



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
New Orleans District

# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Corps to dredge Bayou Teche through New Iberia area** *12.3-mile job expected to begin Nov. 1, and take up to two years*

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will dredge Bayou Teche in the New Iberia area, beginning about Thursday, Nov. 1.

It will take 1½ to 2 years to restore the channel to its authorized dimensions of 60 feet wide and 8 feet deep. Dredging will occur between the Olivier Bridge and the Vida railroad bridge 12.3 miles upstream. Cost will be \$6.68 million.

“We will work in daylight hours only, Monday through Saturday,” said Chris Accardo, the Corps’ operations manager for Southwest Louisiana. “We have coordinated with the bridge operators to minimize or eliminate delay for motorists.”

The dredging, the first in more than 10 years on this stretch of the Teche, will benefit the barge and towboat industry, including vessels that serve three sugar mills in the New Iberia area, and other navigation.

“This is not routine, maintenance dredging since the material must be handled twice,” Accardo said.

The government’s contractor, Circle Inc., will use a clamshell bucket to place the dredged material on barges. The material will then be barged to designated staging areas, where trucks will take it to approved disposal sites. It’s expected that about 440,000 cubic yards of material will be moved.

“There are no toxic materials here, but this is an urban area, and some trash will be picked up. Large objects, such as tires, junk cars and washing machines, will be taken to appropriate landfills,” Accardo said.

**Corps Dredging.** The Corps of Engineers dredges with the benefit of years of experience, research and guidelines. See <http://www.wes.army.mil/el/dots/>

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