



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

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Crawfishing alert: Public meetings set next week on Atchafalaya acreage purchased by Corps of Engineers

NEW ORLEANS – Crawfishing, particularly commercial crawfishing, will be the focus of two public meetings next week on 28,000 acres bought by the government in the Atchafalaya Basin for public access.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 – Catahoula School Gymnasium, 6-8 p.m. Sponsors: state Sen. Craig Romero and state Rep. Sydnie M. Durand. **More information:** 337-845-4240.

Thursday, Jan. 24 – Port Barré High School, 6-8 p.m. Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The area is known as Indian Bayou, which is part of 50,000 acres that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is acquiring for public access. The Indian Bayou area lies north of Interstate 10 and west of the Atchafalaya River, and includes 10,500 acres acquired in November from St. Martin Land Co.

Corps representatives will be present at both meetings. Public input is invited on the Corps' special-use permits for crawfishing in the Indian Bayou area. Citizens will be given the opportunity to talk one on one with Corps representatives.

Acreage purchases are being made 100 percent by Corps' under the **Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System Project**. The state is a local partner on other aspects, especially recreation facilities. **Fact sheet:**

http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/RELEASES/ABFS_8.pdf

Written comments will also be accepted at the meeting. Or they may be mailed by Feb. 1 to: Tom Peek, Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 112 Speck Lane, Port Barre, La. 70577.