

other devices to provide protection against a storm surge originating from the Gulf of Mexico produced by a Category 5 hurricane.

**Structural alternative with large scale coastal restoration** to provide protection against a storm surge originating from the Gulf of Mexico produced by a Category 5 hurricane.

**Non-structural alternative**, consisting only of environmental or coastal restoration measures to provide protection against a storm surge originating from the Gulf of Mexico produced by a Category 5 hurricane. Other non-structural measures, such as raising or moving structures to meet existing or revised flood plain base elevations, would be a part of any proposed action alternative.

And the **no-action alternative**, which would maintain current levels of flooding protection against a Standard Project Hurricane.

### **Public Involvement**

The public plays a very important role in the project development process. The National Environmental Policy Act provides for an early and open public process for determining the issues, resources, impacts, and alternatives to be addressed in the PEIS. The goal of the team is to continuously solicit ideas, concerns, and issues from individuals, local, state, and other federal agencies and public and private organizations for consideration in plan development.

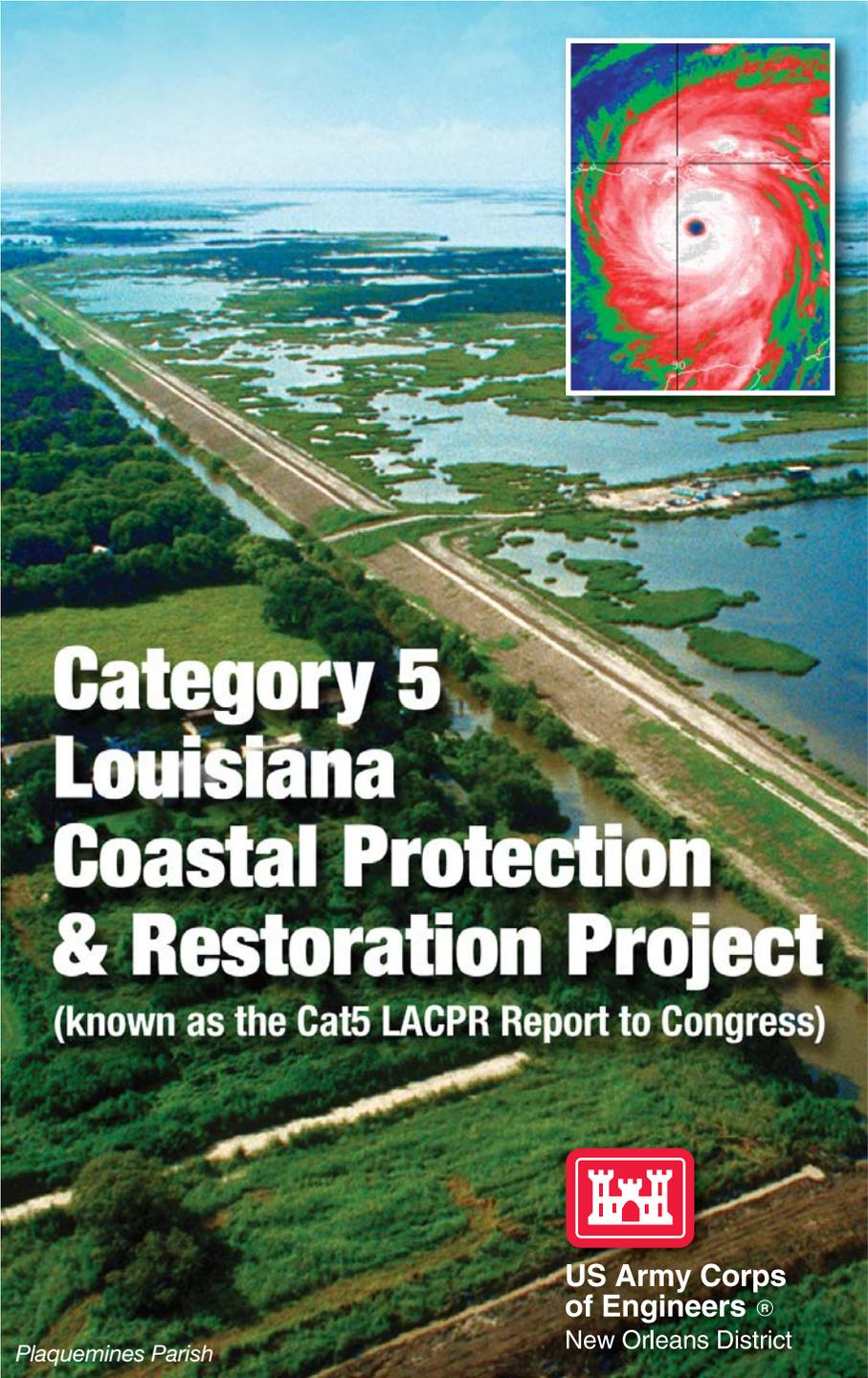
*Public input does make a difference and is an important part of planning.*

