

Greater New Orleans Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System

Comprehensive Environmental Document

Scoping Meeting

Sept. 2, 2009

US Army Corps of Engineers

7400 Leake Avenue



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG



Meeting Purpose

Conduct a Scoping Meeting to discuss the development of a Comprehensive Environmental Document (CED). The CED will discuss cumulative benefits and impacts of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System.

Meeting Intent

Provide an opportunity for interested parties to suggest topics to be addressed in the CED.



Timeline of Events

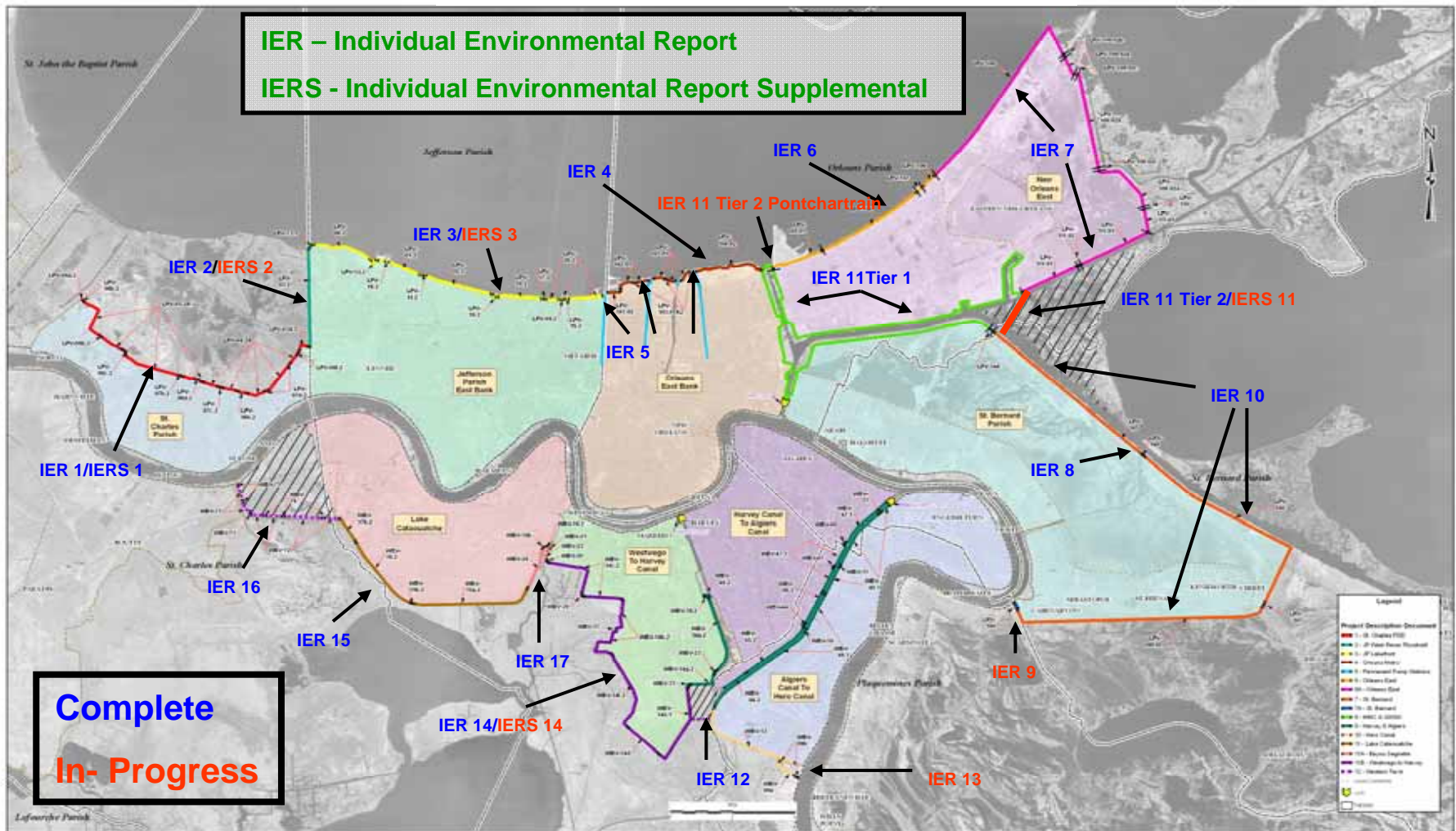
- Hurricanes in the summer of 2005 caused major damage to the hurricane risk reduction system in southeast Louisiana.
- In spring 2007 the Army Corps of Engineers implemented alternative arrangements under provisions of the President's Council of Environmental Quality Regulations
 - Implement the National Environmental Policy Act alternative arrangements to expedite the construction of a hurricane and storm damage risk reduction system in the vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana (HSDRRS)
 - Reduce flood risk and damages caused by a storm event that has a 1 percent chance of occurring each year
 - Justification for implementing alternative arrangements is the potential for severe economic loss to the Nation if the New Orleans area does not recover quickly



Individual Environmental Report: Project Areas

HSDRRS Environmental Compliance

IER – Individual Environmental Report
IERs - Individual Environmental Report Supplemental



Complete
In-Progress

31 August 09

Timeline of Events

- The overall area for the Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System was divided into different projects. These individual projects mirror or match the area assessed in the IERs
- Because the IERs are being prepared concurrent with the design process, preliminary engineering designs are used to analyze impacts in the IERs
- If final engineering designs are revised then additional analysis and the preparation of IER Supplementals will be required



Timeline of Events Continued

- 16 Individual Environmental Reports (IERs) have been completed to describe the impacts of building the system
- 7 IERs have been completed to describe impacts of excavating clay (borrow) and utilizing borrow stockpile sites
- Additional IERs are under development that describe proposed system features, additional borrow areas and mitigation sites
- Supplemental IERs are required as project designs are finalized
 - IER 1 Supplemental has been completed



Why were Alternative Arrangements Implemented

- To allow the HSDDRS work to be completed and reduce the risk of hurricane damage as quickly as possible.
- To meet the urgent need to provide a 1 percent hurricane risk reduction system
- To complete the environmental analysis in a timeframe consistent with the expedited planning and construction.



