



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Mississippi Valley Division



Corps Hurricane Response

Task Force Hope Status Report

June 3, 2009

Corps' largest projects now underway

“The eyes of the nation continue to be on the Corps’ re-building effort in New Orleans...”

*- BG Michael Walsh, Commander
Mississippi Valley Division*

By Susan Spaht

Hurricane Season officially began on June 1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in New Orleans marked the day the same way they do every day: diligently building the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS).

“The eyes of the nation continue to be on Task Force Hope and the Corps’ re-building effort in New Orleans and Southeast Louisiana,” said Brig. Gen. Michael Walsh, Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division. “We are making the impossible possible in a short period of time.”

The Corps has made significant progress on the HSDRRS in the past

three and a half years; and this year the work is going at an even faster pace as more construction contracts in any past or future year will be awarded. More than 100 construction contracts are scheduled for award in calendar year 2009, or about 30% of all construction contracts for the System, at a cost of more than \$3 billion.

Number One Domestic Priority

Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, Commander and Chief of Engineers, has declared the HSDRRS as the Corps of Engineers’ number one domestic priority.



The Corps is working around the clock to build the IHNC Surge Barrier. On June 2 crews had 624 linear feet of spun concrete piles in place. When completed, the barrier will be 10,000 feet wide with 3 navigable gates. (USACE Photo)

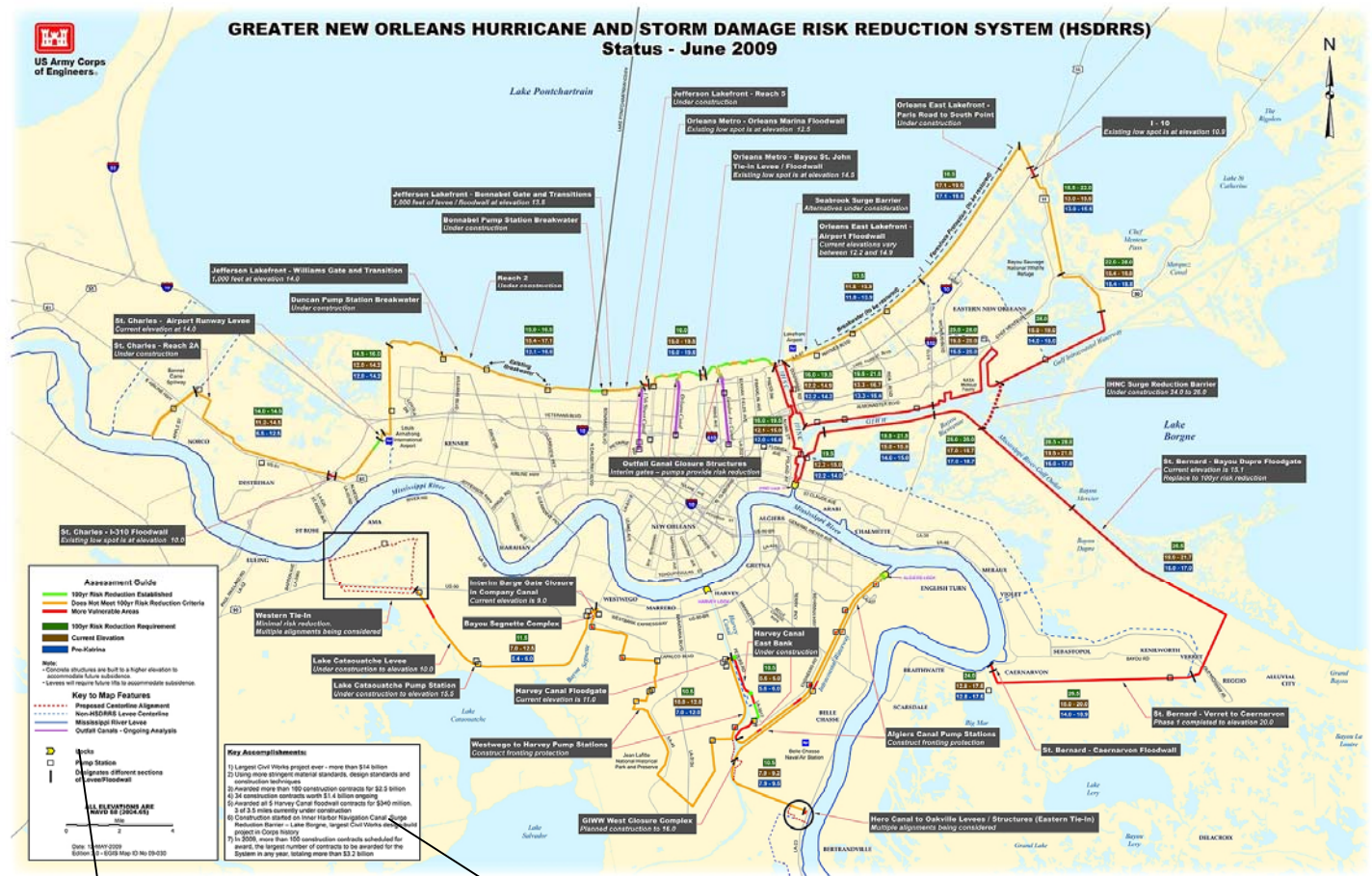
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new HPO Commander.....Page 4

