Katrina – Rebuilding Efforts

Why FEMA Created Katrina and Rita Flood Recovery Maps

Using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Katrina and Rita Flood Recovery Maps, the Gulf Coast is being built safer and more disaster resistant than before.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were both strong Category 5 hurricanes for several days in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico before pushing waters towards the Louisiana coast. Katrina made landfall on August 29, 2005 near the Mississippi-Louisiana border, and Rita made landfall on September 23, at the Texas-Louisiana border. FEMA is providing Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs) to guide recovery efforts and to minimize the flood impacts of future events.

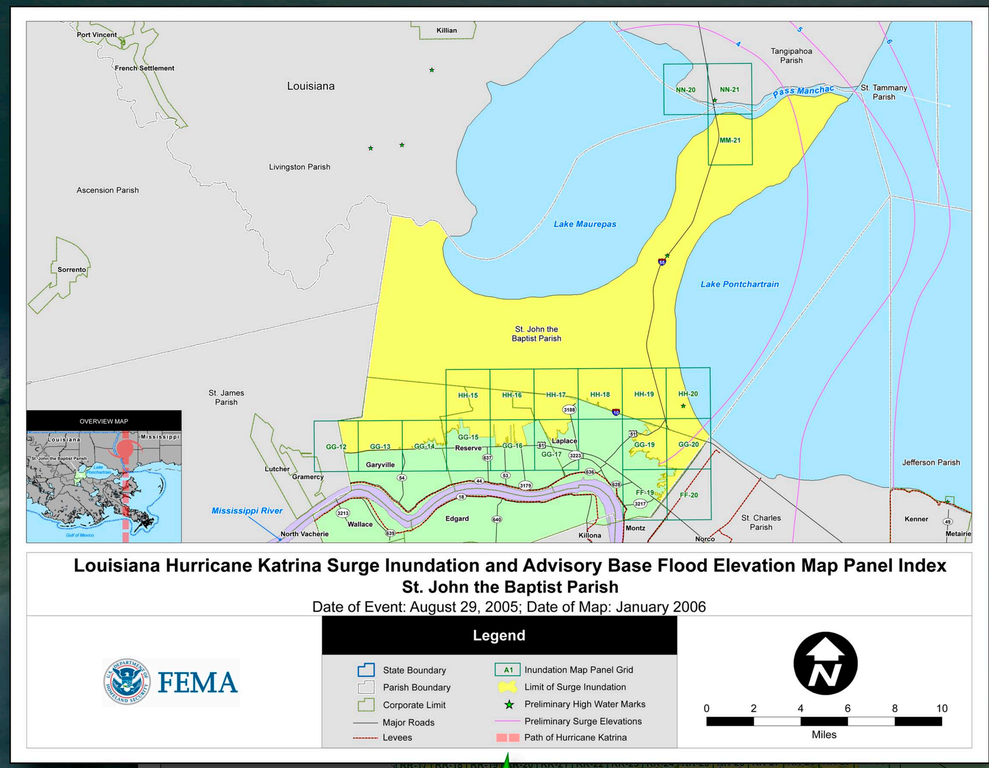
Communities are encouraged to use the Katrina and Rita Recovery Maps as they rebuild. They may continue to enforce their adopted Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and associated design and construction requirements. However, by using the ABFEs, any reconstruction or new construction (following Katrina and Rita and before issuance of revised FIRMs, expected in 2007) may be at less risk from future flood damage, and the property may be eligible for reduced flood insurance premiums. In addition, all FEMA grant programs will require the use of the ABFEs for activities carried out under these programs.

FEMA has produced Regional Overview Maps concerning the parishes and counties impacted by Hurricane Katrina

The overview maps show the paneling scheme for the recovery maps, the Hurricane Katrina preliminary High Water Mark (HWM) locations, the Katrina surge inundation limit, and Katrina storm surge elevation contours. The latter feature is based on an assessment of the general surge trends interpreted from the surveyed HWMs, engineering judgment concerning general surge behavior in coastal areas, and a comparison against numerical surge forecasts, e.g., Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricane SLOSH model runs prepared by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Tropical Prediction Center.