How do Alternative Arrangements differ from standard NEPA process

Traditional NEPA

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) - 2

SEIS covers entire project area WBV or LPV

No Real Estate acquired or construction started until all environmental compliance completed

Supplemental Environmental Assessments or SEIS's required for project feature changes

No Comprehensive Document

Preliminary engineering designs are used to analyze the impacts to the human environment of each alternative

Scoping Meeting

Interagency Meetings



Alternative NEPA Arrangements

Individual Environmental Reports (IER) - 30 plus

IER completed for stand alone reaches within project areas

Real Estate acquired and construction started by IER reach

Supplemental IER required for project feature changes.

Comprehensive Environmental Document

Preliminary engineering designs are used to analyze the impacts to the human environment of each alternative

Scoping Meetings

Interagency meetings

Public Meetings

Web Site – Dedicated to Environmental Process



Resources

www.nolaenvironmental.gov

NO LA Environmental
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
Environmental Compliance Data Bank
www.nolaenvironmental.gov

PROJECTS MEETINGS LIBRARY DATA VIEWER GET INVOLVED RELATED LINKS

Welcome to NOLA Environmental! This site has been set up to share with the public the efforts being made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies in south Louisiana regarding the environmental compliance for proposed federal and state Hurricane Risk Reduction Projects. Additional information pertaining to other federal and state agencies' hurricane recovery efforts in southeast Louisiana will also be posted on the site as it becomes available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District implemented Alternative Arrangements on March 13, 2007 under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1506.11). Learn more...

Announcements

- Draft IER 7 Public Comment Period 5/6 - 6/4
- Draft IER 13 Comment Period extended to 5/18
- Draft IER 5 Public Comment Period 5/4 - 4/3
- Draft IER 16 Public Comment Period 5/1 - 5/30
- Draft IER 6 Public Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- IER 6 - The Clean Water Act Section 404 Public Notice Comment Period 4/24 - 5/23
- Orleans Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #474 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/17 - 5/23
- Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormproofing EA #473 Drafts Public Comment Period 4/14 - 5/20
- Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period 4/13 - 5/12

More...

Upcoming

- 05/11/2009 - Public Meeting IER 6, 9, 10 and borrow)
- 05/12/2009 - Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends

More...

Newly Available

NEW NOLA Environmental Basic Data Viewer

- News Release 04 May 09 Draft IER 5
- IER 5 - Phase 2 Final Report: Operating Scenario Analysis

More...

FEATURED PROJECT

USACE-MVH Emergency Alternative Arrangements
Greater New Orleans
Hurricane and Storm Damage
Risk Reduction System Projects

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District - Microsoft Internet Explorer, provided by USACE, New Orleans District

US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

Floodwall

Building Micro-Sipper, roadway barrier... The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing to work expeditiously to complete the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRS) by 2012. To this end, the Corps is using valuable persons, known to construct most resilient levees and floodwalls.

See to yourself...

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- **Want more? Head Out, Reduce Risk: LEAD YOURS!** LEAD YOURS about what the Corps is doing to reduce your RISK.
- **Emergency Information** Flood Damages, Disaster Response, Public Information and More...
- **NOLA Environmental** Did you miss a meeting? No problem! Find presentations, summaries and more...

TOP HEADLINES

- **Document permits access on Webpage?** [More](#)
- **Casey Minkens environmental document for public review**
- **Ready to provide updates on Webpage, web discussion website**
- **Casey Minkens' Inspector, Inspectors and Inspectors**

ASK THE CORPS

The Corps wants to hear from you!

Q: Do you have information on the closing of Industrial Lock on August 1, 2009 for 60 days?

A: Yes, for information regarding the August 1st closing of the lower Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, please visit [http://www.usace.army.mil](#)

Submit questions or comments to askthecorps@usace.army.mil

FEATURED VIDEOS

- **Meet Orleans Complex** Learn more about the alternative under consideration to reduce risk on the Warrick, Marsh...
- **Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System** From levees to pumping stations, find out more about system features.

Home | Contact Us | Sitemap | DM | **USACE** | **INTERNAL SECURITY**

Home | DISCLAIMER | PUBLIC INQUIRY | EMERGENCY AND SECURITY | FOIA | INFORMATION QUALITY ACT | ACCESSIBILITY



Impacts Analyzed in IERs

- Air Quality
- Water Quality
- Terrestrial Habitat
- Aquatic Habitat
- Fish and Wildlife
- Wetlands
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Recreational Resources
- Aesthetic (Visual) Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Prime and Unique Farmland



Wetlands



Cultural Resources Investigation



Impacts Analyzed in IERs continued

- Displacement of Population and Housing
- Impacts to Employment, Business and Industry Activity
- Availability of Public Facilities and Services
- Effects on Transportation
- Disruption of Desirable Community and Regional Growth
- Impacts to Tax Revenues and Property Values
- Changes in Community Cohesion
- Environmental Justice
- Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste



HTRW



Transportation Review



Transportation Review



Acknowledged Data Gaps

- **Transportation Impacts**
 - Interim Transportation Report – Sept. 09
- **Mitigation Impacts**
 - Mitigation IERs
- **Air Emissions**
 - Coordinating with Environmental Protection Agency, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and Regional Planning Commission
- **System Cumulative Impacts**



