

News Release

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Editors: Call for JPEG photos of all three.

Corps names top executives for New Orleans District

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has named Maj. Murray Starkel as deputy commander and Gregory Breerwood as deputy district engineer for Project Management, the No. 2 and No. 3 executives, respectively, of the New Orleans District.

In addition, Linda Labure was promoted to chief of the Real Estate Division.

The New Orleans District has a budget of more than \$400 million and responsibilities for over 30,000 square miles of south Louisiana for flood control, navigation and environmental stewardship. It maintains channels for the world's largest port complex, Baton Rouge to the Gulf, and is the leader, in partnership with the state of Louisiana, of a multi-agency project to restore coastal Louisiana.

Starkel most recently was deployed for seven months to support Operation Iraqi Freedom as the area engineer for Victory Base in Baghdad. He served as deputy commander of the Corps' San Francisco District from 2002 to 2005.

Starkel is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, and his awards include the Bronze Star. He earned master's degrees at Carnegie Mellon University in business administration and environmental engineering.

Breerwood, who has served the Corps for 36 years, is transitioning from duties as chief of the Operations Division in New Orleans District. As the senior civilian, he is the district's primary spokesman with sponsors and Congressional offices on projects and programs. Breerwood holds a bachelor's degree from Louisiana Tech University and a master's from Tulane University.

Labure became the agency's chief real estate professional after 26 years in the New Orleans District. Most recently, she was assistant division director and also director of the Management, Disposal and Control Branch. Labure is now responsible for \$278 million of real estate, with 70,000 acres of fee-owned land and 700,000 acres of easements.