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Tuesday.

A feasibility study is just getting underway on the 57-mile Donaldsonville to the Gulf Hurricane Protection Project. The public is invited to comment, at these five meetings, on what should be considered in an environmental impact statement.

Tuesday, Feb. 4 – Cafeteria, Hahnville High School, 200 Tiger Drive, Boutte, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 – West Bank Court House (St. James Parish), 2631 La. 20 West, Vacherie, 7 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 10 – Leman Memorial Community Center, 110 Clay St., Donaldsonville, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 11 – Cafeteria, Assumption High School, 4880 La. 308, Napoleonville, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 12 – Cafeteria, West St. John High School, 480 La. 3127, 7 p.m.

Previous public meetings were held in Gheens, Nov. 19, and Choctaw, Nov. 20.

These are known as “scoping” meetings, where public comment is sought to help the Corps of Engineers obtain the widest scope of information to include in the environmental impact statement and the study itself. Answers are requested for these questions:

Question 1: *What are the most important issues, resources and impacts that we should consider in the environmental impact statement.*

Question 2: *Are there any other alternatives or modifications to existing alternatives that we should consider in the environmental impact statement?*

The study area has been declared a Federal Disaster Area because of flooding four times since 1985 and received assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as recently as last year.

The Corps is conducting the feasibility study with two non-federal sponsors, the Lafourche Basin Levee District and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

The levee would be built south of U.S. 90, beginning near Boutte at the west Davis Pond guide levee, and extending westward to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway at Larose. The feasibility study would weigh the levee proposal and investigate ways to improve interior drainage.

The study would consider building a flood-control structure on Bayou des Allemands where it would intersect the new levee. The structure's gates would remain open for navigation in the absence of storms.

And the study will investigate restoring and/or protecting the natural and human environment to create a sustainable ecosystem in the Lac des Allemands drainage basin north of U.S. 90.

Questions

Study: Address questions to Project Manager Frank Duarte, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CEMVN-PM-W, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, La. 70160-0267, telephone 504-862-1014, e-mail francisco.m.duarte@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

Environmental Impact Statement: Address questions to Biologist Gib Owen, CEMVN-PM-RS, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, La. 70160-0267, telephone 504-862-1337, email gib.a.owen@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

Attached: map of proposed levee alignment.

Donaldsonville to the Gulf Hurricane Protection Project