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New Status Map Available on Corps Web site

http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps2/pdf/100-Year%20Status%20Map_051209_Final.pdf



Assessment Guide

- █ 100yr Risk Reduction Established
- █ Does Not Meet 100yr Risk Reduction Criteria More Vulnerable Areas
- █ 100yr Risk Reduction Requirement
- █ Current Elevation
- █ Pre-Katrina

Note:

- Concrete structures are built to a higher elevation to accommodate future subsidence.
- Levees will require future lifts to accommodate subsidence.

Key to Map Features

- - - Proposed Centerline Alignment
- - - Non-HSDRRS Levee Centerline
- Mississippi River Levee
- Outfall Canals - Ongoing Analysis
- ▶ Locks
- Pump Station
- Designates different sections of Levee/Floodwall

ALL ELEVATIONS ARE NAVD 88 (2004.65)

Mile
0 2 4

Date: 12-MAY-2009
Edition 2.0 - EGIS Map ID No 09-030

- Key Accomplishments:**
- 1) Largest Civil Works project ever - more than \$14 billion
 - 2) Using more stringent material standards, design standards and construction techniques
 - 3) Awarded more than 180 construction contracts for \$2.5 billion
 - 4) 34 construction contracts worth \$1.4 billion ongoing
 - 5) Awarded all 5 Harvey Canal floodwall contracts for \$340 million. 3 of 3.5 miles currently under construction
 - 6) Construction started on Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Reduction Barrier - Lake Borgne, largest Civil Works design-build project in Corps history
 - 7) In 2009, more than 100 construction contracts scheduled for award, the largest number of contracts to be awarded for the System in any year, totaling more than \$3.2 billion

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To ensure the timely completion of the System, Brig. Gen. Walsh leveraged the five other Districts in his command to assist Team New Orleans in delivering the mission. All Districts in the Mississippi Valley Division are now actively engaged in various projects in the five-parish System (see map, page 3). Other Corps personnel involved with the

mission include the Northwestern Division, the Chicago District, and more.

“Public safety is the Corps’ number one priority,” said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Director of Task Force Hope, “and we are determined to reach the 100-year level of protection for the System in 2011.

“The best talent and experience from across the Corps; our partners in industry and academia; our partners in the State, the Parishes and the Levee Districts - this team, working together, will succeed in this vital

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All 6 Districts in Mississippi Valley Division engaged in N.O.

St. Paul District:
St. Bernard Parish

Rock Island District:
West Bank & Vicinity

St. Louis District:
West Bank & Vicinity
Terrebonne Parish non-Federal Levees

Memphis District:
West Bank & Vicinity

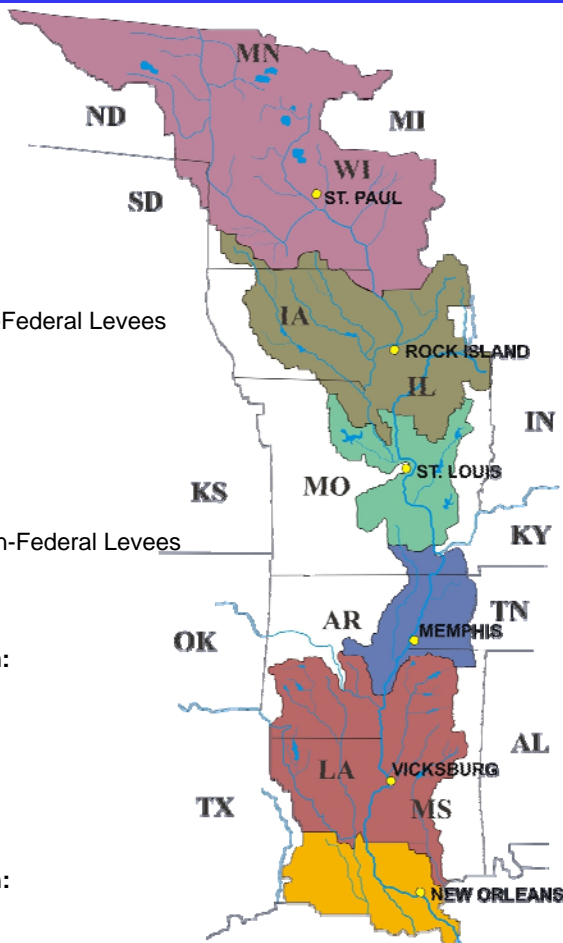
Vicksburg District:
West Bank & Vicinity
Plaquemines Parish non-Federal Levees

