



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

Public Affairs Office
504-862-2201

www.mvn.usace.army.mil

MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: John Hall, 504-862-2201

May 26, 2005

Orleans hurricane inspection trip is Friday

What. Joint inspection of the hurricane inspection system by **Orleans Levee District** and the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**: flood gates, levees, and control structures. Leaders will be Lt. Col. Stephen E. Jeselink, district engineer, New Orleans District, and President James P. Huey, Orleans Levee Board.

When. 8 a.m., Friday, May 27, 2005. Completion, 12:45 p.m.

Staging. Orleans Marina Floodwall at West End. Other participants: **Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development** and **City of New Orleans**.

Itinerary. Available on request. This is a working, 75-mile inspection.

Corps of Engineers' role. The Corps designs and builds hurricane protection, in conjunction with local sponsors such as levee districts, which operate and maintain the completed works. In emergencies, the Corps stands ready to assist local authorities.

The New Orleans area has the Corps' two largest hurricane projects in Louisiana:

Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity. Protects four parishes (Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and St. Charles). Current project cost is \$738 million, with a \$528 million Corps cost and \$210 million cost to four levee districts.

West Bank and Vicinity. Protects three parishes (Jefferson, Orleans and Plaquemines). Current project cost is \$331 million, with a \$215 million Corps cost and \$116 million cost to the state Transportation Department.

Completion stages. The Orleans, Jefferson and St. Bernard sectors of Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity are largely complete, and are closed systems. East St. Charles is expected to become closed in September 2005 and West Bank and Vicinity in 2009, dependent on funding.

Hurricane page on New Orleans District's Web site:

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/response/index.asp>