



FACT SHEET: WBV HSDRRS Mitigation

Updated: 31 JULY 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Project purpose

The Corps is making a concerted effort to avoid and minimize environmental impacts to the maximum extent practical while developing the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). When habitat losses occur, the Corps will offset such losses through compensatory environmental mitigation. Compensatory environmental mitigation is an important part of HSDRRS construction and could include habitat restoration or enhancement.

Project location

Generally, impacts generated from the West Bank & Vicinity (WBV) hurricane project will be mitigated in the Barataria Basin, between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi River. **See map on reverse.**

Project features

The HSDRRS mitigation project team has evaluated more than 400 potential mitigation features in cooperation with the environmental resource agencies and the non-federal sponsor and has identified a tentatively selected plan. Currently, the plan will compensate for four habitat categories impacted during development of the risk reduction system: wet and dry bottomland hardwood forests, swamps and marshlands.

*Current estimated habitat impacts from constructing WBV HSDRRS projects

Habitat Type	Quantity (Acres)	Quality (AAHUs**)
<i>Bottomland Hardwood Wet</i>	321	204
<i>Bottomland Hardwood Dry</i>	471	243
<i>Swamp</i>	279	152
<i>Fresh Marsh</i>	147	69
Total	1,219	668

*To compensate for these impacts, the mitigation acreage may be larger than the impact acreage. Impacts last updated in July 2012.

** AAHU (Average Annual Habitat Unit) is a numerical value representing the quality of a habitat.

Project status

The Corps' ongoing mitigation efforts include periodic Individual Environmental Report (IER) status meetings. There have been four meetings thus far, three in May 2010 and one in December 2010. The next public meeting is on July 31, 2012. The New Orleans District is currently working to complete the NEPA compliance on the mitigation plan.

Upcoming major milestones include: Release IER for Public Review (May 2013), Submit Project Decision Document (PDD) to Division Office (July 2013).

For more information, please visit nolaenvironmental.gov.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

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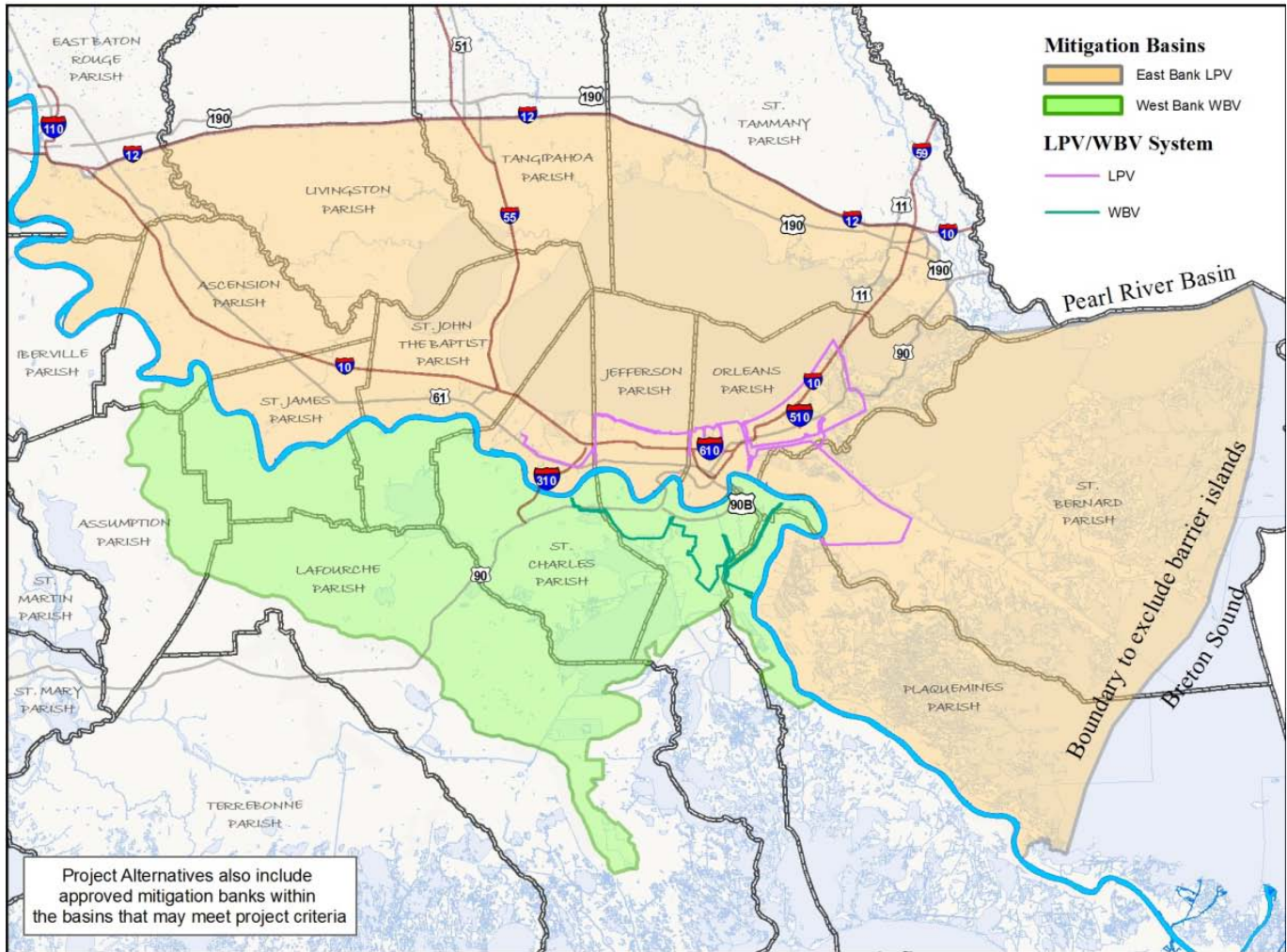
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Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity and West Bank & Vicinity Project Map



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