

News Release

Public Affairs Office, 7400 Leake Avenue http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/

Tel. 504-862-2201 Fax 504-862-1724

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Wm. Hall, 504-862-2545

May 29, 2007

Environmental needs and hurricane projects

New Web site will update on projects' compliance in south La.

NEW ORLEANS—How will the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers involve the public in environmental compliance for the New Orleans metropolitan area hurricane protection system as it expedites a program of almost \$8 \$7 billion to improve hurricane defenses to the 100-year risk level in the next four years?

One of the answers to that question is that the Corps has launched this new Web site: http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov

The primary purpose of the Web site is to update the public and other stakeholders on the progress and status of environmental compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as these big projects move forward.

The Corps is fostering partnerships with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal, state, and local agencies to provide information through this site on the overall environmental efforts being completed in the area.

"The site will contain information on the NEPA process that the Corps has implemented to push forward the hurricane work, a special viewer, a library of reports and informational files, and a page where you will be able to comment directly to us via the Web," said Gib Owen, a biologist and the project's manager.

The new site is a work in progress. Please bookmark it and check back often for new information.