Recommendations

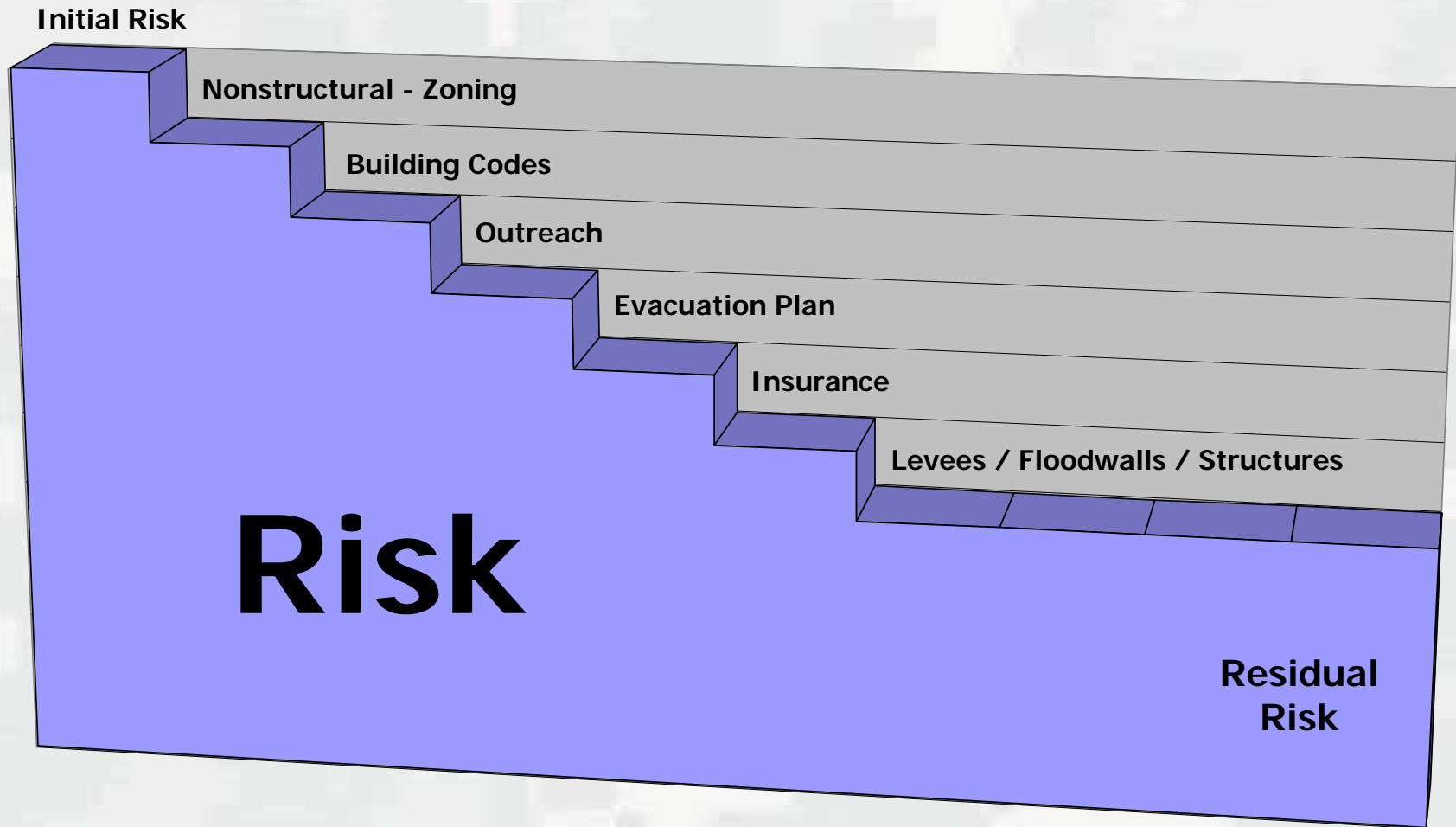
- In addition to what the Corps has described, what else should be included in the Comprehensive Environmental Document?



