# Planning Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction with an Emphasis on Minimizing Impacts to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin

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US Army Corps of Engineers BUILDING STRONG®

#### Hurricane Katrina Inundation



### Levels and Floodwalls Below Authorized Level of Risk Reduction as of March 2008



## Steps to Minimize Environmental Impacts

- Balance environmental impact with risk, cost & schedule in choosing alignments
- Environmental Design Parameters and Construction Techniques
- Impact Modeling
- Water Quality Monitoring



#### **Borgne Barrier Alternative Alignments**



#### **Seabrook Alternative Alignments**



### **Selected Alignment Optimization**



### **Environmental Design Parameters**

- Minimize impacts to wetlands and natural hydrological regime
- Minimize potential adverse impacts to fisheries
- Maintain a water flow capacity that is comparable to the waterway's capacity prior to construction
- Accommodate vertical and horizontal fishery distribution patterns with interior marsh tidal pathways and coastal passage
- Minimize the migratory distance from opening to enclosed wetland habitats
- Minimize creation of steep environmental gradients (i.e. changes in salinity regimes, changes in physical slope of channel)
- Maintain velocities suitable for fish passage (i.e. a maximum of 2.6 feet/second water flow during peak flood or ebb tides).
- Provide for reopening of structure even if electricity is unavailable. This could entail a
  manual mechanical opening system, using a tow boat, crane operated, etc.
- Minimize overall project footprint
- Structures shall be designed to close during storm events, routine testing, maintenance operations, or if closing the structure is needed to provide access to other features of the project.
- Minimize potential for turbidity-causing sediment erosion during construction and throughout the project life
- Avoid or minimize disturbance of contaminated sediments and other hazardous, toxic or radioactive waste in the project area.



#### **Environmental Design Features**

# 3 gates to minimize velocity impacts





# Fish ramps and entrainment walls



# Construction Techniques to Minimize Impacts









# **Borgne Barrier**



# Beneficial Use of Dredge Material & Channel Plugs



#### **Borgne Barrier Beneficial Use Disposal Area**



### Borgne Barrier Beneficial Use Disposal Area June 23, 2011





## Velocity and Salinity Model 3D TABS-MDS



# **ADH and PTM Mesh Domain**



# **ADH Seabrook Velocity (March 2008)**



#### Particle Tracking Model Simulations Behavior Effects (Final Configuration)



#### September 2007

Particles are color coded based on behavior



March 2008

Tidal Lateral Tidal Vertical Bottom Movers Passive



#### Hydroperiod Modeling ADCIRC



# Mass Balance of DO and BOD, Solve for DO and BOD

 $V\frac{d DO}{d t} = Q DO_i - Q DO - A SOD + E'_z (DO_s - DO) - k_1 V BOD$ 

 $V\frac{d BOD}{d t} = Q BOD_{i} - Q BOD + E_{z}'(BOD_{s} - BOD) - k_{1} V BOD$ 



# **Seabrook Dissolved Oxygen Impacts**



# Water Quality Monitoring



# **Preliminary USGS Data**



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