



**US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

Public Affairs Office, 7400 Leake Avenue
<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/>

Tel. 504-862-2201
Fax 504-862-1724

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Contact: Keith Chasteen, Greg Malon, 985-764-0126
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Corps recognizes trailblazers in ceremony

Working tirelessly to provide all-terrain (ATV) areas in the Bonnet Carre Spillway has earned the South Louisiana Trailblazers Club a Certificate of Appreciation from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District. Col. Thomas Julich, district engineer, will present the award on Monday in an 8 a.m. ceremony at the spillway.

The South Louisiana Trailblazers Club applied for and received a state grant in 1999 and, in coordination with the Corps, has been building trails and various types of tracks and bridges on more than 800 acres of land in the spillway. Trailblazer members have donated hundreds of hours of labor creating the trails, parking areas and access roads.

“The working relationship we have developed with the South Louisiana Trailblazers has become a model of public-private partnering that other Corps districts and federal agencies are hoping to duplicate,” said Julich, New Orleans district engineer.

Greg Malon, lead park ranger in the spillway, agrees. “Working together we have expanded recreational opportunities at the project while enhancing public safety.” Over the last several months, Malon, along with two other park rangers have been informing visitors and riders of the ATV areas and other recreational features in the spillway.

Maps showing the new trail system are located on information boards at Bonnet Carre and on the Corps Web site at <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/recreation>. The public can also contact the Bonnet Carre Spillway Office at 985-764-0126 for a copy of the map.