

FACT SHEET: LPV HSDRRS ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION

09 AUGUST 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Bayou Sauvage Flood Side Marsh Restoration



Project Location

This proposed project is located in the far eastern section of Lake Pontchartrain, immediately east of Interstate 10, fronting the community of Irish Bayou in Orleans Parish, Louisiana.

Project Features

This alternative consists of 302 acres of brackish marsh restoration that would be achieved by placing dredged material in open water to elevations conducive for wetland development, followed by planting of marsh vegetation. Features also include the temporary placement of sheet pile along Irish Bayou to contain dredged material and the construction and rehabilitation of rock dikes along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain.

Borrow Plan

The borrow plan is to obtain material from Lake Pontchartrain, requiring a buffer of 2,000 ft between the existing shoreline and the borrow area limit.

For more information, please visit <u>www.nolaenvironmental.gov</u>.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT 7400 LEAKE AVE., NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118 <u>WWW.MVN.USACE.ARMY.MIL</u> <u>www.facebook.com/usacenola</u> <u>www.twitter.com/teamneworleans</u> www.flickr.com/teamneworleans



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Project purpose

The Corps is making a concerted effort to avoid and minimize environmental impacts to the maximum extent practical while developing the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). When habitat losses occur, the Corps will offset such losses through compensatory environmental mitigation. Compensatory environmental mitigation is an important part of HSDRRS construction and could include habitat restoration or enhancement.

Project location

Generally, impacts generated from the Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity (LPV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, between I-12 and the Mississippi River. See map on reverse.

Project features

The HSDRRS mitigation project team has evaluated over 400 potential mitigation features in cooperation with the environmental resource agencies and the non-federal sponsor and has identified a tentatively selected plan. Currently, the plan will compensate for four habitat categories impacted during development of the risk reduction system: wet and dry bottomland hardwood forests, swamps and marshlands.

Habitat Type	Quantity (Acres)	Quality (AAHUs**)		
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	352	134		
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	70	21		
Swamp	197	108		
Intermediate Marsh	186	87		
Brackish Marsh	251	127		
Total	1,056	477		

*Current estimated habitat impacts from constructing LPV HSDRRS projects

*To compensate for these impacts, the mitigation acreage may be larger than the impact acreage. Impacts last updated in June 2012. ** AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat.

Project status

The Corps' ongoing mitigation efforts include periodic Individual Environmental Report (IER) status meetings. There have been five meetings thus far, three in May 2010, one in December 2010, and one in March 2012. The New Orleans District is currently working to complete the NEPA compliance on the mitigation plan.

Upcoming major milestones include: Release IER for Public Review (Dec 2012), Submit Project Decision Document (PDD) to Division Office (Feb 2013).

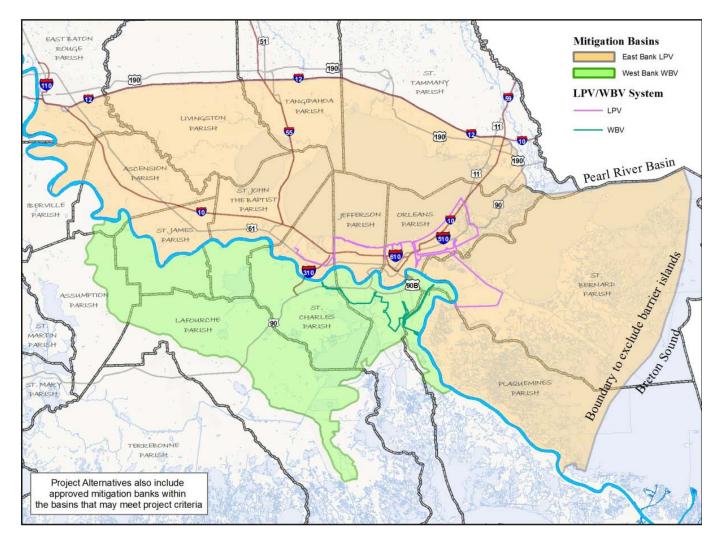
For more information, please visit nolaenvironmental.gov.