To locate a particular property, the first step is to determine which detailed Katrina Recovery Map panel applies to the area of interest.
www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/index.shtm

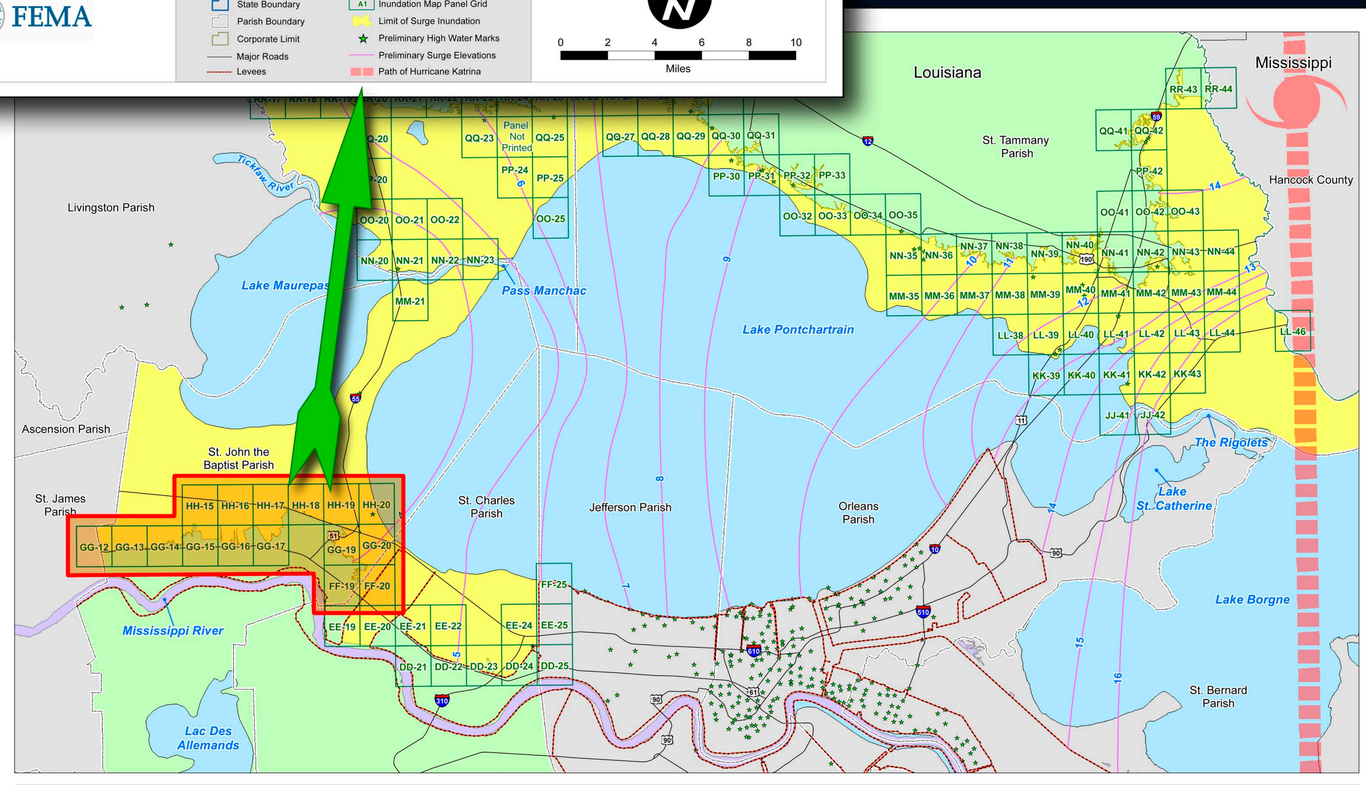
FEMA



Louisiana Hurricane Katrina Surge Inundation and Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map Panel Index
St. John the Baptist Parish
Date of Event: August 29, 2005; Date of Map: January 2006

Legend
- State Boundary
- Parish Boundary
- Corporate Limit
- Major Roads
- Levees
- Inundation Map Panel Grid
- Limit of Surge Inundation
- Preliminary High Water Marks
- Preliminary Surge Elevations
- Path of Hurricane Katrina

0 2 4 6 8 10 Miles



Louisiana Hurricane Katrina Surge Inundation and Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map Panel Overview
North Area
Date of Event: August 29, 2005; Date of Map: January 2006

Legend
- State Boundary
- Parish Boundary
- Highway
- Levees
- Inundation Map Panel Grid
- Limit of Surge Inundation
- Preliminary High Water Marks
- Preliminary Surge Elevations
- Path of Hurricane Katrina

0 5 10 15 20 Miles

More Information

Katrina and Rita Recovery Maps are for advisory purposes only. They do not supersede effective FIRMs of the NFIP. The Hurricane Katrina and Rita-related data presented are preliminary and subject to update as additional data become available. FEMA's official FIRMs can be viewed for free at the FEMA Map Service Center www.msc.fema.gov.

More GIS Information

Hurricane Flood Recovery Maps – Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Data

www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/katrina/katrina_la_gis.shtm

www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/recoverydata/rita/rita_la_gis.shtm