

NOD Overview

(Revised 24 January 2005)

Slide

Text

1. Seal Obverse

Greetings. Introduction.

2. Photo: NOD headquarters

The New Orleans District administers Corps programs in a 30,000-sq.-mile area of central and coastal Louisiana.

3. Graphic: NOD FY 2005 Program

Bullet:

\$319 million -- President's Budget for Regular Appropriations
\$343 million -- Conference Allocation for Regular Appropriations
\$30 million -- Emergency Supplemental Funding
\$15 million -- FY 04 liabilities (paid from FY 05 funding)

The President's budget for FY 2005 includes \$319 million for regular appropriations, but we carried over \$15 million in 2004 contract liabilities. We received to-date another \$30 million dollars in Emergency Supplemental Funding and \$343 in Conference Allocation.

4. Photo: Miss. River wharf

Bullet:

17,000 jobs
\$1.1 Billion in total output

Our economists estimate the impact of our district on the local economy is about 17,000 jobs and more than one billion dollars in earnings, goods and services.

5. Photos (4):

Lock; Wheeler;
Park Ranger;
Calcasieu Saltwater Barrier

Many of our 1,300 employees are dispersed throughout south Louisiana. They report to our locks and control structures, the dredge WHEELER, our Lafayette Area Office, and various sub-offices.

6. MVD Map
The New Orleans District is the southern most of the Mississippi Valley Division's 6 districts. With Rock Island, St. Paul, St. Louis, Memphis and Vicksburg districts within its jurisdiction, the division incorporates the entire length of the Mississippi River within its boundaries.
7. Photo: Miss R. navigation
I'd like to highlight our navigation mission.
8. Photo: Dredge
Bullet: NOD performs 1/3 of Corps' total program
Bullet: Miss. River requires 15% of total dredging funds
We perform roughly 1/3 of the Corps' total national maintenance program in our district alone. Dredging on the Mississippi River averages about 15% of the Corps' total operations and maintenance budget for dredging nationwide.
9. Photo: Dredging in SWP
Bullet: \$83 M annually
Dredge 80 M cubic yards
We spend about \$83 million dollars annually on our maintenance dredging program. We remove on average some 80 million cubic yards of shoal material each year...enough to fill more than 15 Superdomes.
10. Photo: Ships lined up, vic. of Belle Chasse
Bullet: 15 Contracts
\$37 M
We maintain 400 miles of deep draft channel for international shipping. That's more than any other district in the country. Our deep draft maintenance program requires about 15 contract awards to the dredging industry each year at a cost of \$37 million dollars.
11. Photo: Ship at grain elevator
Bullet: 200 million tons
55 million tons
We maintain a 45-foot ship channel that allows the ports in South Louisiana to be the # 2 port complex in the nation in total tonnage with exports & imports totaling roughly 200 million tons, and #1 in the world with about 55 million tons in grain exports.

12. Graphic: NOD shallow draft channels & highlight GIWW

In New Orleans District we maintain more than 2,400 miles of shallow draft barge channels. This includes the most heavily used La. to Texas section of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, better known as the GIWW.

13. 1st Photo: Dredge creating marsh
2nd Photo: Aerial, wetlands w/Bullet: 13,000 acres of wetlands
7,000 acres of coastal habitat

We dredge a lot of material from our waterways. We use this material in a beneficial manner and have created more than 13,000 acres of wetlands and 7,000 acres of coastal habitat.

14. Graphic: NOD map of locks/control structures

Many of our waterways are navigable thanks to the operation and maintenance of our 12 locks and 6 navigation control structures. Our structures operate for a variety of purposes. Some allow passage through the Mississippi and Atchafalaya river systems into the GIWW and other canals. We operate others to protect sensitive environments in southwest La. from saltwater intrusion.

15. Photo: IHNC Lock (aerial)
Graphic: Map of IHNC in relation to waterways mentioned

This is the Industrial Canal Lock in New Orleans, one of our high profile, heavily used projects. The canal connects two of the busiest waterways in America, the Miss. River and the GIWW. The Industrial Canal also connects the Miss. River to the Miss. River Gulf Outlet, to inner harbor port facilities, and to Lake Pontchartrain.

