

17th Street Canal Physical Model:

The 1:50 scale model covers 14,500 sq ft and was constructed in a six week accelerated schedule (normal construction of this size model would take four months). The model area represents about 1.3 sq miles of the lakefront and canal region. The 200-ft wide canal is 4 ft wide in the model. Hurricane generated waves nearly reached 10 ft in height with a 7 second wave period, with water levels up to +12 ft. These waves and water levels will be scaled by 1:50 and will be directed into the canal region. The waves will pass over submerged harbors flanking the canal region and under the Old Hammond Highway bridge. The physical model will focus on what portion of the wave energy went under the bridge, which was partially submerged during the higher water levels. Wave and current measurements will be made adjacent to the breach region.