Thank you

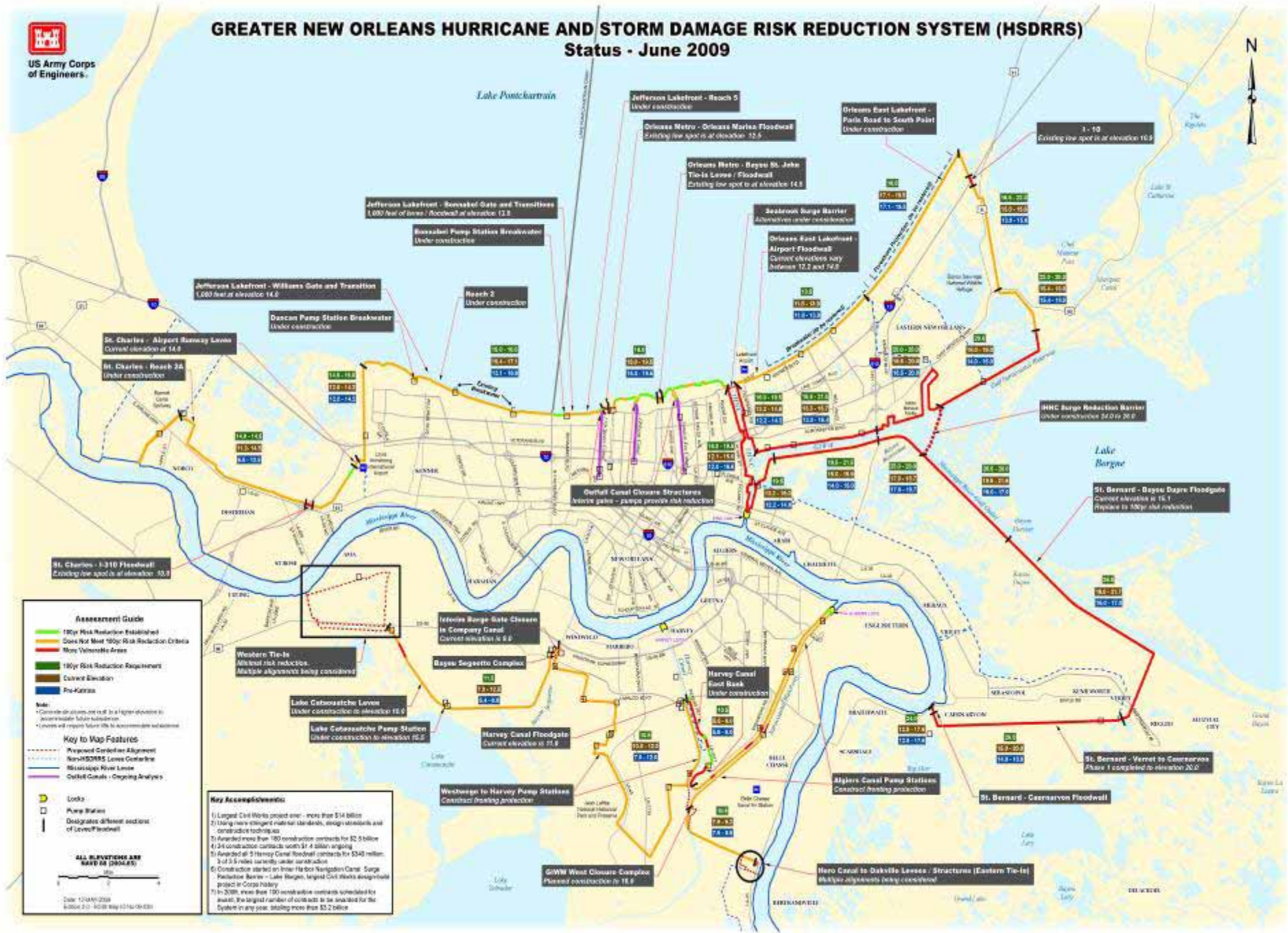


Buying Down Risk

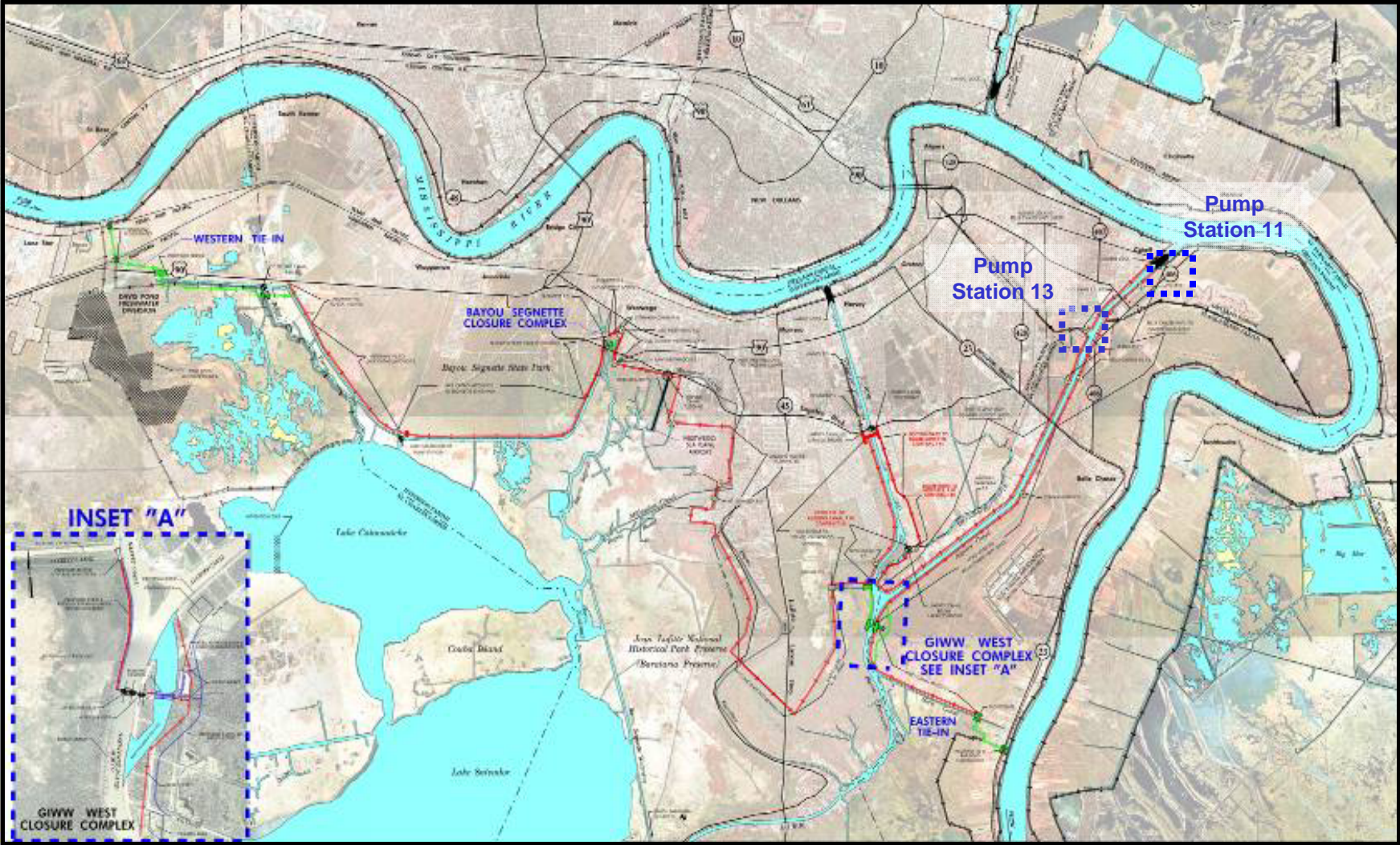




GREATER NEW ORLEANS HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS) Status - June 2009



