

Mississippi River - Gulf Outlet Ecosystem Restoration



• Study Status

GI recon/feasibility study

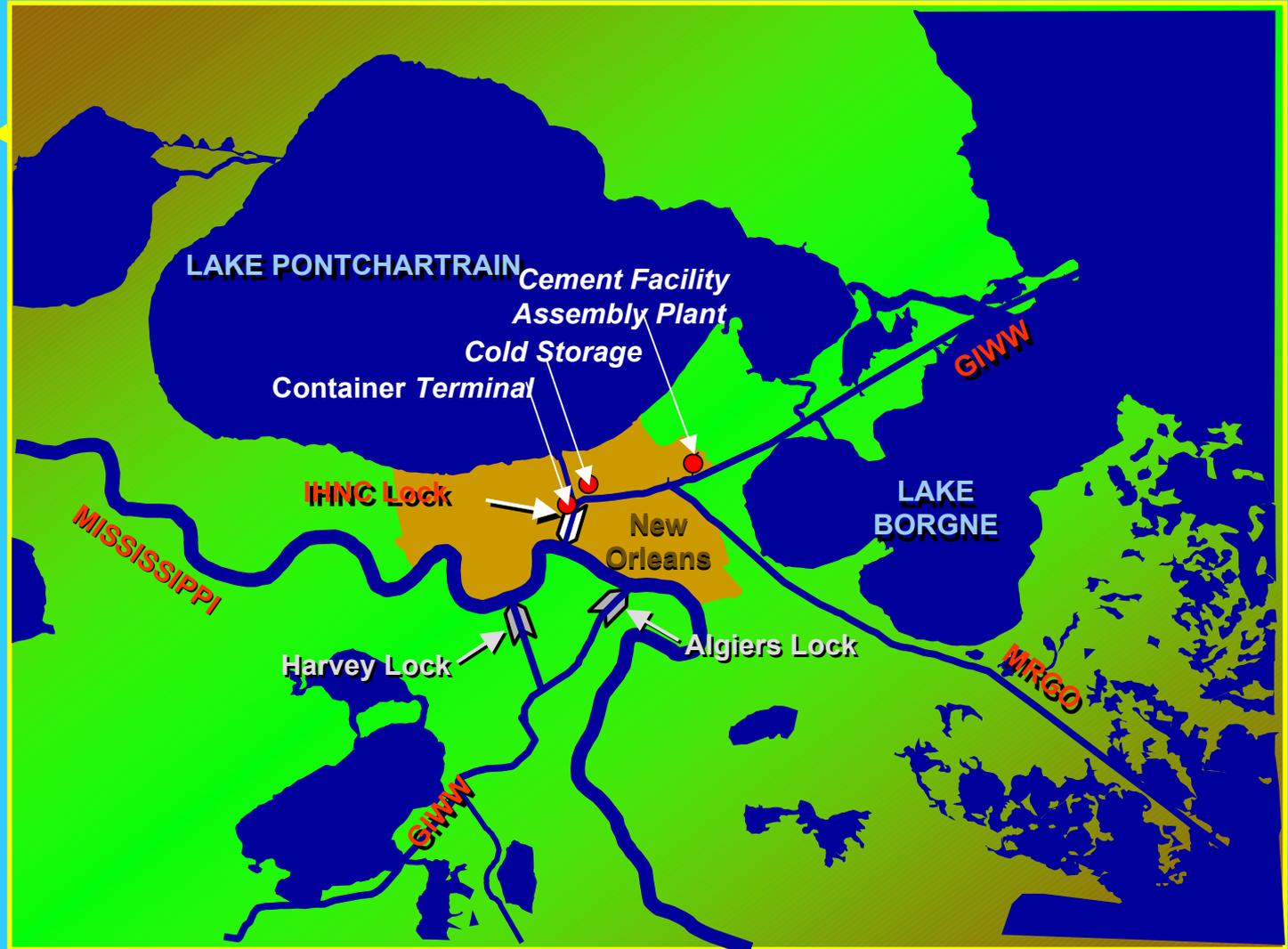
• Study Cost:

Recon	\$ 50,000
Feas (Fed/Nonfat)	<u>500,000</u>
	550,000

• Project Issues

- coordinate with MRGO Reevaluation Study
- coordinate with IHNC Lock replacement
- provide input into LA Coastal Area study

• FY05 Funds Required:
\$225,000





Project Fact Sheet

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-E
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Date: March , 2004

Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet Ecosystem Restoration, LA

STUDY AUTHORITY: Sec 216, FCA 1970.

STUDY SPONSOR: The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources is the potential cost-sharing sponsor.

STUDY LOCATION: East of the Mississippi River in St. Bernard, Plaquemines and Orleans Parishes covering vast area of coastal marshes flanking the Mississippi River - Gulf Outlet navigation channel.

STUDY PURPOSE: Investigate ecosystem damages associated with the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet navigation channel and identify measures to restore coastal wetlands impacted by the construction and operation of the channel.

STUDY FEATURES: Strategies to address ecosystem restoration include bank stabilization, reduction in salinity, and marsh creation.

STUDY COSTS:

Total Estimated Study Cost	\$550,000
Reconnaissance Phase (Federal)	50,000
Feasibility Phase (Federal)	\$250,000
Feasibility Phase (Non-Federal)	\$250,000

STUDY BUDGET/SCHEDULE: Funds required in FY05 are \$225,000; \$50,000 to prepare the project management plan and negotiate and execute a feasibility cost sharing agreement, and \$175,000 to continue into the feasibility phase of the study.

ISSUES: This is a high profile navigation project with strong support from the maritime industry and strong opposition from the environmental community. Addressing ecosystem damages associated with the navigation project were identified as a key component of the Coast 2050 Report completed in 1999.