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Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity and West Bank & Vicinity Project Map



Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS)

Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity (LPV) Environmental Mitigation

Church at New Orleans March 15, 2012



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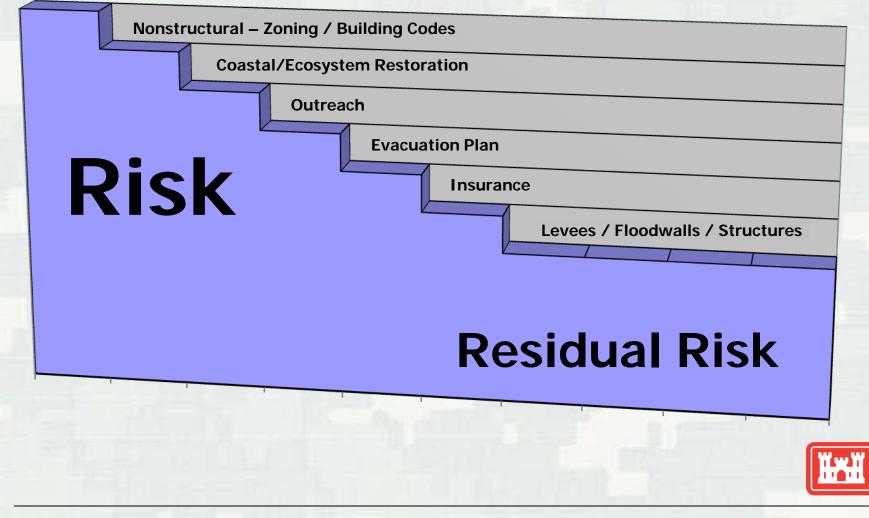
Meeting Agenda

- Discuss Mitigation Program objectives
- Review proposed mitigation project sites
- Break-Out / Feedback Session



Risk – Shared Responsibility

Initial Risk



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Alternatives for all major federal actions must be analyzed
- Impacts to the human and natural environment are quantified
- Impacts are discussed in environmental documents
- Public Involvement is KEY. We want to hear from you!



Individual Environmental Report Projects





US Army Corps of Engineers o New Orleans District

Map created: 1 Sep 2011

EGIS

Environmental Mitigation

- Avoid impacts to natural resources
- Minimize impacts to the greatest extent possible
- Compensate for unavoidable impacts
- Mitigation plans will be discussed in environmental documents
- Mitigation is fully funded





LPV Mitigation Policies

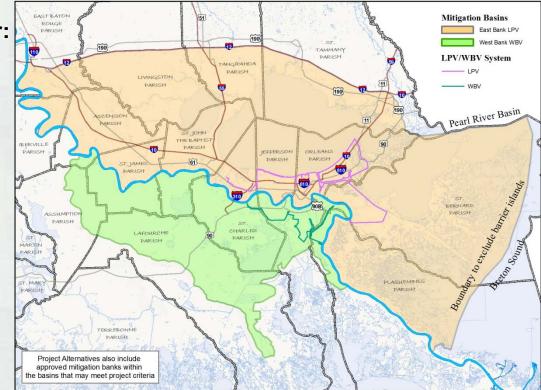
In accordance with Section 2036 of WRDA 2007, mitigation would occur:

- Within the same watershed/hydrologic basin (Barataria or Lake Pontchartrain)
- Mitigate in-kind within same habitat type
 - Bottomland hardwood
 - Swamp
 - Fresh/Intermediate marsh
 - Brackish marsh

Options under consideration

(not organized in order of priority):

- Corps constructed projects on public lands
- Corps constructed projects on private lands
- Mitigation Banks





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LPV Affected Habitats



Bottomland Hardwoods Wet



Bottomland Hardwoods Dry



Swamp



Intermediate Marsh



Brackish Marsh



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Total Impacts

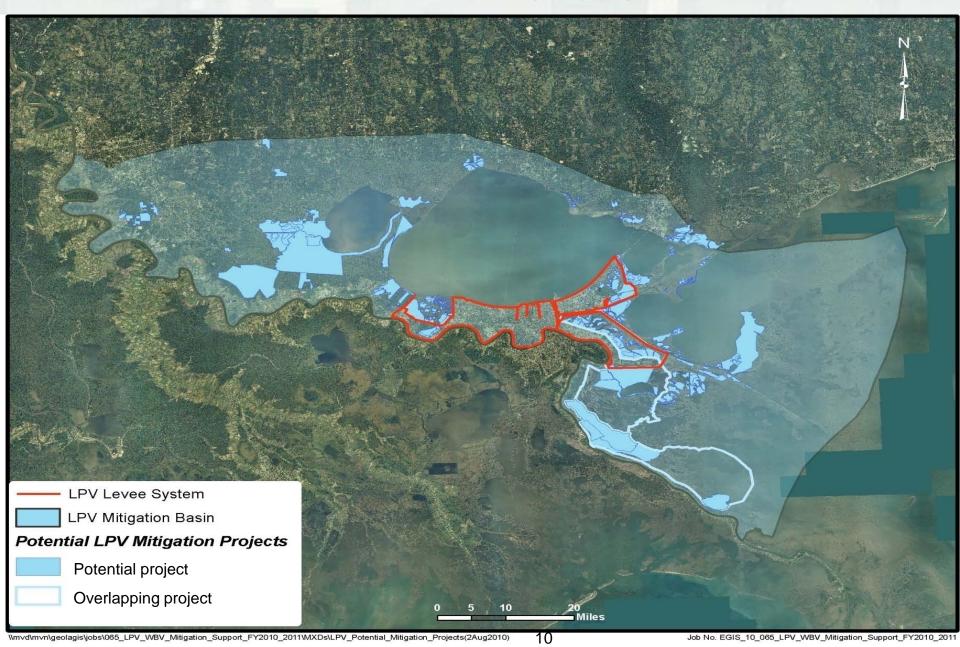
Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity Projects – Current Working Estimate

Habitat Type	Quantity (acres)	Quality (AAHUs*)
Bottomland Hardwood Wet	260	125
Bottomland Hardwood Dry	149	24
Swamp	210	115
Intermediate Marsh	206	92
Brackish Marsh	264	131
Total	1,089	487

*AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat.



Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity Projects Considered



Initial Screening Criteria Summary

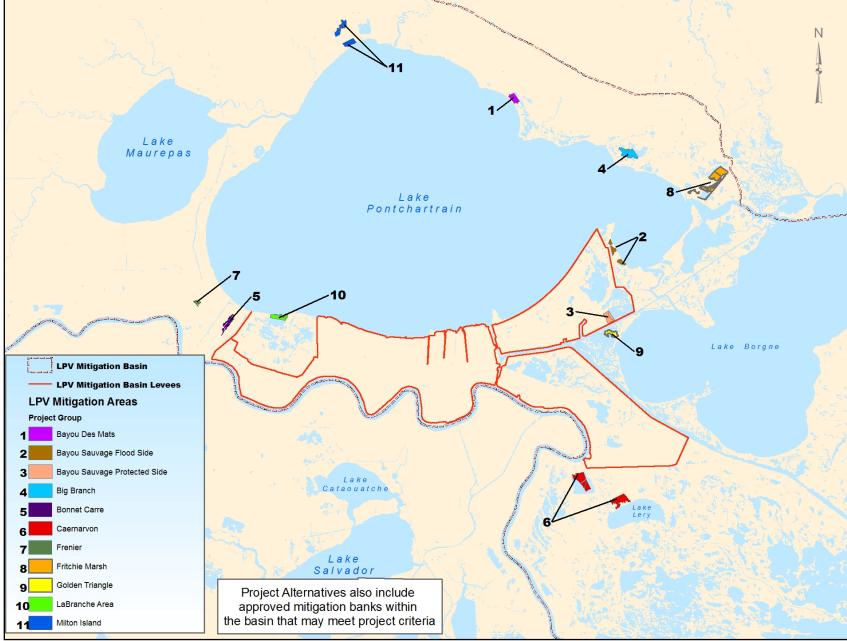
- Compliance with laws, regulations and policies
- Avoid Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW)
- Within LPV Mitigation Basin (Lake Pontchartrain)
- Must address 100% of mitigation need in kind by habitat type
- Technically viable (e.g. correct salinity)
- Must restore, establish, or enhance habitat (i.e. no preservation projects)
- No conflicts with other projects constructed or planned for construction
- Not dependent upon another project
- Can be easily scaled to meet changing mitigation requirements
- Addresses multiple mitigation requirements in one project area
- Addresses opportunities to expand existing resource-managed areas





LPV Mitigation Project Areas





Job No. EGIS_10_065_LPV_WBV_Mitigation_Support_FY2010_2011

8

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4

16

As of 13 Mar 2012

Mitigation Plan Selection Criteria

Risk & Reliability:

e.g. Sustainability, Implementability, Uncertainty, Adaptability

Environmental:

Environmental Impacts

Watershed & Ecological Site Considerations:

e.g. Fragmentation, connectivity, habitat linkage, location in watershed, consistency with watershed plans

Time:

Duration to contract award & time to physical construction complete/initial planting

Cost Effectiveness:

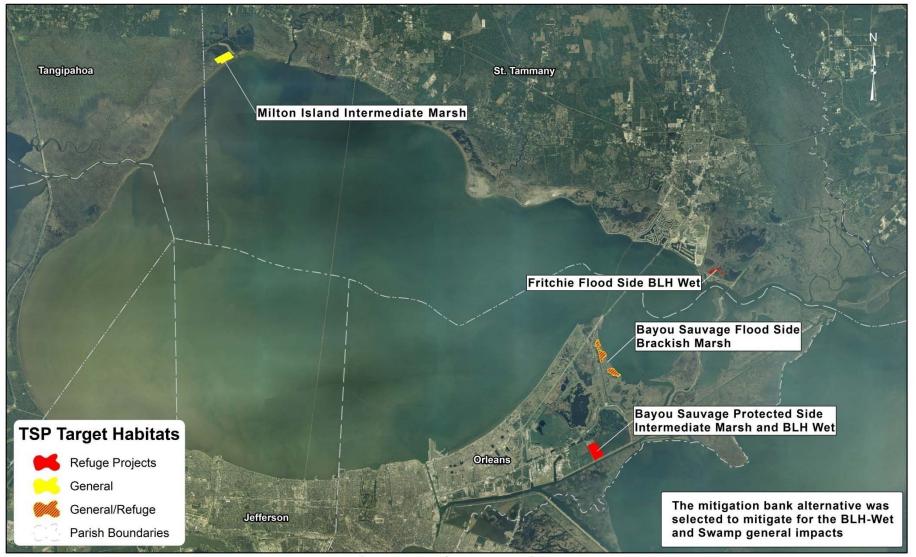
Average annual cost per average annual habitat unit

Other Cost Considerations:

Cost included Construction, Engineering & Design, Construction Supervision and Administration, Real Estate, and Operation and Maintenance



Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity Mitigation Project Tentatively Selected Plan



Job No. EGIS-2010-065

US Army Corps of Engineers

EGIS

LPV Mitigation Tentative Timeline

Initiated Study	May 2010	(Completed)
5 Scoping Meetings	May 2010	(Completed)
Initial Screening of Measures	Sep 2010	(Completed)
Project Status Public Meetings	Dec 2010	(Completed)
Refine Measures	Apr 2011	(Completed)
Assemble Alternative Plans	Aug 2011	(Completed)
Identify Tentatively Selected Plan	Nov 2011	(Completed)
Public Meeting	Mar 2012	
Release Individual Environmental Report	Oct 2012	
Division Approval of Mitigation Plan	Mar 2013	
Final Design of Mitigation Projects	Mar 2013	
Start Real Estate Acquisition	Mar 2013	
Award Construction Contract	Nov 2013	
Physical Construction Complete/Initial Planting	Apr 2016	Ĭ

Upcoming Documents for Public Review

- IER Supplement 11.d, Improved Protection on the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, Seabrook Gate
 - Public Review anticipated March/April 2012



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Upcoming Public Meetings

LCA-Mississippi River Hydrodynamic and Delta Management Study Scoping All meetings include an Open House from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Presentation and Formal Comment Submission 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

Louisiana Dept. of Natural Resources, LaSalle Building LaBelle Room – 1st Floor 617 North Third Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Thursday, April 12, 2012

Port of New Orleans, Auditorium 1350 Port of New Orleans Place New Orleans, LA 70160

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Larose Civic Center 307 East 5th Street Larose, LA 70373 Thursday, April 19, 2012 Boothville-Venice Elementary School #1 Oiler Drive Boothville, LA 70038

Tuesday, April 24, 2012 Waveland City Hall 407 Hwy 90 Waveland, MS 39576

Thursday, April 26, 2012 St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers 8201 W. Judge Perez Drive Chalmette, LA 70043



Opportunities for Public Input

- Regular public meetings throughout the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Area
- Sign in tonight to get on our meeting notification mailing list!
- Construction Impact Hotline: 1-877-427-0345
- Comments can be submitted at any time at:

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

Questions and comments may be submitted to: Telephone: 504 - 862 - 2201 E-mail: AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil





US Army Corps of Engineers® Team New Orleans

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Resources

www.nolaenvironmental.gov



up to share with the public the efforts being made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other Sederal and state agencies in south Louisiana regarding the environmental compliance for proposed federal and state Hurricane Risk Reduction Projects. Additional Information pertaining to other federal and state agencies' hurricane recovery efforts in southeast Louisiana will also be posted on the site as it becomes available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Wississippi Valley Division. New Orleans District implemented Alternative Arrangements on March 13, 2007 under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1506.11). Learn more



USACE-MVN Emergency Alternative Amengements Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage **Risk Reduction System Projects**

Draft IER 7 Public Comment Period 5/6 - 6/4

- Draft IER 13 Commant Period extended to 5/18
- Draft IER S Public Comment Period 5/4 6/3
- Draft IER 16 Public Comment Period 5/1 5/30
- Draft IER 6 Public Comment Period 4/24 5/23 . IER 6 - The Clean Water Act Section 484 Public Notice
- Comment Period 4/24 5/23
- Orleans Parish Pump Station Stormproofing E4 #474 Brafts Public Comment Period 4/17 - 5/23
- Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #475 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/14 - 5/20
- Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period 4/13 5/12

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Upcoming

- · 05/11/2009 · Public Meeting (IER. B. 9, 10 and barraw)
- 05/12/2009 Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends

More ...

More ...

Newly Available

- NEW >>> NOLA Environmental Basic Data Viewer
- News Release 06 May 09 Draft ER 5
- IER 5 Phase 2 Final Report: Operating Scenario Analysis

www.mvn.usace.army.mil





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Break-Out / Feedback Session





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Upcoming major milestones include: Release Programmatic IER for Public Review (July 2013).

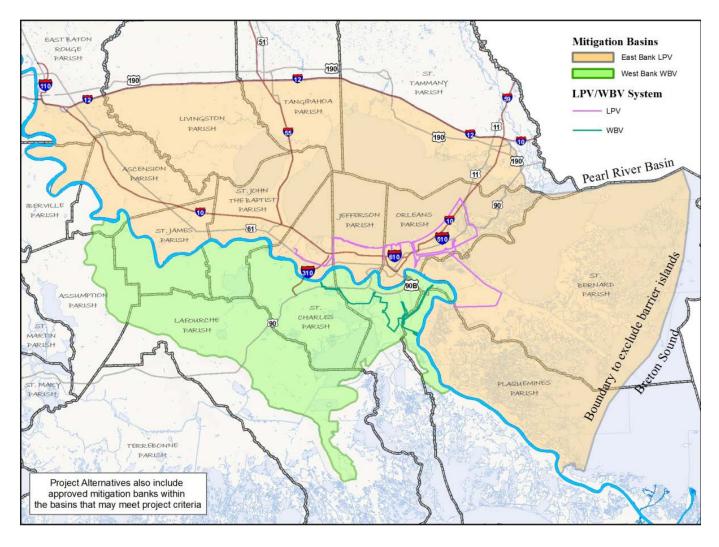
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Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity and West Bank & Vicinity Project Map





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Bayou Sauvage Refuge Protected Side

Project Location

This proposed project is located within an impounded, open water area on the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans Parish, Louisiana. It is immediately north of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and is approximately 2.75 miles east of Michoud Slip. It is adjacent to an existing outfall canal near Industrial Parkway Road in New Orleans East.

Project Features

This alternative consists of 155 acres of bottomland hardwood (wet) restoration that would be accomplished by placing fill material to elevation conducive to the successful establishment of planted native hardwood species. The 142 acres of intermediate marsh restoration would be achieved by placing dredged material in open water adjacent to the bottomland hardwood site to an elevation conducive for wetland development, followed by planting of wetland vegetation.

Borrow Plan

All dredge material will be obtained from a borrow site within Lake Borgne that was recently cleared under the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet 3rd and 4th Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision. It is located within the north lobe of Lake Borgne and northeast of the mouth of Bayou Bienvenue.

For more information, please visit <u>www.nolaenvironmental.gov</u>.

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