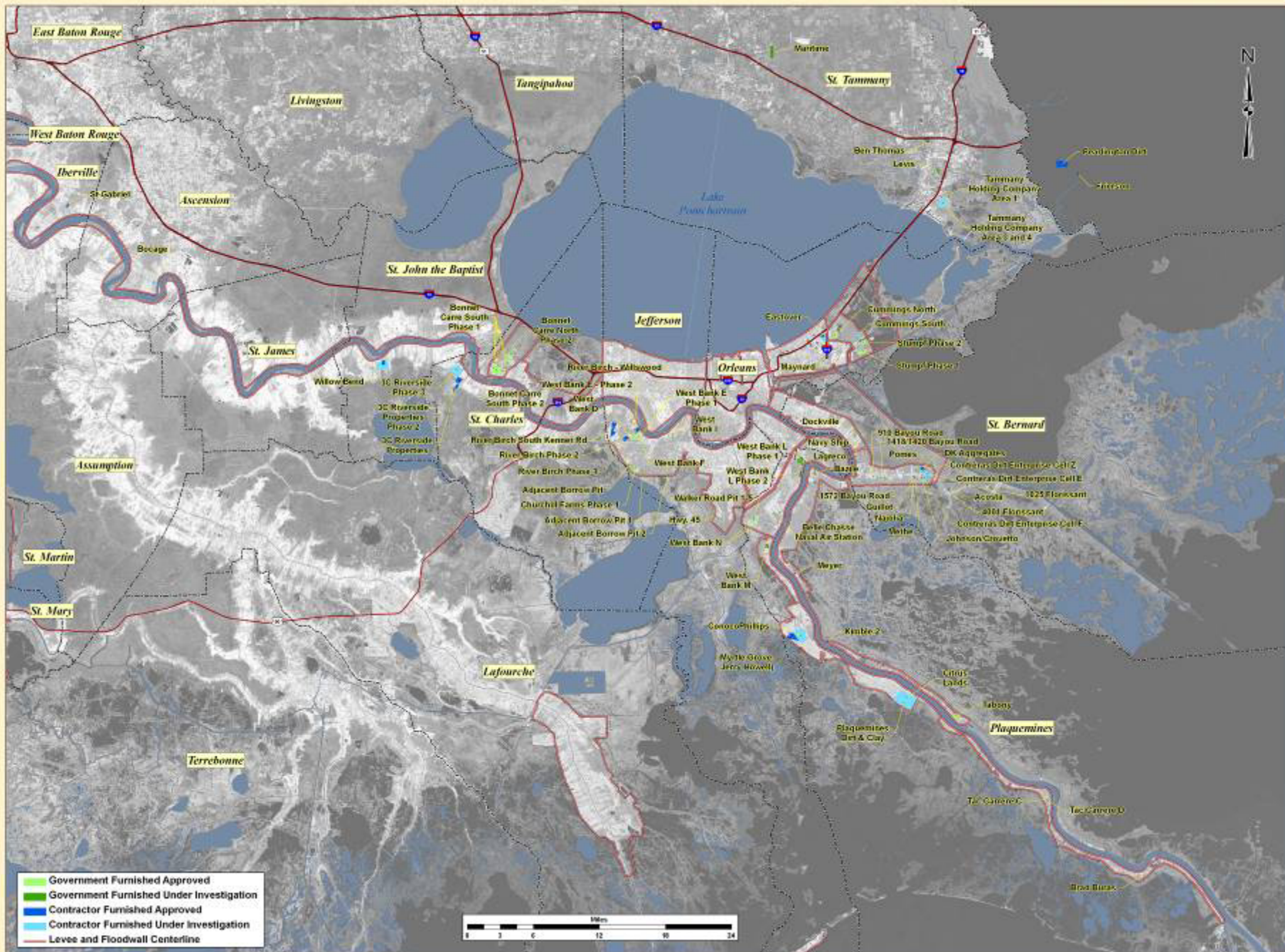
Westbank and Vicinity Risk Reduction



- Current or approved alignments
- Proposed or recommended alignments



Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System Borrow Areas



