

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FEMA NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
GRAND POINT BOURBON SUBDIVISION-LONGVIEW CANAL DRAINAGE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
PAULINA, ST. JAMES PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EA and FONSI is to assess the effects on the human and natural environment from the proposed widening of approximately 7,400 linear feet of Longview Canal and the replacement of seven roadside drainage culverts within the lower portion of the Grand Point Bourbon Subdivision, Paulina, LA, a proposed action for which FEMA is considering providing funding assistance.

The draft EA evaluates a No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action stated above. The FONSI will be FEMA's finding that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment, if no additional substantive information is discovered during the public review and comment period.

The Longview Canal is located immediately east of, and adjacent to, the Grand Point Bourbon Subdivision, Paulina, St. James Parish, Louisiana. The proposed action involves widening of the Longview Canal on both sides of Louisiana State Highway 3125 (north and south) to expand its drainage capacity and increase the channel's ability to remove water. The Parish plans to purchase an additional 30 feet of right-of-way on the east side of the Longview Canal that would be required to widen the channel by 20 feet to provide future access to the Parish for proper maintenance and grass cutting. The Parish also proposes to remove seven existing undersized culverts within the subdivision and replace them with larger and more adequate culverts. The Grand Point Bourbon subdivision has one of the most severe localized flooding problems in the Parish. The original subdivision was constructed more than 25 years ago, and the increased runoff due to residential construction was not considered in the original design. The Grand Point Bourbon subdivision was constructed by a private developer before the Parish had laws requiring a drainage analysis and culvert permits that insure proper culvert size and installation.

A draft EA evaluates the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. It summarizes the purpose and need, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

The draft EA and draft FONSI are available for review at the St. James Public Library (Lutcher Branch), 1879 West Main Street, Lutcher, LA 70071, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday; and 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Saturday. The documents can be downloaded from FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm. The comment period will begin August 5, 2011 and ends August 24, 2011 at 4 pm. Comments may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY--FEMA E/HP—Grand Point Bourbon Drainage Project 1 Seine Court, 4th Floor New Orleans, LA 70114. Comments may be emailed to: FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov or faxed to: 504-762-2353. Verbal comments will be accepted or recorded at 504-762-2205. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice for work in the floodplain in accordance with 44 CFR Part 9.12.