16. Graphic: Artist's concept

Bullet: Tonnage to grow to 40 M tons annually

\$110 M in benefits to the nation

The lock, state-of-the-art when constructed in the 1920s, is substandard for today's use. After working many years with the Port of New Orleans and the community, we awarded our first contract back in 1999 to replace the lock with a modern facility (36' deep x 110' wide x 1,200' long). Tonnage is projected to grow from the existing 24 million tons to about 40 million tons over the life of the project, generating an estimated \$110 million dollars in annual benefits to the nation.

17. Graphic: Drainage basin

This district faces unique challenges because of its location and geology. Louisiana is situated at the outlet of the Mississippi River, the world's third largest drainage basin (behind the Amazon and the Nile). The Mississippi River drains 41% of the continental United States and two Canadian provinces.

18. Photo: 1927 flood shot

Bullet: MR&T

After the disastrous 1927 flood, Congress authorized the Corps to build the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project, known as the MR&T, the largest flood protection project in the history of the world.

19. Photo: Community with levee, vic. N.O. hi water (aerial)

Bullet: \$11.2 Billion in damages prevented

Under the auspices of the MR&T, the Corps provides an important service to the public through our flood control mission. Working with local levee boards during the past 75 years, we have built nearly 1,000 miles of levees and floodwalls in New Orleans District. Our most recent records indicate that this system has prevented an estimated \$11.2 billion dollars in damages.

20. Graphic: Evolution of levees

Levees were originally built by private landowners as early as 1717. Today the average levee is 15 to 20 feet above natural ground.

21. Graphic:

Roughly 524 miles of earthen levee and concrete

MRT map
Graphic:
Atch levee map

floodwalls line both banks of the Mississippi River in this district. To the west, some 449 miles of levees line the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway, for a total of 973 miles. Plus 340 miles of hurricane protection levee.

22. Photo: Old River Control (hi altitude)
Bullet:
Mississippi River 70%
Atchafalaya River 30%

Three control structures at our Old River Control Complex operate both during flood years and average years to prevent the Mississippi River from changing its course to the Atchafalaya, a shorter route to the Gulf of Mexico. Normal operation provides for a 70%/30% flow distribution--70% down the Mississippi and 30% of the combined flows from the Red and Mississippi rivers reach the Gulf by way of the Atchafalaya.

23. Graphic: Placement of BC, Morganza & ORC on map

The Bonnet Carre Spillway, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, can be operated alone or in conjunction with the Morganza Floodway and the Old River Control Structures.

24. Photo: Bonnet Carre (video)
20 needles per bay
350 bays

The Bonnet Carre is located about 30 miles upriver of New Orleans. In times of high water, it is the first control structure to be opened. This slide shows the '97 flood, the 4th largest flow on record.

25. Photo: Arabi floodwall
Bullet: 86% complete
Protects: 1.9 million people
8+ million acres
Damages prevented: \$244 Billion
Investment: \$12.7 B

The MR&T project protects some 1.9 million people and more than 8 million acres. The entire MR&T project is 86% built -- with completion scheduled for 2031 -- more than 100 years after it was authorized. To date, it has prevented some \$244 billion dollars in flood damages, for an investment of \$12.7 billion dollars. At present, the Mississippi River levee system in the New Orleans District is about 97% complete.

26. Photo: Hurricane Betsy damage, 1965 (9th Ward)

We have built and continue to build levees and floodwalls to protect people and property against hurricane storm surges. Louisiana has been struck by more than 160 hurricanes in the past 400 years. We went to work on our hurricane protection levees one month after Hurricane Betsy struck in 1965.

27. Photo: Lake Pont. (East Jeff)
Bullet: NOD HPL Proj.
Total \$1.4 Billion

Now we have about 340 miles of hurricane levees and floodwalls; like this one in east Jefferson Parish on Lake Pontchartrain. Our hurricane protection projects total \$1.4 billion dollars.

28. Photo: New Orleans, '95 flood

New Orleans District is also helping local officials solve a third type of flood control problem--urban flooding.

29. Graphic: SELA map
Bullet: Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project

Between 1978 and 1994, Orleans, Jefferson and St. Tammany parishes experienced flooding from numerous rainfall events. But it took the 20 inches of rainfall in May 1995 for Congress to authorize the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project.

30. Photo: Keyhole Canal
Bullet: SELA Project
expected to total almost \$744 million
Completion scheduled FY 2008

This enormous undertaking, expected to total almost \$744 million dollars, focuses on the design and construction of canals and pump stations to reduce urban flooding caused by excessive rainfall. Given funding, construction should be completed in FY 2008.

