



---

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

**Updated** March 2, 2005

**Purpose.** Reduce hurricane and flood damages in an environmentally sustainable manner in the Houma area. The project will protect over 120,000 people and 1,700 square miles of saline and fresh marshes, farmlands, heavy and light industry, residential, and other developed areas. Protect development and the remaining fragile marsh from hurricane storm surge.

**Location.** 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. The southern boundary is the Gulf of Mexico.

**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. Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District (TLCD) will provide Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Rehabilitation and Replacement (OMRR&R).

**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 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1995 (Public Law 103-316). 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.

**Features.** Approximately 72-miles of earthen levee, nine 56-foot sector gate structures, three 125-foot floodgates, 12-floodgate structures, and a lock complex consisting of a lock in the Houma Navigation Canal measuring 110-feet by 800-feet, an adjoining floodgate measuring 200 feet, and a dam closure. The structural features are integrated into the levee alignment to provide flood protection, drainage, environmental benefits, and navigational passage. Construction of this plan is estimated to cost \$740 million (2004 price level) and would be cost shared 65% / 35% with LADOTD, the local sponsor.

<b>Costs.</b>	<u>Total Project (2004 price level)</u>
Total Project Cost	\$740,000,000
Total Federal Cost	\$481,000,000
Total Non-Federal Cost	\$259,000,000

**Schedule.** The feasibility report was completed in March 2002. The Chief's Report was signed on 23 August 2002. Preliminary Engineering and Design (PED) for the Houma Navigation Canal lock is ongoing and scheduled to be completed in June 2006. PED for the additional project features is also ongoing and scheduled to be completed in FY 06.

**Issues.** Congressional authorization is pending.

**Hurricane & Emergency Web Page.** <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/response/index.asp>

**Contact:**

Bill Maloz  
Project Management  
New Orleans, LA  
504-862-2615

**Wilson.L.Maloz@mvn02.usace.army.mil**