



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New Orleans District

# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Myrtle Grove plan would use Mississippi River's fresh water, sediment, nutrients to aid Barataria wetlands**

*But first Corps needs public input at public meetings set in Buras, Harvey*

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is preparing to draft a plan to restore coastal wetlands west and south of Myrtle Grove with fresh water, sediments and nutrients from the Mississippi River. The primary purpose would be the creation and rebuilding of coastal marsh.

Two public meetings are scheduled to gather further information from the public to help the Corps of Engineers shape a proposed plan of action to accomplish this purpose and an environmental impact statement. The meetings will be held in:

Buras – 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, at Buras Auditorium 35619 Highway 11.

Harvey – 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, Jefferson Parish School Board, 501 Manhattan Blvd.

The first meeting was held in Belle Chasse on March 13. The two upcoming meetings will give the public additional opportunities to provide information to the Corps of Engineers. A fourth meeting will be scheduled later, again in Belle Chasse.

Alternatives recommended for consideration include the construction of one or more river diversions near Myrtle Grove, dredging to create wetlands and construction of outfall management structures.

The area to be restored covers about 1,200 square miles, stretching to the Gulf of Mexico. At one time, a great deal of this area was coastal wetlands, primarily marsh, that has become open water.

More information: Tim Axtman, project manager, 504-862-1921 and Sean Mickal, environmental impact statement coordinator, 504-862-2319.