



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

News Release

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Contact: Julie T. Morgan (USACE), 504-862-2587
Phyllis Darensbourg (LDNR), 225-342-8955

September 1, 2006

Meetings scheduled for public comments on beneficial use of dredged material

NEW ORLEANS – During the first two weeks of September, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources will host a series of National Environmental Policy Act scoping meetings to solicit public comments and provide information on the Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Program Study, a component of the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA), Louisiana Ecosystem Restoration Study.

The meetings will begin with an open house at 6:30 p.m., immediately followed by presentations at 7 pm at the following locations:

Morgan City – Wednesday, Sept. 6, Morgan City Auditorium, 728 Myrtle Street

Lake Charles – Thursday, Sept. 7, Lake Charles Civic Auditorium, Jean Lafitte Room, 900 Lakeshore Drive

New Orleans – Monday, Sept. 11, University of New Orleans, Lindy Boggs Building, 2000 Lakeshore Drive

Larose - Tuesday Sept. 12, Larose Civic Center, 307 East Fifth Street

Houma – Wednesday, Sept. 13, Houma Municipal Auditorium, 800 Verret Street

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ADD 1 – BUDMAT Scoping

The purpose of the LCA BUDMAT program is to use sediment from federally maintained navigation channels to:

- create, restore, and/or nourish coastal wetlands
- create or restore coastal landscape features, including barrier islands, chenier ridges, and shorelines
- provide protection to coastal wetlands or coastal landscape features

The scoping meetings are scheduled to initiate the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the beneficial use of dredged material along coastal Louisiana. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and comment on any aspect of the program following scheduled presentations.

Members of the public may submit comments to be included in the EIS until October 14, 2006, to Beth McCasland, US Army Corps of Engineers PM-RS, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267.

Additional information on the LCA BUDMAT Program and the LCA Study can be found at: <http://www.lca.gov>