31. Photo: environment
Bullet: Coastal restoration

Over the past 30 years, the Corps has taken on a stewardship role of America's resources, and nowhere is that description more appropriate than in New Orleans District.

32. Graphic: 30%/90%

South Louisiana contains about 30% of the nation's coastal marshes. What has us concerned is that 90% of America's annual coastal marsh loss also occurs here.

33. Photo: Shrimp boat in Barataria

Bullet:

Louisiana contributes:
28% total volume of
U.S. fisheries
35%-40% of nation's
shrimp & oyster needs

This is significant because more than 90% of the commercial and sport fish caught on the Gulf Coast spend part of their life cycle in these marshes. During the last decade, largely because of these marshes and wetlands, La. has contributed about 28% of the total volume of the U.S. fisheries with a value of about \$1 billion dollars annually. The annual shrimp and oyster harvest supplies 35-40% of the nation's needs.

34. Photo: Caernarvon, titled

Graphic: Map, Davis Pond

The district is contributing to this productivity. We have constructed two freshwater diversion structures -- Caernarvon, on-line since 1991, and Davis Pond, dedicated in March of 2002. Fresh water from the Mississippi River running into the coastal basins will establish favorable salinity conditions, improve fish and wildlife habitat and reduce wetland loss.

35. CWPPRA graphic

Freshwater diversion is just one method we are implementing to nourish and rebuild our wetlands. Since the enactment in 1990 of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, commonly referred to as the Breaux Act, Louisiana has received between \$35 and \$45 million dollars each year for wetland enhancement and coastal restoration projects.

36. Map (graphic)
Louisiana Coastal Area Study

We're also very excited about a new statewide coastal restoration initiative. The Louisiana Coastal Area Study's goal is to treat the entire ecosystem crisis instead of constructing isolated projects. LCA will require \$400 million a year on restoration projects totaling \$2 billion over the next 10 years.

37. Photo: Atchafalaya, scenic

Another noteworthy environmental effort involves our work in the Atchafalaya Basin, with its hardwood forests, cypress swamps, marshes and bayous--it is one of the country's last great wilderness areas.

38. Photo: Atchafalaya, scenic
Bullet: 50,000 acres for public access
338,000 acres for easements

We're purchasing 50,000 acres for the public's access to fish and wildlife resources, and another 338,000 acres in environmental easements to prohibit conversion of the land to other uses such as clear-cutting of timber, and construction of permanent structures. The Sierra Club and the Louisiana Dept. of Natural Resources recognized the District for our efforts in preserving the basin.

39. Photo: Residential development, Eden Isles (aerial)

Our regulatory work in the nation's diminishing wetlands and our extensive water resources management research are two other examples of how we're making a difference in protecting our environment. The district has one of the largest and most complex regulatory programs in the Corps, issuing about 4,500 permits each year.

40. Photos (3): Bayou Sauvage Refuge walkway; USGC tower; Bayou Bonfouca.
Bullet: Interagency Intergovernmental Service

The New Orleans District also plays an active role in the Corps' Interagency Intergovernmental Service (IIS) formerly known as Support For Others program. Work for others includes construction of facilities for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Coast Guard, Dept of Energy, Federal Bureau of Prisons, HUD and EPA's Superfund projects.

41. Background: hurricane destruction.
Photos (3): Corps personnel working blue roof; delivering ice; debris removal
Bullets: Blue roofs - 134,199
Water – 31m liters
Ice – 163m pounds
Debris – 2.3m cubic yards

In 2004, 72 District personnel deployed to Alabama and Florida to assist with hurricane recovery. Working for FEMA, Corps personnel completed 134,199 temporary roofs, delivered 31 million liters of water, 163 million pounds of ice, and removed 2.3 million cubic yards of debris.

42. Photos: Employees working in Iraq/Afghanistan

New Orleans District employees have also distinguished themselves for service during protracted combat operations in the Middle East. Corps employees continue to deploy to the Iraq and Afghanistan where they provide technical expertise vital to sustain the nations' people.

43. Photo: Lake Pont. Bike path at causeway
Bullet: Quality service, Reliable products- on time, within budget, best value

At New Orleans District we are committed to providing our customers quality service and reliable products -- on time, within budget, and at the best value.

44. Photo:
Close-up of employees' faces.

As a vital part of America's Army, we're proud of our history in helping to build this nation. We are committed to excellence and dedicated to providing quality services.

45. Graphic:
Seal Obverse

Closing comments.