



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

## Project Fact Sheet

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### **Official Project Name**

Orleans Parish Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map

### **Location**

Orleans Parish, Louisiana

### **Purpose**

The project is being completed to support the FEMA Map Modernization Plan.

The goal of FEMA's Map Modernization Plan is to upgrade the 100,000-panel flood map inventory by:

- Developing up-to-date flood hazard data for all flood prone areas nationwide to support sound floodplain management and prudent flood insurance decisions.
- Providing the maps and data in digital format to improve the efficiency and precision with which mapping program customers can use this information.
- Fully integrating FEMA's community and state partners into the mapping process to build on local knowledge and efforts.
- Improving processes to make it faster to create and update the maps.
- Improving customer services to speed processing of flood map orders and raise public awareness of flood hazards.

### **Background**

The Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, has been tasked by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to develop updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) for Orleans Parish, Louisiana. Orleans Parish's Flood Insurance Rate Maps were last updated in March 1984. There have been extensive drainage improvements in the area since that time. The Southeast Louisiana Flood Control Project (SELA) has constructed some of these improvements.

DFIRMs will provide the means for FEMA and the parish to identify the areas where revisions to floodplain management practices and/or revised flood insurance premiums are warranted due to updated information and/or changes to the hydrology of the area. Some areas may experience reduced premiums due to improvements that have been made to the floodplain by the parish and the Corps of Engineers through SELA. The updated DFIRMs will provide the parish with a much better picture of the flood risk in all areas of the parish covered by this effort. In addition to being used for flood insurance purposes, the DFIRMs will also have applications in Public Works, Geographic Information Systems, and by floodplain managers and developers.

The Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is developing modeling and DFIRMs for the following basins: Orleans, Uptown, Peoples, Algiers, Area J, Area K, Area L, Area I.

Redelineation will be completed for Area H, Area C, and Area N. The remaining DFIRMs will be developed using existing data from Flood Insurance Studies.

**Authority**

Map Modernization Program

**Progress to Date**

Nearing completion of hydrology and hydraulics for all basins.

Draft Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps are to be complete by January 2008. After completion of the preliminary DFIRM, then begins the 12 month adoption process. The estimated effective date for the DFIRM is January 2009.