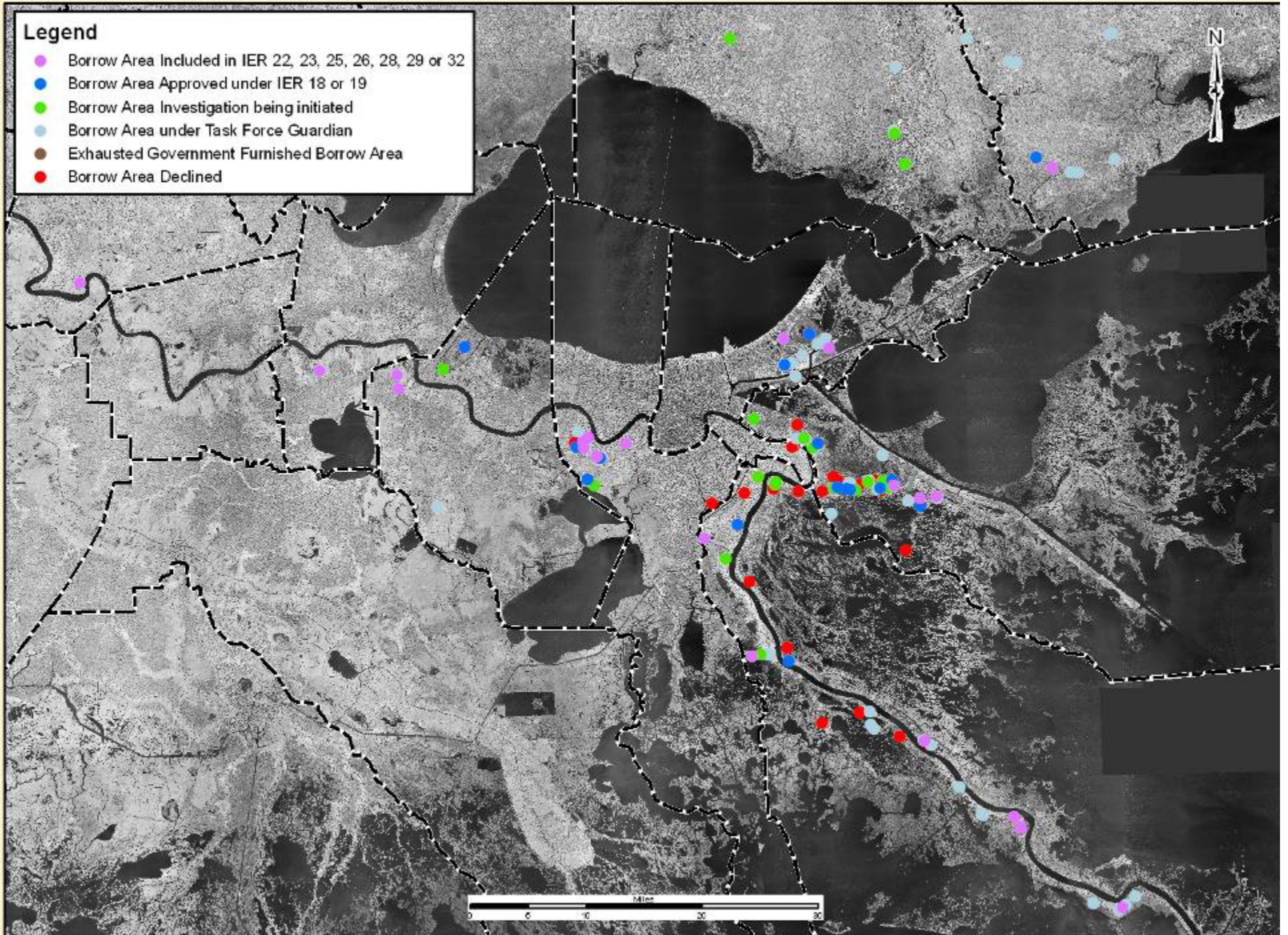
Updated on 7/23/2009

Job No. EGIS-09-037

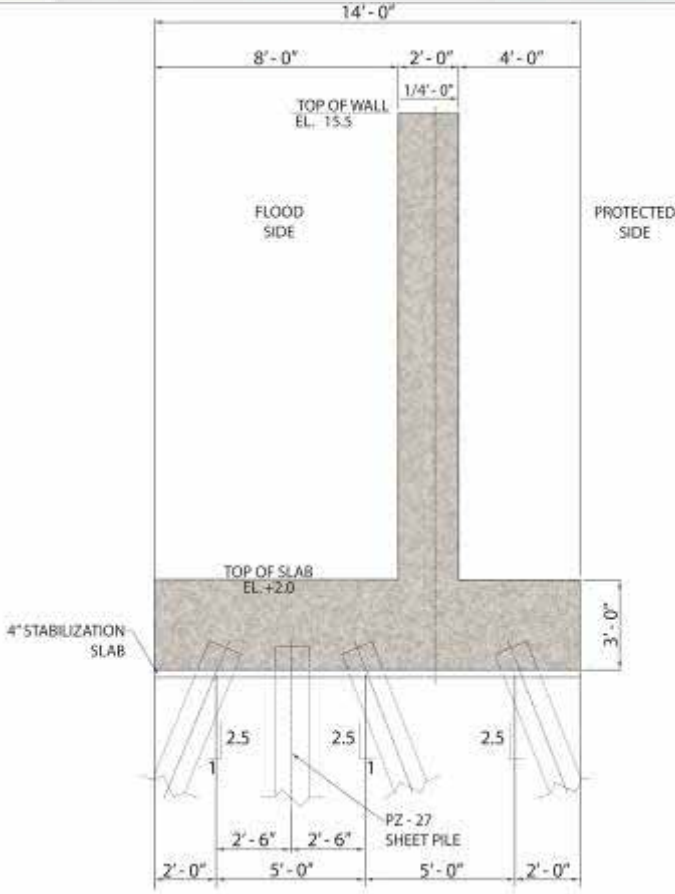
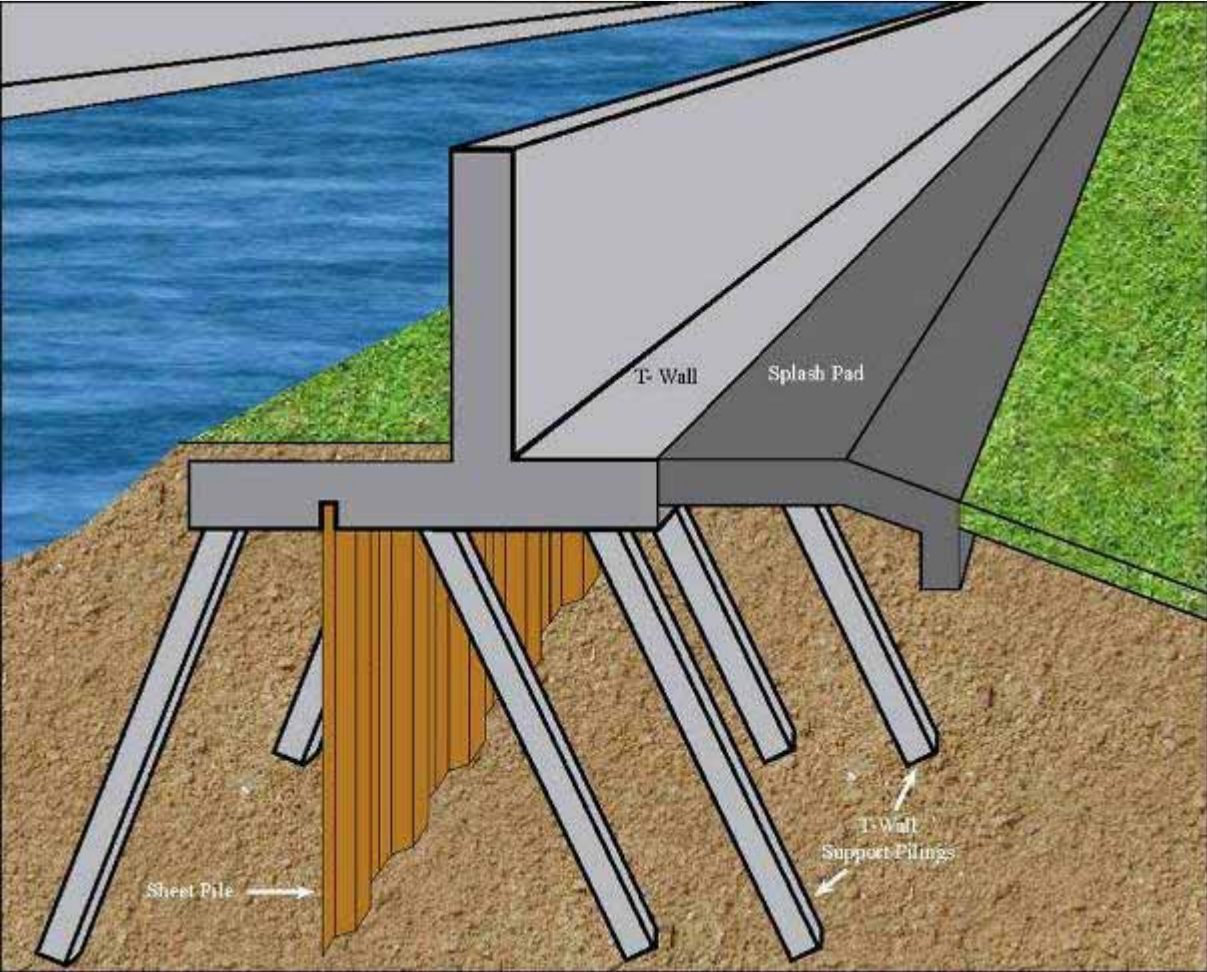
BORROW AREAS

