

# Morganza, LA to the Gulf of Mexico Study Area



- **Project Status:**

Project is in the PED phase.

- **Project Cost:** \$719.0M

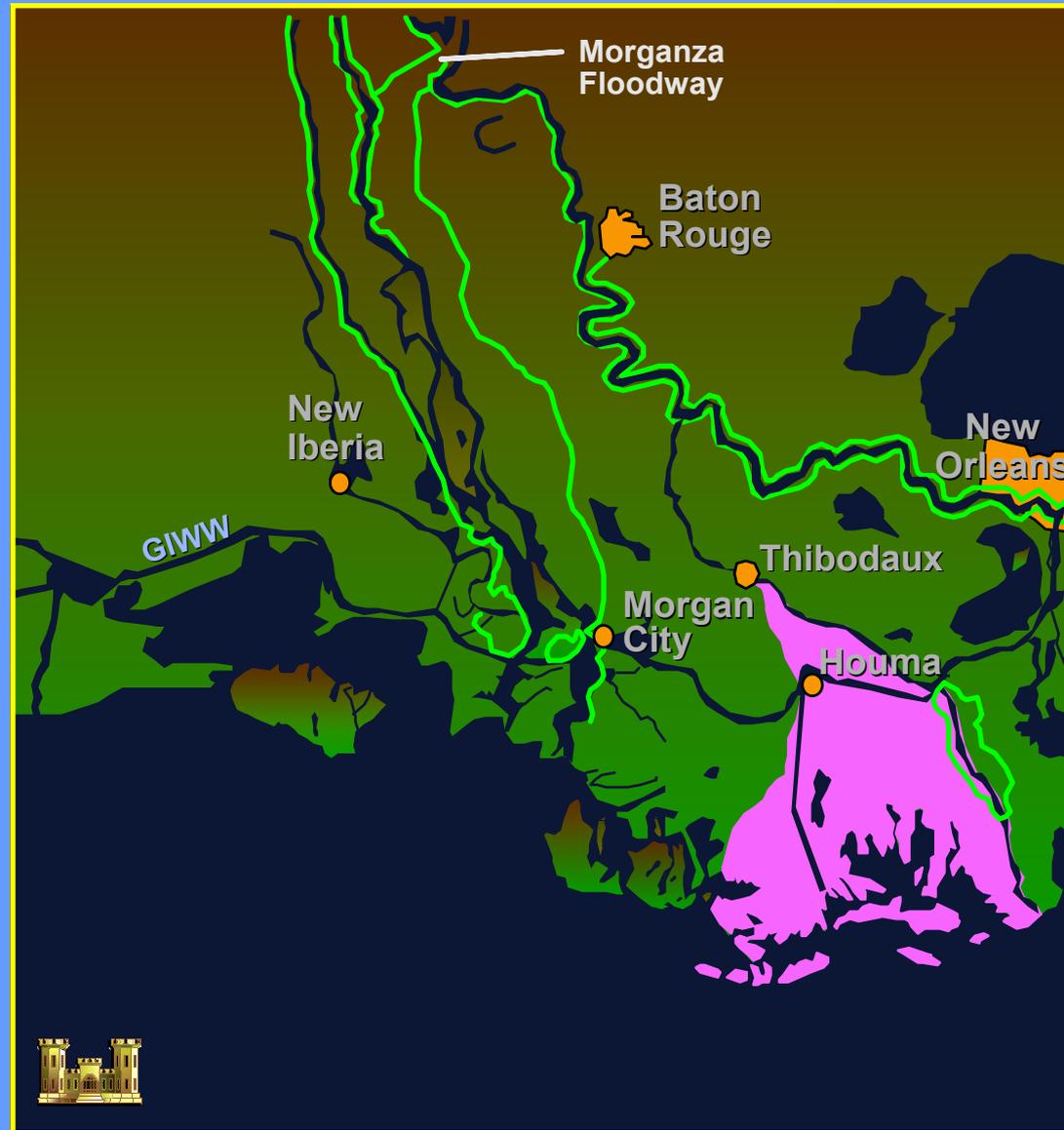
FY2005 Budget: \$1.5M

- **FY05 Amount Required:** \$10.0M

- **Project Issues:**

Request construction authorization in the next WRDA.

Limited FY05 funding for planning and design of new projects will delay progress significantly.





# Project Fact Sheet

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District, MVN-PM-M  
P.O. Box 94396  
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Date: March 8, 2004

## Morganza, Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection Project

**PROJECT AUTHORITY:** A Reconnaissance Study for the Morganza, Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection Project was authorized by Congress in 1992. Following completion of this report, Congress authorized a Feasibility Study in the E&WD Act of 1995. The Feasibility Study was completed in March 2002 and the Chief of Engineers letter was forwarded to the Secretary of the Army in August 2002 and supplemented in July 2003.

**PROJECT SPONSORS:** The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) acted as the local sponsor for the feasibility study and has agreed to sponsor detailed design and construction.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed work is located in coastal Louisiana approximately 60 miles southwest of New Orleans, and includes portions of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. The area is bounded on the west by Bayou Du Large and State Highway 311 and on the east by Bayou Lafourche with the east and west boundaries forming an apex at Thibodaux, LA. The southern boundary is the Gulf of Mexico.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** In the interest of flood control, navigation, wetlands conservation and restoration, wildlife habitat, commercial and recreational fishing, salt water intrusion and fresh water and sediment diversion, and other purposes, the recommended plan of the Feasibility Study was selected for implementation. Consistent with reducing hurricane and flood damages in an environmentally sustainable manner, the project is being designed and will be operated to achieve coastal wetland conservation through the improved distribution of freshwater inflows to wetlands wherever feasible. The project will protect over 100,000 people and 1,700 square miles of saline and fresh marshes, farmlands, heavy and light industry, residential, and other developed areas.

**PROJECT FEATURES:** The hurricane protection system includes approximately 72-miles of earthen levees, nine 56' wide floodgates, three 125' wide floodgates, and a Lock Complex consisting of a 110' wide by 800' long lock with an adjacent 200' floodgate. The plan also includes twelve sets of 6' by 6' box culverts through the levees to allow normal tidal ebb and flow. Mitigation features of the plan include creation of 1,352 acres of marsh habitat and widening a 10,600' canal to 40' to enhance freshwater flow into the system. Pre-construction Engineering and Design (PED) of the lock was previously authorized by the FY 99 E&WD appropriations act and a PED agreement executed on January 13, 2000 between USACE and the local sponsor. A PED agreement for the overall project was executed on May 22, 2002, between the USACE and the local sponsor. Completion of the lock design is scheduled for June 2006 and construction is scheduled to be complete by 2010. Design of the lock access road is scheduled to be complete in the first quarter of FY 05 and construction is scheduled to be complete in the first quarter of FY 2006. The Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District will participate as the sponsor for operation and maintenance of project features as identified in the feasibility report.

Section 158, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2004 (P.L. 108-137) authorized Reach J, Segment 1, a four mile portion of the Morganza twelve mile Reach J levee, for construction at a total cost of \$4,000,000.

<b>PROJECT COSTS:</b>	<u>Total Project</u>
Total Project Cost	\$719,000,000
Total Federal Cost	\$467,000,000
Total Non-Federal Cost	\$252,000,000

**PROJECT BUDGET/SCHEDULE:** The project PED is scheduled to be completed in FY 2012. FY05 budget is \$1.5 million. \$10 million could be used in FY05 to advance PED 18 months.

**PROJECT ISSUES:** Congressional authorization is required for construction (except for Reach J, Segment 1). Reduced FY04 PED funding will severely limit or curtail on-going design effort.