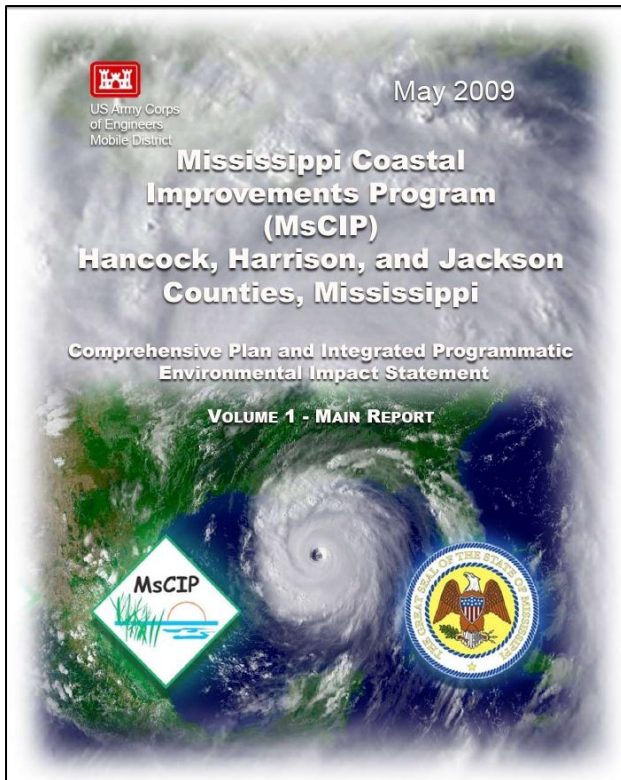


Mississippi Coastal Improvement Program (MsCIP) Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties, MS May 2009



Abstract: The hurricanes of 2005 created unprecedented destruction within the Gulf Region of the United States. Hurricane Katrina alone caused over \$125 billion in damages along the Mississippi coast, causing 236 deaths statewide, and destroying or significantly damaging 75 percent of the 152,000 homes located in the three coastal counties. In addition to the tremendous human impact, the damages to the natural resources of Mississippi were unprecedented. Coastal wetlands were inundated with sediment and debris, mainland shorelines were eroded and covered with debris, debris littered the estuarine bottoms and the barrier islands suffered extensive washover and erosion. A complete fisheries failure was declared by the Secretary of Commerce. Estimated economic damages to forestry resources have been placed at about \$2 billion due to loss of coastal trees as a result of winds, salt spray, and inundation as far as 20 miles inland.

In the wake of this devastation, Congress directed the Corps of Engineers to develop cost-effective recommendations for hurricane and storm damage reduction, fish and wildlife preservation, erosion reduction and saltwater intrusion reduction. The recommended plan is a systemwide approach linking structural and nonstructural risk reduction features with environmental restoration with the goal of reconstructing the Mississippi coast as a disaster resilient community.

Implementation of the Comprehensive Plan, over the next 30 – 40 years, could result in the sustainable restoration of the barrier islands and Mississippi Sound; structural risk reduction, floodproofing and/or acquisition of over 58,000 parcels within the 100-year floodplain; and restoration of over 30,000 acres of coastal forest, wetlands, beaches and dunes, and submerged aquatic habitats. In arriving at these recommendations, the views of other Federal agencies, the State of Mississippi, environmental groups, stakeholders, and interested parties have been incorporated. As a result of this close coordination, the MsCIP also recommends critical components that could be implemented by agencies other than the Corps. The MsCIP addresses the most critical needs and consists of various components that could commence implementation in the near term as well as those longer term features deemed suitable for additional evaluation. The total combined cost for the Mississippi Coastal Improvement Program is \$1,193,668,000.

Near Term

- Comprehensive restoration of the Mississippi Barrier Islands
- Acquisition of approximately 2000 parcels located in the high hazard zone
- Relocation of 4 building comprising the Moss Point Municipal Complex
- Floodproofing (Elevating) 25 structures in Waveland
- Improvements to the existing levee at Forrest Heights Community in Gulfport
- Restoration of approximately 40 miles of mainland beach and dune
- Restoration of approximately 1500 acres of wet pine savannah and emergent tidal wetlands
- Restoration of Deer Island including 342 acres of emergent wetlands
- Establishment of 5 acres of submerged aquatic vegetation as a pilot project
- Restoration of approximately 32,000 acres of wet pine savannah and emergent tidal wetlands following detailed design and evaluation
- Initiation of studies for the authorized Freshwater Diversion at Violet, LA

Feasibility Studies

- Evaluation of Escatawpa River diversion (Grand Bay Marsh Ecosystem Restoration)
- Evaluation of 7 specific structural damage reduction alternatives
- Evaluation of 28 sites for further hurricane risk reduction and environmental restoration (27,397 acres)

Other Critical Elements

- Hurricane Risk Reduction Education
- Hurricane and Storm Warning Systems
- Hurricane Evacuation Planning Services Floodplain Management
- Building Codes
- Zoning Codes
- Relocation of Critical Infrastructure and Services (outside of surge zone)

Report Documentation: Pertinent documentation on the project, the results of the CWRB, and subsequent Washington Level Review Actions are linked below.

- [CWRB Agenda](#)
- [Project Summary](#)
- [CWRB Briefing Slides](#)
- [CWRB Lessons Learned](#)
- [CWRB Meeting Record](#)
- Comment Letters
- Documentation of Review Findings
- [Proposed Chief of Engineers Report for S&A Review](#)
- ASA (CW) Review
- Transmittal to OMB
- OMB Response
- Congressional Notification
- Signed Record of Decision
- Authorization

Additional Information:

[South Atlantic Division](#)

[Mobile District](#)

[MsCIP site on the District website](#)