Legend

- Borrow Area Included in IER 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29 or 32
- Borrow Area Approved under IER 18 or 19
- Borrow Area Investigation being initiated
- Borrow Area under Task Force Guardian
- Exhausted Government Furnished Borrow Area
- Borrow Area Declined



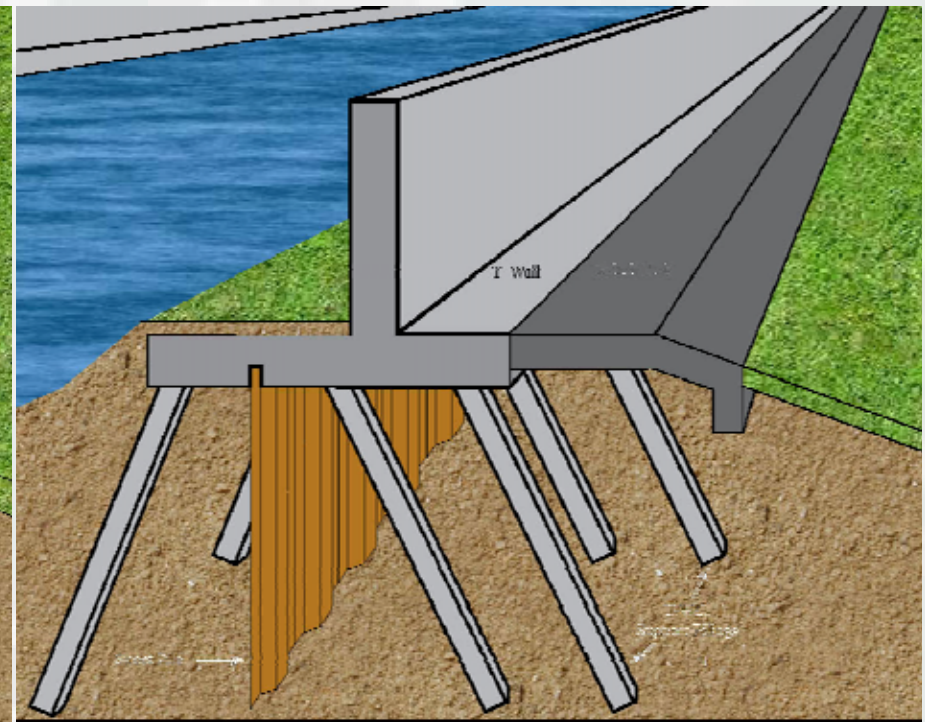
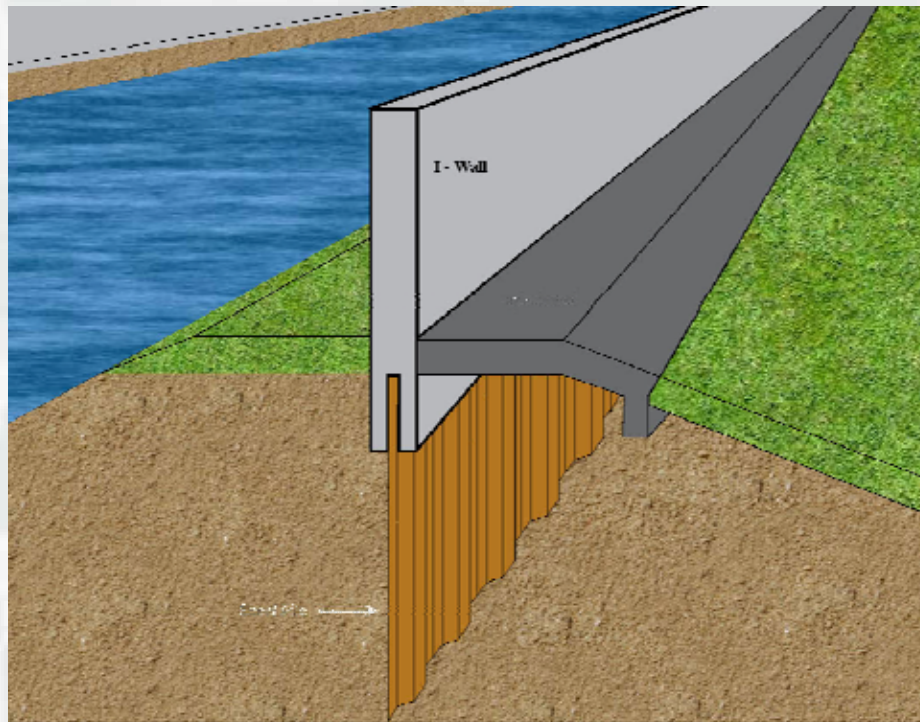
T- Wall



