


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 60267

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

 REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

MAR 24 2008

 Planning, Programs, and
Project Management
Environmental Planning
and Compliance Branch

 James Boggs
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
646 Cajundome Blvd - Suite 400
Lafayette, LA 70506

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed, () Will have no effect on those resources. (X) Is not likely to adversely affect those resources. This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Delia J. Sullivan
Acting Supervisor
Louisiana Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date

Dear Mr. Boggs:

A project description, project location map, and determination of the effect the proposed action will have on Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species for the LPV, LaBranche Wetlands Levee, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana Project (Individual Environmental Report [IER] #1) prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) are enclosed for your review and comment. The IER for the project will be completed in the next few weeks and will be forwarded to you upon completion.

Project description

The proposed project would raise approximately 9 miles of earthen levees, replace over 3,000 feet (ft) of floodwalls, rebuild or modify 4 drainage structures, close 1 drainage structure and modify one railroad gate. The proposed action is located in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. The IER #1 project area is located within the Lower Mississippi Delta Alluvial Plain and the East Central Louisiana Coastal watershed. The project area runs along the existing levee system on the north side of U.S. 61 (Airline Highway). For the purposes of this IER, the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity area has been divided into numerous reaches. Every reach is identified by a project identification number (e.g., LPV 04; Figure 1).

LPV 03b Levee

The proposed action for this reach would consist of a flood side enlargement of the existing levee. The existing levee would be raised from its present elevation of approximately 14 ft to 16 ft plus 1 ft overbuild. A short reach of reinforced concrete retaining wall would be required to maintain an existing landing approach light, which is located at the flood side toe of the existing levee, for the east-west runway of Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport. This retaining wall would be incorporated into the flood side slope of the levee embankment and is

OPTIONAL FORM 88 (7-02)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

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To <i>Libby Behrens</i>	From <i>David Warbler</i>
Dept./Agency	Phone #
Fax #	Fax #

NSN 7540-01-317-7308

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION