



West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Risk Reduction Project – Fact Sheet

The West Shore Lake Pontchartrain project is located in southeast Louisiana on the east-bank of the Mississippi River in St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, and St. James parishes in southeast Louisiana. The West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Chief’s report was published in June 2016 and the project has been included in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.

Project Purpose

More than 60,000 people in the three parish study area have little to no hurricane risk reduction in place. Additionally, the dominant evacuation route for the New Orleans metropolitan area (I-10) bisects the study area. During Hurricane Isaac, storm surge inundated approximately 7,000 homes and the interstate was submerged for several days slowing emergency response across the region. The Project will construct a 100 year level risk reduction system extending from the Bonnet Carre spillway to Garyville.

Vicinity Map of Proposed Features

Project Features

The \$760 million project is approximately 18.5 miles in length and includes 17.5 miles of levee, one mile of T-wall, four pumping stations, two drainage structures, and approximately 35 utility relocations. The project will also provide localized risk reduction measures focused in St. James Parish. The project will include mitigation to offset unavoidable environmental impacts.

Project Status

The project design team continues to work with the Non-Federal sponsor to acquire Rights of Entry (ROE) and complete field investigations via soil borings and other environmental assessment. Vegetation clearing is currently underway. Coordination efforts are taking place to design the project’s western end most efficiently to correspond with the State’s Maurepas Diversion project.

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