

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR  
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
FOR THE PROPOSED LAKE LERY MARSH CREATION AND RIM RESTORATION  
PHASE III  
PROJECT IN THE CITY OF DELACROIX, ST. BERNARD PARISH, LOUISIANA  
FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
EMT-2020-FM-053-0007**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Funding to St. Bernard Parish for the project would be provided through the Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program implemented under the authority of Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, and Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and the Emergency Assistance Act, respectfully.

A Draft SEA was prepared pursuant to NEPA and both the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and FEMA's implementing Instructions. The Draft SEA also assesses the project's compliance with other applicable environmental laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act; the Endangered Species Act; and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice).

The purpose of the Draft SEA is to assess the effects on the human and natural environment from the proposed Lake Lery marsh creation and rim restoration project in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. The proposed project would consist of flood and high wind disaster risk-reduction activities along the northwest shore of Lake Lery, and in adjacent marshlands and a dredge-borrow area in Lake Lery. Flood risk-reduction activities would include constructing a permanent armored earthen embankment between the marsh and the northwestern edge of Lake Lery and restoration of adjacent marsh by using dredged material from the bottom of Lake Lery. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to reduce flood hazards in St. Bernard Parish, specifically within the Lake Lery project impact area and St. Bernard hamlet. Heavy wind and wave action from past hurricanes and storms has severely degraded the shoreline and marsh surrounding Lake Lery. Marsh fragmentation allows waves and flooding to extend farther inland leading to greater risk of flooding of surrounding properties and infrastructure. Further degradation or total loss of those wetlands would lead to the reduction of tropical cyclone-caused storm surge buffer capacity that those coastal marshes provide to St. Bernard Parish communities. The Proposed Action is needed to protect life and reduce the likelihood of flood damage to property.

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and FEMA's implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides interested parties with a notice of its intent to carry out an action affecting a floodplain. The purpose of the Draft SEA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives. The Draft SEA evaluates a No Action alternative and the Proposed Action, which would increase marsh and reduce erosion on the northern banks of Lake Lery. The Draft FONSI presents FEMA's draft finding that the Proposed Action would not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment.

The Draft SEA and Draft FONSI are available for review at the following locations: St. Bernard Parish Government Complex, 8201 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, and Nunez Community College Library, 3710 Paris Rd, Chalmette, LA 70043 from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Thursday. This public notice will run in The Advocate for

five (5) days on Monday, July 15, 2024, Tuesday, July 16, 2024, Wednesday, July 17, 2024, Thursday, July 18, 2024, and Friday, July 19, 2024; and in The Voice for two (2) days on Friday, July 12, 2024 and Friday, July 19, 2024. The document can be downloaded from FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/nepa/supplemental-environmental-24>. There will be a 30-day comment period beginning on Monday, July 15, 2024 and concluding on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 4:00pm. Written comments may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY-FEMA EHP – Lake Lery Marsh Creation and Rim Restoration Phase III, 1500 MAIN STREET, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, 70802. Comments may be emailed [fema-liro-ndg-bric-fema-ehp@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-liro-ndg-bric-fema-ehp@fema.dhs.gov). If no substantive comments are received, the Draft SEA and associated Draft FONSI will become final.