

News Release

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Corps may require permits for emergency repairs to previously authorized projects

FORT WORTH, Texas - The repair of damages resulting from Hurricane Ike may require a Regulatory Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The President has declared a National Disaster in 29 Texas counties and 4 Louisiana parishes as a result of Hurricane Ike. The Galveston and Fort Worth Districts advise that the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized structure or fill that was serviceable immediately prior to the flooding event, is authorized under Nationwide Permit #3 (NWP #3). Such repair, rehabilitation, or replacement must not result in a deviation from the plans of the original structure. The structure to be repaired, rehabilitated, or replaced must not be put to a different use from that which was previously intended and authorized. Separate authorization may be required for new projects or deviations from the original plans.

"The Corps wants to expedite the recovery process for affected Texas counties," said Galveston District Commander Col. David Weston. "At the same time we must continue to be good stewards of the environment."

The Regulatory Program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plays a critical role in the protection of the aquatic ecosystem and navigation. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act the Corps regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States. Waters of the United States include territorial seas, coastal and inland waters, lakes, rivers, and streams, and wetlands adjacent to these water bodies. Under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 we regulate work in or affecting navigable Waters of the United States.

Galveston District disaster area includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria,
Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda,
Montgomery, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Tyler, Walker, Waller and the parishes

of Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vernon. Contact person – Lloyd Mullins at the Corps Corpus Christi Regulatory Field Office at 361-814-5847.

Fort Worth District disaster area includes the counties of Angelina, Cherokee, Grimes, Houston, Madison, Nacogdoches, Sabine, San Augustine, Washington, and Sabine Parish.

Contact person - Jennifer Walker at 817-886-1863. Additional regulatory information can be found on the Fort Worth District webpage at

http://www.swf.usace.army.mil/pubdata/environ/regulatory/index.asp

Additional information regarding the State of Texas response can be obtained from the Coastal Permit Service Center at 1-866-894-3578. Additional information regarding the State of Louisiana can be obtained by contacting the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Management Division at 225-342-7591.