



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Galveston District

News Release

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Continuing rains may cause roads near Addicks and Barker Reservoirs to flood

Houston, Texas - Heavy rains during and following Hurricane Ike are pouring into Addicks and Barker Reservoirs, flood risk management structures on Buffalo Bayou west of downtown Houston, and may cause some road flooding in the area, according to Corps of Engineers officials.

“Some areas received more than nine inches of rain in the watershed north and west of Houston, including both Ike and heavy storms that opened up on Sunday morning,” said Richard Long, project manager for the two reservoirs. “Runoff from the 260-square-mile watershed upstream of the reservoirs is pouring in. We expect recreational facilities and roads to be flooded within the next few days.”

The most significant traffic concerns will be Highway 6 as it passes through the Addicks Reservoir between Interstate 10 and Clay Road, and Westheimer Parkway as it passes through Barker Reservoir between FM 1093 and Fry Road. “Flooding isn’t there immediately, but it may be developing over the next few days as runoff accumulates,” Long said. “We will continue to monitor the situation and will keep the public informed. Actual road closures are determined by local and state agencies.”

Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander, said, “We expect this to be one of the five highest pools we’ve seen in the two reservoirs since they were built in the late 1940s.

“Right now, we anticipate that the reservoirs will hold this runoff without any adverse impact to residential areas upstream of the reservoirs. However, we will see road flooding. We urge people to monitor traffic and road safety reports and plan alternate routes during this high

water event. We also want to emphasize that the reservoirs are performing their designed function -- to prevent additional flooding in downtown Houston.”

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Check out the Galveston District website at www.swg.usace.army.mil for the latest on Hurricane Ike recovery operations and other district information.