Plus...

National USACE Team:
IHNC Surge Barrier

Chicago District:
Pump Stations &
Storm Proofing

Northwestern Division:
West Bank & Vicinity



wall system, two sector gates of approximately 225 feet and 75 feet in width, and a pump house containing the largest pumps in the world.

New Status Map

(see map on page 2)

As we enter the 2009 Hurricane Season, the Corps has released an updated Status Map of the HSDRRS depicting work completed by June 1, 2009. The Corps has repaired damaged components to higher standards, surveyed the entire system and reinforced weak points, increased some heights, and strengthened areas to improve resiliency.

The color-keyed map illustrates the required **100-year protection elevation** in the System, the **current elevation** of the System, and the System status **pre-Katrina** for individual areas throughout the System.

The 100-year elevations were determined from data developed through extensive modeling. A team of scientists, engineers, members of academia, and other experts used a comprehensive surge modeling system to determine storm surges for a storm that has a 1% chance of occurrence in any given year throughout every reach of the System. The required 100-year elevations vary throughout the System based on individual hydrological requirements.



To find the proposed levee heights for your neighborhood, and to download the new Status Map, go to this Web site:

http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps2/pdf/100-Year%20Status%20Map_051209_Final.pdf

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mission for the people of Southeast Louisiana.”

Progress on all fronts

One of the most notable advances made by the Corps in recent months is the start of construction on the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier Project at Lake Borgne. This enormous undertaking will set a wall across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, more than one and a half miles, and will include three navigable gated structures. When completed in 2011, this colossal structure will provide significant storm surge

risk reduction to some of the region’s most vulnerable areas: Metro New Orleans, New Orleans East, the Lower Ninth Ward and St. Bernard Parish.

Another gigantic construction project getting under way is the Gulf Intra-coastal Waterway – West Closure Complex on the West Bank at the confluence of the Algiers and Harvey Canals. In April, a \$7 million “base contract” of a three-part contract was awarded to a joint venture of local and out-of-state contractors to provide preconstruction services and pile load tests.

The project, when completed, is expected to contain an extensive flood-

Col. Robert Sinkler New Commander of HPO



Design by Tom Durel

Col. Robert Sinkler assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hurricane Protection Office in a formal change of command ceremony May 29 at the New Orleans District Headquarters.

Brig. Gen. Michel Walsh, Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division and President of the Mississippi River Commission, placed the Corps of Engineers flag into Col. Sinkler's hands during the ceremony. In military tradition, the passing of the flag represents the transfer of command.

Col. Sinkler joins a senior leadership team overseeing one of the largest civil works projects in U.S. history - construction of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System for the greater New Orleans area which will provide the 100-year level of risk reduction in 2011.

Most recently, Col. Sinkler commanded the Corps of Engineers' Rock Island District, supervising a civil works program in portions of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Missouri.

He previously served in the Operations Directorate of the U.S. Central Command Headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base and as the assistant division engineer for Multi-National Division North in Bosnia-Herzegovina during Operation Joint Guard.

The outgoing commander, Col. Michael McCormick, will assume command of the Corps' Afghanistan Engineer District (AED), headquartered in Kabul, Afghanistan, in early July 2009



Done



8 St. Bernard Parish Pump Stations



Harvey Canal Floodgate & Pumps

In Construction



Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Surge Barrier



Harvey Canal Floodwall



GIWW-West Closure Complex pile test

Contact Information

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Task Force Hope

(504) 862-1836

New Orleans District

(504) 862-2201

Hurricane Protection Office

(504) 862-1708

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This is an online publication that is open to public distribution.

This issue and past issues can be found at: <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps>

Comments and questions may be sent to the

Status Report Newsletter editor at: b2fwdpao@usace.army.mil

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Task Force Hope

Strategic Communications

7400 Leake Ave., Room #388

New Orleans, LA 70118

(504) 862-1949