Floodwall Improvements

I-Wall

T-Wall

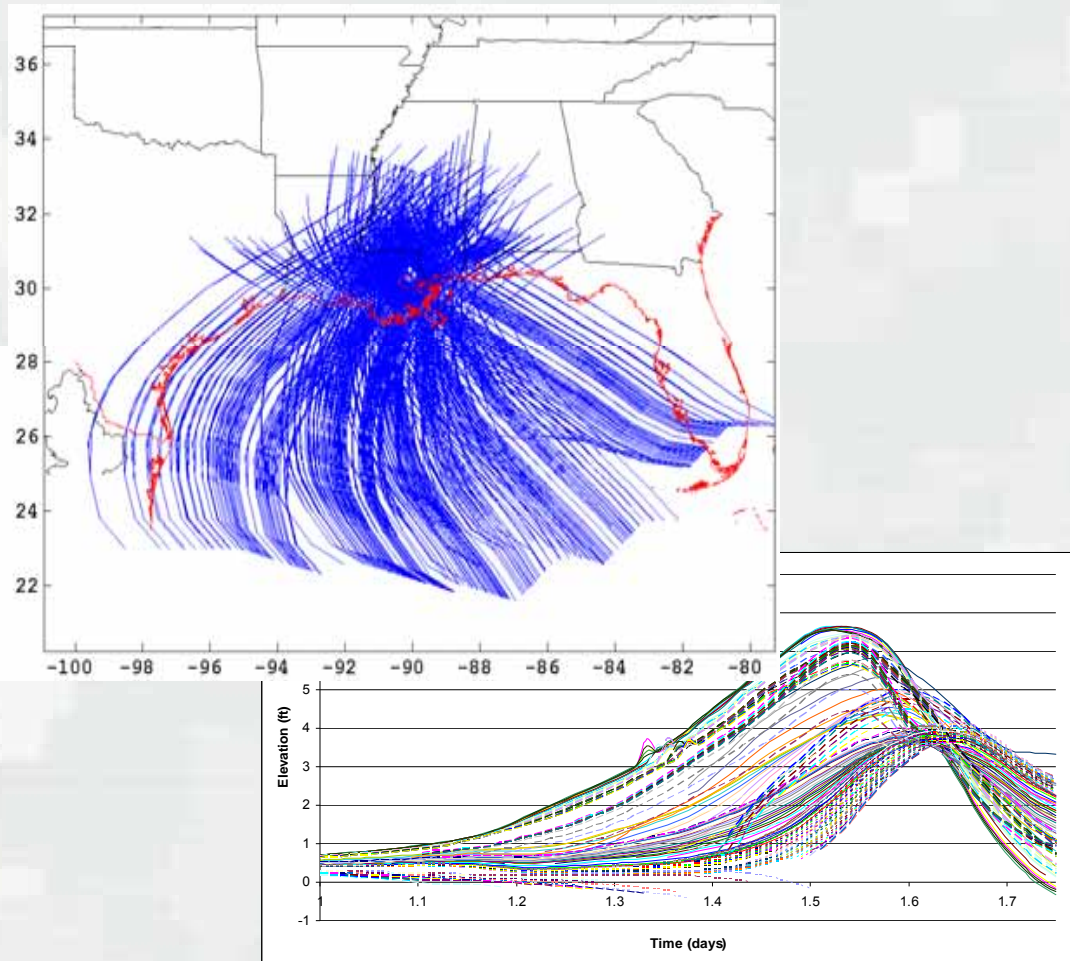


Pre-Hurricane Katrina

Post-Hurricane Katrina



Hurricane Paths Considered in the Risk Analysis



- 3 HPS Geometries
 - Pre-Katrina
 - Current (1 June 07)
 - 100-year LOP (~2011)
 - 152 storm hydrographs
 - 350+ features
 - Floodwalls
 - Levees
 - Pumps Stations
- **62,928 Hurricane**
→ **Hydrographs**