Please participate by providing your input in public meetings, by contacting Julie Morgan, Public Outreach Coordinator at 504-862-2587, [julie.t.morgan@mvn02.usace.army.mil](mailto:julie.t.morgan@mvn02.usace.army.mil), or through one of the following methods:

**E-mail:** [LACPR\\_EIS@mvn02.usace.army.mil](mailto:LACPR_EIS@mvn02.usace.army.mil)

**Web Site:** <http://www.lacpr.usace.army.mil>

**U.S. Mail:** LACPR EIS Environmental Manager, CEMVN-PM-R,  
P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267



# Category 5 Louisiana Coastal Protection & Restoration Project

(known as the Cat5 LACPR Report to Congress)



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
New Orleans District

*Plaquemines Parish*

## What is the Cat5 LACPR Project?

Congress has directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in close coordination with the State of Louisiana, to begin a project titled the Category 5 Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Report to identify, describe and propose a full range of flood control, coastal restoration, and hurricane protection measures for south Louisiana.

Representatives from other state, federal and local agencies are participating on this project. The Corps is reaching out both nationally and globally to scientists, engineers and planners in an effort to collaborate on developing the strongest and best technologies for protection from Category 5 hurricane flooding.

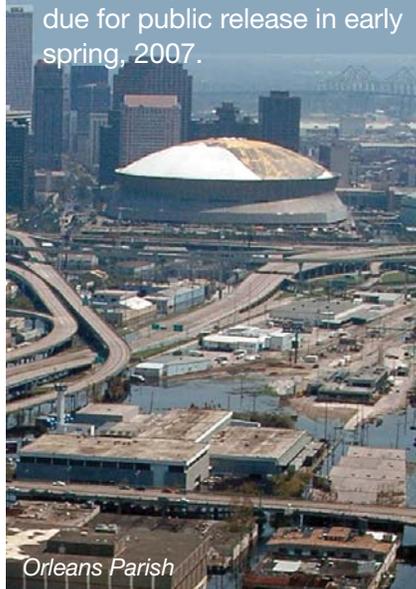
## Proposed Action

In February 2006 the Corps invited coastal experts in levee systems, flood control and ecosystem restoration to participate in an alternative plan formulation workshop. The group worked through presentations on coastal lines of defense, levee alignments and ecosystem restoration features to identify multiple alternatives for evaluation in developing an integrated plan for Category 5 hurricane protection and coastal restoration in Louisiana.

The following month, the study team held a workshop with academia, government and the private sector

## Project Considerations

The **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** of 1969 requires federal agencies to include environmental values into their decision-making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions. "Scoping" meetings are held to receive public comment on possible actions to be taken or considered. Public involvement is required and included, where appropriate, throughout the process, preparation and publication of the NEPA document, the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), due for public release in early spring, 2007.



to identify engineering and design innovations focused on geotechnical, structural and hydraulic engineering to identify levee design and coastal restoration approaches.

Later in March 2006, public meetings were held to solicit public input on the proposed project. Comments centered on efforts to maximize the number of communities included in the hurricane protection plans and on the strong need for coastal restoration as a necessary plan component. Public involvement opportunities will be held throughout the process.

A clear vision for success has emerged from all of these efforts. A Category 5 hurricane striking Louisiana presents extreme weather conditions requiring planners and designers to develop an integrated system of restored coastal features, strong structural barriers and levees, and non-structural features.

These features, described below, will be outlined in more detail in the preliminary technical report due to Congress by June 30, 2006 with the final report due December 30, 2007.

An Programmatic environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) will describe and evaluate proposed action and alternatives, including the no-action alternative. The PEIS will highlight the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of implementing flood control, coastal restoration and hurricane protection measures for south Louisiana. Effects to communities, natural resources, and infrastructure will be evaluated.

The proposed action and reasonable alternatives for the LACPR include:

**Structural alternative**, which is flood protection consisting of a contiguous line of earthen or concrete walls, along southern coastal Louisiana connected at various locations, as needed, by floodgates and

