



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New Orleans District

News Release

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

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

Task Force Guardian

Contact: Jim Taylor: 504-862-2076

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Investigators collect samples at breach site

Corps and IPET collect a number of material samples from IHNC breach

NEW ORLEANS – The Corps of Engineers and the Interagency Performance Evaluation Team (IPET) collected material samples from the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) breach on Friday. The material is being used to investigate the performance of the hurricane protection system in New Orleans.

- The collection focused on samples of sheet pile, concrete floodwalls, and rebar.
- The samples will be tested against the design criteria to validate the material.
- Materials samples have been successfully collected from 17th Street and the west side of the IHNC.
- Material collections will continue in the future allowing investigators to determine the reasons behind the performance of the hurricane protection system during hurricane Katrina.

The Corps, with its team of experts from within and outside of the Corps, is committed to finding out why parts of the system withstood the storm and other parts did not. The Corps is incorporating lessons learned from the investigation of the levee system to ensure the future system is better, safer and stronger.

The greater New Orleans hurricane protection and flood control system suffered levee and floodwall breaks at over 60 sites, and other parts of the system were heavily damaged. The Corps is working around the clock with its contractor partners to restore the damaged sections of the hurricane protection system to their authorized design height prior to the 2006 hurricane season. Task Force Guardian is charged with the mission to repair to the New Orleans area federal levee system by June 1, 2006.

To learn more about Task Force Guardian or the IPET, visit their websites at <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/tfg> or <https://ipet.wes.army.mil>.